

PUBLIC - SECTOR - LOCAL AUTHORITIES - GENERAL

1994

NEWS Angry Sebokeng residents threaten boycott over defect-ridden houses

Racist local councils may be forced to toe the line

By Mzimkulu Malunga

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela is expected to make an announcement this week which will see the scrapping of all local governments still operating along racial lines

Deputy Minister of Provincial and Constitutional Development Valli Moosa announced yesterday that the 201 local authorities which had not yet

reached an agreement to form representative local governments would soon be forced to do so

Moosa was speaking in Johannesburg at the launch of a R8 million Local and Provincial Government Support Programme (LPGSP)

He emphasised the need for policy research regarding local governments "While there are some constitutional guidelines concerning the funding of

provinces, there is none for local governments That is why research in this sphere is important "

Moosa also announced that registration of voters for the local government elections—scheduled for October next year—would start at the end of January

The R8 million for the LPGSP came from the European Union (R6 million) and the Canadian International Development Research Centre (R2 million)

The funds would be channelled through the Kagiso Trust

The LPGSP is a one-year programme which supports a wide range of projects relating to local government

Although the programme was only launched yesterday, it has operated since June

Its main beneficiary has been the Institute of Local Governance and Development Civic organisations as well as

urban and rural service groups can also benefit from the programme if they apply

A list of priorities for funding has been drawn up These include the establishment of the metropolitan governments, the drafting of single local government budgets, reform of professional bodies dealing with local governments as well as the role of traditional authorities

Local govt elections costs

THE costs for the local government elections will be tabled soon by a working group set up by the Provincial Affairs Department. *B/Day 28/11/94*

Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said at the weekend that estimates of the cost of the elections had been presented to the Finance Department but they had not yet been agreed on by the Cabinet. He would not give details.

State Expenditure director-general Hannes Smit said yesterday he could not give a likely figure for the costs although local government sources suggested it could be nearly as high as the estimated

ERICA JANKOWITZ
and TIM COHEN

R1bn it cost the country for April's national elections. *(262)*

Smit said Home Affairs was expected to pick up the tab for costs of compiling a voters' roll. It was still unclear whether central government or the provinces would foot the bill for administering the elections.

It is understood that local authorities will be called on to assist with the financing of the elections and will be required to do much of the organisational work.

Smit said the Finance Department was

To Page 2

Elections

B/Day 28/11/94 pushing for existing government employees to be used in running the elections as far as possible. Because local government structures would be directly involved, it would not be necessary to create a huge organisation such as the Independent Electoral Commission. *(262)*

However, much more preparatory work was necessary for the local elections, mainly because voters' rolls would have to be drawn up.

Speaking after meeting provincial local government ministers and the co-chairmen of the task group on local government elections, Meyer said preparations for the elections were on course and the target date remained October 1995.

Regulations which would govern the elections would be ready next month for proclamation by the various provinces, which would be largely responsible for

holding the elections

Task group co-chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said acceptance of the regulations would enable the bodies involved in the elections to begin preparations.

He said the task group was in a position to provide the bodies with a framework which would allow them to calculate timeframes and set up the structures.

Voter registration was the most urgent matter and this would have to begin by January to meet the October deadline.

Slabbert said he and the other co-chairman of the task group, Khehla Shubane, had impressed on provincial premiers the importance of their role in making the elections a success.

It was hoped that provincial task teams — similar to those which the task group had established — would be set up

From Page 1

GOING DOWN TO TRANSITION

TO many people the radical transformation of local government presently taking place is a process shrouded in mystery

Transformation of local government 'final phase in SA democracy

This is a pity because local government is most likely to influence their lives directly

The transformation of local government is being done in terms of an agreement struck at the time of the Kempton Park negotiations on national government

This change is widely viewed as the final phase of transforming South African society to a full democracy. The agreement has since been made into a law called the Local Government Transition Act — and around the country communities are beginning to shape their future by the rules laid down in that act.

Members of these transitional councils, or substructures as they will be called in the city, will be drawn from two camps on a 50/50 basis. The first is the non-statutory camp, consisting of those who have traditionally been left out of local government but who have a stake in local government

National Civics Organisation, but the organisations can vary from area to area. The other camp is the statutory side which consists of representatives of the old councils, management committees and some ratepayer organisations which formed part of the old order

The nominations from both sides, as well as agreements regarding the transitional period are made through negotiating forums which are divided into statutory and non-statutory caucuses

In Cape Town, the forum has been called the Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum

Included in this list are representatives of the ANC, SAC, SACP, Azapo and SA

As the deadline approaches for the new transitional councils to be in place, negotiating forums around the country are finalising nominations for the crucial transitional phase leading to next year's municipal elections. Municipal Reporter ANDREA WEISS puts it into context.

lished throughout the city, but the CMNF is the only one with any legal standing. Only when forums are officially recognised by the minister of local government, do they have the legal standing to appoint the new substitutes — and once having done so, they cease to exist

In essence, the TMC is there to guide and manage urban growth and development on the metropolitan level — and will also play an important role in ensuring equity within the metropolitan area.

For Cape Town and its environs which fall inside the metropolitan area, a governing body called the Transitional Metropolitan Council will look after the broader picture

Initially, these transitional substructures will be formed along existing local government boundaries — such as

These elected bodies will serve for a period of about five years until the constitution is finalised. Only then will local government have achieved its final phase. Next, how you will get to vote in October 1995

for providing, restoring, extending and upgrading services in areas which were previously local black authorities. It will also provide services which are currently being provided for by the Regional Services Council until the responsible substructure can take care of them. Importantly, for the October 1995 municipal elections, the TMC will provide financial support for voter education and be responsible for compiling a centralised voters' roll. Other areas of the TMCs operation will be housing development and co-ordination, metropolitan sports development and metropolitan cultural activities

The same responsibilities will have that the old councils had in terms of the Municipal Ordinance, except where the TMC has taken over some functions. The whole period during which these nominated transitional councils will function has been called the "pre-interim" phase. This phase ends when municipal elections are held — probably in October next year — when the "interim" phase begins and properly elected transitional councils come into being. These elected bodies will serve for a period of about five years until the constitution is finalised. Only then will local government have achieved its final phase. Next, how you will get to vote in October 1995

Local polls will cost 'substantial' amount

The need for voters rolls for next year's local government elections has "serious financial implications", the Local Government Elections Task Group said yesterday.

Task group co-chairmen Khehla Shubane and Dr. Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert said in Pretoria they were not sure whether the elections would cost more than April's general election.

"But it would be a substantial amount," Slabbert said.

Shubane said: "The early indications are that financing would not only come from the central Government but also from other tiers of government."

Regulations for the registration of voters had to be published before the end of this month to allow sufficient time for the process. This would hopefully happen by tomorrow, Slabbert said.

In terms of the Local Government Transition Act, voters rolls had to be compiled and the onus

to enrol rested with voters.

The task group was not a statutory body like the Independent Electoral Commission which handled the April election.

It had been set up only to deal with the technical aspects of the elections. Political authority lay with Minister of Provincial Affairs Roelf Meyer and MECs. The provinces would be responsible for implementing the elections.

Shubane was confident the elections would be held in October as planned. (262)

The provinces were to monitor progress at local level on the basis of a diary and report regularly to the task group.

In areas where there were no local authorities the elections would be the responsibility of regional services councils.

Slabbert said certain rural areas were having difficulty coming to terms with the elections and getting clarity on how their traditional bodies would fit into the new dispensation. — Sapa.

ARG. 15/11/96

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Pay Up, OR

CLIVE SAWYER

Political Correspondent

THE government is set to make a major announcement on local government finance issues, including arrears and ways to ensure people paid for services.

This has been disclosed by Roelf Meyer, Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development

He was speaking in a debate by the extended public committee of parliament on the Local Government Transition Act Amendment Bill.

Mr Meyer said the announcement would be made within weeks

Major moves soon to end rent, rates boycotts

Housing Minister Joe Slovo also said legal measures were being considered to end township rent and service boycotts

"We are going to do everything in our power, including, at the end of the day, to consider legal sanctions to ensure there is an end to the culture of boycotts," he told a parliamentary debate on the Housing Second Amendment Bill

Mr Meyer said it would be impossible in practice to exclude people who had not paid for local government services from voting in elections

But, they could, as laid down in law, be prevented from standing as candidates

Mr Meyer said progress had been made in past weeks in the implementation of

the Local Government Transition Act

The Act provided for negotiating forums to agree on appointed councils, drawn equally from "statutory" and "non-statutory" sides of a forum

A deadline of November 30 had been agreed to put pressure on forums to finalise agreements, said Mr Meyer

Steps would be taken by his ministry in agreement with provincial counterparts to ensure progress

Meanwhile, in a reply to questions in the senate by James Sefo of the Democratic Party, Mr Meyer said a technical committee had reported to the Cabinet on planning for local government elections

A report by the technical committee,

tabled by Mr Meyer, said the deadline for transitional councils would be followed by eight months' preparatory work.

This would include compilation and approval of the voters' roll, including a 90-day registration period

This would be followed by a three-month period for the nomination process, printing of ballot papers, allocation of polling stations and other administrative work.

Determination of wards and division of rolls into wards would run concurrently with the approval of the roll

Local government elections would be co-ordinated at a national level

"The first democratic local government election is a national event and not nine separate provincial or about 700 separate local events," the technical committee reported

A task group should plan the elections, the committee reported

The group should include a person from each provincial cabinet and the ministries of home affairs, provincial and constitutional affairs, and finance. It would play an IEC-style role by co-ordinating preparations, helping out where problems arose, ensuring adherence to deadlines and organising voter education

A committee spokesman said the voters' roll should be standardised and geared towards future national and provincial elections, but should be compiled and updated by local governments

else,

Fears of postponement for local govt elections

THERE are growing fears that plans to hold country-wide local government elections during October next year may have to be postponed.

According to a document prepared by the task group on Local Government Elections headed by Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, it is made clear that unless all Transitional Local Councils in all provinces are up and running by January 2 "the election date must be moved to after October 31".

The draft regulations for the elections specify a time frame of a total of 202 days after the promulgation of the regulations up to the certification of the voters' roll — including 90 days for voter registration.

The time frame schedule is so tight that if election day was fixed for October 31 next year, the whole preliminary build-up would have to start on January 2 to be ready in time.

After approval of the regulations by the MECs, further approval by each Executive Council will be required

By **NORMAN WEST**,
Political Reporter

SI Times EC memo

Concurrence by each Local Government Provincial Committee will also be required in terms of the Local Government Transition Act

After that, 10 days need to be set aside for printing and proclamation.

A tight target date for proclamation is November 26.

The task force warns: "In addition, firm undertakings will be required from each MEC regarding the date of proclamation and functioning of the last Transitional Local Council in each province. 13/11/94

"None can be later than January 2, 1995. (262)

"If this cannot be achieved, the election date must be moved to after October 31."

In his comments, Mr Ramaphosa said: "We (the ANC) are very concerned that the period of 90 days is too short to complete the task of voter registration.

"We believe that the complex administration required to ensure that every voter is on the correct voters' roll for a particular voting district, will require a longer registration period.

"If voters fail to be reached by the voter registration drive, millions of people will arrive at voting stations on election day and will have to be turned away.

"This is a recipe for conflict and chaos," said Mr Ramaphosa.

NEWS Local government is the hands and feet of the RDP — Roelf Meyer

Process to give powers to provinces gets priority

All provincial governments should be functional and operative within six months, but it could take 18 months or more before the administrations are fully unscrambled and restructured.

Minister of Provincial Affairs Mr Roelf Meyer said this at the Reconstruction and Development Programme-donor conference yesterday.

Meyer said the process, in which provinces could claim their powers and the resources to administer them, was being given top priority.

The question of financial transfers between the various provinces was also paramount. The inequality of the provinces as far as resources and assets were concerned, and the rising tide of expectations, made this a very complicated issue.

Meyer said local government was "the hands and feet" of the RDP. The absence of legitimate, democratic, economically viable and sustainable local authorities was another pressing problem in the democratisation process in South Africa.

It was imperative for local government to provide for all to have access to water, sanitation, transport, electricity, primary health services and housing with security for all.

The forthcoming municipal elections would require major human resource development. Apart from identifying potential councillors in good

time and equipping them to perform their duties, voters would have to be educated as a matter of urgency.

Referring to the problems faced in the transformation of local government, Meyer said RDP funds would only be paid out to local areas if a transitional council had been established in terms of the Local Government Transition Act.

"This will offer an incentive for the creation of legitimate transitional structures," he said.

Local government applications to the RDP fund would have to be supported by agreements on the financing and operation of new and rehabilitated structures. An application for such funding had to show that budgeting and planning for the amalgamated local authority area were being managed in an integrated manner, and that the resources available would be used for the whole amalgamated area — *Sepa*

Local govt collapse 'threatens reform'

CAPE TOWN — The headlong financial and administrative collapse of local government in SA is threatening to devastate the country's economy and constitutional reform process, a government study has concluded

A confidential document entitled The State of Local Government Finance warns that the crisis in third-tier administration has become so acute local government has "largely collapsed" in many areas, rendering services "non-existent"

The mushrooming debt arising from non-payment of services by black local authorities in particular has landed central government with

Political Staff

a multibillion-rand headache. White local authorities could be forced to come to the rescue.

Nationally, debt arrears in black areas to local authorities and Eskom amount to well over R1bn, with arrears to Eskom alone standing at R874m and climbing by R45m a month, the report said

Central government would have to come up with a further R500m if the arrears of coloureds and Indians were to be written off by local authorities. The document noted: "It has recently been accepted by the Housing Department that about R5 500m

owed by black local authorities to the National Housing Fund would have to be written off as 'politically not recoverable' because of the collapse of these authorities."

Debts for bulk water supply in the old Cape Province at the end of August totalled R47m, with the entire amount owed to white local authorities. The Finance Department had calculated that the need for inter-governmental grants to provide a full range of basic services to those areas (excluding former homelands) too poor to pay would be about R2,8bn for 1995/96

It warned that instability in townships could spread to other areas

Premiers upbeat after power talks

Star 16/9/94

■ BY CHRIS WHITFIELD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The logjam in assigning powers to provinces has begun to loosen with yesterday's Intergovernmental Forum meeting reporting considerable progress in the critical areas of education, local government powers and health

However, the nine provincial premiers at the meeting signalled that the tug-of-war with the central Government is set to continue over other powers

They indicated "grave reservations" with the lack of progress in some areas and signalled that they would fight for a bigger role in water affairs and forestry — responsibilities which the Constitution reserves for the central Government

The premiers met for four hours with six Cabinet Ministers or deputy Ministers, — headed by Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer — at Tuynhuys yesterday

In a joint statement it was announced that pro-

gress had been made in three critical areas

■ A proclamation assigning laws in the functional area of education was finalised "and ready for immediate processing by the president"

■ Technical work on the assigning of remaining local government powers had been completed

■ Preparations had been completed for "the assignment of powers in the critical area of health" Meyer said that final discussions on this issue would take "a week or two"

KwaZulu/Natal Pre-

mier Dr Frank Mdlalose described the progress as a "step forward"

North West Premier Popo Molefe said "tremendous progress" had been made (202)

Mdlalose said there were clear indications in the meeting that functions such as water affairs and others not assigned to the provinces in the Constitution had to be devolved

However, the general mood after the meeting appeared to be upbeat

► More reports from Parliament — Page 7

Red tape snarls up provinces

□ Regional administration is stymied

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

(262) ARG 1/9/94

NEW provincial governments are snarled in red tape because of delays in transfers of assets.

Key aspects of Northern Cape and Eastern Cape administration continue to be run on an agency basis from Cape Town

Head of the commission on provincial government, Thozamile Botha disclosed this to a joint meeting of the national assembly and senate committees on provincial government yesterday

Some provincial boundaries were also causing problems

"Some boundaries cut through the middle of towns," he said

Mr Botha said committees of acting directors-general from national and provincial departments were being set up to negotiate the future of assets. These included budgets, staff, offices and computers

Because Cape Town had been the capital of the former Cape Province, most assets were based here

New provinces were without assets such as computers and offices

Mr Botha said staff from provincial departments of the other two Cape provinces "have to consult Cape Town before they can consult Pretoria"

There were equally bizarre problems because of former homelands

Thaba'Nchu, once part of Bophuthatswana, although geographically part of the Free State, had been incorporated in the new Free State province

But its officials continued to report

to the North West Province, the former headquarters of the Bophuthatswana administration

On the boundaries issue, Mr Botha said every effort was being made for solutions to be negotiated rather than resorting to referendums, which would be costly and divisive

He said there was a town in the Northern Transvaal whose people were insisting on boundaries being redrawn so they would be in the Eastern Transvaal

Boundaries were making it difficult to finalise preparations for future local government

Mr Botha said the vexed issue of the division of powers between central and provincial was not simply a technical one

It had to be resolved by negotiations between central and provincial ministers

Settlements had to be based on the need for national uniformity.

Mr Botha said an example was the undertaking to provide free and compulsory education for 10 years

If one province decided this meant from pre-primary school to Standard 8, and another that it meant from Standards 1 to 10, a child could get 12 years' free education by "migrating" from one province to another

Public service commission officials told the committee there was the potential for a struggle between central and provincial levels of government for power

Consensus on the division of powers was needed as soon as possible to enable completion of the rationalisation of administrations.

Local govt polls ON for next year — Moosa

Sitimes [Cimetro]

By NORMAN WEST,
Political Reporter

28/8/94

LOCAL government elections would definitely take place next year and an announcement on the date would be made "within weeks", Deputy Minister of Provincial Affairs Mr Vallie Moosa said this week.

He also called for patience on the devolution of powers to provincial legislatures.

Referring to the 100-plus days in power of the ANC majority government of national unity, Mr Moosa said "One must remember Rome was not built in 100 days."

KwaZulu/Natal premier Dr Frank Mdlalose this week lashed out at the government for delaying the devolution of provincial powers.

Dr Mdlalose said he had asked for the powers nine days after the election, but only some had been granted a month later.

"This has caused tremendous frustration among all nine provinces," he said.

This week Western Cape Local Government Minister Mr Peter Marais said he doubted whether the country

would be ready for local government elections next year as there were still no regulations or a voters' roll.

Mr Moosa said at the last conference of premiers, a decision was made to take special steps to speed up the devolution of powers.

About next year's local government elections, he promised the date for the elections would be announced "within the next few weeks."

"There is a lot of pressure on the government of national unity from provincial and local authorities as well as from non-governmental organisations for a date for local government elections to be set (2b2)

The ANC was anxious to have a date because "the sooner we get our house in order at local government level the sooner the RDP can be implemented", he said.

Govt delays criticised

Skweyiya 21/12/94

■ BY CHRIS WHITFIELD
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The Government has come under fresh fire for delays in handing powers to the new provinces, with Senators from a range of parties yesterday calling for steps to resolve the problem

However, Public Enterprises Minister Dr Zola Skweyiya said progress was being made in transferring the powers in an "orderly manner" (262)

He was responding in the Senate to a mini-debate in which NP Senator Neels Ackermann said provincial premiers were "crying for powers"

The "fly in the soup" was

the Commission for Administration sitting on work, Skweyiya said. While some provinces were in chaos, others had everything in place and were in a position to carry out their responsibilities

The IFP's Ruth Rabinowitz said the Joint Executive Authority in KwaZulu/Natal had been administering a range of powers but these had effectively been withdrawn and there were delays in returning them

FF Senator Rosier de Ville suggested that agreements to devolve powers to the provinces had been a pre-election ploy

Skweyiya said negotiations on the issue were well advanced

Headache over federal powers not resolved

CAPE TOWN — Joint technical committees to propose an appropriate distribution of powers and responsibilities between the national and provincial governments are to be formed

This was resolved yesterday by a meeting of the national government and provincial premiers at a meeting at the presidential office Tuynhuys

It was the fourth such meeting between teams headed by Minister of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Roelf Meyer and the premiers of the nine provinces. Such Inter-Governmental Forum meetings are to be held monthly in future (262)

Meyer said it had been decided the committees should ask the relevant ministers to try to reach an agreement on the proposed distribution of powers before the middle of next month

It was stressed that the appropriate powers should be assigned to the prov-

inces as soon as they had the administrative capacity to exercise them

The resolution adopted is to be reported to Cabinet on Wednesday by Meyer and Dr Zola Skweyiya, Minister of Public Service and Administration

The President and the two Deputy Executive Presidents are to be called on to attend the meetings twice a year

Chaos governed at provincial level, was how acting DP leader Tony Leon summed up the situation yesterday at a conference on federalism, organised by Stellenbosch University and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation

The reorganisation required a 'mindset that appeared to be absent from the heart of Government and from the Ministry of Constitutional Affairs', he said

All the provincial governments should be involved in the process of drawing up the new constitution to ensure there were real provincial powers and meaningful federalism, he said — Sapa

Forum to heal rift with Marais

St. Times IC Metro
3/17/94

THE Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum is to seek an urgent meeting with Mr Peter Marais, the regional Minister for Local Government, to try to mend their worsening relationship.

Differences between the two became public earlier this week when Mr Marais publicly attacked the local government negotiators "for acting outside their brief"

The attack surprised many forum negotiators, including National Party supporters, who believe a power-play is behind Mr Marais's outburst

At issue in the dispute is a recommendation from the forum that no local authority staff would have automatic right to any particular post within any newly-established municipal bodies. They also believe that the proposed transitional metropolitan authority should compile a central voters' roll

This has set off fears of job security among local authority staff members. However, according to documentation before the forum, the specific recommendation now under consideration proposes that present staff members be accommodated within new structures — but that no one would have automatic right to any particular post.

Forum co-ordinator David Schmidt yesterday confirmed that an all-out attempt at reconciliation with Mr Marais was under way.

"The provincial government and the forum needs to co-operate in the entire transition. However, it seems that the minister has misunderstood the provisions of the Local Government Transition Act."

Local govt elections report due

3 Day 14/7/94

WILSON ZWANE

A COMMITTEE had been appointed to look into logistics of SA's first nonracial local government elections, informed sources said yesterday (262)

They said the committee's report would be discussed next month by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer, his deputy, Valli Moosa, and representatives of the SA National Civic Organisation (Sanco) and United Municipal Executives

It is understood commission on provincial governments chairman Thozamile Botha and Meyer's adviser, Fanie van der Merwe, are members of the committee

The ANC's PWV region announced its council had resolved that April 27 and 28 be used for local government elections

ANC PWV deputy chairman Mathole Motshekga said it was of concern that linking elections to setting up transitional

local government councils had meant "repeated shifting back" of the election date.

He added government had indicated elections would be held in April

But sources said elections could be held in April only if everything went smoothly. This included recognition of local government transitional councils, demarcation of boundaries and registration of voters.

Government officials said yesterday the process would accelerate once provinces were given powers to administer the Local Government Transition Act, in terms of which transitional structures had to be in place by August 23

Meyer and the provinces decided in Pretoria on Tuesday that government should be asked to assign necessary powers to provinces by tomorrow.

Political violence death toll now six

DURBAN — The toll in political violence at Geilma near Margate on the KwaZulu/Natal south coast had risen to six, and hundreds of refugees were leaving the area, police said yesterday.

Fighting erupted on Tuesday after the murder of a local Inkatha Freedom Party leader.

Scores of houses were destroyed, leaving hundreds homeless, police said Yesterday a shop was also burnt down

Police said 15 people had been injured in the conflict

"Reinforcements have been sent to the area," said a police spokesman.

Police also reported two violent deaths in other parts of the province.

Dumisan Msomi, 22, was killed in the south coast area of KwaMakutha, and Alex Dladla, 20, in Durban's Umlazi township. *Biday 8/7/94*

The political warfare in the province has created 500 000 refugees and peace workers say the problem is too urgent to be ignored by government.

Regional peace committee director Dennis Nkosi said he was compiling a comprehensive report to "wake up government" to the enormity of the crisis

"We have up to 500 000 refugees in this province and we need the government to make land, houses and other resources available," he said. — Sapa-Reuter.

Local govt talks on track

THE country's nine provincial premiers and their local government MECs will meet in Pretoria next week in what is seen as the biggest push yet for local government transformation

Sources said yesterday that the summit meeting of the leaders would be convened by Constitutional Development, Provincial Affairs and Local Government Minister Roelf Meyer

The meeting would discuss ways — including amendments to the Local Government Transition Act — to expedite the process of democratising local government, said sources

The news of the meeting coincided with an announcement by the Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) that it was expecting disputes between itself and civic associations over "transition models" for 11 CP-controlled towns

These towns included Witbank, Secunda, Krugersdorp and Springs

It appears that the TMA's fears of a confrontation stem from a dispute which has arisen between the Duduza Civic Association and Nigel Town Council over a transition model for the East Rand area.

TMA vice-president Paul Fouche said the civic association wanted the nullifica-

Biday 8/7/94
WILSON ZWANE

tion of an agreement endorsed in May by a local government transition forum stating that the area should have a co-ordinating committee rather than a joint council

A co-ordinating committee is a "super council" to which existing local authorities will appoint representatives and a joint council is a body, comprising an equal number of statutory and non-statutory organisations, which will replace existing municipalities. *(262)*

According to Fouche, one of the civic association's objections to the co-ordinating committee was that it perpetuated "apartheid" structures

He said it had been agreed by the ANC and the previous government that joint councils would be mandatory for metropolitan areas such as Johannesburg, while co-ordinating committees would be established in small, CP-controlled towns

Fouche added that there was an agreement between his organisation and the ANC that, should a dispute over the transition models arise in medium-sized, CP-controlled towns such as Witbank, the ANC would prevail on the civic organisations to opt for the co-ordinating committees

Board members of the... she had confused Sydney and Perth last year after SABC started...
**Local poll
body set up**
Business Day Reporter

CABINET yesterday appointed a technical committee to investigate preparations for local government elections (202)

With the local elections scheduled tentatively for April, the committee would examine issues such as compiling voters' rolls as well as the logistic, administrative and cost implications of such elections

The committee — provincial government commission chairman Thozamile Botha, Fanie van der Merwe of the Constitutional Development Department and Home Affairs Director-General Piet Colyn — is expected to report to Cabinet early in August

The committee would consult all relevant authorities and role players before making recommendations to the Provincial Government and Home Affairs Departments as well as provincial cabinets

Aluminium Can Recycling Association GM Dawie Krugel, left, Colin Ogle of the African Council for Hawkers and Informal Business and Get Ahead director Don MacRobert with the new recycling crusher bin for use by hawkers
Picture ROBERT BOTHA

BIDAY 5/7/94
**Procedure slammed over
change to constitution**

CAPE TOWN — Legislation amending the constitution was passed unanimously at a joint sitting of the National Assembly and Senate yesterday, but several MPs were critical of the procedure adopted

This followed the withdrawal yesterday morning of a clause which provided for the appointment of parliamentary counsellors to the President or Vice-Presidents

The clause was dropped after the ANC caucus decided on Sunday that it was not necessary. This was accepted by the party whips, without a meeting of the Standing Committee on Constitutional Affairs

The way in which the clause was dropped prompted a sharp rebuke from veteran DP MP Colin Eglon

"Heaven help SA if this is the way we are going to handle constitutional amendments," he said. "I thought I was in the new SA in which Parliament was going to say to the public 'You, too, could make an input'. But this is not the case"

"If you want people to love, obey, and respect the constitution, then don't let them see Parliament turn it into patch-

Political Staff

work quilt legislation"

NP Senator Neels Ackerman said the ANC should decide who was running the country: the caucus, the ANC's national executive committee, or the Cabinet

ANC MPs and senators were criticised by Senator Errol Moorcroft for hissing and booing when Inkatha Freedom Party hard-liner Walter Felgate spoke during the debate. He said it was "unacceptable" that a Member was booed and hissed even before he spoke — "it reduces us to something like a concert hall"

Introducing the Bill, Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said the amendments were practical ones of a technical nature. They dealt with the pension benefits of political functionaries at national and regional level, the appointment of the public protector, the courts, and the commission on gender equality

With all parties supporting the Bill, 394 votes were cast — more than two-thirds of the total number of 490 MPs and senators

Provinces' lack of power a concern

Star
29/6/1994

Cape Town — The administrations of South Africa's nine new provinces will come into being on Friday, but they are unlikely to be given their own budgets by then. The Public Service Commission will proclaim the administrations of the new government departments in a Government Gazette, the acting deputy director-general of the Department of Constitutional Development, Deon du Plooy, told the joint finance committee yesterday.

Concern

The delay in introducing the provincial powers and separate budgets has caused concern among provincial premiers and would be raised at the weekly Cabinet meeting today.

The administrations of the new provinces being created out of the remnants of the former TBVC states, the self-governing territories and the four former provinces.

Although the powers were delegated to the former administrations several weeks ago, they have not yet been delegated those powers they will exercise concurrently with central Government in terms of the new constitution.

Du Plooy said the Department of Public Expenditure had indicated that it could be some time before the function allowing for the transfer of subsidies to the new administrations was put in place.

Powers

Speaking of the delay in transferring powers to the provinces, Du Plooy said it was an "uncomfortable situation".

Committee members should ask the Department of Public Expenditure when funds would be transferred to the new administrations.

No final decision had yet been taken on who would be responsible for the money transferred to former administrations. The premiers were asking when money would be divided between the provinces and "we can't get an answer" Sapa.

Provinces must wait for allocations

Sowetan 23/6/94

By Mzimkulu Malunga

PROVINCIAL governments will have to wait for some time before they know how they will get their allocations from the national Budget

Finance Minister Derek Keys said yesterday he would announce before Monday the names of 8 people who would serve in the Financial and Fiscal Commission

The FFC is the body that is to work out how the nine new provinces get their slice of the national cake

"It is clear that the commission will play a crucial role in respect of financial and fiscal matters at all levels of government

"In this it will face a daunting task that must be tackled with the utmost urgency," he said (262) (4)

Keys' deputy, Mr Alec Erwin, said the positions of chairman and deputy chairman of the FFC were fulltime jobs, hence there had to be widespread consultation before they could be appointed

The Government has budgeted R4,2



million to finance the operations of the FFC. Until the FFC comes up with a formula which officials of the finance department expect to be done before the end of the year, provinces would be dependent on the allocations to the old provinces and homelands. Currently the regional governments were being given advances on their envisaged budgets so as to pay the salaries and allowances of provincial officials

NEWS SA returns to form

Nine provinces get more power

SOUTH Africa's nine provinces are to get more powers of government. *Sowetan*

A government ministers' and provincial premiers' forum is to be implemented following meetings last week between all the premiers and Minister of Public Service and Administration Dr Zola Skwevava and Constitution & Development Minister Pieter Dief de Meyer.

The forum will meet monthly.

Apparently a successful attempt to appease the premiers, who had complained that the province-held executive power as stipulated in the constitution has been achieved.

On Friday powers were temporarily assigned to central government departments.

The ministers said the assignment of powers to provinces would be based on the responses from the provinces before June 17 and on submissions made by the Public Services Commission.

This also meant that the provinces should demonstrate that their administrations would be in a position to manage the exercise of power.

"Relevant central government ministers will visit each of the provinces individually over the next fortnight with a view to discussing bilaterally particularly issues relevant to specific provinces," the ministers' statement said.

Provinces to get old powers

SI Times 12/6/94

By EDYTH BULBRING
Political Correspondent

THE slow crawl to establishing effective provincial government in South Africa began this week with the announcement that the nine new premiers would be handed some of the power previously exercised by the old provinces (262)

All the powers of the provinces and homelands were assumed by the national government on May 10. They can only be given back to the prov-

inces once they show themselves to be administratively competent to exercise these powers

The first powers to be handed back were those exercised in terms of provincial ordinances

The Free State and Natal will automatically regain all the powers and assets they held in the past

But the PWV, Eastern Transvaal, Northern Transvaal and North West governments will first have to meet to divide up the assets and funds of the old Transvaal Provincial Administration before they can begin to exercise control over them

Powers to be transferred to provinces

Star 10/16/94
The barriers to the central Government transferring certain executive powers to the provincial level have been cleared and the process is due to start immediately

A statement released yesterday after the nine premiers met Minister of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Roelf Meyer and Minister of Public Service and Administration, Dr Zola Skweyiya in Pretoria said "The assignment of powers can now start taking place on the assumption that the administrative capacities to assume these powers are in place"

Emerging from the meeting, KwaZulu/Natal Premier Dr Frank Mdlalose said "Certain powers are definitely coming our way They are not half as many as we wanted to get"

PWV Premier Tokyo Sexwale said the initial powers to be devolved were those necessary to get administrations up and running The delays had been expected and it was not true that premiers were up in arms about the matter, he added. (262)

It was also agreed to set up a permanent forum, involving all premiers and relevant central Government Ministers, to meet on a monthly basis, and to institute a series of visits by central Government Ministers to each of the provinces over the next fortnight — Political Staff, Sapa.

Rural people feel left out

Sowetan 31/6/94

Tyrone August
Political Reporter

SEVERAL rural development organisations have strongly criticised the absence of a Ministry of Local Government from the new Government

After a meeting of the organisations, called by the Institute for Local Government, they appealed for the establishment of rural local government

"The Reconstruction and Development Programme cannot be effectively implemented without strong, effective local government," the organisations said in a statement

"The absence of a Ministry of Local Government is a serious shortcoming which could jeopardise people-centred development, particularly in rural areas"

The organisations, which include the National Rural Development Forum, called for immediate changes to the Local Government Transition Act to create District Councils.

They decided to seek meetings with national and provincial ministers, pro-

vincial committees on local government and RDP committees to raise their concerns.

"Rural areas have always been marginalised and this will continue to be a problem without strong rural structures," they said

"The local government Act and relevant constitutional chapters have been drawn up without due consideration of rural realities (262)

"If we are going to deliver in rural areas to those who are in greatest need, an appropriate democratic institutional framework is absolutely vital"

They said only a rural government would be able to work out an adequate policy and ensure the basic rights of people in rural areas

Mr Izak Retief, a spokesman for the Minister of Provincial Affairs Mr Roelf Meyer, said a meeting with provincial governments was in the pipeline to discuss this

But, he added, the ministry's role would be that of a "facilitator" to assist communication with local government. It would not determine the administration of local government.

34 die in violence Sowetan 31/6/94 spiral after election

By Sharon Chetty

WEEKLY REPORT The taxi

THIRTY four people died in violent incidents last week, bringing an end to six weeks of declining violence, the Human Rights Commission said in its weekly report.

The deaths — in Natal and the PWV — were recorded in the week from May 25 to 31.

According to HRC figures, the 34 deaths were more than double those recorded the previous week.

The HRC also warned after 13 people died and 10 were injured in taxi conflicts that more bloodshed was likely if the crisis within the industry was not addressed urgently.

Those killed in the PWV area were all on the East Rand. Two deaths were recorded in Katlehong, including that of a woman whose body was found behind Mazibuko Hostel.

In Tokoza, the bodies of three men were found in Tshabalala Street. Police

conflicts 'may cause further bloodshed if not solved immediately'.

found, AK-47 rifle cartridges on the scene.

Also on the East Rand, one person was killed in Daveyton and another in Germiston.

Supporters

Five people — including four ANC supporters — were killed when about 20 gunmen went on the rampage in the Matholamnyama-Sonkomo area in Natal.

In a reported revenge attack, five homes of Inkatha Freedom Party supporters were burnt down.

In another incident in Nsane, an ANC supporter was killed and his girlfriend injured when they were attacked by

people believed to be IFP supporters.

Two policemen were killed in Soweto and the Johannesburg city centre.

The only industrial conflict recorded was in Umtata.

Finance clerks were allegedly forced at gunpoint to write out bigger salary cheques.

And former Transkei police and prison officers took a senior officer hostage during protests over pay.

Pupils held 20 teachers hostage for about five hours at Ekangala High School in Bronkhorstpruit because they were dissatisfied with a teacher who they wanted dismissed.

Rural people Sowetan 31/6/94 feel left out

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Transition Act must first be changed

Three cities might go to polls soon

Star 2/6/94

■ OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Democratic local government elections in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg could be held within two to three months if lobbying for changes to transition legislation succeeds

A probe is under way into whether major cities should recommend changes to the Local Government Transition Act, to purge it of clauses which have bogged down prospects of democratic municipal elections this year

A possible scenario is that a transitional metropolitan council will be elected within two to three months.

Elections could be held at the same time for some local authorities, including the Cape Town City Council, perhaps with changes to municipal ward boundaries to include management committee and black local authority areas

Unlike the April election, voters rolls would be compiled. All adult residents would be al-

CAPE TOWN, Johannesburg and Durban could face democratic local elections within three months (262)

lowed to vote, ending the property-based municipal franchise

Cape Town City Council executive committee chairman Clive Keegan met his Durban counterpart Peter Mansfield for talks last week

A meeting has been requested with Ian Davidson, chairman of Johannesburg City Council's management committee — the equivalent of Cape Town's executive committee

The Act sets out a process for appointing metropolitan and local councils in a "pre-interim" phase before electing transitional councils on a partly race-based roll

The process cannot be amended easily because the Act is protected by chapter 10 of the Inter-

im Constitution

But the legislation has been a source of huge frustration in metropolitan areas because its provisions are more suited to small towns

Cape Town has about 70 local authorities, and redrawing municipal boundaries within a new metropolitan council area is expected to be prolonged, controversial and highly emotional

A Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum has been set up, but has operated for several months without official recognition

A dispute about the outer boundary of the metropole has been referred to the Western Cape Demarcation Board, while debate on "inner boundaries" — those between future local councils — has not yet begun

Until boundary disputes are resolved, voters rolls cannot be prepared, a setback that could delay municipal elections until well into next year

Part of the investigation into amending transition legislation will include what procedures will have to be followed

Provinces to get R200m from government

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Only about R200 million would be allocated in the budget this month to the new provincial governments to finance their administrations, state expenditure director-general Mr Hannes Smit said yesterday.

Since the old administrations would continue running regional government functions in the short term, the usual allocations to the four provinces, the TBVC and the self-governing territories would be made, he said.

"The budget will have the same format as in previous years, except for an extra spending proposal to finance the provincial cabinets," he said. The amount — just less than R200m — would not add to overall spending totals.

The allocation to each region would be linked to functions, such as education, at present performed by those governments in the old TBVC. As functions were formally handed to the provinces, they would use the money allocated to the old administrations and central government allocations.

One exception was housing, where central government's allocation went to the national housing fund, which would distribute it to the regions, he said.

Mr Smit said a law would be passed soon to establish the reconstruction fund, which would kick off with R2,5 billion from the government.

Sources said the first direct allocation to the new regional governments were likely to come from the reconstruction fund. These allocations may be made before the fiscal and financial commission — to be appointed before the end of the month — had decided on formulas for sharing revenue.

Meanwhile, the PWV government announced yesterday it was convening a "township summit" on reconstruction and development in Soweto this weekend.

Provincial government commission named

Star 31/5/94

■ POLITICAL STAFF

The ANC's Thozamile Botha is to head the Commission on Provincial Government, Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer announced yesterday

The task of the commission is to facilitate the establishment of provincial government and to advise both the central Government and the provinces about rationalising the administrative structures, legislation and resources of the new provinces

The constitution stipulates that each province should have at least one member on the commission (262)

Additional members are B Lategan (vice-chairman), TR Bencke-Jordaan, P Daphne, NN Gwagwa, R Jager, P Lephunya, DE T le Roux, J Malatji, Y Muthien, Z Titus, T Tlhacoane, JWA van der Merwe, V Vedlanker and M Webber

Meyer said that only Botha and Lategan would serve on a full-time basis.

Attempt to retain local govt bodies

THE CP-dominated Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) resolved yesterday to push for the prolongation of the life of the transitional, local government co-ordinating committees, saying this would contribute significantly to peace.

TMA vice-president Paul Fouché said his organisation did not think it was possible for local government elections to be held in the immediate future, given the logistics involved. As a result, the organisation thought the extension of the life of the co-ordinating committees would be in the best interests of the country, as it would contribute towards peace.

Fouché said the organisation decided at a meeting yesterday to ask CP leader Ferdi Hartzenberg to prevail upon President Nelson Mandela to accede to this demand.

In terms of the Local Government Transition Act, negotiations should be embarked upon to create the joint local government councils and the co-ordinating committees which will run municipal affairs until elections are held.

The local government elections are scheduled for early next year. But the TMA wants the co-ordinating

WILSON ZWANE

committees to operate for the same length of time as the government of national unity.

The Act stipulates that should a dispute arise over the setting up of the joint councils, provincial premiers can intervene and appoint co-ordinating committees.

Fouché said his organisation was opposed to the joint councils and favoured the co-ordinating committees because, to a large extent, they maintained the status quo.

Unlike the joint councils, the committees would not consist of non-statutory bodies.

However, the TMA had come to accept that the councils were inevitable in metropolitan areas such as Johannesburg. "But we still advise our members there to opt for the co-ordinating committees," Fouché said.

According to Fouché, there are 66 CP-controlled municipalities in the former Transvaal.

Meanwhile the North East Rand Forum, comprising Kempton Park, Tembisa, Edenvale and Modderfontein, meets this evening to debate the type of local authority for the area.

POLITICS

PAC, DP may get public service jobs

B. N. COHEN

CAPE TOWN — President Nelson Mandela has raised the possibility of including members of the DP and PAC in the public service.

Mandela pledged members and supporters of all parties would be welcome to apply for jobs in the public and foreign service and military.

After holding discussions with DP acting leader Tony Leon and PAC leader Clarence Makwetu, he requested that the parties draw up lists of members who could fill top posts.

Mandela said he was determined that the country should follow an inclusive approach to national building that involved all parties.

Mandela said the process of cross-party dialogue and co-operation in which "leaders put their hands together" would continue for as long as he was president.

Mandela said he was adamant that all political parties had to become part of an inclusive process of tackling the country's challenges.

Mandela did not exclude the idea of bringing leaders of smaller parties into the executive although he added that that having a loyal opposition was a critical factor for democracy.

Leon said he did not seek specific jobs for DP members "although the President did raise this matter in the context of his inclusive and welcome approach to nation-building".

The meeting had been "a very cordial and warm exchange".

Powell is Inkatha's defence minister

B. N. COHEN

CAPE TOWN — The Inkatha Freedom Party parliamentary caucus yesterday appointed controversial Inkatha senator Phillip Powell as its shadow defence minister, and firebrand Transvaal PWV leader Themba Khoza as his deputy.

SA Police Services spokesman May Bala Naidoo said from Durban yesterday Powell was wanted by police for questioning in connection with a home-made weapon allegedly found in his car last month.

Naidoo said representatives of the SAPS legal department had been in contact with Powell's legal adviser. "Hopefully we will resolve this issue by next Monday and be able to interview Powell," he said.

Naidoo denied reports that Powell had gone into hiding to avoid the police. Powell is at the centre of a number of controversies connected with Inkatha, allegedly involving the setting up of training camps for so-called self-protection units.

Another controversial Inkatha figure and former KwaZulu deputy minister of works VB Ndlovu, was appointed safety and security spokesman.

Inkatha hardliner Walter Felgate was chosen as constitutional development spokesman, while former CP MP Koos van der Merwe was appointed justice and deputy foreign affairs spokesman.

DAVID GREYBE

Gavin Woods of the Inkatha Institute in Durban was appointed shadow minister for finance and "government spending". His deputy in both portfolios is Dennis Madide, the former KwaZulu government finance minister. Madide was also appointed health spokesman.

Other appointments included:

Labour — Ben Skosana,
Agriculture — Senator Geoffrey Bengulu,
Mineral and energy affairs — Eric Lucas.

Trade and industry — Henne Becker,
Welfare — Inca Mars,
Home affairs — Ziba Jiyane,
Posts, telecommunications and broadcasting — Suzanne Vos,
Environment — Peter Smith,
Public enterprises, and housing — Mandla Msoni,

Education — Lionel Mshah,
Deputy education spokesman — Faith Gaza, and
Sport and recreation — Maureen Nzimande.

The appointment of spokesmen for, among others, land affairs, public works, and transport was deferred until a later date, an Inkatha source said.

Inkatha, ANC youth team up

QUESTION

Changes to Local Govt Act likely

S. Times [Cape Town]

CHANGES to the Local Government Transition Act are likely following growing unhappiness among negotiators about key aspects of the legislation

Most likely changes to the Act will centre on the appointment for the pre-interim phase of equal numbers of statutory and non-statutory representatives to take over the running of local councils

"The Act was drafted at a time when we expected local government transition would precede the

national elections. Now that we have a democratic government in place, we should move directly to local government elections," a member of the Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum, said this week.

By NAZEEM HOWA

A primary concern among negotiators is that once people are appointed to councils they will expect to spend "a reasonable time" in office before democratic elections are held

Even if this clause is amended negotiators believe local government elections planned for October or November this year may have to be delayed by several months.

This could see an extension of the lives of the old racially based local authorities like the Cape Town City Council

With the chaos of the recent national elections to reflect on, negotiators have warned that local government elections will be extremely difficult to organise

"Drawing up a voters' roll is likely to be virtually impossible as hundreds of people are streaming into the Peninsula daily and settling in informal housing all over the place," another negotiator said

For this reason, negotiators believe a more realistic time frame should be set. At this stage the first quarter of 1995 seems most likely

GRC AN



EBRAHIM RASOOL ...
-Tipped to rise in local ANC ranks

T U V W X Y Z

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The people who will run the nine provinces

Last week's elections have transformed South Africa's political map. **EDYTH BULBRING, RAY HARTLEY, DAWN BARKHUIZEN and CARMEL RICKARD** report

EASTERN TRANSVAAL

PREMIER: Matthews Phosa
Mr Phosa, 42, practised law in Neispruit after graduating from the University of the North. He went into exile in 1965 and received political, military and intelligence training in East Germany.
Later he was stationed in Mozambique and was made commander of MK's border units.
He returned to South Africa in March 1990 as part of the ANC's advance negotiating team and was part of the team that brokered the Groote Schuur Minute and the DR Malan Accord.
He is the chairman of the ANC in the region, a National Executive Committee member, a member of the Negotiations Commission and serves on the Police Board.

PRIORITIES: Mr Phosa says his first task will be to structure the provincial government and to establish an effective administration.
His policy priorities are education, health, creating jobs through developing tourism and housing.

PROBABLE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET:
January "Che" Masilela — Mr Masilela, 39, is the regional secretary of the ANC, a member of MK Military Command in the Eastern Transvaal and an SACP Central Committee member.
In exile, he was political commissar in Angola from 1982 to 1987 and chairman of the regional political military council from 1987 to 1991.
Jacob Mabema — Mr Mabema, 32, is Cosatu's regional secretary. He joined the ANC in 1989 and is the Secunda branch secretary and a regional executive committee member.

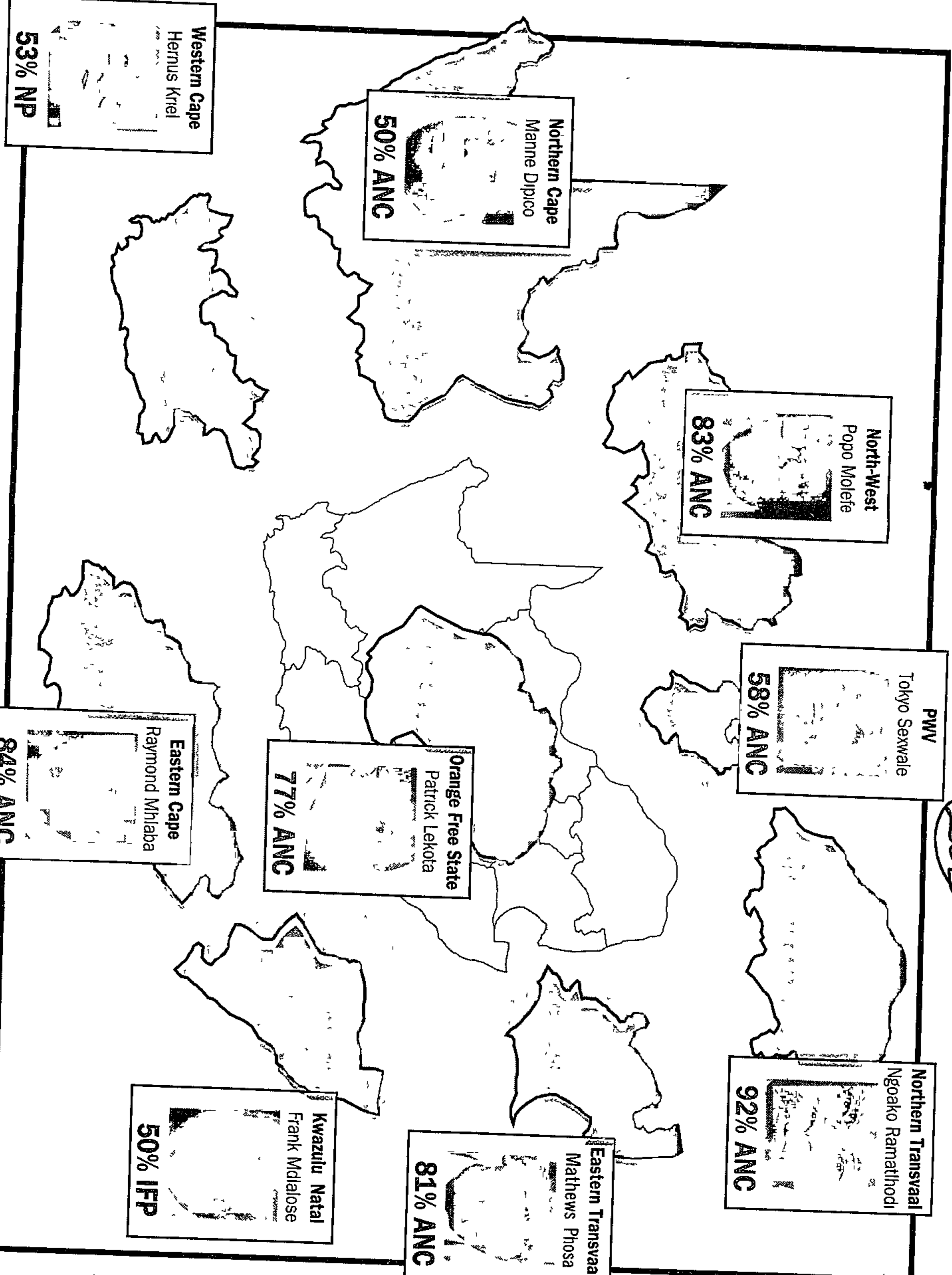
NORTH-WEST

PREMIER: Popo Molefe
A former member of the black consciousness Azanian Peoples' Organisation, Mr Molefe helped form the UDF. He later served as its national secretary.
During that time he was detained and arrested on several occasions and had a conviction for treason overturned by the Supreme Court in 1989.
After the unbanning of the ANC, he was elected deputy chairman of its PWV branch.
Mr Molefe, 42, spearheaded the ANC's election campaign as chairman of its Elections Commission.

PRIORITIES: Mr Molefe plans to field a new civil service from former members of the Bophuthatswana and Transvaal provincial administrations and counter a strong right-wing presence in the province. He says making people aware that they own property, culture and language will be safe under the new government and will be essential in coping with the latter.

PROBABLE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET:
Rocky Molebane-Meteng — Mr Molebane-Meteng was the leader of an abortive attempt to wrest power from Lucas Mangope in Bophuthatswana in 1988. Mr Molebane-Meteng went into exile but returned in June 1991. He is currently charged with bringing

PWV
PREMIER: Tokyo Sexwale
Tokyo Sexwale, 41, was recruited into the ANC underground at the age of 18 in 1971 and was arrested and jailed for terrorism five years later. He was released from prison in 1990 and elected ANC PWV chairman in 1991.
A close personal friend of slain SACP general secretary Chris Hani, Mr Sexwale became the new hero of MK soldiers and militant township youths.
PRIORITIES: Mr Sexwale says: "There is no way we can be in to



never went to school and taught himself to read and write. He is the only senior Zulu person within the upper reaches of the ANC and has been the party's answer to allegations that the ANC is anti-Zulu.
George Bartlett — Mr Bartlett, 63, the former Minister of Mineral and Energy Affairs, could hold more power than the NP could have expected in the province, given the delicate political balance in Natal. He was born in the region, and knows it well. He has also had experience in several political parties. He joined the NP 10 years ago and has been Natal leader of the

1983 as chief patron of the UDF. He has been appointed Minister of Economic Affairs.
Gerald Morkele — Mr Morkele, 53, was educated at Batswood Teachers' Training College in Wynberg and later qualified as a carpenter and joiner at the Cape technical college. He was a builder/contractor for 18 years until he was elected a Labour Party member of Parliament in 1984. He led the breakaway faction of coloured MPs who left the LP to join the NP. He has been appointed Minister of Housing.

EASTERN CAPE
PREMIER: Raymond Mhlaba
Fort Hare-born "Om Ray" he led a strike in Fort Elizabeth in 1948. He later hit the headlines as the leader of the 1952 defiance campaign in Port Elizabeth.
Before being arrested at Lilliesleaf farm in 1963 and jailed alongside Nelson Mandela, he was an MK commander. He was released from Pollsmoor Prison on October 4 1989.
Mr Mhlaba, 76, is currently national deputy chairman of the SACP.
He has built close ties with businessmen throughout the East Cape

ORANGE FREE STATE
PREMIER: Patrick Lekota
Lekota
A leading figure in the ANC's internal operations through the UDF in the 80s, Mr Lekota, 46, began his political life as a leader in Saso in 1971.
He was arrested for terrorism and served six years on Robben Island until his release in 1982. He then served as UDF national publicity secretary until his arrest and conviction in the Delmas treason trial. Mr Lekota overturned his conviction on appeal and went on to serve as the ANC's southern Natal chairman before returning to the Free State as an organiser.
PRIORITIES: Mr Lekota says: "We can now come together as one people to build a bright future. The main thing here is reconciliation. We must remain disciplined and I urge each and every Free Stater to accept the challenge to make this province great."

PROBABLE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET:
Elias "Ace" Magashule — Mr Magashule is chairman of the ANC's Northern Free State region. He began his political life as a pupil in the Tsumahale Student Organisation. While at the University of Fort Hare, he was fined R400 for his role in the "Sebe incident", in which then Ciskein president Leano Sebe was attacked by students.
Pat Matosa — A former MK guerrilla, Mr Matosa was sentenced to eight years in prison for terrorism in 1985. He was released in 1990 and served as the ANC's Northern Free State regional secretary. A committed socialist, Mr Matosa, 34, is a member of the SACP.

Graphic: FIONA KRISCH

ple before we stabilise the situation. We are going into government with a sense of excitement, a sense of challenge and a sense of responsibility."

PROBABLE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET:

Jessie Duarte — Mrs Duarte, 41, is an assistant in Nelson Mandela's office. A former publicity secretary of the Federation of Transvaal Women, she was detained and restricted during the 80s. She serves on the ANC PWV regional executive. Insiders say she is likely to become provincial finance minister.

Olaus van Zyl — Mr van Zyl, 50, obtained a masters degree in transport engineering at the University of California, Berkeley. He is the National Party's executive director and played a prominent role in its election campaign. He was formerly Transvaal MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations.

NORTHERN TRANSVAAL

PREMIER: Ngeako Ramathlohi
Mr Ramathlohi, 38, started his political career as an activist in the South African Students' Organisation, Cosas and the Azanian Students' Organisation.

He went into exile in 1980. He acted as MK regional commissar in Lesotho for four years, headed the political military council in Zimbabwe for one year and acted as Oliver Tambo's speech writer for three years.

He obtained his LLB and a masters degree in International Law and International Relations at the

university and chiefs as an official in the ANC's organising department.

Amli Venter — Mr Venter is currently serving as State Expenditure Minister and was the NP's premier candidate for the North-West. As the NP obtained only nine percent of the vote in the provincial elections, Mr Venter does not qualify for a position on the provincial executive, but is likely to be appointed anyway in a reconciliatory gesture.

KWAZULU NATAL

PREMIER: Frank Mdlalose

The Inkatha Freedom Party's Dr Mdlalose, 61, fits the image of a country doctor or a gentleman farmer far more easily than that of premier of the country's most violence-torn region.

He will promote education and health. His years as a doctor serving township residents also made him acutely aware of the impact of poor living conditions on community health, and he will certainly try to focus on the need for improved housing.

PRIORITIES: Dr Mdlalose has said that promoting peace and the "total eradication of violence" will be at the top of his priority list. Fortunately, he gets on well with the ANC's Jacob Zuma, with whom he will need to work closely, given the past conflict between their two organisations.

MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET:

Jacob Zuma — Mr Zuma, 50, is the ANC's deputy secretary-general. He has a reputation as a peacemaker in the region. Mr Zuma

WESTERN CAPE

PREMIER: Heruus Kriel

Former Law and Order Minister Mr Kriel was born in Kakamas in the Northern Cape in 1941. He went to the University of Stellenbosch where he completed his BA and LLB degrees. He opened a legal practice in Parow in 1968. In the late 70s he became involved in ocean diamond mining, but sold his business interest in 1980 and joined the Cape Town Bar. He left the Bar a year later after his election to the executive committee of the Cape Provincial Council.

In 1984 he won the parliamentary by-election in Parow. After the 1989 general election Mr Kriel was appointed to the cabinet as Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs. Later he was transferred to the Law and Order portfolio.

PRIORITIES: Mr Kriel said his first priority would be to get rid of "racism" in the Western Cape. He said he committed himself to "peace, development, social assistance to the poor, clean administration and no discrimination". In order to achieve economic and industrial development, he said, he was determined to eradicate crime and political violence.

MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET:

Dr Allan Boesak — Dr Boesak is the chairman of the ANC in the Western Cape. He achieved renown through the Sandinista and his presidency of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, and was thrust into national politics in

NORTHERN CAPE

PREMIER: Maane Dipico

Mr Dipico, 35, is the regional head of the National Union of Mineworkers' education department. He studied for a BA degree at Fort Hare University, where he became active in the Azanian Students' Organisation and the UDF. After a brief detention, he returned to Kimberley as a full-time regional organiser of the National Union of Mineworkers and was active in the UDF.

He was sentenced to five years' imprisonment in 1987 for furthering the aims of the ANC. He was released in 1990 and became ANC chairman of the region in June 1992.

PRIORITIES: Mr Dipico's first task since he does not have an outright majority, is to form a coalition with the Freedom Front and the NP to ensure stability and good government. His second priority is to develop the economy through exploiting the region's agricultural and mining resources. The third priority, he says, is improving access to health, education and water.

PROBABLE MEMBERS OF HIS CABINET:

Mr Goolam Akhtarwaray — Mr Akhtarwaray is a practising attorney in Kimberley and was formerly involved in the civic association in the city.

Faith Madoopane — Dr Madoopane is a medical doctor in Kimberley's Vergelegen township and the ANC's treasurer in the province. Former Agriculture Minister Dr

TIMERS DIARY

Young Victoria, wearing disposable medical gloves and imperturbed by flecking clothes, capably did the cleansing, disinfecting and bandaging of sores and wounds. She wants to be a doctor.

And what were the rest of us doing — watching TV and moaning about the IEC

Don't mansion it

IF YOU should happen to bump into insurance tycoon Douw Steyn as you claim for affirmative shopping carried out at your home, Cobbleigh suggests you don't mention the rumour about his R25-million Sandhurst mansion being turned into an ANC conference centre. Steyn, chairman of Auto and General and one of South Africa's wealthiest men, is apparently miffed about speculation that his house has been sold — or even donated — to the ANC.

The elusive friend and erstwhile host of President-elect

Deeds, not words

WHILE many of the foreign correspondents reporting on the elections were swelling the profits of the country's trendy restaurants — and complaining about the service — former London Daily Telegraph editor Bill Deedes went off to share a meal with Joburg's homeless. Writing in his election diary Lord Deedes, now a Telegraph columnist, told how he went, reluctantly, with local friend Jenny Hunter Blair to spend an evening with the city's destitute.

"We set off with three of her friends, her daughter Victoria aged 15, two big containers of soup, loaves of sliced bread, and two boxes of medical supplies. As our cars halted, the blacks who live on the rim of Johannesburg society came towards us.

"They received us with marked courtesy. Before accepting their plastic cup of soup and bread, they shook us by the hand and all but the most crazed expressed thanks for what was just their second meal of the week.

"Many suffered minor ailments which called for aspirin, ear drops or cough

Cool cabin crews

COBBLEIGH wonders how laney local hotels, restaurants and bars that have a firm "no jeans" rule will react if former motor racing world champion Nikki Lauda's Austrian airline ever gets to fly into Jan Smuts. Lauda Air cabin crews could find themselves shown the door if they turn up in the airline's new strip Stonewashed denims have just become part of their

uniform to make them look, as the company's commercial director Derek Jewson puts it, "smart, informal and sexy".

Lauda's "coffee, tea or me" brigade will have a choice of three different styles of top jeans brand Levi's, to be worn with grey double-breasted jackets and white shirts.

To make sure passengers don't worry that any old on is flying the aircraft, the cockpit crew will carry on wearing traditional uniforms with all those impressive gold stripes, crowns and epaulettes.

This is not the first time Lauda Air has been an innovator — recently it started putting a free condom into its business class amenity kit.

Darn cheek, Meryl

MEGA-RICH actress Meryl Streep has confessed that she prefers to mend her old socks rather than buy new ones. How boring. Darn it, these stars are supposed to add glamour to our lives, not send us on guilt trips.

Thomas Cobbleigh



The changes in the National Party over the past few years are little short of miraculous.

In extremely difficult circumstances, the National Party performed well. We may not be the biggest party yet, but there can be little doubt that today our party is the most representative of all our population groups. This is a sold foundation for our future growth. Our objective is to be the strongest party after the next election.

I thank all National Party leaders, workers and supporters for their hard work. I also thank you for making these changes possible.

I would especially like to thank the voters, whose tolerance, goodwill and patience have made this election an example of what the new South Africa should be like.

And to the millions who supported the National Party I have one more promise — We will not disappoint you!

F.W. de Klerk



Star 9/5/95

Newly elected premiers list priorities

The provincial parliaments of eight of South Africa's nine regions were inaugurated around the country on Saturday, and the newly elected provincial premiers listed their immediate priorities.

The inauguration of the Kwa-Zulu/Natal parliament will take place on Wednesday.

The chief appointments in the eight parliaments are

■ PWV Premier Tokyo Sexwale (ANC); Speaker Trevor Fowler

(ANC)

■ Western Cape Premier Hennis Kriel (NP), Speaker Willem Doman (NP)

■ Eastern Cape Premier Raymond Mhlaba (ANC), Speaker Gugile Nkwinti (ANC)

■ Northern Transvaal Premier Ngoako Ramatlhodi (ANC), Speaker T G Mashamba (ANC)

■ Eastern Transvaal Premier Matthew Phosa (ANC), Speaker Mbalekelwa Ginindza (ANC)

■ Orange Free State Premier

Patrick Lekota (ANC), Speaker Rev Motlalepule Chabaku (ANC).

■ Northern Cape Premier Manne Amsley Dipico (ANC), Speaker Ethne Papenfus (DP)

■ North West Premier Popo Molefe (ANC), Speaker Jimmy Thibedi (ANC)

Molefe said his government would try to persuade the AWB to take part in the democratic process

(262)
The AWB was a threat to the

North West province as it had well-trained men and women who had stashed away weapons in preparation for war

Ramatlhodi stressed the importance of industrial and economic development in the Northern Transvaal

One of the first issues to be looked at was the privatisation of the Pietersburg Air Force Base, which could create 40 000 jobs, he said — Sapa

Never mind all-party central government, there will be nine other legislatures too, each with its own Premier, a 'Cabinet' of around 10 and a Speaker, and all wielding considerable powers over our daily lives, writes Jo-Anne Collinge

How nine new provinces will operate

STAR 27/4/94

(202)

It has been said that the coming election is not so much about a change of government as about the creation of governments. This is certainly true of the nine provincial governments.

When voters make their "Xs" on the provincial ballot paper next week, they will call into being regional parliaments whose like has never existed on South African soil — not even for whites.

It's not just a question of new names and new boundaries and the homelands coming home to roost. It's a question of power. The new provinces will have far greater autonomy and control over a wider range of functions than the old ones ever had.

Each province will have a premier and a "Cabinet" or Executive Committee of up to 10 members. Each legislature will be run by that quaintly named parliamentary officer, the Speaker.

Provincial legislatures will soon be passing laws on housing, health services, police, urban and rural development, welfare and the environment — to name but some of the areas they control. And, in such areas, the provincial law will prevail over an Act of the national Parliament, unless...

The matter cannot be effectively regulated by provincial law.

The matter can only be dealt with effectively if it is regulated or co-ordinated by uniform standards, applicable nationally.

National legislation is necessary to maintain economic unity, to protect the environment, to promote interprovincial trade and protect a common market, and to maintain national security.

The provincial law prejudices the economic, health or security interests of another province or the country as a whole.

On May 5, provincial legislatures — vary-

1 730 153 voters
30 PL 15 NA
10 Senators
Leading party ANC

439 149 voters
30 PL 4 NA
10 Senators
Leading party AN/CNP

2 405 919 voters
42 PL 21 NA
10 Senators
Leading party AN/CNP

4 862 117 voters
86 PL 43 NA
10 Senators
Leading party ANC

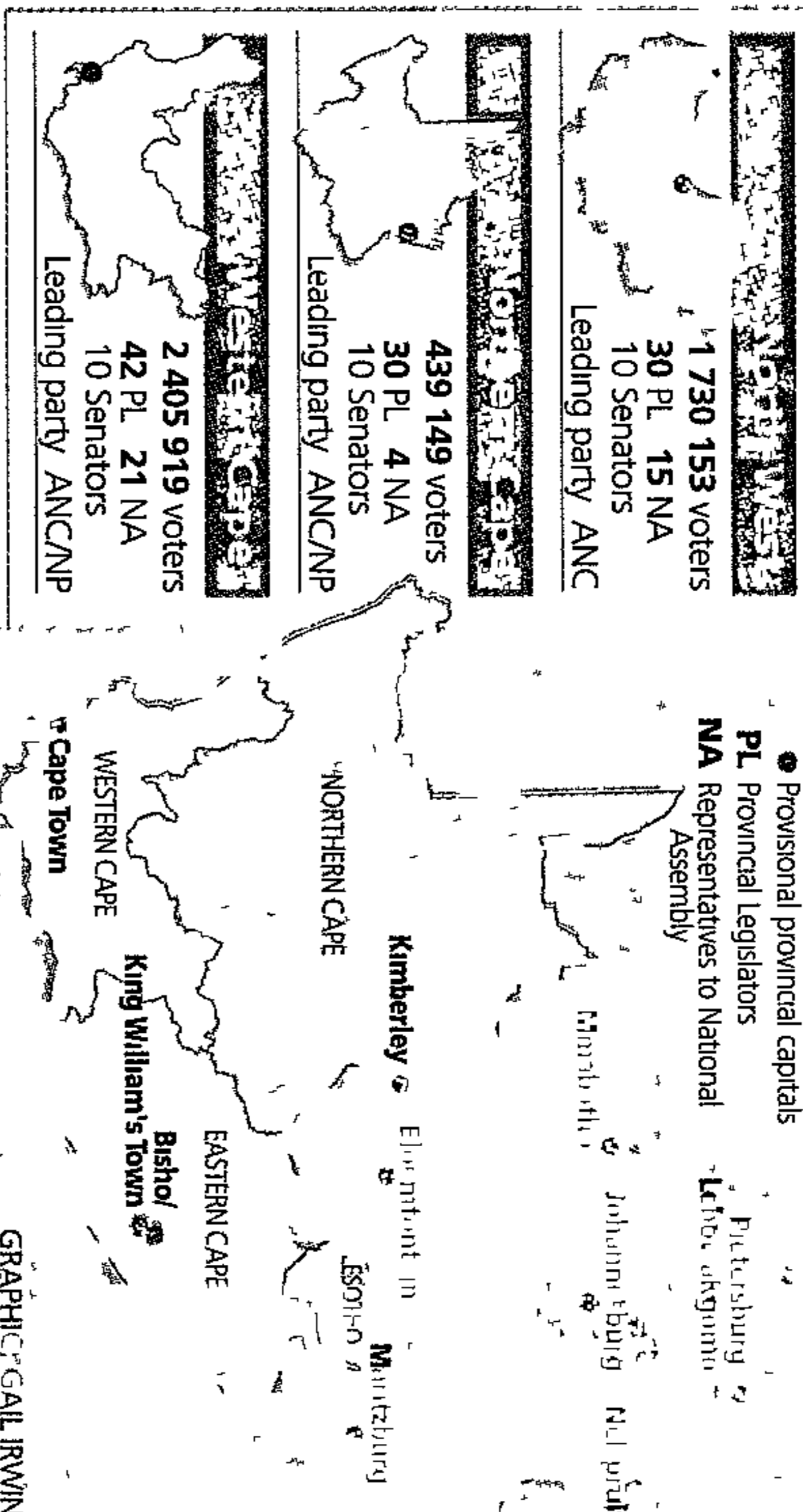
1 636 581 voters
30 PL 15 NA
10 Senators
Leading party ANC

3 176 971 voters
56 PL 28 NA
10 Senators
Leading party ANC

2 287 105 voters
40 PL 20 NA
10 Senators
Leading party ANC

1 586 067 voters
30 PL 14 NA
10 Senators
Leading party ANC

4 585 091 voters
81 PL 40 NA
10 Senators
Leading party AN/C/IFP



GRAPHIC BY GAIL IRWIN

ing in size from 30 to 86 members — will hold their first meetings virtually simultaneously. And they will go through the formality of choosing their premiers. In effect, the result is a foregone conclusion — the person designated as premier candidate by the party winning most votes in the province will get the job.

It is then the Premier's right to put together an Executive Committee. But he (none of the parties likely to win has a female premier candidate) is constrained in choice by a formula designed to achieve the political mix of a government of national unity.

Every party that gains 10 percent or more

of the vote is entitled to an Executive Committee position for each 10 percent notched up. So, for instance, if a party were to poll 22 percent it would be entitled to two out of a possible 10 Executive Committee places.

The Premier has the final say as to which "Cabinet" portfolios will be retained by his party and which will be filled from outside his party. The leader of the parties with a right to minor representation will have the final say as to who among their members in the Provincial Legislature will fill the portfolios on offer.

By mid-May, then, both the legislative and executive wings of provincial government

should be comfortably in place.

But how do they get to grips with their work, when existing provincial administrations correspond to the old provincial boundaries and, in any event, have never dealt with the functions that the new provinces will cover?

The mechanism which the Constitution has adopted for sorting all this out is to centralise all provincial executive powers in the President, who will then devolve them over time to the Premier, as the revamped provinces are ready to handle them.

The first powers to be revested in the new provinces will be those which the old provinces administered.

Possible premiers for the nine regions (Northern Cape and Kwazulu/Natal could be closely contested)

Region	Name (Age)	Party	Background
NORTH WEST	Popo Molefe (41)	ANC	ANC national executive member and head of national elections Commission. Part of the Sowo generation of 1976, he became secretary of the UDF. Jailed until successful appeal in Delmas 1990 trial.
NORTHERN CAPE	Manne Dipico (35)	ANC	Currently regional ANC chairman and head of education for the National Union of Mineworkers. Active through the '80s in student organisations and the UDF. Jailed in 1987 for ANC underground work.
NORTHERN CAPE	Kraai van Nickerk (55)	NP	Minister of Agriculture since 1991. First elected to Parliament for the NP in 1981. Holds a PhD in agriculture from Stellenbosch University. Has a farm near Galesburg.
WESTERN CAPE	Allan Boesak (47)	ANC	ANC regional chairman. Former minister and head of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. Campaigning to get apartheid declared a heresy. Made the public call to form the UDF in 1993.
WESTERN CAPE	Herrus Kriel (52)	ANC	Minister of Law and Order, one of several Cabinet portfolios held since he was elected in 1984. An advocate by profession and Cape MEC in the early '80s.
FREE STATE	Tokyo Sexwale (40)	ANC	ANC regional chairman. Joined ANC underground as a teenager in early '70s. Went into exile in 1975. Arrested in a cross border MK mission and served 13 years on Robben Island. Released in 1990.
FREE STATE	Terror Lekota (45)	ANC	ANC national executive member and No 2 in national elections commission. Critical to UDF's rapid take-off in '83/84 as its publicity secretary. Sent to Robben Island twice, for Sasso and UDF work.
EASTERN CAPE	Raymond Mhlaba (73)	ANC	ANC veteran and national executive member. Also deputy chairman of the SACP. As part of the early MK high command, he was jailed for life in 1964 in the Rivonia trial and released in 1989.
NORTHERN TRANSVAAL	Ngoako Ramathodi (38)	ANC	Regional ANC chairman and deputy registrar of Turfloop University. Obtained an LLM degree in exile. A poet-politician and former speech writer for ANC president Olive Tambo.
EASTERN TRANSVAAL	Mathews Phosa (41)	ANC	Chairman of ANC region and head of ANC legal department. A practicing attorney and member of the ANC underground when he left SA in 1985. Returned early in 1990 as part of ANC negotiating team.
KWAZULU NATAL	Jacob Zuma (50)	ANC	Deputy secretary-general of ANC. Joined MK at its inception and served a lengthy jail term before going into exile. First ANC leader back after unbanning in 1990. Key to growth of ANC in Natal. Prone to anger.
KWAZULU NATAL	Frank Mdlalose (61)	ANC	National chairman of the IFP, with 16 years in the KwaZulu government. Joined Inkatha at its launch in 1975. A medical doctor by profession, he is known as a conciliatory near 5.5. Spent 50s in Natal Youth League.

is the Premier's Office that would be the first to come into existence. It is the efficiency — or otherwise — of this office on which the public would judge the entire government.

Two responsibilities which the ANC proposes to locate firmly within the Premier's Office are the regional implementation of the Reconstruction and Development Programme and the further negotiation of regional constitutional matters.

It proposes the Premier himself remain outside of constitutional talks because, as leader of the province, (he) should act and be seen to represent the interests of all.

If the new provinces are destined to be more powerful than any regional governments this country has known, they still do not satisfy true blue federalists. To understand why, one need look no further than the provinces' financing and their powers to rewrite their own constitutions.

Provincial governments have a sole claim on taxes from casinos, lotteries and betting. But when it comes to income tax, VAT and fuel levies the central government retains the power to levy these taxes. And, although the central government is bound to return "an equitable share" of these revenues to the provinces, the amount will be calculated as a percentage of the amount collected nationally rather than as a percentage of the amount levied within the province itself.

On the constitutional front, each province has the right to change its legislative and executive structures for the "final" constitution. But the new scheme cannot conflict with the provisions of the Interim Constitution — and the Constitutional Court will automatically have to certify that no such inconsistencies exist.

(Collinge 47 Sauer Street, Jhb)

The new South Africa will be politically unrecognisable after the elections. Here is a guide to prepare you for the new government of national unity and nine new provincial governments that will take shape after the election.

DAVID BREIER

Weekend Argus Political Staff

MORE than 22,7 million people can vote for the 18 parties on the national ballot.

- The parties are
- Pan Africanist Congress (PAC)
- Sports Organisation for Collective Contributions and Equal Rights (Soccer)
- The Keep it Straight and Simple Party (KISS)
- Freedom Front (VF/FPF)
- Women's Rights Peace Party (WRPP)
- Workers' Last Party (WLP)
- Ximoko Progressive Party (XPP)
- African Christian Democratic Party (ACDP)
- African Democratic Movement (ADM)
- African Moderates Congress Party (AMCP)
- Africa Muslim Party (AMP)
- African National Congress (ANC)
- Democratic Party (DP)
- Dikwankwella Party of SA (DPSA)
- Federal Party (FP)
- Luso SA Party (LUSAP)
- Minority Front (MF)
- National Party (NP)

The ANC could win 240 or more of the seats in the 400-member National Assembly — but it may fall just short of the two-thirds majority of 267 seats which is the "magic number" that would allow it to write a new constitution unilaterally.

Expect the NP to win 80 or more seats. The FF could win about 20 seats which would qualify it for a Cabinet seat. The DP and PAC will each have a handful of seats. The ANC will also have most of the 90 senators.

The President will be ANC leader Nelson Mandela and his two deputies will be NP leader F W de Klerk and probably ANC national chairman Thabo Mbeki. The Cabinet of up to 27 ministers will have an ANC majority with five or six Nats and perhaps one FF member.

Western Cape
WITH an area of 129 370 sq km and a population of 3 441 000, the Western Cape has 2.4 million voters. The provincial legislature will have 42 seats.

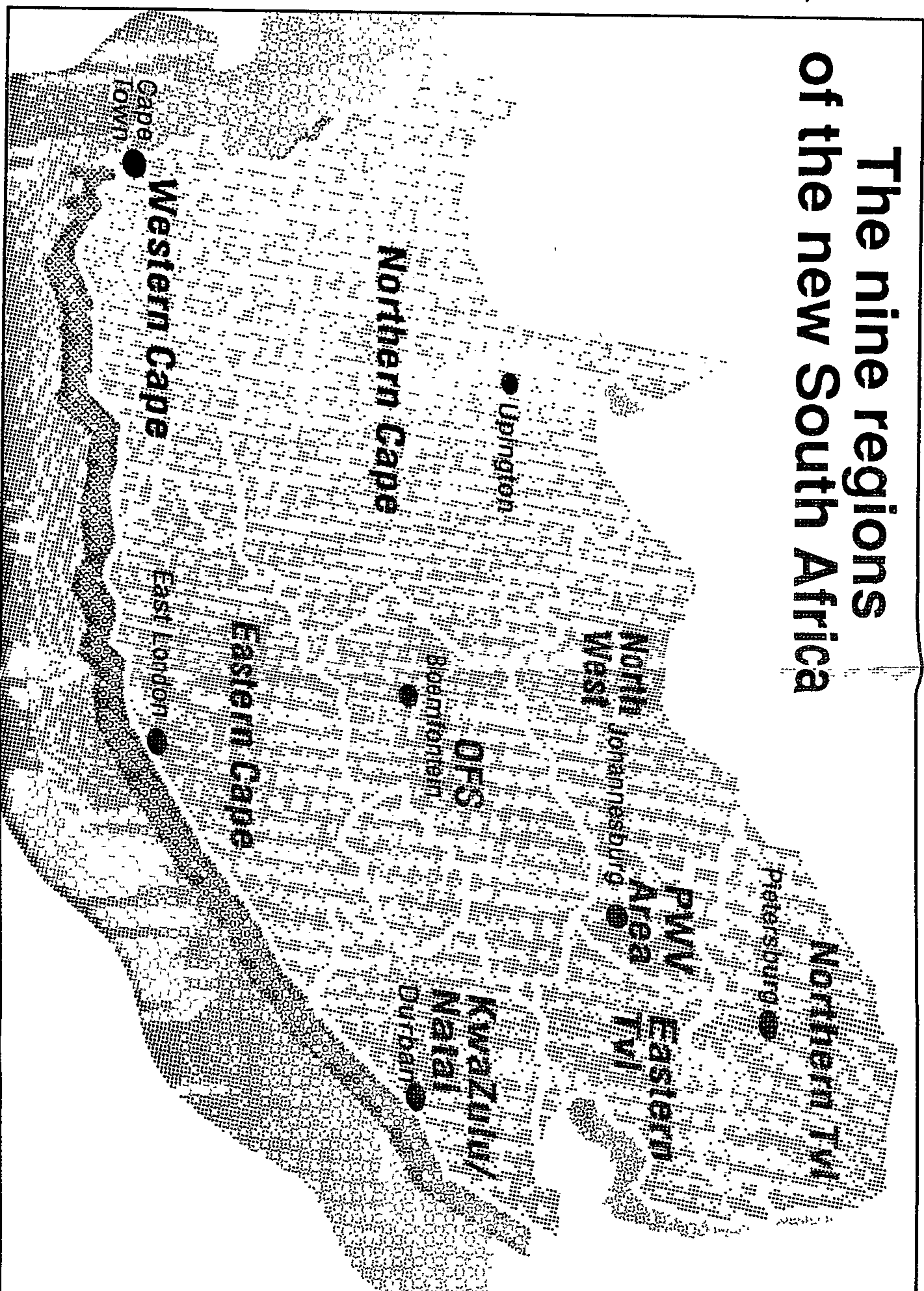
The provincial ballot paper will have the PAC, SA Women's Party, The Green Party, FF, Wes-Kaap Federaliste Party, Workers International (SA), AMP, ACDP, ADM, ANC, DP, Islamic Party and NP.

The NP stands to win 20 or more of these seats. The ANC is likely to be second with about 15 seats. The DP and PAC will have a few each. If the Nats fail to win a majority of 22 or more seats, they could do a deal with the DP.

The provincial premier is likely to be Kernus Kriel of the NP — possibly the only non-ANC premier in the country.

Northern Cape
The province has the largest area of

The nine regions of the new South Africa



Things shape to come

ARLS 16/4/94

(262)

Dipico of the ANC with Kraai van Niekerk of the NP an outsider.

Eastern Cape
ITS area is 169 600 sq km and it has 1.5 million voters. The provincial legislature will have 30 seats.

KwaZulu/Natal
WITH an area of 92 180 sq km it has the largest population — 7 955 000 but the second highest number of voters — 4.6 million.

would win about half and the non-ANC parties the other half, leaving power finely-balanced.

The provincial premier is likely to be

XPP, AMP, ACDP, ADM, ANC, DP, FP, DPSA, LUSAP and NP.

The ANC will win easily with the NP a fairly good second.

Saturation coverage as British TV homes in on SA

Weekend Argus London Bureau

THE run-up to South Africa's first non-racial, democratic elections has transformed British television to an unprecedented degree.

According to the BBC and the independent programme makers, South African-orientated films, documentaries and series are being given the biggest slot they have ever enjoyed.

And not everything is concerned with the election itself. South African films and plays — including *Sarafina* and *A Dry White Season* — have been supplanting the more familiar American and European features, with a number of TV drama productions specially written for transmission over this period.

BBC-2 has featured the most rounded documentary coverage of South Africa so far, with its six-part series, *Beloved Country*, which focuses on subjects as diverse as gang warfare in Cape Town, the life of a young, black Johannesburg executive and the trials of an Eastern Province rugby club that tries to desegregate its team.

Both Nelson Mandela and Winnie have been heavily profiled, with Michael Buerk's return to South Africa, seven years after he was ordered to leave, tracing the ANC leader's progress from herdboy to the man expected to become South Africa's first black president later this month.

Channel 4's *Soweto* — *A History* catalogues the life, times and crimes of the black minority that has become synonymous with apartheid oppression in the mind of the viewer abroad.

The premier will be Ngako Ramathodi of the ANC.

Eastern Transvaal
THIS has an area of 78 370 sq km and 2 585 000 people. Its 1.6 million voters will elect a provincial legislature with 30 seats.

The provincial ballot includes the PAC, Rights Party, FF, ACDP, ADM, ANC, DP and NP.

The ANC will win easily.

The premier will be Matthew Phosa of the ANC.

Free State
WITH an area of 129 480 sq km it has 2 535 000 people. Its 1.6 million voters will elect 30 seats on the provincial legislature.

The provincial ballot has the PAC, FF, ACDP, ADM, ANC, DP, DPSA and NP.

The ANC will win easily.

The premier will be Patrick "Terror" Letota of the ANC.

emer provincial legislature

The provincial ballot will have the PAC, FF, ADCP, ADM, ANC DP and NP

The ANC has the best chance of winning majority, but the Nats have an outside chance while the FF could hold the balance of power

The likely provincial premier is Manne

The provincial ballot will have the PAC, FF, ADCP, ADM, ANC, DP, Merrit Party and NP

The ANC is assured of a massive majority with fairly strong support for the PAC and NP

The premier will be Raymond Mhlaba of the ANC

Assuming the Inkatha Freedom Party does not stand, the provincial ballot will have the PAC, FF, WI, AMP, ADCP, ADM, ANC, DP, MF and NP

In the absence of the IFP, the ANC will win easily even if many voters stay away due to violence. The NP will be a distant second. If the IFP were to stand, the ANC

(JW/7)

THIS has the smallest area of 18 810 sq km and the second highest population of 6 507 000. It has more voters than any other province — 4.9 million who will elect a provincial legislature with 86 seats

The provincial ballot will have the PAC, United Peoples Front, FF, WRPP,

Northern Transvaal

IT has an area of 123 280 sq km and a population of 4 703 000. The 2.3 million voters will elect a provincial legislature with 40 seats

The provincial ballot will include the PAC, United Peoples Front, FF, XPP, ADCP, ADM, ANC, DP and NP

The ANC will win easily

population of 3 253 000. Its 1.7 million voters will elect 30 seats on the provincial legislature

The provincial ballot has the PAC, FF, ADCP, ADM, ANC, DP and NP

The ANC will win easily

The premier will be Popo Molefe of the ANC

(Report by D Brewer, 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town)

Zombies, witches and tokoloshes feared at polls

PART from 21 million registered voters, a host of weirder characters could play a role in South Africa's election this month — from witches and spirits to evil, sex-mad dwarfs

"There's definitely a belief that the other side will bewitch polling booths," said Anthony Minnar, a researcher at the government-funded Human Sciences Research Council

Many people believe witches can create and control zombies, and fear a malicious spirit known as the tokoloshe — reputed to be sexually insatiable and often taking the form of a hairy dwarf

Millions raise their beds on bricks so the tokoloshes can't get to them at night

Mr Minnar said in an interview he

had tried to complete a survey on how black South African superstitions would affect the polls but had made little headway because of secrecy surrounding the issue

"But some inyangas (traditional healers) said they had been approached for mufti for protection during the election"

Mr Minnar said some blacks believed spirits could watch where they put their cross, leading to repercussions later, or could take control of their minds and make them vote for a party they did not support

The shape of polling booths could also be significant for black voters — tokoloshes lurk in corners so would not be able to hide in round booths

He said the major parties contest-

ing Namibia's first free elections in 1990 had agreed to call in neutral inyangas from outside the country to hold public "cleansing" ceremonies of polling stations

"These inyangas were paid big money. The idea was that they would free the polling stations of any spells put on them and that it would be safe for everyone to vote," he said

But University of the Witwatersrand anthropologist Sakkie Niehaus said it would be a mistake to have traditional healers or sangomas at South Africa's polling stations

"I would be very sceptical because many blacks are Christians and refuse to have anything to do with sangomas," he said

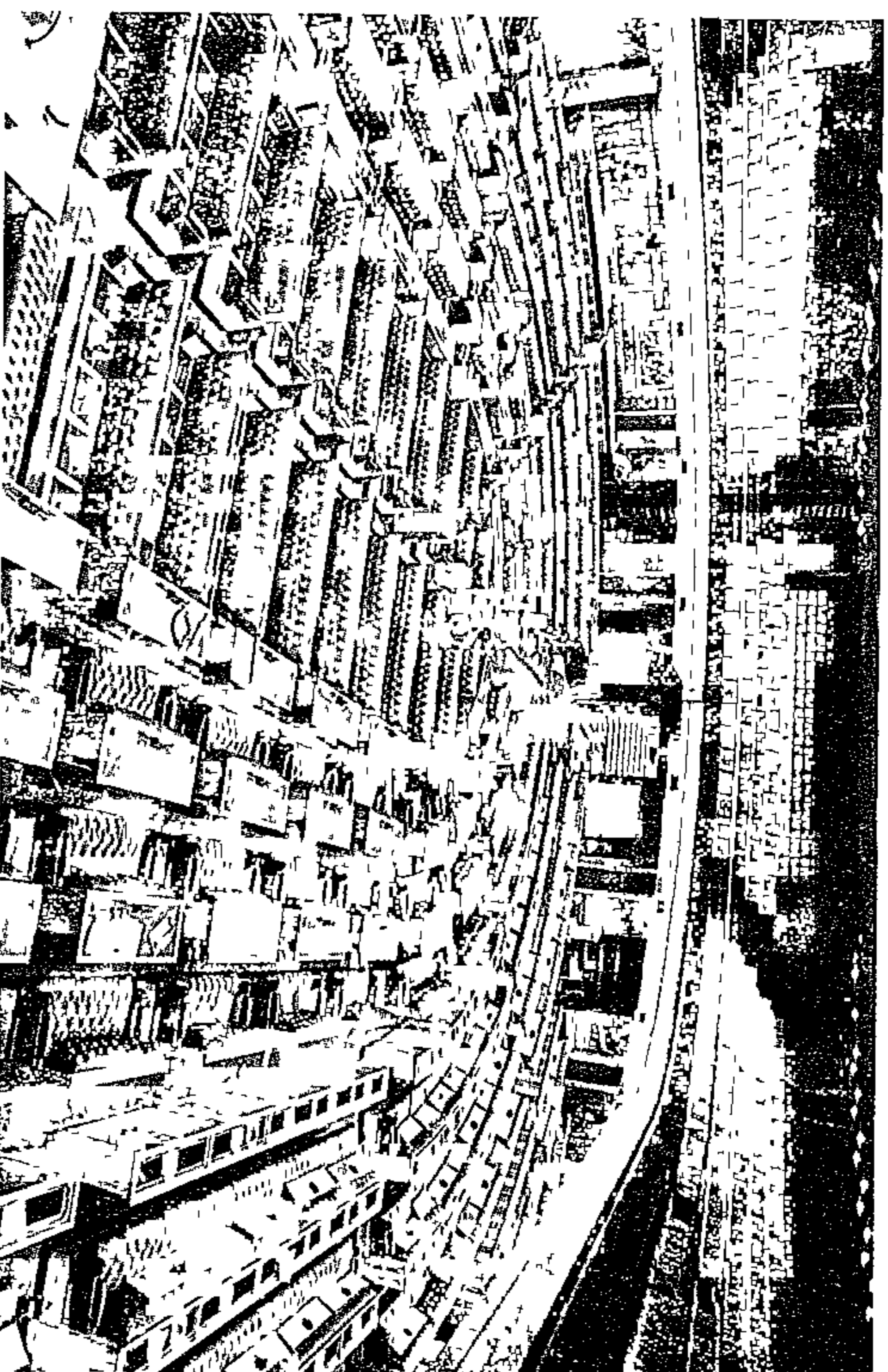
The head of the university's an-

thropology department, Professor Robert Thornton, said that in recent months witchcraft had reached epidemic proportions in parts of rural Transvaal

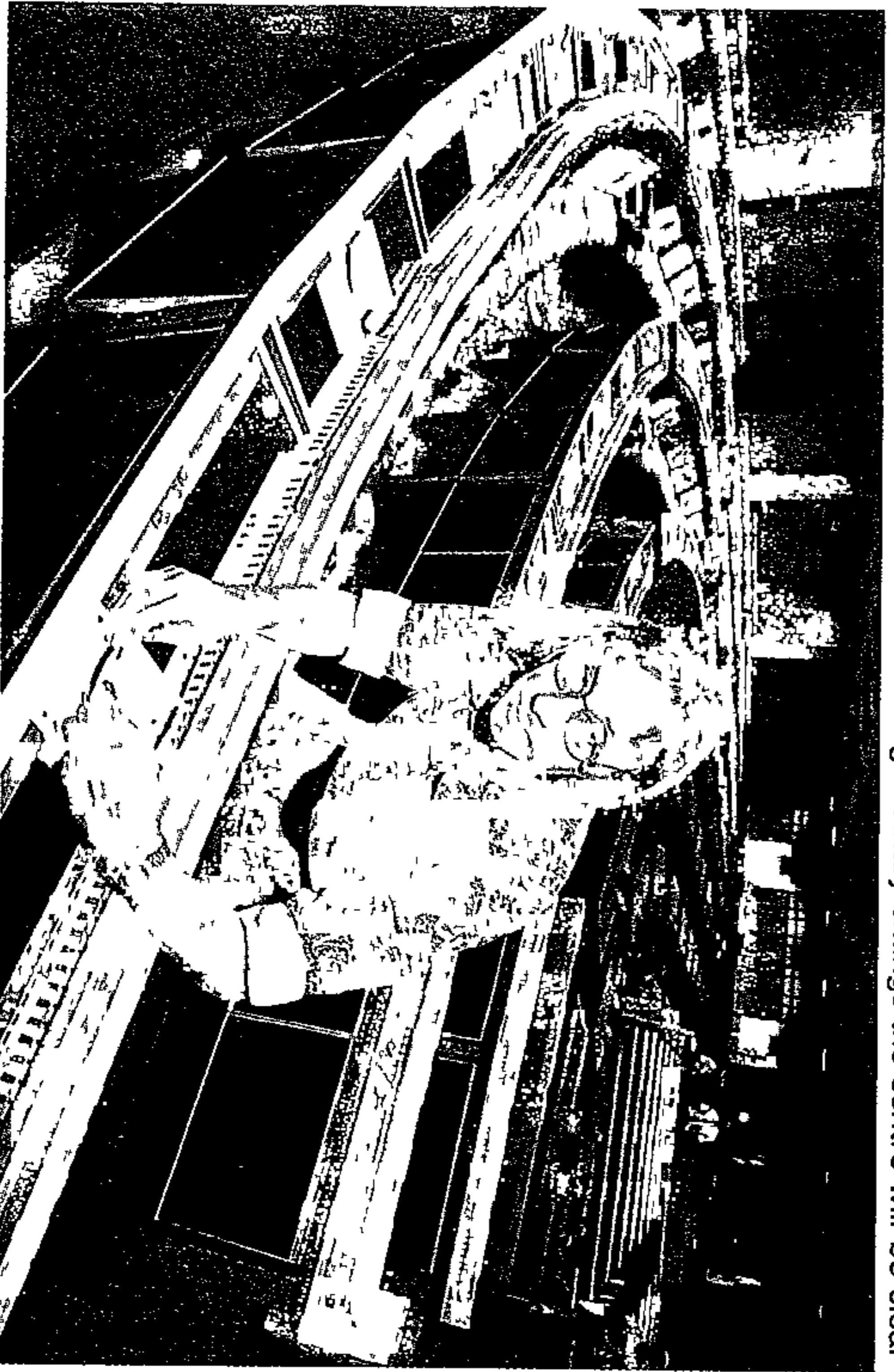
Professor Thornton said people whispered of vampire-like blood-suckers turning people into zombies or changing their blood into cash

Many participants in the violence in which 15 000 people have been killed in the past four years used mufti which they believed would deflect bullets, Mr Minnar said

The perpetrators of last year's notorious Boipatong massacre, in which 45 people were slain, were said in court to have smeared themselves with mufti to make themselves invincible before going on the rampage — Sapa-Reuters



□ **BENCHES FOR AFRICA:** What the seating arrangement of the National Assembly (NA) chamber of the new parliament will look like during joint sittings of the 400-member NA and the 90-member Senate. The benches in the middle will normally be stored in passages around the chamber. During joint sittings the extra benches will be arranged as shown here to accommodate the Senate. During ordinary sittings the centre will be clear



□ **FINISHING TOUCHES:** Technician Kevin Roussouw puts finishing touches to the electronic voting system that MPs will use to vote for Bills in the National Assembly chamber after the new House comes together as a result of this month's election. A similar system to register members' votes was used in the tricameral parliament. Instead of old-fashioned divisions in which members were counted by hand, they press one button if they support a Bill and another button if they oppose it. The outcome is known instantly

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Star 30/3/94
TEC names

venues for provinces

The Transitional Executive Council has proposed the cities and towns where the nine provincial legislatures could convene within seven days of the elections.

However, the TEC said that these centres would not necessarily be the provincial capitals.

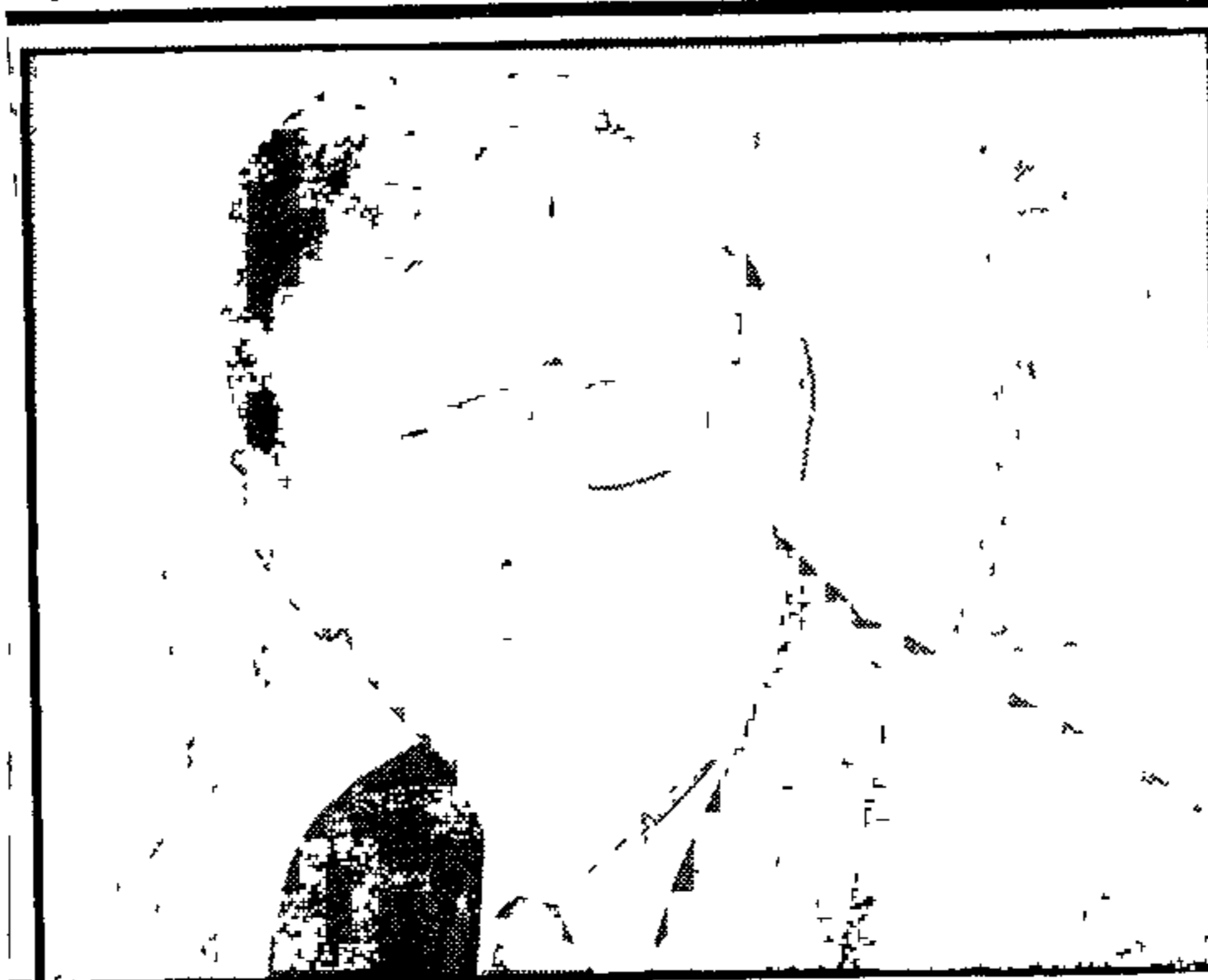
Suggestions

The cities are

Cape Town for the Western Cape, Johannesburg for the PWV region, Bloemfontein for the Free State, Mmabatho for the North West region, Kimberley for the Northern Cape, Maritzburg for KwaZulu/Natal, and Nelspruit for the Eastern Transvaal.

(262)
It suggested both King William's Town and Bisho for the Eastern Cape and both Pietersburg and Lebowakgomo for the Northern Transvaal. — Sapa.

(S Denny, 141 Commissioner St, Jhb)



□ **PRICKLY PROBLEM:** Minister of Local Government Tertius Delport warned councils to comply.

Rightwingers walk out in huff after losing poll

CLIVE SAWYER (267)
Municipal Reporter

THE rightwing Transvaal Municipal Association — whose members support a volkstaat — has walked out of the United Municipal Executive

Until yesterday, the UME had five members, two for the Transvaal after the more enlightened Transvaal Local Government Association (Traloga) broke away two years ago.

The split, after 63 years of membership of the UME, came after TMA president Ben van der Berg failed to secure nomination as UME president

Instead, Traloga president Frans Lourens was elected

Natal's Lourens de Clercq was elected vice-chairman

Professor Van der Berg accused the other provincial associations of "just wanting the TMA's membership fees"

The elections were interrupted to allow TMA members to caucus, after which Professor Van der Berg led the walkout

From the chair, Mr Lourens asked him not to act in an emotional fashion

Professor Van der Berg said the decision was not emotional "It is irrevocable"

This is the second time the TMA has been passed over in UME presidential elections

The split followed a firm warning this week by Minister of Local Government Tertius Delport that the full force of the law would be used against councils which resisted change in terms of the Local Government Transition Act

Councils in the Transvaal have refused to implement the Act — in breach of an earlier agreement at the Local Government Negotiating Forum to support it.

(News by C Sawyer 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town)

ARG 5/3/94

Right-wing councils get warning

By Sapa

CAPE TOWN — The full force of the state could be used to bring councils that resisted change into line, Local Government Minister Tertius Delpoort told the United Municipal Executive congress yesterday.

Also, a complaint could be made to the Transitional Executive Council (TEC) if signatories to an agreement to begin paying for services failed to keep their word.

Delpoort told the congress the R256m owed by black local authorities could be "fully addressed" during this financial year.

He asked white councils to write off debts owed by black local authorities, in terms of an agreement on finances signed this year by President FW de Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela.

These debts, with right-wing resistance and

power plays in local government forums, were the main obstacles to municipal reform, he said

Black local authorities' debts included R36m owed to regional services councils, R600 000 on overdrawn accounts, R154m owed to white councils, R9m for bulk water supply, R1.3m to private contractors, R18m for personnel and R37m to other creditors.

There had been indications that right-wing resistance to local government restructuring could turn violent, he said.

The conservative Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) had been accommodated in a compromise but it seemed resistance at municipal level had begun in earnest when a volkstaat's creation looked impossible.

He warned that demanding officials work for

"burgerrae" or resign was illegal

He said right-wing councils — even those that put up razor wire and sandbags at their offices — had not yet broken the law.

Speaking at the same forum, TMA president Ben van der Bergh rejected as "inappropriate" what he said were threats by Delpoort to act against authorities which declared their towns part of a volkstaat.

Van der Bergh said his association had distanced itself from the idea that municipal officials in these towns should be forced to swear allegiance to a volkstaat. But he believed the idea of a volkstaat was not a futile one.

He stressed that TMA members were interested only in a peaceful settlement of the local government issue. — Sapa

Deadlock over local councils looms

By KURT SWART

RIGHT-WING threats of violent resistance against nonracial local government and ANC counter-warnings of mass action could derail municipal elections planned for October

This week the ANC threatened consumer boycotts against right-wing town councils which refuse to participate in the transition to new local government

This followed a warning from Conservative Party local government spokesman Pikkie Coetzee that rightwingers would use force if the provisions of the Local Government Transition Bill were foisted on them.

The wrangle has cast further doubt on whether local government elections, already beset by truncated deadlines, would take place in October as envisaged

Mr Coetzee said more than 100 councils, including 68 in the Transvaal, would try to maintain their autonomy by peaceful means, but would resort to force "if necessary"

This week's blockade of the Akasia town council was indicative of the determination to resist imposition of the act, and more action on these lines could be expected.

"Violence will not resolve this issue" said the DWV head of the

ANC's department of provincial and local government affairs, Mr Mathole Motshekga (262)

"What must be impressed on these people is that the town councils they claim to be theirs are totally dependent on black labour and consumer power

"We have merely suspended mass action in the hope that reason will dawn on them and make them accept the orderly transition to non-racial local government

"If they totally reject that we can remove them from power by legal means — without violence, which we do not agree with, or the need to defend ourselves from their threatened violence."

Intransigent councils would be operating outside the law and provincial administrators would be empowered under the act to dissolve them, Mr Motshekga said

Under the act, local government negotiating forums had to be established nationwide. Within three months these had to lead to the formation of transitional local councils, which would have 50-50 representation of "statutory and non-statutory" bodies

"The 90-day deadline to the estab-

lishment of the local councils is a sword hanging over everyone's head, because after that the administrator can step in and enforce a structure in an area," said Mr Werner Zybrands, a local government consultant at an initial meeting to establish a forum for the East Rand last week.

The councils would function until local government elections were held. These were proposed for October, but Mr Zybrands said he foresaw elections only happening in the first half of next year

This was because of the difficulties in establishing forums, local councils and provincial committees, and the complexities involved in demarcating wards and compiling voters' lists.

But Mr Motshekga said this week the only difficulty was the stand taken by right-wing councils

"The act leaves an election date open to be decided by the administrator. Some elements may want to take advantage of this

"But if there is good faith on the part of the stakeholders we see no reason why elections should not take place as planned, no later than October or November this year," he said

(News by K Swart of 11 Diagonal Street)

'Volksdorp' ⁽²⁶²⁾ battle goes on

PRETORIA — The battle between the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and right-wingers over the role of Conservative Party town councils in promoting the "volksstaat" intensified yesterday.

CP local government spokesman Mr Pikkie Coetzee said towns' assets belonged to rate-payers, not the TPA.

He was reacting to the TPA executive committee's "strong objection" to edicts that had been served on town councils, requiring councillors to swear allegiance to the volksstaat cause or resign, and ordering them to use their municipal infrastructures to attain a volksstaat. ^{CT 8/2/74}

Mr Coetzee said residents were entitled to make decisions on how to safeguard their assets.

Central deficit 'will curb regional rule'

JOHANNESBURG — The possible fiscal powers of South Africa's regions would be circumscribed by the central government's budget deficit, Finance Minister Mr Derek Keys said yesterday

The estimated budget deficit of R25 billion placed a limit on what revenue collection powers could be devolved to the regions, Mr Keys told the Frankel, Pollak and Vinderine annual investment conference

Constitutional negotiations between the government, the ANC and the Freedom Alliance have foundered on the issue of regional powers separate from the central government, including their ability to legislate taxes and raise revenue

Mr Keys expressed his confidence that the current impasse would be

broken as President F W de Klerk was a "political genius"

In addition, he said the National Party had a vital contribution to make to the country's economic policy under a government of national unity.

The NP's economy policy was "framed around ensuring this country offers something to everybody" not just the creation of opportunities for previously disadvantaged sectors of the population

In conjunction with the trust the present government had in the private sector and the high degree of policy consultation, Mr Keys said, "these three things are the flavour of economic policy we'd like to bring to a government of national unity" — Sapa

● Scope to abolish controls —

Page 12

CT 16/2/94

(262)

IFP will take part in local government transition

Municipal Reporter

ARC 15/2/94

THE Freedom Alliance decision to boycott the April election will not stop the Inkatha Freedom Party taking part in transitional local government, says Western Cape IFP spokesman Malcolm Bagley

Mr Bagley said the Freedom Alliance "does not operate at local level"

He said the refusal by the Afrikaner Volksfront and Conservative Party to take part in interim local government was "their indaba"

Mr Bagley confirmed that Inkatha's role in the Western Cape would extend as far as taking part in local government elections, expected to be held in October at the earliest

● There are fears that opposition to local government reform by the rightwing Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) could hamper progress

Democratic Party local government spokesman Jasper Walsh said the withdrawal of the TMA from an agreement to take part in interim local government could prejudice the process

This raised the possibility of local government elections being held in some parts of the country before others. He said it was time "to get our heads down and get things resolved, to get new councils in place"

● Several proposals for the outer boundaries for the Cape metropole were sent to the negotiating forum by yesterday's deadline

Those who have sent submissions include the Cape Town City Council, the Bellville City Council, the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce, the Paarl Business Forum, the Milnerton, Simon's Town, Wellington and Kuils River town councils, the Western Cape Regional Services Council, the Mfuleni Council, the Good Hope Alliance, Firgrove-Silwood Park Ratepayers' Association, Strand Ratepayers' Association, Matroosfontein Management Committee and Melton Rose Management Committee

(News by C Sawyer, 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town)

Volkstaat: Councils warned

PRETORIA — The Transvaal Provincial Administration's executive committee yesterday strongly objected to city councils executing "mandatory orders" which were served on them and in which they were requested to swear allegiance to a "Volkstaat"

In a statement, Pretoria MEC for Constitutional Development and Negotiation (Local Government) Mr Andre Cornelissen said the orders requested councils to, among other things, safeguard the infrastructure for a Volkstaat, use their infrastructures for acquiring a Volkstaat and put up Volkstaat banners

across main streets

Mr Cornelissen said local governments did not have the authority to make such decisions "These decisions can only be detrimental to the community and may even result in the breaking down of stable local government structures," he said

— Sapa

CT 7/2/94

'Write off debt on rent, services'

Star 27/11/94

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

Minister of Local Government Dr Tertius Delport has unequivocally urged black local authorities to write off residents' debts in respect of rent and service charges

"The Government's view is that any attempt to recover these debts would be futile and that local governments and community leaders should rather concentrate on efforts to create a culture of payment of future accounts

"The Government urges black local authorities to write off these debts and shall only assist black local authorities if those local authorities are willing to write off the arrears of residents," he said

His statement is a clear attempt to close the rift developing between the Government and other parties to the finance and service agreement signed at the local government summit a week ago.

Delport said the Government would "honour the spirit and the letter of



Delport ... futile to try to recover arrears.

(262)

the agreement", which has as its first signatories President de Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela.

The ANC and other parties construed De Klerk's remarks that the writing off of debts should be locally negotiated as a shirking of responsibility by the Government

Mandela said the ANC's campaign to end the rent boycott might have to be reconsidered

But Delport said Pretoria had shouldered its part of the burden and would continue to do so

IFP 'supports local govt act'

76/1/26
DURBAN — The Kwa-Zulu government and the Inkatha Freedom Party were totally committed to full participation in new local government structures, senior IFP official Mr Peter Miller repeated yesterday.

Speaking at a local government seminar here, Mr Miller said there should be "no question" about Kwa-Zulu and the IFP's commitment to the Local Government Transition Act, which was signed into law last week.

"Let's go into this process together," he said

ANC can gain from 11th-hour inclusions

By MIKE ROBERTSON

DURING the last days of talks at the World Trade Centre, negotiators agreed to insert into the constitution a provision that allows provinces to write their own constitutions provided they are approved by a two-thirds majority. *S Times*

It was a concession agreed to by the ANC in the hope of drawing Inkatha back to talks. *23/1/94*

Ironically, the Sunday Times poll shows, the ANC is likely to be the biggest beneficiary of the late inclusion.

If present patterns of support survive the campaign, the ANC will get 67,9 percent of the vote in the Eastern Transvaal. This would enable it to write a provincial constitution on its own.

Trailing far behind, the National Party should get 9,6 percent, the AVF/CP 7,3 percent, the PAC 4,8 percent, Inkatha 4,3 percent and the DP 1,2 percent. *(262)*

Votes cast in the province will determine membership of the provincial legislature, the province's representatives in the National Assembly and the Eastern Transvaal representatives in the senate.

The poll forecasts the ANC will get 21 of the 30 seats in the provincial legislature. The NP will get three, the AVF/CP and PAC two each and the IFP one. Undecided voters will determine the allocation of the remaining seat.

Members of the legislature will elect 10 senators to represent the province in Parliament. The ANC can expect to get seven senators and the NP, AVF/CP and PAC one each.

Fourteen members of the National Assembly will be elected from Eastern Transvaal party lists.

If patterns of support shown in the poll persist, the ANC will get 10 of these seats and the NP, AVF/CP and PAC one each. The allocation of the final seat will be determined by undecided and non-committed voters.

End rent boycott - Sowetown 211194

Mandela

By Mzimasi Ngudle
Political Staff

STATE PRESIDENT FW DE KLERK yesterday signed the new Local Government Transition Act, heralding an end to the rent and service charges boycott.

Minutes after De Klerk signed the act at a local government summit at World Trade Centre, African National Congress president Mr Nelson Mandela called for an end to the rent and service charges boycott.

The act will establish new local government structures and effectively phase out black local authorities, which owe about R350 million in outstanding rent and services charges.

Mandela's call reiterates similar calls by civic leaders over the past few months which residents have repeatedly ignored.

Mandela warned that the local government would continue to suffer the same problems if local government structure failed to establish legitimate structures that will share local resources.

Both leaders also signed an Agreement on Finance, Services and Service Rendering, which is aimed at addressing the non-payment of rent and service charges.

The agreement, among other things, provides transitional councils immediately start programmes:

- Resume and improve municipal services,
- Provide water, sanitation, electricity, trans-

portation facilities, primary health, education, housing and security, and

- Establish procedures to deal with cases of genuine indigence

The agreement also provides that all municipal finance should be based on the principle of "one municipality one tax base."

To address the backlog, transitional councils will require fiscal transfers from other users of the government. However, costs of providing services must, as far as possible, be recovered by relevant tariff structures.

Addressing about 2 000 delegates, Mandela said "We support the principle that people should pay for the services they receive

"We must carry this campaign to all branches of

political organisations, civic street committees and all local authorities."

De Klerk said the act would, for the first time, provide "us with a sound, representative and legitimate system of local government."

De Klerk said an end to rent and service charges boycotts would have an immense impact on the cash flow of local authorities.

He said an end to the boycott would not be enough to eliminate disparities and that many local authorities would hopefully make substantial contributions.

Mr Peter Miller, Inkatha Freedom Party's spokesman for local government, said the organisation was committed to the new local government structures.

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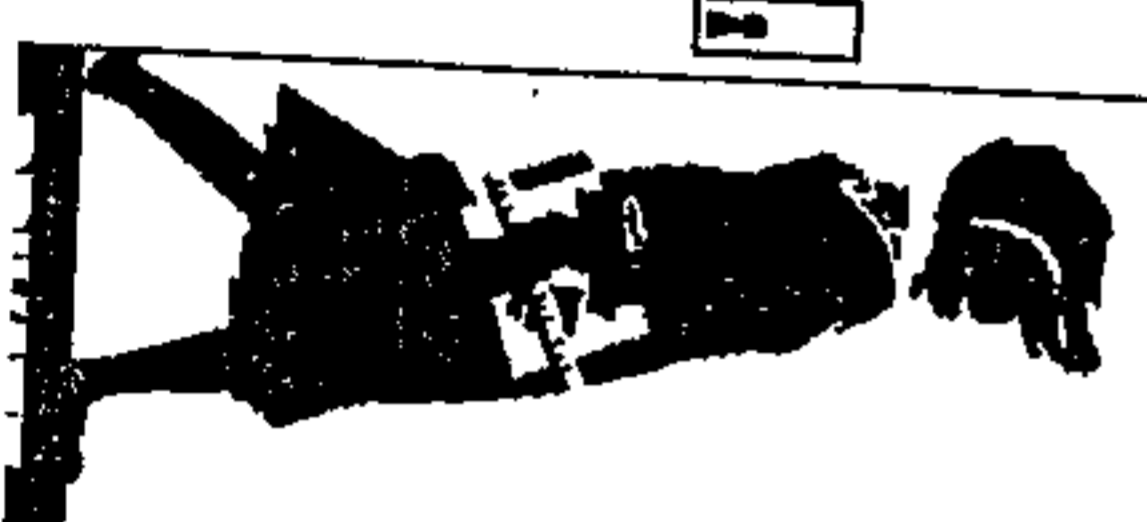
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African National Congress president Mr Nelson Mandela and State President FW de Klerk shake hands after the signing of the Local Government Transition Act at a local government summit at World Trade Centre in Kempton Park yesterday

PIG JOE MOLEFFE



Defiant CP towns warned

IN a veiled threat, Conservative Party-controlled towns which resisted change were yesterday warned they could be dissolved. *Sowetan* 21/1/94

Minister of Local Government Mr Tertius Delport said the provincial administrator had the power to dissolve town councils and introduce alternative structures if they refused to accept change. Addressing 2 000 delegates at a summit on local government at the World Trade Centre in Johannesburg, Delport said the administrator, in consultation with his TEC-elected provincial committees, had wide powers to dissolve defiant councils. (262)

Certain CP-controlled local authorities have vowed to "remain white" in the light of changes taking place in local government.

Delport said reform at local government level was probably the most important aspect of the national political changes taking place in South Africa.

He said the implementation of the Local Government Transition Act meant the process towards legitimate local government was underway — *Sapa*.

Stur 21/1/94
 DP 'is stronger
 than polls say'

Cape Town — There was a solid constituency in South Africa of all races who believed in human dignity, equal rights, personal and economic freedom and the rule of law, and only the Democratic Party could secure these aims, DP leader Dr Zach de Beer said yesterday.

In a statement announcing the party's election action plan, he said: "The recent wave of pessimism about the DP's future results almost entirely from a series of public opinion polls which show the party's support at a low ebb of about 2 percent."

He believed the result at the end of the April elections would show the party to be much stronger than this — Sapa.

'New local govt system pivotal'

■ METRO STAFF

South Africa's new two-tier system of local and metropolitan government has a pivotal role to play in post-apartheid reconstruction and in balancing local and metropolitan interests.

This is the view of Ian Davidson, chairman of the Johannesburg City Council management committee and the Major Cities Association.

Davidson yesterday addressed about 2 000 delegates at the national summit on local government at the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park.

Painting a picture of the future of local government, he said the viability of South Africa's

urban centres depended on the ability to maintain cities as centres of economic activity and development.

"Metropolises are the engine room of our economy," he said.

South Africa's urban areas had a history of fragmented development and conflict. "We urgently need to pool scarce resources of finances, skills and leadership, politically integrate our racially fragmented metropolitan areas, and promote the widest possible participation in decision-making," he said.

"Government must not only be effective — it must also be close to the people."

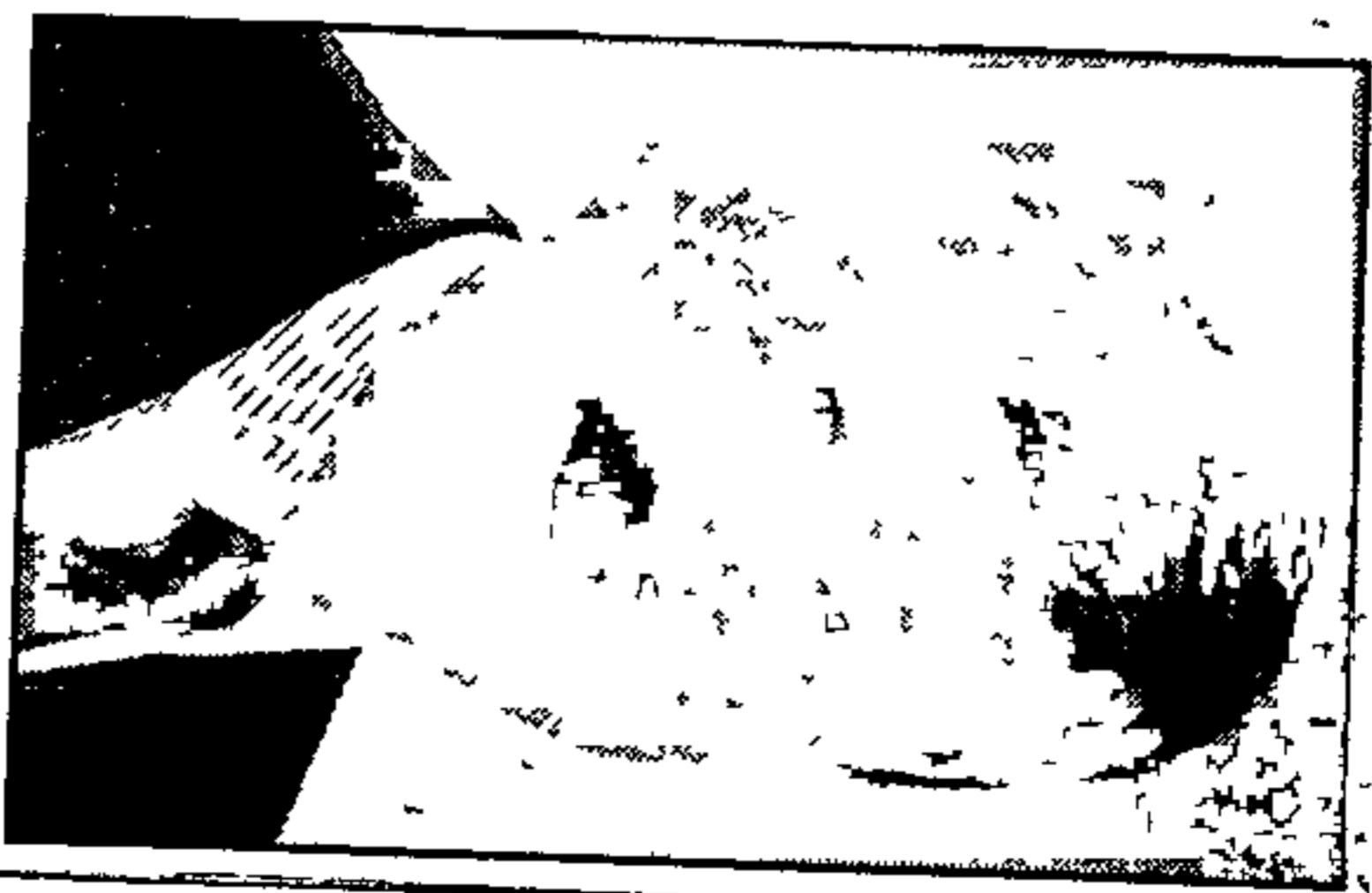
He said metros would consist of some members representing councils and others elected

directly by voters on the basis of proportional representation to ensure maximum resident participation and accountability.

Legislation was clear on issues such as metro sources of revenue, bulk supplies of water and electricity, ambulance and fire brigade services, public transport and metropolitan recreation facilities.

Constituent local councils would retain all powers not given to the metro.

Metros would be soundly financed from a metropolitan tax base in the form of current RSC levies; a levy on bulk services they provide; contributions from constituent local authorities and transfers from provincial and central government.



Ian Davidson . . . metropolises are the engine room of our economy.

Local government law to be signed

CT 20/1/94 (262)

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

THE controversial transitional local government measure will become law today, and President F W de Klerk and ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela will also sign an agreement on municipal finances and services.

But the Democratic Party, which controls two of South Africa's largest city councils, Johannesburg and Cape Town, yesterday rejected "the undemocratic way the NP and the ANC are dealing with local government".

This made "a mockery of democracy", and the NP and ANC were using their agreements to appoint their own "flunkies" to key positions, the DP said in a statement, issued by its local government spokesman, Mr Jasper Walsh.

It was becoming "increasingly clear" that neither the NP nor the ANC wished to be exposed to the rigours of democracy and both preferred private deals in which they

could share out power, Mr Walsh said. However, the Local Government Negotiating Forum (LGNF) described the two documents to be signed today as "milestones".

An LGNF spokesman said the Agreement on Finances, Services and Service Rendering "provides for the ending of the rates and services payments boycott in black townships and the start of a programme by the new racially inclusive local authorities to provide and upgrade services in these areas and embark upon further urban development".

The problem of those opposing the desegregation of local government — and possible tough steps to bring them in line — will also be discussed.

The ANC's local government spokesman, Mr Thozamile Botha, said the improvement of services in black areas would be debated and a campaign to educate consumers on the paying for services would be launched.

Change-over green light next week

ARG 15/1/94

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■ From page 1

sions on a whole range of issues awaits local authorities

In the Western Cape some major decisions must be taken soon, including decisions on the outer and inner boundaries of the Cape metropolitan area. This means the shape and powers of a future Cape metropole will be determined.

Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum co-chairman Wilhe van Schoor told Weekend Argus yesterday "a considerable amount of work" lay ahead in coming months to get local government transition moving, especially in the Cape metropolitan area.

A series of major decisions had to be taken within 90 days of the promulgation of the Local Government Transition Act.

Mr Van Schoor, a former mayor of Bellville, leaves tomorrow with a group of local government leaders from the Cape metropolitan area to visit cities in the United States, Canada and South America. Their trip is part of a study tour at the invitation of American organisations through the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for South Africa (Idasa).

He said one of the aims of the tour was to look at local and metropolitan government in American, Canadian and Brazilian cities with a view to gaining new knowledge and ideas.

Other non-statutory groups, including representatives of the ANC, the SACP, Cosatu and Sanco, have already left on a similar tour and are visiting cities in Africa. The tour groups will link up in the United States.

Mr Van Schoor said he was due back in Cape Town on February 5.

Earlier this week Mr Van Schoor announced details of a proposed outer boundary for the Cape metropolitan area. The proposals were released by the Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum for public comment.

The proposed boundary is the same as the present boundary of the Western Cape Regional Services Council.

It encompasses the entire Peninsula and is bounded in the north by Atlantis, Paarl and Wellington, and in the east by Franschoek, Stellenbosch,

Somerset West and Gordon's Bay. It excludes Malmesbury and Grabouw.

The deadline for submissions to the forum is February 7.

In terms of new legislation the forum must reach agreement on a number of issues, including outer and inner boundaries of the metropolitan region, and powers and functions of the Transitional Metropolitan Council. The forum's proposals go to the Administrator for approval.

Democratic Party local government spokesman Jasper Walsh told Weekend Argus the DP welcomed the new developments. "Present local government structures were totally inadequate" and had to be reformed to represent all the people.

Equally important was that people on the ground had to feel the benefits of reform — in their homes, in the streets and in their living environment.

"We believe the lack of facilities is the most important contributing factor to ongoing violence," Mr Walsh said.

He said a serious shortcoming was a move by way of an ANC/National Party agreement to "rig" the vote, thereby giving preference to black areas. In terms of the Transition Bill, blacks would be given over-representation in many parts of the Cape. Irrespective of numbers, blacks would control 50 percent of the wards, giving them unfair representation contrary to a clause on fundamental rights in the new constitution. The provision stipulated that all shall have an equal vote, Mr Walsh said.

"Here in the Western Cape we will have to adjust to this. The DP believes this is fundamentally unjust, is contrary to the constitution and, rather than encouraging normalisation, will promote racial tension," he added. "Despite our objections, this will now become law. Despite our demand that regions negotiate their own solutions, both the ANC and the NR steamrollered their own unsatisfactory compromise."

Within 90 days of the passing of the Transition Act, local government forums must have made up their minds on a whole range of issues relating to pre-interim government.

If a forum fails to do so — or if there is no forum for a particular area — the Administrator can impose a particular course of change upon a locality.

Schedule 1 of the Act makes it clear that forums are to embrace town and township, says an analysis of the legislation by Idasa.

Green light for change-over next week

Now for big local

Council shake-up

■ South Africa is on the threshold of a major transition from the apartheid system of local government to a new nonracial dispensation with far-reaching implications for towns and cities. The go-ahead is to be given next week.

FRANS ESTERHUYSE

Weekend Argus Political Correspondent

AN historic national summit meeting on local government next Thursday will set in motion a whole new transition process to South Africa's new nonracial, democratic system of local and metropolitan government.

Speakers at the top-level meeting at the World Trade Centre, Kempton Park, will include President De Klerk, ANC president Nelson Mandela and leading government and ANC negotiators.

Joint hosts to hundreds of local government leaders and dignitaries from all parts of South Africa will be Local Government Minister Tertius Delpont and ANC head of local government Thozamile Botha.

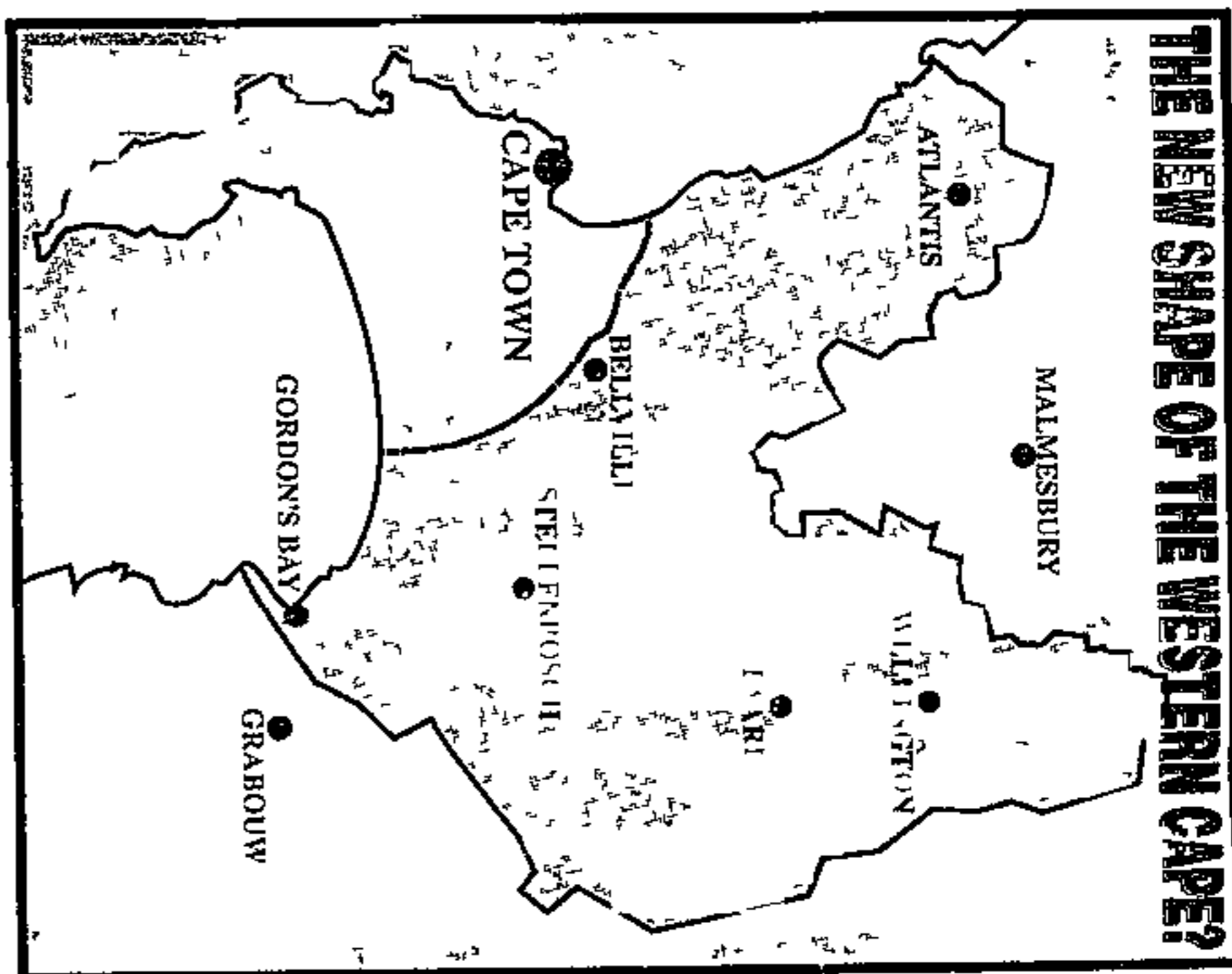
A summit spokesman in Pretoria told Weekend Argus yesterday that other key speakers at the meeting would include the ANC's Cyril Ramaphosa and government negotiator Roelf Meyer.

The controversial Local Government Transition Act, which gives local authorities just 90 days to set up transitional metropolitan councils (TMCs) in place of the racially segregated city and town councils, will be signed into law at the summit.

One of the aims of the meeting is to clarify aspects of the new legislation and agreements reached on such matters as finance, services and the rendering of services by local authorities. Local government provisions of the interim constitution will also be explained.

Once the local government transition process is set in motion a period of crunch deci-

■ Turn to page 3



ARG 15/1/94

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BUSINESS DAY, Friday, January 14 1994

Fresh bid to draw alliance into poll

B! Day 14/1/94

ANC, government and Freedom Alliance chief negotiators will meet informally in the next few days to try to arrange a new round of talks aimed at drawing the alliance into participating in the election

This decision comes after a strong statement from Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi that he will use everything in his means to prevent the ANC coming to power.

The three sides have set January 24 as a deadline to reach agreement on changes to the constitution that will satisfy the alliance's demands

However, three days of talks at the end of last year came to nothing as the sides thrashed out procedural matters, with the ANC trying to extract a commitment from the alliance that it would take part in the TEC and the elections

Alliance chairman Rowan Cronje said yesterday the Freedom Alliance was still committed to further talks but said government and the ANC "must stop playing with words and start discussing substantive matters". His words echoed those of Buthelezi who told the KwaZulu legislative assembly caucus on Wednesday that further negotiations were a waste of time

He said the KwaZulu government and Inkatha "will not tolerate their (ANC) march to the seizure of power either through the ballot box, or through mass action, rolling mass action, or through revolutionary violence"

Two options were available: to continue negotiating for another six weeks until the rejection of the alliance's demands; or "we

BILLY PADDOCK

call their bluff and say enough is enough". In both cases Inkatha would end up in the same position ~~(SAPS)~~ ~~(SAPS)~~

"Our position is very clear. ... We can no longer afford to waste three or four weeks on useless exercises which we know cannot deliver," Buthelezi said.

Meanwhile, Bophuthatswana's internal affairs department has launched a voter education programme in the territory amid speculation that President Lucas Mangope will contest the election as premier for the northwest region, despite the fact that Bophuthatswana has not yet committed itself to taking part in the election

An internal affairs ministry spokesman said yesterday the programme was being conducted by Q-Projects.

However, Q-Projects co-ordinator Deanne Galbraith denied this, saying the matter was too sensitive. She would acknowledge only that the organisation was involved in democracy education.

The ANC's nomination for premier of the northwest region, Rocky Malebana-Metsing, exiled from Bophuthatswana after the abortive coup, said he was looking forward to contesting the election openly and freely with Mangope

He said he had it on good authority that Mangope was to contest the April 27 election. "He is starting to acknowledge that he has no option but to reincorporate."

The ANC had registered and helped more than 85 000 Bophuthatswana residents to get SA ID books in the past two months "That is only in the western Transvaal section of the northwest region."



Labour Party leader Allan Hendrickse, left, the Patriotic Front summit in Johannesburg

CP councils spurn summit

GAVIN DU VENAGE

THE CP-aligned Transvaal Municipal Association will not take part in next week's local government summit that is to be addressed by ANC president Nelson Mandela and President F W de Klerk. **B! Day**

Government sources said yesterday the association's decision had "come as quite a surprise". The association had been active in local government negotiations and had helped fashion an agreement that was acceptable to right-wingers at least until local government elections later this year. **14/1/94**

Earlier yesterday the Local Government Negotiating Forum, of which the association is part, said it regretted the decision. It said it had been notified that the right-wing council of Akasia, north of Pretoria, would not attend the summit. Sapa reports that the Akasia town council said it did not recognise the forum.

Deputy Local Government Minister Yakoob Makda said the decision would result in residents being uninformed. However, sources said information would be disseminated by radio and in local publications, but not through municipal offices "where it might get lost" **(262)**

It was decided last year to call the summit to launch a publicity campaign informing the public about local government restructuring

The forum said it needed public affirmation by national leaders of the changes, which were secured only after compromises by both government and the ANC

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	1993	1992
	R000	R000
Revenue		
Income from rent and sale of property	9 945	8 219
Surplus on realisation of investments and fixed assets	2 045	2 124
Interest earned, gold royalties and income from other sources	816	1 648
Income from investments	1 205	1 308
	<u>14 011</u>	<u>13 299</u>
Expenditure and amounts written off	5 401	3 910
Administration and general	3 508	3 075
Interest	1 883	645
Amounts written off investments	10	190
	<u>8 610</u>	<u>9 389</u>
Profit before tax	8 610	9 389
Tax	2 663	3 356

FW wants whites to help pay debts

Mandela calls for an end to rent boycotts

BIDAY 21/11/94

(262)

ANC president Nelson Mandela yesterday called for an end to the decade-long rent and services payment boycotts that he said had been one of the most effective weapons against segregated local authorities.

The time had come for people to begin paying for services that would be provided by transitional local authorities.

"We support the principle that people should pay for the services they receive," he said to loud cheers from more than 1 500 delegates at the World Trade Centre national summit on local government.

President F W de Klerk warned the summit that government could not be expected to meet huge local authority debts, accumulated partly as a result of boycotts, and the new joint councils would have to find their own methods of dealing with the debt. Formerly all-white areas would be expected to make sizeable contributions to solving municipal financial problems, he suggested.

Mandela said that over the next three months the payment principle would be put into practice through campaigns conducted by township political organisations. Street committees, civic associations and other bodies would be involved in education campaigns to explain the changes that lay ahead.

Boycotts had been a justifiable way of opposing a system that unfairly distributed resources and propagated a culture of non-delivery of services. However, the enactment of the Local Government Transition Bill, as well as the agreement on finance, services and service rendering, had pro-

GAVIN DU VENAGE

vided a framework for democratic local government.

The poor and unemployed would not be penalised and would be able to apply for relief measures.

Mandela warned that ending boycotts depended on the establishment of democratic structures, development and the provision of services in townships.

De Klerk said local authorities would have to find their own solutions to the problems raised by the R1,8bn debt that had resulted from boycotts. While the end of boycotts would have "an immense impact on the cash flow of local authorities", it would not be enough to redress the legacy of the past.

Infrastructure was in a state of general decline and tremendous backlogs existed in many communities. It was important that local authorities with the means to do so assisted those without resources.

"Something more will be needed and I believe there are many local authorities that are in a position to make substantial contributions," De Klerk said.

Government would assist through inter-governmental transfers, but responsibility for debts would rest with municipalities.

Local Government Minister Tertius Delpoort said government could do nothing about the debts. It was up to local authorities to negotiate possible debt write-offs.

The summit was called by the Local Government Negotiating Forum to publicise the Local Government Transition Act — which became effective yesterday — as

□ To Page 2

Boycotts

BIDAY 21/11/94 □ From Page 1

well as Chapter 10 of the interim constitution, which deals with local government. It was attended by representatives of civic associations, trade unions and local authorities around the country.

De Klerk signed the Act into effect during the summit, the first time that an Act of Parliament has been signed in public.

Its enactment gives local authorities 90 days to form negotiating forums that will

be the forerunners of nonracial local government. Councils and civic associations will form the forums, but if they fail to do so the Act gives provincial administrators the power to impose forums on areas. Transitional councils should be functioning by midyear and local elections are tentatively scheduled for October.

● Picture: Page 3

● See: Page 4

Furore over who'll pay R1,8-bn debt

Star 22/11/94

LOUISE MARSLAND

WITH the ink barely dry on the agreements signed at the local government summit in Kempton Park on Thursday, a new storm has erupted, and could delay the establishment of nonracial local authorities.

The ANC, civic associations and white local authority representatives are furious at being saddled with the R1,8 billion owed by residents in black local authority areas. (262)

After a year of negotiating with the Government at the Local Government Negotiating Forum, summit delegates expected President de Klerk to announce that the debt would be written off.

Instead, he presented the bill to the local authorities, telling summit delegates the Government did not have the power to write off the debt. "An important aspect in this regard is that the handling and writing-off of debt must remain the responsibility of the relevant local authority," De Klerk said.

The SA National Civic Organisation (SANCO) is particularly unhappy over what it sees as an undermining of ANC leader Nelson Mandela's call for an end to the crippling rent and services boycott.

Asking all delegates to endorse the transitional measures for local government, Mandela said that the transitional councils had to be financially viable to deal with reconstruction in poorer communities.

SANCO president Lechesa Tsenoli said De Klerk had passed the buck. "Government has seriously reneged on what we thought was an agreement. They are undermining the usefulness of the agreement on finance, services and service-rendering. Mandela played his side of the game and De Klerk did not."

Johannesburg City Council management committee chairman Ian Davidson said that throughout the negotiations there had been a firm understanding between all parties, including the Government, that local authorities would not end up with the tab. "We all came to the summit with the expectation that the president would write off the R1,8 billion, and we were left standing."

Davidson said that if the arrears burden were placed on the shoulders of local government it would be impossible for the process to succeed.

"This is an intolerable and unacceptable situation. The Government is reneging on the letter and spirit of the agreement."

Local government cannot afford to foot the bill, and the civics can't sell that to their people either. The Government created the problem and it must be part of the solution," Davidson said.

Cape Town City Council executive committee chairman Clive Keegan

De Klerk
'is just
passing
the buck'

A new
of 1

leader Nelson Mandela's call for an end to the crippling rent and services boycott.

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Cape Town City Council executive committee chairman Clive Keegan said his city had refused to sign the agreement as

● See Spectrum on Page 9

it was ambiguous and did not address the debt problem properly.

His council would be taking legal advice on the issue. "We will not allow our ratepayers to be saddled with that bill. The State and the Province are obliged to pay the debts of black local authorities — they set them up and they must accept responsibility."

Tsenoli said SANCO agreed with the sentiments expressed by white local authorities.

However, the process of setting up local government negotiating forums had to continue. "Our people cannot wait any longer for a delivery of services."

Davidson said the civics, local authorities and ANC had confronted Local Government Minister Tertius Delport after Thursday's summit. It was agreed that the forum would discuss the arrears soon.

'is just passing the buck'

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New era dawns for local govt

Star 15/1/94

(262)

LOUISE MARSLAND

A MILESTONE week awaits local government as the controversial Local Government Transition Act comes into effect and political leaders meet, at a national local government summit, to thrash out differences and officially end the crippling rent and services boycott.

The Act, which gives local authorities just 90 days to set up transitional metropolitan councils (TMCs), in place of the racially segregated city and town councils, will be signed into law by President de Klerk at the Kempton Park World Trade Centre summit on Thursday

Unpopular with some

The venue will be bursting at the seams with 2 000 delegates invited for the all-day gathering. ANC leader Nelson Mandela is expected to make a strong public call for the ending of the rent and services boycott in black townships.

Both Mandela and De Klerk will then sign the Local Government Negotiating Forum (LGNF) agreement on the ending of the rent, services and bond boycott. All other delegates to the summit will be asked to do the same.

The summit is designed to develop an understanding of the process of constitutional reform at the third tier, and to sell the LGNF agreement on the ending of the rent and services boycotts and the Local Government Transition Act, which is unpopular among white local authorities.

Representatives of local government, other political parties and agricultural organisations make up the balance of participants, together with traditional leaders and observers from the diplomatic corps and non-governmental organisations.

Among the topics to be discussed are local government provisions in the constitution, the Transition Act, the agreement on finance, service and service-rendering, which has already been endorsed by the LGNF, issues surrounding the demarcation of non-racial local authorities, and the administrative and personnel-related questions arising from the merging of municipalities.

The full-day informational event, representing a milestone in the transition process towards the multiracial management of South African towns and cities,

ANC allays fears over property

HERMANUS — The fear that black people would run amok and take over unoccupied white houses had no basis, western Cape ANC regional executive member Tony Yengeni told a packed meeting of ratepayers in Hermanus this week.

Yengeni spoke generally on the ANC's hopes for the future in question time, he was asked "Are we safe from having our houses, particularly second homes, taken over after April 27?"

Almost 60 percent of houses in Hermanus are second homes.

Yengeni said the ANC had no policy of forcibly taking over people's property.

He denied speculation that in places such as Hermanus and Plettenberg Bay, people would be taxed on second homes. He said most black people had second homes in Ciskei or Transkei. — Own Correspondent

end of March. By May 1 there will be a newly elected government and nine new regional governments in place — all coinciding with local government changes. I wonder whether the politicians even thought about that!"

In Johannesburg, the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber met urgently this week to consider its future as a negotiating body. It now has to change into a negotiating forum in terms of the Local Government Transition Act to facilitate the establishment of a TMC. The chamber will now hold a special meeting every Wednesday, in addition to its usual monthly meetings, to facilitate the smooth transition to a forum.

Part of the process

Urgent outstanding issues include the definition of representatives on local negotiating forums as statutory or non-statutory bodies, and the status of the so-called white ratepayers' organisations on such forums.

In order to be a part of the process, every local body or organisation is entitled to make application to become members or observers on local forums in their region, and should do so with urgency so as not to be left out of the important decision-making taking place.

will be of major significance to local communities throughout South Africa," an LGNF statement says.

Members of the Transitional Executive Council and its subcouncil on local government will also be present, as their swift action in appointing nine regional committees for local government is crucial to the implementation of the Act.

Once the Act is law, the stakeholders in the political reconstruction of local government have 90 days to set up the local negotiating forums, which in turn have to set up transitional metropolitan councils. These councils have to then establish metropolitan substructures (previously town councils).

It would be a miracle

With this sword of Damocles hanging over existing local authorities, frantic activity is expected in towns and cities across the country over the next three months.

What makes the process all the more urgent is that local government elections have been tentatively set down for October or November this year.

One local government official says, however, that it would be a miracle if all the TMCs were in place before the April 27 election.

"The national election could delay the process if things are not finalised on the local level by the

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15/1/94

CP-led councils warned by ANC

B/Daw 20/1/94
THE BATSWANA

DISSENTING CP-led councils would have local government models forced upon them if they continued to refuse to choose which one they wanted, ANC local government chief Thozamile Botha said in Johannesburg yesterday

Botha was speaking during a preview of today's national local government summit at the World Trade Centre, called to discuss provisions of the Local Government Act.

He said about 2 000 delegates were expected at the conference to discuss key principles of local government, including the scrapping of massive township services debts and ending decade-long tariff boycotts

Representatives of about 800 different local authorities were expected and delegates would include about 1 000 from statutory bodies, including members from almost all political parties, and 1 000 from non-statutory organisations. The CP and the CP-dominated Transvaal Municipal Authority (TMA) were the only bodies that had rejected invitations

Botha said about 14 CP-controlled towns, most of them in the Transvaal, were rejecting the TEC-approved decision to integrate black and white local authorities

One option councils had would be

the 50-50 arrangement under which half the representation would come from statutory bodies and the other half from non-statutory organisations such as civics. (262)

The other provided for an "over-arching" body, such as the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

The 90-day deadline set for this integration was a week before the April 27 national election, Botha said.

The councils would be expected to choose a structure of authority voluntarily, he said.

He indicated that measures used in the past against black service tariff boycotters could be taken.

"I don't know how they will feel... in dark houses in streets where the refuse has not been collected," Botha added.

Sapa reports the DP said it would fight to ensure that the provincial committees for local government — provided for by the Local Government Transition Bill to be enacted today — were representative, DP spokesman on Local Government Jasper Walsh said on Wednesday.

He said it appeared the NP and ANC were once again using the procedure to appoint their own "flunkies" in key positions.

Mangope warns TEC

MMABATHO — The actions of the Transitional Executive Council will provide South Africans with a preview of the degree of democracy they will have in the new SA, Bophuthatswana President Lucas Mangope said yesterday.

At a presentation of long service awards to civil servants at Mmabatho, he said the TEC would be advised to "temper the headiness of their new-found and self-bestowed power with an acceptance of the fact that they are not truly representative and that they ride roughshod over the aspirations of many millions of us at their peril". B/Daw

Mangope said his government "would never go blindly into a set of circumstances" which would lower the standard of living of the Batswana people.

He would not "willingly revert back to a system where we will be oppressed by a faraway government", the only difference being the "skin colour of the people at the top".

He said this was why the question of separate ballots for national and provincial government was not negotiable. — Sapa 20/1/94

● Comment: Page 4

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Mandela to rule on rent boycotts

■ **LOCAL RULE** Mandela,

De Klerk due to speak:

By Mzimasi Ngudle
Political Staff

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AFRICAN NATIONAL CONGRESS president Mr Nelson Mandela is expected to call for an end to rent and services boycotts when the local government negotiating forum convenes at World Trade Centre today

The purpose of the summit is to provide first hand information on the procedures to be followed in the transition for the guidance of local authorities and local government bodies throughout the country

State President FW de Klerk is expected to sign the Local Government Transitional Act, which will phase out the present town and city councils

- The act provides for the establishment of transitional metropolitan authorities aimed at ending racial segregation in local government structures

- The act also provides for a transition phase, known as pre-interim, which will end with the holding of elections for a second generation of metropolitan and local councils

Will not attend summit

Metropolitan councils will be created by nominating candidates according to a "50/50 formula"

For this purpose the forum itself is divided into two sectors the statutory sector comprising representatives of apartheid local government bodies and political parties which have participated in elections in the past, and the non-statutory sector which comprises civic and residents' organisations and political parties which have not been part of past elections. About 2 000 delegates are expected to attend the summit, which will also be addressed by De Klerk

Not attending will be the Transvaal municipal authorities, which have also asked Conservative Party town councils not to attend

The Conservative Party and the Herstigte Nasionale Party have indicated that they will not attend today's summit. A spokesman for the LGNF yesterday said the TMA's action was in breach of an agreement reached between the ANC and the TMA to honour all LGNF decisions

However, the spokesman said most black civic associations falling under the CP-held town councils would attend

DP hits 'mockery' by Nats and ANC

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE Democratic Party says African National Congress and National Party handling of local government makes a mockery of democracy

DP local government spokesman Jasper Walsh said the party would campaign for fair representation on powerful provincial committees on local government

He said the NP and ANC intended appointing their own "flunkies" to the committees.

The Local Government Transition Bill, to be signed by President De Klerk at a national summit today, requires the Transitional Executive Council to appoint committees to act as a brake on powers of administrators during the transition process

"The Bill requires that, to be effective, these six-member committees shall be broadly representative of stakeholders, and shall be made up of members who have knowledge of local government"

Each stakeholder could have only one representative

"Once again, the NP and the ANC are using this to appoint their own flunkies in key positions with no regard to the democratic process"

The DP and other stakeholders had been barred from the Local Government Negotiating Forum and the TEC sub-coun-

ARLT 20/1/94
cil on regional and local government ~~26~~ (262)

The DP had not been asked to submit names for the provincial committees, in spite of being key stakeholders in local government, especially in the major cities

"Appointments are being made on a national, top-down basis instead of a democratic and provincial basis"

Mr Walsh said the Local Government Negotiating Forum was dominated by the NP and the ANC, through the SA National Civic Organisation, which would ensure over-representation of the ANC

"This makes a mockery of democracy Already the Western Cape is saddled with over-representation of black people because of a nationally-imposed NP-ANC deal

"It is becoming increasingly clear neither the NP nor the ANC wish to be exposed to the rigours of democracy Both prefer private deals in which they can share out power"

At today's summit at the World Trade Centre, the signing of the Bill into law will set in train a series of transition measures for local government, requiring cities and towns to set up negotiating forums

Within 90 days from today appointed interim city and town councils must be set up

Race-based local government to go within 90 days

ARG 20/1/94 (262)

CLIVE SAWYER, Municipal Reporter
KEMPTON PARK — All city and town councils must be replaced by transitional local authorities within 90 days in terms of the Local Government Transition Act, signed into law by President De Klerk today.

And African National Congress president Nelson Mandela has called for a campaign to end rates and service payment boycotts in townships.

The countdown to joint local government of cities and towns throughout South Africa began at a national summit here today attended by Mr De Klerk and Mr Mandela, which is to be followed by regional summits.

And a clear warning was issued to councils that did not comply with transition measures, which require forums and interim councils to be set up within months.

It is expected that more than R1 billion arrears, the legacy of township rent and service payment boycotts, could be written off.

Townships owe authorities about R1,8 billion.

The Bill also applies to the TBVC states.

Mr De Klerk said the end of boycotts would not be enough to end huge disparities in services.

"Something more will be needed and there are many local authorities in a position to make substantial contributions. For the sake of peace and stability I believe they should," Mr De Klerk said.

Mr Mandela said a campaign to end the rent and services boycott had to begin.

"We support the principle that people should pay for the services they receive," he said.

Other keys to successful new local government were establishing legitimate structures, sharing local resources and upgrading services, Mr Mandela said.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said a threat by conservative whites to boycott rates payments was an attempt to preserve racial structures and privileges.

"While we will continue to listen to fears of white ratepayers we cannot tolerate the preservation of racially-based local authorities.

The process of democratisation

would not be completed until there was change at local level.

Change in local government was essential for the ANC reconstruction and development programme to be implemented.

Interim councils would be elected sometime between October and January.

Thirty percent of seats would be preserved for racial minorities. Interim councils would be in place for three years.

Minister of Local Government Tertius Delport said setting up negotiating forums, the first phase of local transition, would bring together communities that had lived separately.

After the April 27 election provincial governments would be empowered to legislate on structuring local authorities "according to their own circumstances and needs", Dr Delport said.

The first elected governments would be "governments of local unity".

Dr Delport said re-demarcation of local authority boundaries would not allow the preservation of apartheid.

ANC local government head Thozamile Botha — introduced by co-chairman Vaks Mayekiso as "Minister of Local Government in waiting" — said the integration of cities and towns would mean whites would have to pay "a little more" for services.

"For blacks it should mean the honeymoon of living in houses without paying rates and services charges should come to an end."

White and black people would pay the same tariffs and have the same access to services for the first time.

"The notion the creation of a single municipality for every city and town will result in administrative chaos should be dismissed with contempt because it has no rational basis."

Black local authorities had not collapsed because black people were incapable. They crumbled because of corruption and a lack of a revenue base, Mr Botha said.

Delegates applauded enthusiastically when an Inkatha Freedom Party spokesman announced the party would participate fully in transitional local government structures.

See page 6

'End rent boycotts'

Star 21/1/94
Mandela asks townships to pay up

BY JACQUELINE MYBURGH

ANC president Nelson Mandela yesterday called for an end to the 10-year township rent and service charge boycott that has left the country's local authorities with an arrears bill of R1,84 billion.

Mandela's public call, in front of about 2 000 delegates to the national summit on local government at the World Trade Centre, adds the seal to an agreement reached by the Local Government Negotiating Forum last December.

It is believed that by adding his voice to the agreement, Mandela will encourage residents to respond and resume payment immediately.

The calling off of the boycott was given added impetus when Mandela and President de Klerk signed an agreement marking the restoration of "legitimate" and nonracial local government in South Africa, shortly before noon.

Delegates to the summit were also asked to sign the agreement on finance, services and service rendering which commits them to the normalisation of local government.

A few minutes earlier, De Klerk had for the first time signed a law into existence in public. The Local Government Transition Act will be published in the Government Gazette today and takes effect immediately.

Mandela was enthusiastically applauded as he announced the launch of a campaign to end the rent and service charges boycott.

"We support the principle that people should pay for the services they receive," he said. Over the next 90 days until April 20 — during which all local authorities will have to establish nonracial structures

FW, Mandela sign agreement marking the establishment of non-racial local government in SA

— this principle had to be put into practice and local government education campaigns should explain to all communities what lies ahead, he said.

However, Mandela indicated that the boycott could be reinstated if local authorities did not play ball.

"If the local government stakeholders gathered at this summit today do not pay attention to the other parts of the process, namely, establishing legitimate structures, sharing local resources and upgrading services, then local government will continue to suffer the same problems as in the past," he warned.

The township service payment boycott enjoyed the strongest support in the Transvaal townships.

Huge debts

It served as a tool for UDF-aligned civic associations to bring down black local authorities set up by the Government as part of the failed constitutional dispensation established in 1983/4.

The boycott not only led to a huge debt accumulating, but also to collapse of the black local authority system.

Speaking after Mandela, De Klerk suggested that certain white local authorities were in a position to contribute towards restoring neglected black municipal services. He said the ending of the

boycott would help pay the debts currently facing townships and would have an enormous impact on local authorities' cash flow.

"But it is a matter of debate whether that will be enough to redress the legacy of the past. I do not think so," he said.

"Something more will be needed and I believe there are many local authorities which are in a position to make substantial contributions. For the sake of peace and stability I believe they should do so."

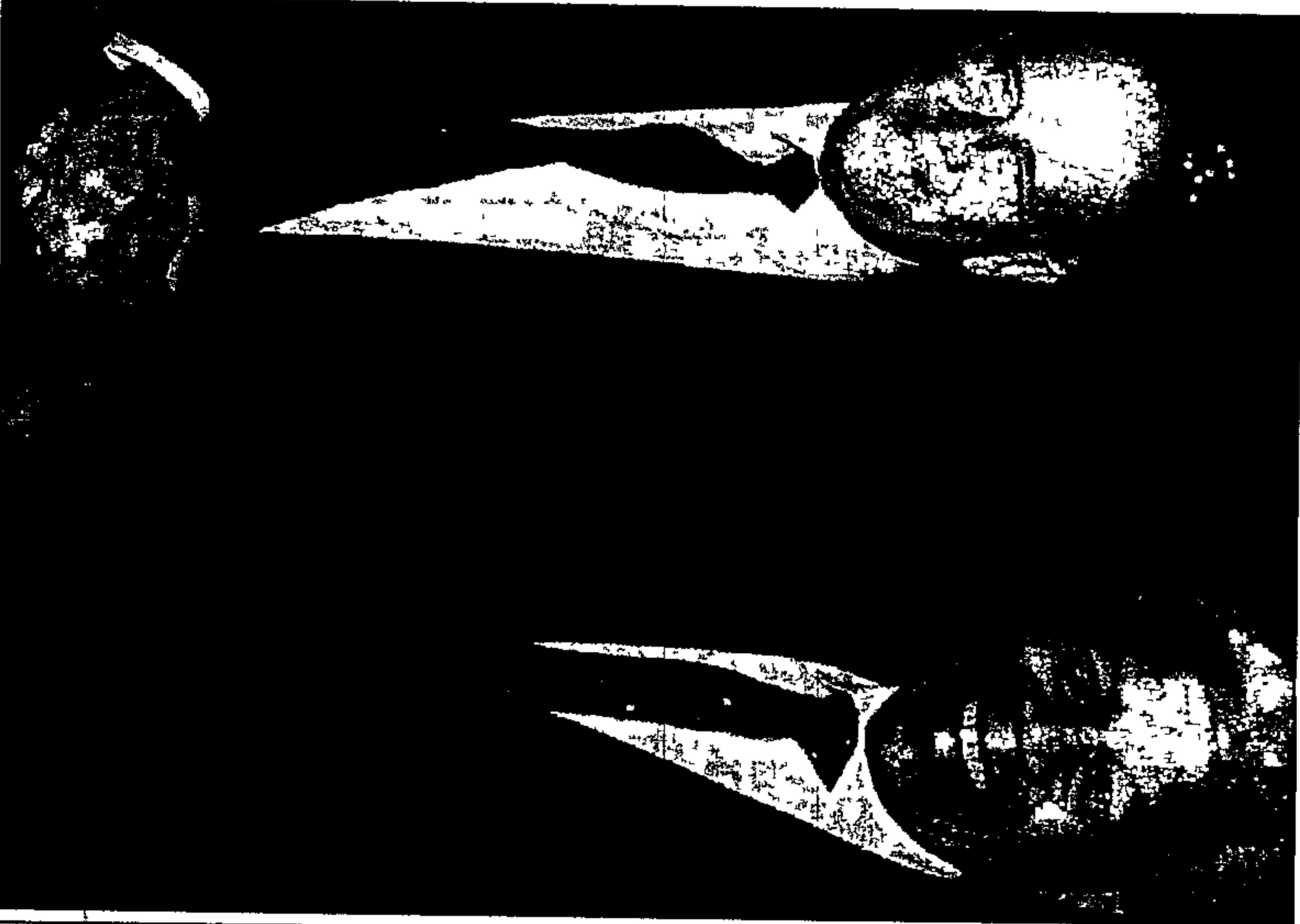
He said the primary responsibility for the provision of services was vested in local government, although financing, planning and implementation of some programmes would require regional and national support.

De Klerk said individual authorities would have to decide how they would handle the payment arrears affecting their areas — the Government did not have the authority to write off the total debt of R1,8 billion.

Responding to the ending of the payment boycott, Eskom welcomed the move and said local government had a tremendous challenge ahead of it in providing electricity and other services to communities.

Local Government Minister Tertius Delpoit warned that the provincial administrator could dissolve town councils and introduce alternative structures if they refused to accept change. He was apparently referring to CP-controlled authorities who have vowed to remain white.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said his organisation would not tolerate a situation where racially based local government structures were maintained, and minority groups controlled resources.



All smiles... President de Klerk and Nelson Mandela shake hands at the World Trade Centre after signing the Local Government Transition Act yesterday. PICTURE: AFP

LOCAL GOVERNMENT will shortly change direction and impact on the lives of every one of us – so pay attention and get involved

The future has arrived

Star 22/1/94

(262)

Local government in Kempton Park this week was climax of nearly years of negotiations. But once fanfare has died down, the hard work will begin to conclude arrangements for nonracial local authorities, reports LOUISE MARSLAND.

The bottom line is simple: if ordinary people do not make an effort to get involved, through their and ratepayer organisations in order to understand the government process, they will be left out.

The signing into law of the Government Transition Act by President de Klerk on Monday has put in motion a process that is irreversible. Local authorities as we know them will be gone in a year, replaced by interim nonracial councils.

Explanatory rather than dramatic speeches and the casual atmosphere at the summit belie the historic significance of the gathering, with the most exciting being provided when the IFP announced it would participate in the government process.

The summit was a well-orchestrated public relations exercise with ANC president Nelson Mandela making a strong plea for the ending of the 10-year and services boycott. De Klerk and Mandela shook hands in the full glare of TV cameras. Everyone clapped.

Local government stakeholders now have the unenviable task of making sure deadlines are met and that they live up to strong and noble sentiments expressed at the summit.

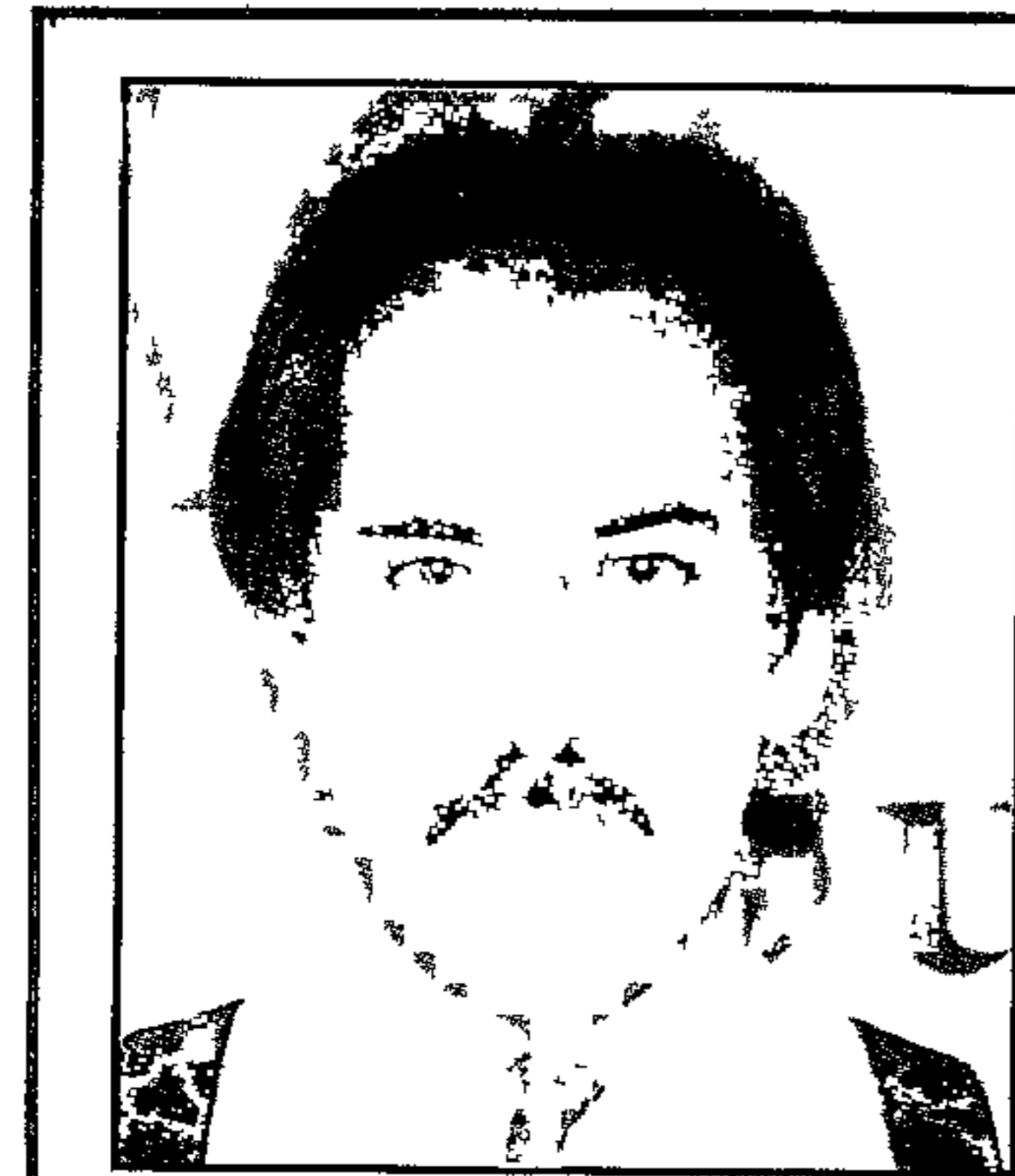
The good news is that compromises have been made to avoid violent and disruptive negotiations with intransigent local authorities that refuse to change.

IN ADDITION, deadlines are being set with regard to the disbanding of town councils and the establishment of final nonracial structures – known as metropolitan substructures.

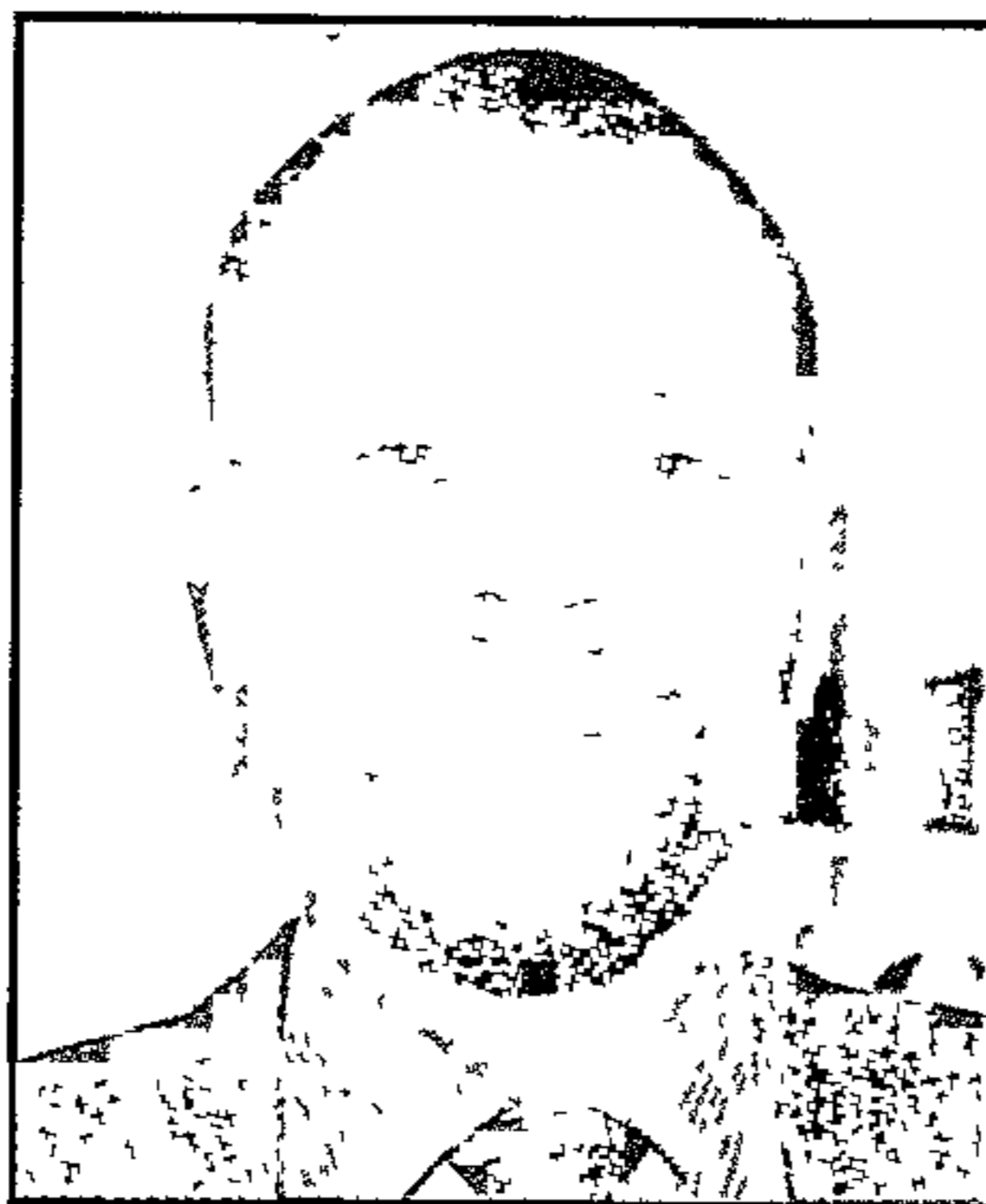
The ANC's local government spokesman Thozamile Botha said that an attempt to accommodate the fears expressed by "African interest groups", one government option created "space" for certain conservative platteland town councils set up forums and phase out voluntarily. This does not apply to metropolitan areas, however. Botha said local authorities had about nine months to integrate budget departments and person-

The bad news is that this process has a price. Black residents now have to pay for services received in order for the process to be economically viable, and white residents will have to pay more for rates and services as attempts are made to upgrade appalling township services and amenities.

Mandela said he was launching a new campaign for democratic local government by calling for an end to the crippling services boycotts. He said, though, that local gov-



CAS COOVADIA: Active on civic association and ACTSTOP.



BONGA MAJOLA: PAC PWV regional executive member.



DAN KAPENI MALULEKE: Sofasonke Party representative.

Meet the negotiators forging the details

LOUISE MARSLAND profiles the main movers in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

CAS COOVADIA: Secretary of tenants' rights group ACTSTOP, Civic Association of Johannesburg (CAJ) spokesman and Olympic bidding committee member, among other responsibilities. Made a name for himself in 1980s in fight against Group Areas Act. Thorough, tough negotiator with keen sense of humour.

SIAS REYNEKE: DP city councillor in Johannesburg and an advocate by profession. Specialist in constitutional law. A fair and forceful negotiator.

PAT LEPHUNYA: CAJ general secretary. A former United Democratic Front and student activist who was detained many times. A fiery and combative orator.



PAT LEPHUNYA: Civic Association of Johannesburg leader.

IAN DAVIDSON: Chairman of Johannesburg City Council management committee and a Democratic Party stalwart. Passionate, hard worker and a major force in bringing about changes in local government.

FELICIA BUTHELEZI: IFP representative on the chamber and a former Soweto councillor aligned to the community-based Sofasonke Party. A feisty negotiator who speaks her mind.

BONGA MAJOLA: PAC PWV regional executive member. Although a relative newcomer to the chamber, has already made his presence felt. Previously an activist. Believes politicians should be involved in all aspects of local government.

DAN KAPENI MALULEKE: Sofasonke representative, estate agent. Spent 18 years in US. Says his party has interests at heart of Soweto community not represented by civics. Distinguished demeanour.



IAN DAVIDSON: Johannesburg management committee chairman.



FELICIA BUTHELEZI: Former Soweto councillor, now with IFP.

Photographs: GEORGE MASHININI



SIAS REYNEKE: Constitutional law specialist.

ernment stakeholders had to pay attention to sharing local resources and upgrading services, or else local government would suffer the same problems as in the past.

"The transition to local government democracy must make a rapid impact on the lives of all South Africans... residents should pay for services because these services are worth paying for," Mandela said.

There are still major hurdles. Responsibility for the massive debts of black local authorities remains a sticking point, as does the status of political parties and traditionally white ratepayer organisations within metropolitan and local structures. At the summit, De Klerk,

who had been expected to announce a resolution to the debt problem, threw the ball back to local government, saying it was up to each local authority to decide how to deal with the issue.

The finalising of the Local Government Transition Act sets in motion a year-long first phase dependent on progress at national and local level. This is the last call for local negotiating forums to be set up.

By April 20, major steps should have been taken in all urban centres towards establishing nominated interim structures – which will last about a year until local government elections are held in October or November or early 1995 – to unite communities divided

by apartheid. It is widely accepted that only the major metropolitan centres in the four provinces have a chance of meeting this deadline and establishing transitional metropolitan councils (TMCs). However, any local authority will be allowed to apply to the Administrator for an extension.

This means that local government negotiating forums and TMCs will set the pace over the next year, ensuring minimum disruption to the lives of municipal employees and the provision of services.

So how will this affect the man in the street? For example, in the Greater Johannesburg region, it is possible that a TMC

could be in place by the end of March as the mechanisms have already been set up by the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

The local authorities within its jurisdiction – Sandton, Randburg, Roodepoort, Johannesburg, the so-called coloured south-western areas, Greater Soweto and Alexandra – will continue as they are for some time, with city managers for Greater Soweto and Alexandra, until the TMC negotiates on the time-frame for the councils to be dissolved and replaced by nominated interim councils.

Before local elections, the interim metropolitan and local councils will be made up of representatives nominated from

existing local authorities and from non-governmental organisations (such as civics) – 50 percent for each side.

Each local negotiating forum has to submit its proposed interim model or models for its local authorities to the Administrator for approval.

The Administrator of each province, or – after the election – the regional executive councils, will demarcate the interim local authorities' areas of jurisdiction, determine the powers, duties and functions of TMCs and their substructures, and determine the number of seats in transitional councils.

And who is going to pay for all this? Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson says metropolitan government will be financed from a metropolitan tax base in the form of current regional services council levies, a levy on bulk services and contributions from constituent local authorities, as well as funds from provincial and central government.

Local Government Minister Dr Tertius Delport says the second phase provided for in the Local Government Transition Act will start with local government elections later this year. Once nonracial authorities are in place across the country, provincial governments will pass legislation on the structuring of local authorities according to their own circumstances and needs, Delport says. This phase could last until the end of the five-year transition phase negotiated at multiparty talks.

Many are hopeful that local government elections will be held in October, but some pundits say 1995 is a better bet. After elections, 40 percent of the councillors will be elected on a proportional basis (this depends on the support that political parties get) and 60 percent on a ward basis.

The Act also applies to the self-governing territories and TBVC states. In a compromise move, the chief minister of the relevant territory will be consulted before new structures are set up.

NO ONE is pretending that the process is entirely democratic. The fact is that there has to be some compromise in order to kick-start the system so that there will be a democracy at the end of the transitional process.

Delegates at the summit on Thursday also did not mince their words about the repercussions if the Transition Act was not complied with. De Klerk emphasised that "words on paper" were not enough and that people had to reach out to each other to unite communities divided by apartheid.

A senior Johannesburg official said that if residents of Soweto, for example, do not begin paying for what they receive in terms of services, legal notices will have to be sent out by next month.

And for conservative local authorities who boycotted the summit and intend to remain snow white, the day looks certain to come when the patience of national negotiators will wear thin.

As a last resort, the Administrator or the new regional executive committee which will replace him will have the authority to impose a structure and demarcate boundaries.

Whatever politicians and residents think of the new Act, it's in place now and its effects will soon be felt.

Meeting (262)

on regions for new SA

CF 25/1/94
Own Correspondent

PRETORIA — The task of converting the current myriad of overlapping regional authorities and governments into the nine provinces created by the new constitution began in earnest yesterday

Regional Affairs Minister Mr Andre Fourie told a conference on the "Phasing in of existing regional governments into a future regional dispensation" that time was of the essence

"The sooner we prepare ourselves, the better for all South Africans. It is both urgent and necessary that a good start be made now"

He told about 200 delegates from the government, development corporations and provincial administrations they were faced with an immense task of regional transition with less than three months before the election

City 'no' to local govt deal on boycotts

By EUNICE RIDER
and Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN has refused to sign an agreement which terminates black rental and services boycotts.

The Agreement on Finance Services and Service Rendering was laid before delegates at a local government summit at the World Trade Centre in Johannesburg yesterday.

It acknowledges the recently-promulgated Local Government Transition Act, which was signed into effect yesterday by President FW de Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela.

Government Councils and civics are to jointly form the forums, but if they fail to do so the Act gives the various provincial administrators the power to impose a form on an area.

Before signing the agreement Mr Mandela yesterday called for an end to the rent and services payment boycotts that he said had been one of the most effective weapons against segregated local authorities.

Mr Mandela's call came as President FW de Klerk warned that government could not be expected to meet huge local authority debts accumulated partially as a result of boycotts and indicated that new, joint councils would have to find their own way of dealing with the debt.

He said formerly all-white areas would

be expected to make a sizeable contribution to solving municipal financial problems.

President De Klerk and Mr Mandela were speaking to more than 1 500 delegates at the National Summit for Local Government at the World Trade Centre in Kempton Park gathered for the signing of an agreement heralding the implementation of multiracial local government.

Reconstruction

To cheers from delegates, Inkatha Freedom Party local government spokesman and former MEC for local government, Mr Peter Miller announced his party would participate in the reconstruction of local government and in non-racial municipal

elections which could be held as early as the end of the year.

Mr Clive Keegan, chairman of the Cape Town City Council's executive committee, said last night that as much as Cape Town wanted to see the end of the boycotts which had been "bedevilling" black residential areas for past decades, the agreement "appeared to be ambiguous", and he was "uncertain of the legal status of the document".

"If (the agreement) fails to address certain very important elements of the crisis, such as arrears on water and electricity," he said, "the Cape Town City Council is owed tens of millions of rands by the now-defunct black local authorities, and this has to be resolved by the State or provincial

Improvement

authorities — they must pay this debt. "We are 100 percent behind the spirit of the thing (agreement), but we need clarification on the details before we can consider signing it — we may yet sign it!"

In his address Mr Mandela said the time had come for people to begin paying for services to be provided by transitional local authorities.

There had to be a visible improvement in the daily lives of blacks, he said, and local government was charged with this responsibility.

Mr De Klerk said the Local Government Transition Act would help to achieve the essential balance between the needs of

the poor and the rich.

In fact reference to the 14 Conservative Party-controlled town councils which have vowed to remain white, Local Government Minister Dr Terrius Delpoit said the administrator had, in consultation with his Transitional Executive Council-elected committee, "the power to dissolve councils and introduce alternative structures where local governments refuse to cooperate" and accept change.

● IFP political director Mr Ziba Jiyane said in Durban the IFP would not contest local government elections without fighting national elections as well and a final decision had still to be made in this regard. He said Mr Miller was probably just expressing his own "hopeful" opinion.

CT 2/11/94 (2/11/94)

Tough line on local changes

ARC 22/1/94 (262)

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

FAILURE by local authorities to co-operate in the transition process will mean provincial administrators will step in and set up forums for them — forums which will appoint non-racial councils

The April deadline, set in the Local Government Transition Act which became law this week, will mark the end of racially-based city and town councils, management committees and black local authorities

Local government negotiating forums must be set up within 30 days of the promulgation of the act — a deadline of February 20

Two months later, their agreements on a form of local government and the geographical boundaries of its jurisdiction must be sent to the Administrator for approval

Minister of Local Government Tertius Delport said communities should note the wide powers conferred on the Administrator by the Act

"He has the power to dissolve councils and introduce alternative structures where local governments refuse to co-operate"

The Administrator will act in accordance with a powerful provincial committee on local government, to be appointed by the Transitional Executive Council

The warning has particular resonance in the Transvaal, where conservative councils this week stayed away from the summit. Signs were they were once again digging in against change

Last year saw hurried changes to draft legislation in an attempt to satisfy rightwingers — including a controversial provision guaranteeing racial minorities 30 per-

■ A tough line will be taken against councils which fail to set up non-racial structures within the April 20 deadline, said top government and African National Congress officials this week

cent representation on the first elected councils

African National Congress secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said his organisation would not tolerate the continuation of racially-based local government and minority control of resources

A local government negotiating forum spokesman said there was some scope for local initiative

The act allowed forums to negotiate the form of local government which would apply in a city or town during the "pre-interim" phase — the period leading up to the first democratic municipal elections

This meant each new local authority could frame its own policies and by-laws, although this had to be within the framework set up by higher authorities. Councils would be autonomous, and the Act said provincial or central government would not be allowed to change the status of local government without consultation

Options for local government in the "pre-interim" phase included

■ Appointed metropolitan or local councils, appointed by forums with half-half representation for non-statutory and statutory sides, and

■ Leaving existing councils in the forum area as they are, and appointing members to a local government co-ordinating committee for the area

In Cape Town, the future of the Western Cape Regional Services Council is uncertain

The Act provides for regional services councils to continue to exist, but says their areas may be changed

Where a metropolitan coun-

cil is set up, its area will be cut out of the area controlled by the RSC

But in Cape Town, the metropolitan forum has proposed the RSC boundaries be the boundaries of the metropolitan council

The Local Government Negotiating Forum acknowledged RSCs and metropolitan councils could not co-exist, because their powers and duties were similar

This did not mean RSC levies would fall away — they would be payable to the metropolitan council

While it seems unlikely the Western Cape RSC will survive, the question is not yet settled, because the suggested boundaries of the Cape metropolitan council are yet to be accepted by the forum — and there is known to be resistance by some Helderberg and Bolland communities to being included in greater Cape Town

A key point of informal discussion at the local government summit at the World Trade Centre was whether the 90-day deadline could be met

Countrywide, municipal reform is at different stages

A Johannesburg City Council source was confident a Witwatersrand metropolitan council could be set up within weeks

But in small towns — including the farther reaches of the Cape Province — the question remains open, with opposition to reform possible

Cape Town City Council executive committee chairman Clive Keegan said there was "no reason" a metropolitan structure could not be set up within 90 days

The signing of the Act could be a spur to progress, he said

But, progress would not be helped by the absence overseas of key players in Western Cape local government talks, said Mr Keegan

A non-statutory source also expressed unhappiness about the timing of the overseas "study tour" by non-statutory colleagues, who were winging their way through an itinerary of north and south American cities to pick up tips on how to run local government

Meanwhile, technical committees are said to be hard at work to put reports on the table for the Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum. Among the key issues will be finance

At the summit, ANC local government head Thozamile Botha said the integration of fragmented parts of South Africa would mean whites would have to pay "a little more" to maintain the same standard of services

Additional income would be needed to attain the goal of all citizens having the same access to basic services like water, electricity, and refuse collection

He said white fears that integrating councils would mean administrative chaos, a drop in the standard of services, higher rates and tariffs for whites, and blacks taking over jobs, were misplaced

Some might be real, if misguided, but others were rooted in the racist ideology of the Conservative Party, Afrikaner Volksfront and Transvaal Municipal Association

Mr Botha rejected racially-based autonomous local government

"There is no point in granting the right to self-determination to one group and taking it away from others"

Nor was there any comfort for the rural delegate who hopefully asked Dr Delport at the summit whether there would be any qualifications required to be a city councillor

'Local government debts to be written off'

Municipal Reporter

(262)

TRANSITIONAL city and town councils will not inherit current local government debts, said Andrew Boraine, a member of the Transitional Executive Council and local government.

Mr Boraine was speaking at a seminar on metropolitan government on 26/2/94.

But sorting out the pile of debts is expected to take some time.

Mr Boraine said different types of debts were owed to different bodies. Some creditors were government departments facing extinction under a new dispensation.

And in a move likely to send shock waves in local government circles, Mr Boraine said he doubled ratepayers associations could count themselves among non-statutory ranks.

In metropolitan areas countywide ratepayers associations have demanded to be on the opposite side of the table from established local government.

In Pretoria and PWV forums they have succeeded, but in Cape Town the Good Hope Alliance is numbered among statutory ranks.

Mr Boraine said the purpose of local government forums was to broaden representation in the debate on the civic future.

"The Local Government Transition Act is there to create inclusive and representative bodies, but is not there for parties to get double representation."

Bodies which had taken part in municipal elections in the past would be seen as statutory, he said.

It was crucial to get past constitutional issues about forums to financial issues.

These included levels of services, tariffs, ensuring payments for services, grants, loans, and whether electricity should be used to augment metropolitan or municipal coffers.

Asked whether trade unions should be allowed to be members of forums, Mr Boraine said this could create an awkward situation.

Metropolitan govt in position by May

ARC 26/2/94

(262)

■ Cape Town is getting up to a gallop in the race for nonracial metropolitan government

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

CAPE Town could be ready to appoint its first nonracial metropolitan council before the May deadline.

Potential pitfalls still facing the Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum included potential deadlocks on controversial issues such as membership, said steering committee co-ordinator David Schmidt.

He admitted progress to this point had been slow.

Unresolved issues included the non-participation of Helanderberg and Boland "fringe" towns.

"But come 1994 the wheels of progress have started to move fast."

There was a spirit of co-operation among forum members, and public interest and debate was growing.

"In every community people are drawing maps," Mr Schmidt said, referring to the tussle over future municipal borders.

Recognition for the forum in terms of the act was "priority one."

This meant some amendments to the founding document to which the steering committee had agreed already.

Talks were in progress with greater Cape Town's 32 "coloured" management committees, which wanted direct representation on the forum for all members.

The Cape metropole had a services crisis.

The provincial administration had a strategic management plan to tackle this crisis but this had to become part of the forum process, Mr Schmidt said.

A working group on personnel issues was to do an audit of local government staff.

This working group would debate procedure to reorganise local government administration, and interim staffing arrangements for the Transitional Metropolitan Council.

A seminar on metropolitan government was given updates on progress in other metropolitan areas.

■ In Pretoria, a 72-member forum had been set up.

Half were city councillors and half "non-statutory" representatives of civic associations, ratepayer federations, and the ANC-SACP-Cosatu alliance.

There had been agreement on a forum area — but it included Akasia municipality, a stronghold of voters who had surrounded their offices with sandbags and razor wire.

It had been agreed the Greater Pretoria Metropolitan Council would have an executive committee and six sub-committees, which would do most of the work.

■ In the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging triangle, borders for the forum had been agreed on.

Four ratepayers associations were on the non-statutory side of the forum, along with the National Party and Inkatha Freedom Party.

The 60-member forum would debate sub-metropolitan boundaries at its next meeting.

■ Durban, which began trying to set up a forum in 1991, had not got far.

But there was a willingness to make progress, African National Congress member and city councillor Margaret Winter told the seminar.

(News by Clive Sawyer 122 St George's Mall, Cape Town)



Picture: LEON MULLER, Weekend Argus.

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE: New city planner David Daniels will move into Neville Filley's office on April 1. If he survives the Cape Town Marathon today. He should do, as Mr Daniels is a veteran of several Comrades and Two Oceans marathons. His dream — that the Cape Town Marathon will be the official Olympic Marathon in 10 years.

Economic recovery needs viable cities

Municipal Reporter

(262)

ARC 26/2/94

A WORLD Bank report on metropolitan finance said national economic recovery would be impossible without properly functioning cities.

Rates increases and new local taxes could be introduced to combat shoddy standards of services in poor black areas and local authorities could be given access to capital markets to help them fund the upliftment of black areas.

The legacy of apartheid was that white areas had strong fiscal bases and were well managed, while black areas had lit-

tle infrastructure, the report said.

In black communities there were backlogs in terms of water supply, electricity, sanitation, drainage, roads and solid waste disposal. Financing the backlog would mean "significant fiscal shock" on revenue and spending of cities.

"The size of the shock is too large for the local fiscal base to sustain in a short period and will need to be phased in over several years."

Using Regional Services Council levies at present rates could spare ratepayers from

property rates increases, the report said.

It warned that any direct borrowing by cities would have to be regulated.

Poverty, poorly defined property rights and problems of enforcement would make it difficult to collect property taxes and user charges, the bank said.

"Second-best fiscal instruments could be used to generate revenues from black communities." These included a cut of value-added tax and payroll taxes. Cities might not be able to absorb a rapid increase in new

Governments set to do battle in two-tiered fight

for public funds

Municipal Reporter

(262)

ARC 26/2/94

THE man tipped to be the next Minister of Local Government foresees a struggle over money between metropolitan and regional governments.

It is a struggle which will worsen if different political parties control different levels of government, Institute for Local Governance head Theozamle Botha said.

"If there is hostility, provincial government could try to reduce the tax bases of the metropolitan council."

And Mr Botha — who also heads the African National Congress local government department — challenged a National Economic Forum proposal to take away electricity income from local authorities.

"Slashing away electricity, a significant contributor to municipal coffers, could create 'untold misery and conflict'," Mr Botha said.

Options for future metropolitan government included a politicised legislative and executive authority, or a service delivery agency.

Metropolitan government was essential where local councils were delivering services of different standards, and there was an uneven distribution of income.

responsibilities and simultaneously finance service backlogs. If fiscal decentralisation were to occur, the best options for local government would be a system of surcharges on personal income tax.

■ An assortment of excise and motor vehicle taxes.

The report said care should be taken to ensure metropolitan areas remained economic growth centres and urged a strong investment in education.

"Without this, the possibility of a permanent underclass in South African cities looms large."

"There is a high level of local government expenditure but it has a low level of autonomy," he said.

Money was not used in a cost-effective way because of the fragmentation of service provision.

Mr Botha warned against future metropolitan and local government wasting money by creating unnecessary bureaucracies.

An example of split service provision was the supply of electricity in Cape Town townships.

Some were supplied by Eskom and the rest by Cape Town City Council.

This caused a huge disparity in tariffs, while white areas had credit electricity meters and black areas had pre-payment meters, leading to political tension.

Mr Botha said the final constitution would settle the relationship between second and third-tier government.

The interim constitution put local government under the power of provincial parliaments.

"Given provincial governments will be competing for revenue, they may want to take over sources of revenue traditionally used by metropolitan councils."

In some cases, metropolitan areas could be richer than provinces.

A provision in the interim constitution, that all local government finance would have to be channelled through provincial parliaments, should be reviewed, Mr Botha said.

It was not necessary that all services should be provided by the same authority.

"There may be different arrangements which do not correspond with political boundaries."

FM 28/1194
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Inkatha inches forward

Though the countdown to local government restructuring began with a positive message from Inkatha, euphoria over the party's participation in the process may be short-lived.

About 1 500 delegates, at the World Trade Centre for the public signing of the Local Government Transition Act last week, burst into applause when Inkatha local government negotiator Peter Miller surprised the gathering by announcing that his party would participate fully in third-tier government (262) (13)

In its first phase, the new Act gives local communities (city and town councils) 90 days to establish transitional local or metropolitan forums. They must have equal representation from existing statutory councils and nonstatutory civic organisations, they must replace racially based local authorities. The transitional councils will function until municipal elections are held, probably next year. The 90-day period may be extended at the discretion of provincial administrators.

However, Inkatha stresses that Miller's statement should not be taken to mean it will participate in elections at either a local or national level.

Miller's statement was particularly surprising as he has been consistently critical of the Local Government Negotiating Forum, which was largely responsible for shaping the new Act. But he points out that local government elections are a long way off.

At this stage Inkatha is only participating in the appointment of the new local government transitional structures.

"Presupposing that whole process goes well, the end result will be local elections. We are participating in the fervent hope that solutions will be found which will enable us to participate in the process at all levels," says Miller.

"However, the issue at this stage is not whether we participate in local elections. They are nine to 18 months off and a lot can happen in that time. Obviously we have started in the process and would like to see that through to its logical conclusion."

He refuses to speculate on how this participation would be affected by an Inkatha boycott of the national and provincial polls on April 27. "The point is we are here right now, totally participating in the local government setup. By April 27, or soon after it,

FM 28/1194
every local government structure in SA will have appointed councils on which Inkatha people will, where appropriate, be serving. The April election is a separate thing and one cannot say what sort of constitutional crisis, or effect on local government, participation only at one level will have."

As Inkatha's communications chief Ziba Jiyane points out, it would give Inkatha a post-election voice in statutory bodies — though only at a local level — if it chooses not to participate on April 27.

"That would, at least to some extent, avert the problem some people see of the party being sidelined," says Jiyane.

While Miller and Jiyane are both keen to play it down, the local government decision is perhaps the best indication yet that Inkatha is fearful of straying too far from the corridors of power — and that the recommendation from the central committee to its followers in Ulundi this weekend will be to vote for participation in the April election.

Meanwhile, slow progress was being made late on Tuesday in last-ditch talks between government, the ANC and the Freedom Alliance in search of an agreement that would secure the alliance's inclusion in the constitutional settlement and the general election (262) (13)

It was the last day on which any agreement with the alliance could be translated into constitutional amendments by parliament, prior to the issue of the election proclamation, which is expected next week.

Constitutional Development spokesman Izak Retief tells the *FM* that talks are continuing at technical committee level, but it was hoped that a full meeting would be held later in the day.

"The negotiators are still struggling to find areas of agreement, so there doesn't seem to be a major chance of a satisfactory conclusion within the time limit. They are inching forward, but without a great deal of optimism."

Work on new regions begins

BIDAY 25/11/94

ADRIAN HADLAND

PRETORIA — Converting overlapping regional authorities and governments into the nine provinces created by the new constitution began in earnest yesterday.

Time was of the essence, Regional Affairs Minister Andre Fourie told a conference on the phasing in of regional governments in the new dispensation. "The sooner we prepare ourselves, the better for all South Africans. It is both urgent and necessary that a good start be made now."

He told about 200 delegates from government, provincial administrations, TBVC governments, development corporations and parastatals that, with less than three months to go until the elections, they faced an immense task. (262) Northern Transvaal, for example, was

administered by central government departments, own affairs administrations, the governments of Venda, Gazankulu, Lebowa and the Transvaal Provincial Administration, which all had to be rationalised into one administrative body.

The transformation of regional authorities into new provincial structures could not be postponed any longer.

Deputy Local Government Minister Yakoob Makda said the TEC's local and regional affairs subcouncil had agreed to ask President F W de Klerk to allow the nomination and appointment of provincial secretaries, who would work on proposed leg-

□ To Page 2

take its place on the TEC.

New regions

BIDAY 25/11/94

□ From Page 1

islation and regulations, and prepare for the creation of provincial legislatures. In terms of the TEC Act, provincial secretaries must convene the first meeting of provincial legislatures within a week of the elections. (262)

Makda said the TEC subcouncil had devoted much time to discussing the rights and remuneration of traditional chiefs and leaders within the new provincial system. Conference delegates are due to discuss the future of the public service, interim handling of 1993/94 budgets, the role of

development corporations, election arrangements and phasing in provincial tender boards.

Fourie said: "This will be the beginning of an extensive intergovernmental process by way of which we can facilitate the transition of all regional authorities into a new constitutional dispensation."

KwaZulu and Bophuthatswana delegates are attending the conference, although those governments have so far remained outside interim arrangements.

Fight for 283 towns

WM 4-10/3/94 (262)

Chris Louw

RIGHTWING *burgerrade* (civil councils) are poised to take over about 283 town councils in a bid to thwart the integration of local government.

With the elections due next month, the battle has shifted from national level to city and town councils in a groundswell described as "extremely dangerous" by local government officials.

Transvaal Boerekommando members have started barricading municipal offices with razor-wire and sandbags. They have declared open war on the Local Government Transition Act, which allows for the replacement of all-white councils by appointed non-racial councils.

The Afrikaner Volksfront (AVF) is ready to play its final trump card to thwart the transitional constitution — by hijacking town and city councils in all four provinces.

The four provincial administrations are readying themselves to clamp down on far-right resistance to the new constitution.

A senior Transvaal Provincial Administration official said: "The town councils issue is clearly just an excuse for whipping up emotions to mobilise their people."

"The ultimate aim is to force political concessions on the national level, and to get the idea of a volkstaat accepted. The broader aim makes their actions on the ground

extremely dangerous."

Open confrontation seems inevitable. The AVF and other groups have been warned by the authorities that attempts to take over control of councils would be "unconstitutional and unlawful".

Transvaal Local Government MEC Burger Lategan has said the full force of the law will be used to counter these attempts. A TPA spokesman said yesterday that May 2 would be the cut-off date for the implementation of "local transitional councils", he said.

But the AVF has also made clear its intention to use its power at local government level to thwart agreements reached at the Local Government Negotiating Forum last year, allowing for non-racial city councils during the transition.

A list of 283 cities and towns declared as "volkstaat territory" was given to the *Mail & Guardian* by Conservative Party organising secretary Wouter Hoffman. The AVF is establishing *burgerrade* in these towns, poised to take over their administration when non-racial councils come into being.

Hoffman claimed the towns — stretching from Richards Bay in Natal, through the Transvaal and Free State to the Cape Province and as far north as Namaqualand — had indicated their intention to become part of an Afrikaner volkstaat.

The CP determines majority sup-

port for a volkstaat by council decisions, opinion surveys and a clear "trend" among whites.

A senior CP member in Natal said his party believed existing councils had no legitimacy after the postponement of the 1993 municipal elections and the appointment of councillors by administrators. Elected councillors enjoy greater protection in terms of the law. If appointed, they become employees and may be fired. "We expect councillors to be fired any time from now. That is why we have instituted our own *burgerrade*, which will function when they lose their positions."

In parliament this week, President FW de Klerk slammed the idea of a volkstaat in Pretoria. The city's economy would be destroyed, said Pretoria mayor Nico Stofberg.

In Akasia, National Party councillor Hannes van Schoor resigned in protest this week after a council decision to break ties with the Rosslyn Industrialists' Association and to donate R20 000 to Radio Pretoria. The decision could lead to a loss in income of R85-million a year.

A recent decision by the CP-controlled Transvaal Municipal Association not to participate in forums for a new local government dispensation sparked a government warning that local councils may be dissolved.

Report by Chns Louw, 139 Smit St, Johannesburg

Debate about local authority 'to be open to all'

(262)

ARG 9/2/94

□ Overseas tour 'brought new insights'

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

METROPOLITAN forum meetings are to be stepped up as pressure mounts to reform local government — and, there will be ample opportunity for public participation, says the forum

And, while those who took part in an overseas study tour for local government negotiators have conceded their absence for a month could have been "bad timing", they say they learnt valuable lessons

The 22 delegates toured cities in Africa and the Americas

On the African leg, delegates divided into two groups, one visiting Dakar in Senegal and the other Asmara in Eritrea

The group met in Washington DC before splitting up again to visit New York, Chicago Toronto and Miami. Others visited São Paulo and Curitiba

At a Press conference yesterday, they declined to outline specific conclusions about the lessons of the tour

A report would be given to the forum on February 17 and circulated to interested parties

Forum co-chairman Hilda Ndude, who went on the tour, said delegates had come back with a vision of how Cape Town should be

Co-chairman Willie van Schoor said lessons of the tour would be adapted for use in the Western Cape

"We discovered there is a lot of very hard work to do," he said

South African National Civic Organisation member Bonisile Mahindi said the tour had meant an opportunity to study several models of local government, rather than limiting the debate to the type used in Cape Town

Responding to unhappiness about the tour, Ms Ndude said non-statutory organisations had endorsed it

The April election meant it could not have taken place any later, she said

"Machinery" had been set up to keep organisation of the forum going while its steering committee was unable to meet

Mr Van Schoor said the group realised that the timing of the tour had been bad, but waiting for a later date would have been worse

Communist Party member Mzukisi Gaba said the tour had been an opportunity to see third-world countries, and how ridding a city of apartheid was not enough "Ridding the city of poverty is the challenge"

Sanco member Hennie van Wyk said Asmara had been a clean city, compared to Cape Town

Association of management committees executive member Eddie Kulsén said the lessons of Toronto and New York had been to get the community involved in the provision of housing

Idasa regional director David Schmidt said the tour had brought home to delegates "how isolated we are"

"As a delegation we got much greater insight into issues such as the relationship between metropolitan and local government"

Western Cape Regional Services Council director of administration Sas van Tonder said reading the lessons in textbooks would not have been as useful

Mr Van Schoor said the forum had applied for official recognition in terms of the Local Government Transition Act

The founding document would be reviewed in an attempt to make the forum more representative

Mr Schmidt said the future of the forum would be a "tightly managed process" with ample opportunity for public participation

Provincial committees formed

PRETORIA — Members of nine provincial committees charged with overseeing the restructuring of local government were announced yesterday by the TEC—local and regional government subcouncil.

The committees, which have been established under the Local Government Transition Act, will essentially co-ordinate the transition period at a local level ahead of nonracial third tier elections. Their duties include setting up demarcation boards to determine local boundaries, establishing or recognising local negotiation forums and creating transitional nonracial councils. (262)

Deputy Local Government Minister and sub-council co-chairman, Yakoob Makda said yesterday the announcement of the committee members marked an important day for local government in SA.

Parties represented on the committees include the Inkatha Freedom Party, the conservative Transvaal Municipal Association, the ANC, civic organisations and traditional leaders.

The six-member committees were encouraged to

ADRIAN HADLAND

create subcommittees allowing for greater inclusivity and representation, subcouncil co-chairman Billy Cobbett said.

The subcouncil also resolved to request the suspension of Saturday's coronation of Lebowa's King Sekhukhune III. Cobbett said a dispute, already the subject of litigation, existed over the claim to the throne between Kgosi Sekhukhune Rhyne Thulare and acting

Paramount Chief Kgagudi Kenneth Sekhukhune.

Reports indicated widespread dissatisfaction among the people of Lebowa concerning the proposed coronation, Cobbett said 1012194

The subcouncil had made the recommendation for cancelling the coronation without referring to the TEC because the matter had been brought to the subcouncil's attention only on Tuesday.

Report by A Hadland, TML, 11 Diagonal St, Jhb

Countdown to new local govt has begun

A THREE-MONTH countdown has already started — on February 2, with the gazetting of the Local Government Transition Act — towards dramatic changes in every town or city council in the country

Where local negotiating forums do not exist, they must be set up immediately. One of the issues they will have to consider will be the appointment, soon after the three-month deadline expires, of new persons to fill half the seats on almost every town and city council.

In some small towns, existing councillors and boundaries will remain, but forums must then negotiate the composition of new co-ordinating committees with certain powers over councils, like the ability to redistribute 10% of their rate income. Redistribution of rates may also take place in metropolises.

Another matter the forums will negotiate over will be the abolition of Regional Services Councils in metropolitan areas — with the retention of their levies which will be taken over by Metropolitan Councils.

Last week much of the power that the Administrator of the Cape has traditionally had over local government affairs melted away, when the Transitional Executive Council appointed a six-person committee to watch over what he does.

Those on this powerful committee are Mr Salie Manje, Ms Hilda Ndude and Mr John Neels, who are all ANC-aligned, and Mr Clive Keegan, Mr Eddie Kulsen and Dr Wynand Malan. In terms of the act, if they don't agree with the Administrator on any local



CIVIC DIARY

By PETER DUNNEH

government action, the matter is referred to a special court.

These committee members and the Administrator must

- Arbitrate on forum-negotiated new boundaries of all local authority bodies,
- Ratify forum decisions concerning appointments to council seats, and
- Give final approval to council budgets.

Submissions on boundaries, councillor appointments, and fair intra-city transfers of rates money must be made to the Administrator within three months, the act says.

The act stipulates that the results of forum negotiations on how local government will be organised must be submitted to the Administrator within 90 days of the act coming into effect (February 2).

These are sweeping changes indeed. They will surely usher socialists onto councils from which they have long been absent.

It will be interesting to see how they deal with representing ratepayers, who seem to lean heavily towards fiscal conservatism. In Cape Town, for example, figures released last week show 93% of ratepayers want rates increases to be kept below the rate of inflation.

(262)
2/14/2/94

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Am 18/12/94
Changing the guard

The transition to nonracial national and local government slipped smoothly, almost unnoticed, into its next phase with the appointment of nine provincial committees for local government

But it will almost certainly be the calm before the storm. Resistance from the white Right is probable in parts of the Transvaal and Free State (2b2)

On the face of it, the committees, which fall under the TEC's subcouncil on regional and local government and traditional authorities, have a simple task — to usher in nonracial local government

But there are several facets to their activities. The less controversial sees these committees functioning almost as provincial Cabinets — provincial administrators must in future consult them before exercising any of their powers. They will also help initiate and co-ordinate the transition and rationalisation of the lower administrative tiers such as regional services councils

Sternest resistance to the work of the committees is expected at town and city council level, where they will assist in establishing nonracial transitional town and metropolitan authorities. These will replace racially based councils until local government elections can be held in about 18 months from now

Interestingly, Inkatha has decided to participate in the local government transition process. The party's local government specialist Peter Miller is on the new Natal provincial committee

The six-man committees have been appointed for the PWV, eastern Transvaal; north west Transvaal, northern Transvaal, eastern Cape, northern Cape, western Cape, Free State and Natal ■

More power to regions

CT 22/2/94

(262)

Own Correspondent

THE ANC and the government last night pushed through a further amendment to the constitution on a crucial sticking point with the Freedom Alliance in another attempt to woo it back into the electoral process

In spite of the Alliance's refusal to attend yesterday's meeting of the Negotiating Council at the World Trade Centre, the council agreed to amend key sections in the interim constitution dealing with the powers and functions of regions, granting greater powers of regional taxation and

revenue collection, own regional constitutions, self-determination, the double ballot, and including KwaZulu in the name of the Natal region

This latest concession will remove all reference to concurrent powers, allowing provincial legislatures more freedom from central government. It also states that laws passed by provincial legislatures will prevail over an Act of Parliament in all areas within their competency.

Essentially it is a compromise between the ANC's refusal to accept provinces having exclusive

powers, and the Alliance's fears of central government over-riding provincial decisions if it had concurrent powers.

The council also amended the Electoral Act, extending the date for parties to register for the elections to midnight on March 4. This gives parties until March 9 to submit their candidate lists.

However, senior sources in both the government and the ANC said yesterday they had accepted the fact that the CP and Inkatha would refuse participation "no matter how far we bend over backwards".

'Full force of state to coerce councils'

262

~~262~~

ARC 3/3/94

□ 'Rightwing resistance could turn violent'

CLIVE SAWYER
Municipal Reporter

THE full force of the state could be used to bring councils which resisted change into line, says Minister of Local Government Tertius Delport

Also, a complaint could be made to the Transitional Executive Council unless all signatories to an agreement to begin paying for services kept their word

Dr Delport told the United Municipal Executive congress today it was possible the R256 million debts owed by black local authorities could be "fully addressed" during this financial year

He asked white councils to write off debts owed by black local authorities, in terms of an agreement on finances signed this year by President De Klerk and ANC president Nelson Mandela

These debts, with rightwing resistance and power plays in local government forums, were the main obstacles to municipal reform

Dr Delport said the debts of black local authorities included R36 million owed to regional services councils, R600 000 on overdrawn accounts, R154 million owed to white councils,

R9 million for bulk water supply, R1,3 million to private contractors, R18 million to personnel and R37 million to other creditors

The R256 million did not include debts to Eskom, and the government had written off R419 million for development projects

There were also loans totalling R51 million to develop infrastructure which would be inherited by new local authorities because they were normal municipal responsibilities

The government had R211 million available from savings and unspent allocations which could be used for black local authorities' debts

Township residents owed debts to black local authorities, Dr Delport said

"Every day debts are being written off"

Dr Delport said he wanted to quash allegations that the government had reneged on the agreement on finance which provided for debts to be written off in turn for people starting to pay for services

The problem of non-payments would be submitted to the TEC's sub-council on regional and local government, and if necessary to the TEC itself

Dr Delport said it was unlikely new local authorities' books would balance without help from central government

Dr Delport said there had been indications that rightwing resistance to local government restructuring could turn violent

He said he thought the conservative Transvaal Municipal Association had been accommodated in a compromise on local reform

But it seemed resistance at municipal level began in earnest only when the creation of a volkstaat looked impossible

He warned that cases where officials were told either to work for "burger-rade" (burger councils) or resign were a violation of the law

He said rightwing councils — even those who put up razor wire and sandbags at their offices — had not yet broken the law

Stunned by the attack by Dr Delport, the Transvaal Municipal Association said they were neither reactionaries nor revolutionaries

TMA president Ben van der Berg said Dr Delport's statement was irresponsible

The association had distanced itself from the forcing of municipal officials to swear allegiance to a volkstaat

Govt will not transfer debts

BIDEN 22/3/94
GAVIN DU VENAGE

DEBTS accumulated by coloured and Indian local authorities would not be transferred to new nonracial municipalities, a spokesman for Local Government Minister Tertius Delport said yesterday (262)

Last week various local authorities objected to government's "renegeing" on agreements to write off local authority debts accumulated during years of boycotts, fearing that rate-payers would have to fund the debt

Although government has agreed to take responsibility for black local authority debts, it has not committed itself to a similar agreement in Indian and coloured areas

However, Delport's spokesman said government would accept responsibility for the debts, but only once all claims had been investigated. "Accurate financial records are needed before specific financial arrangements can be authorised. Factors such as the financial position of the local authorities, debts to contractors and poverty among inhabitants would be taken into account

Delport said last week that government would help local authorities financially but it would not write off individual residents' debts. It would be up to local authorities to decide how to deal with the debt. They could use the aid to write off debts or apply for government grants

CF 29/3/94

Small towns still advised Local forums taking shape

(262)
Municipal Reporter

THE executive committee of the Association of Management Committees will continue to advise the few management committees that survive the five-year transition period, the association decided at its congress at Bellville at the weekend

The Rev William Bantom, chairman of the Mitchells Plain management committee, said about 20 small town management committees were expected to survive

Small towns have such an option under the Local Government Transition Act

The association resolved that the congress would be its last

JOHANNESBURG — Local government negotiation forums are being set up countrywide, a local government negotiating forum said yesterday

One of the most striking examples was that of Bronkhorstspuit, north of Pretoria, where political groups ranging from the AWB to the PAC joined the forum

In Swellendam a local transitional council became effective just six days after a negotiating forum was set up, the statement said

The forums are to decide what areas should be governed by new local authorities and what form they should take before elections later this year — Sapa

'Provinces need autonomy'

Star 26/5/94

BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Home Affairs Minister and Inkatha Freedom Party leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi yesterday proposed that provinces autonomously implement the parts of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) which fall within their powers.

"I propose that each province which wishes to do so may take the language of the ANC's Reconstruction and Development Programme and translate it into implementation strategies and actual programmes which they will develop on the ground," he said during the no-confidence

debate.

Buthelezi further called for a limited role for central Government in implementing the RDP, and said it should co-ordinate and finance the programme. (262)

"I wish to stress the fact that this is the time to show that the constitution has promises in it.

"For instance, the premier of the province of KwaZulu/Natal tabled a document with the president last week.

"In terms of the provisions of the constitution, the premier of KwaZulu/Natal has claimed for the province the maximum amount of powers allowed to it under the constitution," he said.

His party accepted the

challenges of implementing the RDP, but believed there should be a clear agreement on what needed to be done.

Buthelezi said the RDP was commendable but his party was concerned about the generalities contained in the programme.

"Accepting the ANC Reconstruction and Development Programme as the fundamental programme of the Government of National Unity would unfortunately be tantamount to committing the Government of National Unity to a document which might, when the costs have to be met, produce very desperate strategies to support the actual programmes."

focus on **TRANSFORMATIONS**

Sowetan 6/5/94

WHILE the country is still caught up in the euphoria of the election results for the National Assembly, it is overlooking the crucial role of the new provincial governments

All the key decisions may still be made at the top, but the fate of people on the ground will largely be in the hands of the provincial administrations.

These new provinces will have wide-ranging powers over housing, health and welfare services, education, public transport, local policing and development

These powers — referred to as “legislative competences” — are outlined in Schedule 6 of the new constitution “There is a greater opening of access to points of power,” said Khehla Shubane, a research officer at the Centre for Policy Studies. “So the chances of enhancing the democratic process have increased”

Monty Narsoo, a manager at the housing organisation Co-operative Planning and Education, agrees “It is a compromise constitution but it is quite encompassing,” he said

“In the end, provinces will have real power over a wide range of things and money will be transferred to it from the central government”

Several advantages

The devolution of power from the central government to the provinces has several advantages “A series of problems that were extremely huge — for example the shortage of housing estimated at 2 million, has now been broken up into manageable proportions,” said Shubane

“The areas of responsibility of the central government have been cut down”

It will now be assisted by the nine newly created provinces However, despite the many advantages, both Shubane and Narsoo identified several problem areas

The major limitation, of course, is that the powers and functions of the provinces remain subject to national laws passed by parliament

“The national law is necessary, for example, to maintain national economic unity and security,” said Narsoo

“But the issue is what is regional security and what is economic unity? These are huge grey areas that are unclear”

He warned that this confusion would only be cleared up by the newly formed constitutional court. “Lawyers are going to play a major role,” he predicted “You’re probably going to get a lot of case laws”

Shubane agreed “People are already confused about the dual functions of the provincial governments and the central state

“A number of things will only be clarified by the constitutional court.”

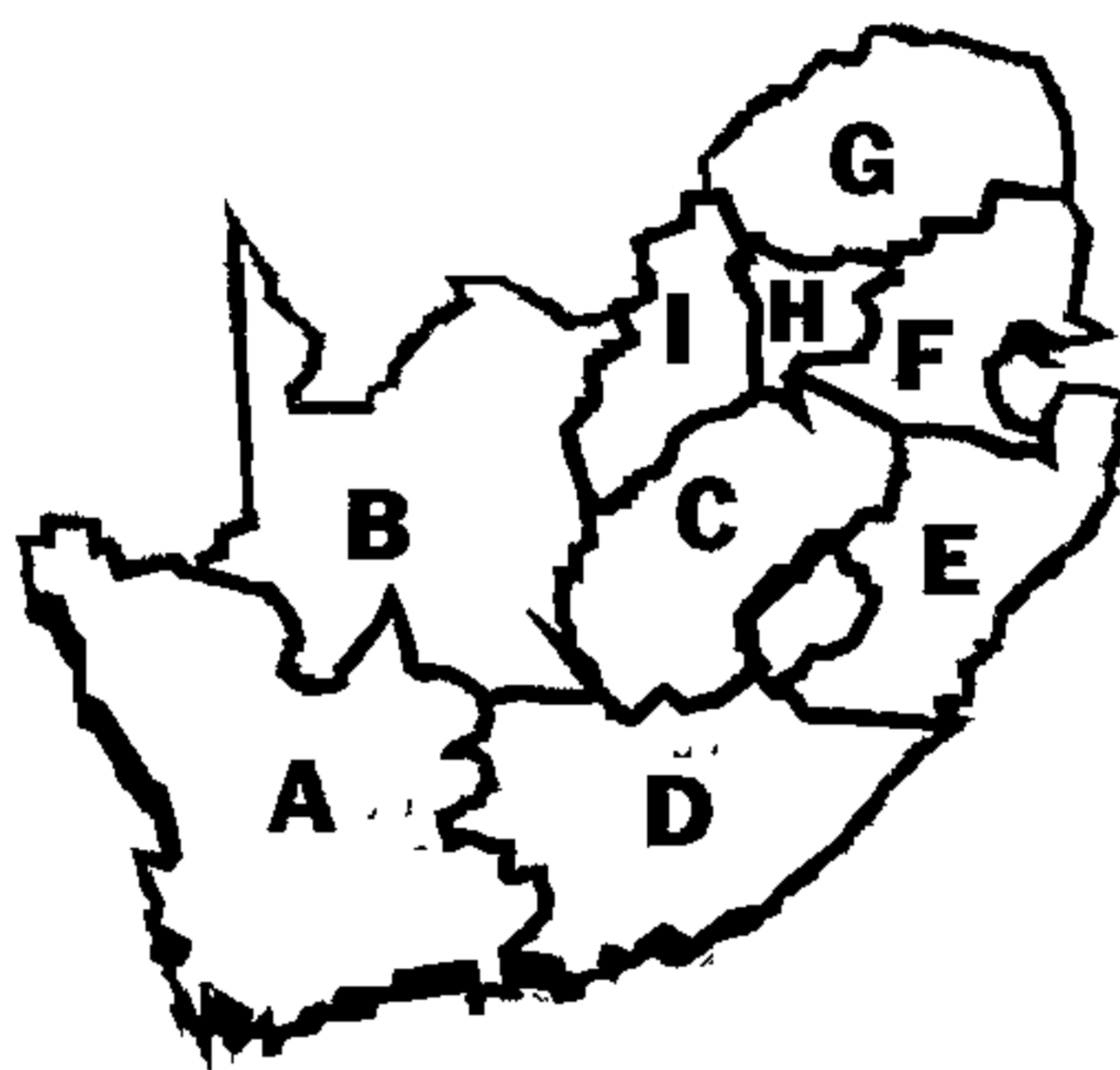
Besides the constitutional court, Narsoo added, another way of resolving problems was through negotiations “The grey areas are going to need compromise and consensus”

For Shubane, the financing of provincial gov-

While provinces will have the real power in many areas, enhancing democracy, there are huge grey areas which are going to need compromise and consensus, writes Political Reporter **Tyrone August: (262)**



The nine regions of South Africa



- A. Western Cape
- B. Northern Cape
- C. Orange Free State
- D. Eastern Cape
- E. KwaZulu-Natal
- F. Eastern Transvaal
- G. Northern Transvaal
- H. PWV
- I. Western Transvaal

ernments will be another problem area “Little is being said about how the work of these governments will be financed,” he said

“We have only been told that the finance is going to be requested by the regional fiscus But the regions may only be properly financed in September when the new Budget is passed”

Also, the provinces would not be able to set personal tax and value-added tax It would only be able to add a surcharge to the taxes set by parliament

The newly created Finance and Fiscal Commission will play a key role in such decisions It will also make recommendations to parliament about allocations to regions from the national revenue

Immediate tasks to address

But, even before tackling such major issues, the provinces will have far more immediate tasks to address they will have to set up the new administrations, and pass the required legislation

“Small tedious bureaucratic issues will hold up the process,” said Shubane “Also, how long will it take for provincial administrations to pass regional legislation?”

“It has to set up the legal parameters within which it will work” He described this as “a fairly complex process”

If a province does not have legislation on

certain issues, according to Narsoo, the national laws will prevail in that province

Another concern of Shubane is that the capacity of provincial governments to exercise power will also differ from region to region

The PWV province, for example, will be able to exercise power over housing and the environment. On the other hand, the Northwest province may not be able to do so

“The limits of the provinces will be set by the fact that they must construct the basis to exercise that power,” said Shubane

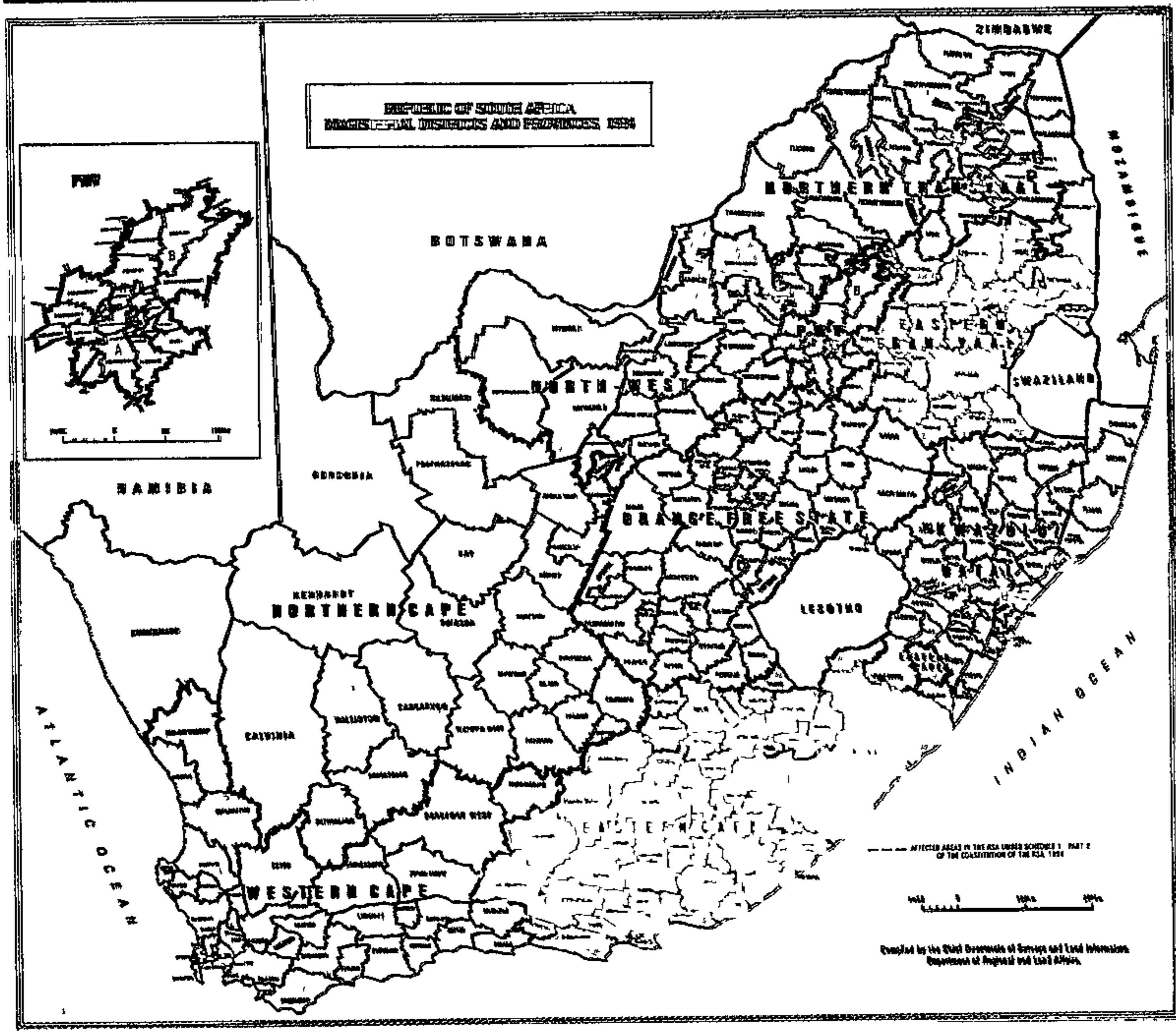
In the short term, however, Narsoo does not believe that central government would adhere rigidly to the legal requirements of the new constitution

“It will be afraid to be seen to be acting in bad faith,” he said “This will be especially problematic in Natal and the Western Cape, where the IFP and NP won the regional elections

“The central government will not act within the technicalities of the law, but within the spirit of the law Otherwise there are going to be big fights”

Within the first 30 days of the implementation of the new constitution, the State President will issue a range of proclamations on provincial government

But, said Narsoo, their purpose will be merely “to ensure administrative simplicity”



Changing face of voting

By BARRY STREEK
 MORE than 600 polling stations have been identified in the Western Cape and in towns like Hermanus and Grabouw people will not be able to vote in traditional white areas. The locations of the proposed polling stations have been published in the Government Gazette. Their location reflects the changing nature of South African elections. Voters in Hermanus will have to cast their ballots in Hawston, the Zwelihle squatter camp, or Sandbaai, while those in Grabouw will have to vote in Pineview, a traditional coloured area, or on one of the three large fruit farms. The IEC said yesterday the list of polling stations was provisional and a final list would be published in all newspapers from this weekend and in a special issue of the Government Gazette. Meanwhile, the government yesterday released a map of the nine proposed provinces after the election.

THE NEW SOUTH AFRICA . . The boundaries of the nine provinces which will come into existence in South Africa after the election (262)CT 12/4/94

Power game in new governments

2b2

THE National Party administration, under new premier Hernus Kriel, which took office yesterday as the new Western Cape Provincial Government, may make laws applicable only to this region — provided they do not clash with an Act of Parliament or the Constitution.

That, in essence, sums up the powers and limitations of powers enjoyed by all nine provincial governments as from yesterday

The whole idea behind provincial/regional government, thrashed out by the TEC at Kempton Park, was to cater for the regional needs of communities

It was recognised that people's "needs" could differ from province to province — or region to region or federal state to federal state — which gave rise to the need for "regional" government

The noble motive behind devolving power — bringing it closer to the

Political Reporter NORMAN WEST examines the powers of the nine provincial governments which started operating yesterday

people and away from central government — is, simply stated, to satisfy the need to bring government as close as possible to the citizens in that specific region — and to take into consideration the needs of the region's citizens

Previously laws were made primarily by central government (the all-white Parliament and, more recently, the Tricameral Parliament, which had no black representation) as it felt fit

Whether those laws suited all provinces equally or not at all, they had to be accepted and obeyed

Those powers have now been decentralised so that laws will satisfy and suit local conditions better

Nine provincial governments are provided for, each with a provin-

cial legislature with a minimum of 30 seats and a maximum of 100, depending on the proportion of voters in each area

Accordingly, the sparsely populated Northern Cape and the Orange Free State will each have a minimum of 30 seats while the Western Cape provincial legislature has 42. The densely populated PWV and KwaZulu/Natal provinces have 80 seats each. Other provincial governments also differ in numbers

The Western Cape provincial legislature, as is the case with the other eight provincial legislatures, may make recommendations to Parliament

Exclusive powers, functions and boundaries of the provinces will, however, be entrenched. This means

that they cannot be altered by central government without the approval of the provinces

Effectively, this means the people of each region will rule themselves through their elected representatives on their provincial governments/legislatures without central government "interference"

The powers of the provincial legislature include making laws affecting agriculture, casinos and gambling, cultural matters, primary and secondary education, the environment and conservation. They can also pass laws on health, housing, language policy and determining the documentation language of the province, local government, provincial police, provincial media, road transport, regional planning and development, roads and road transport, tourism, trade and industrial development, traditional authorities, urban and rural development and welfare services

The legislature will be elected for a period of five years and will remain in office until April 30, 1999

The Provincial Executive (Cabinet) consists of 10 members and a premier

Every party represented in the legislature by at least 10 percent of the members is proportionately represented on the Cabinet.

Meyer gets Local Govt

(262) CT 27/5/94
By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

MINISTER of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Mr Roelf Meyer has been given the additional responsibility of Local Government

Mr Meyer said yesterday he did not yet know whether the title of his ministry would be changed to accommodate his extra job but said a new sec-

tion would be set up in his ministry

By taking on the additional portfolio, Mr Meyer becomes responsible for overseeing the enormous task of the holding of local government elections within the next two years

The elections, which will be based on still-to-be-drawn-up voters rolls, is seen by experts are far more complex than the national and provincial elections were

Angry premiers demand powers

By EDYTH BULBRING, CARMEL RICKARD and NORMAN WEST

FRUSTRATED premiers in the nine provinces are demanding that the government urgently grant them the powers needed to end the "paralysis" in their administrations

From May 10, when President Nelson Mandela was inaugurated, administration of provincial and homeland laws reverted to central government

Until the president gives these powers, and several other functions the provinces are entitled to under the constitution, they are unable to govern

Every function, from filling vacancies in schools to buying equipment, now requires the approval of the government

"The whole system is as clear as mud at the moment. Premiers and executive councils cannot take a decision with any binding effect," one provincial official said this week

"We want our powers. We are under enormous pressure to show our constituencies that we are effective governments and can deliver on the promises of the reconstruction and development programme," Eastern Transvaal Premier Mathews Phosa said

Kwazulu Natal Premier Frank Mdlalose said the delay was causing serious problems

"The civil service is continuing but the direction that should be given by the min-

isters is hampered. Ministers are not really ministers without the powers that should be given to them," he said

Free State Premier Patrick "Terror" Lekota said it was impacting on his government. "Some questions coming from the ground — I can't deal with them. People may want salary adjustments, or promotions," he said

The provinces had to apply within 14 days of the election of their premiers for their powers and this was complied with

However, at a meeting of the premiers with representatives from government in Cape Town on Wednesday, they were told there was a mass of red tape to unwind before they could receive any powers

There appear to be two problems. The first is that the government has to decide which functions will be performed by itself and which by the provinces. Existing legislation needs to be deciphered and rationalised

The second is that the provinces must have the structures to administer these laws. Crucial to this is the establishment of provincial treasury departments to control expenditure

But there will first have to be a rationalisation of the central government, provincial and homeland civil services

Sources at the meeting said the premiers were united in demanding their powers. They said that North West Pre-

[To Page 2](#)

Frustrated premiers

[From Page 1](#)

Mr Popo Molefe was "invited" while PWV premier Tokyo Sexwale was frustrated

They said Mr Sexwale told Public Service and Administration Minister Zola Skweyrya "I left my legislature in the belief that I would receive the powers we need to show people that there is government in place that can attend to the needs of the communities. And here I am being told that more work needs to be done and am being sent back empty handed"

A special commission on provincial government to

assist in transferring powers was appointed on Friday

Mr Phosa said he was governing in terms of the common law until the powers were transferred

"I am acting on the principle that the president would have behaved in the same way were he faced with the same problem," he said

Mr Lekota said that while his government was being hampered by the lack of executive power, this was only a "passing phase"

He said a public service act, enabling the provinces to appoint staff and set up administrations, would be passed soon

However, Kwazulu Natal MEC for Local Government and Housing, Mr Peter Miller, was less sanguine.

"The executive councils of all nine provinces have

no power on any issue which is scheduled by the constitution to be in their competence. This is leading to a total paralysis in government

"There isn't a clear understanding in certain areas that provinces are big government business and cannot be left in a vacuum," he said

Western Cape Housing Minister Gerald Morkel said it appeared the transfer would be delayed until all the provinces had the necessary infrastructure

"We are unhappy about this... we can't afford to be tied down because of the incapacity of other provinces to handle functions," he said.

A provincial official said that the government would be holding meetings with the provinces during the next two weeks. A plenary session with the premiers will be held on June 9.

Regions

BIDAY 6/6/94

From Page 1

age their own public services

However, he said the difficult process of restructuring the public service was gaining momentum "I am happy with the pace of restructuring" (262)

The Minister denied that government would in any way renege on undertakings in the interim constitution guaranteeing public servants their jobs "There is absolutely no intention to drive anyone out of their jobs and onto the streets"

Although changes would be necessary to make the public service more representative of the new SA — "a number of blacks" would be appointed at managerial level, and the gender imbalance would be tackled — no one (and Skweyiya singled out white public servants) had to fear losing their jobs

He said his job was to create a single public service, at a national and provincial level, which ensured uniformity and parity, including pay.

Urgent talks on transfer of power

Regions must prove ability to take charge

BIDAY 6/6/94

(262)

GOVERNMENT will start transferring powers to provinces as soon as this week but has warned that regional authorities will first have to prove an ability to manage their own affairs

Public Service and Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya said yesterday he had begun urgent consultations with all nine provincial premiers to clarify the process of transferring powers to regional public services

But — to avoid "authority vacuums" — provinces would have to prove they were capable of managing their public services before central government would allocate them specific powers

The undertaking follows anxiety on the part of some provincial governments about their lack of power and a proclamation in the Government Gazette which temporarily transfers all provincial and homeland government powers to Pretoria

The Inkatha Freedom Party's central committee expressed "deep disquiet" at the weekend over reports that central government would assume provinces' powers. It resolved to take whatever steps necessary to ensure that the powers claimed by KwaZulu/Natal's premier were devolved as expeditiously as possible

Skweyiya denied that government was holding on to powers which would allow provinces to run their own public services "Provinces will first have to show they are ready to take control. We do not want chaos," he said, adding "I understand the impatience of premiers"

He was keen to hand over the powers as soon as possible. In the interim period, however, government was responsible for

DAVID GREYBE
and TIM COHEN

SA's 900 000 to 1.2-million public servants
Skweyiya said he had begun meeting individual provincial premiers, making it "very, very clear" what criteria had to met before powers were handed over

Each premier received a proposal to study. They had to go back to their provinces and study the documentation — which included details on future personnel, assets and budgets — before they would meet the Minister again, as well as the Public Service Commission

The proposed packages for each of the nine provinces varied according to their needs, Skweyiya said

He confirmed that not all the provinces had yet followed the example of KwaZulu/Natal, which had requested in writing that central government allocate it all the powers it was entitled to under the interim constitution

Skweyiya said he had already met the premiers of the Free State and the Northern Transvaal. Today he is scheduled to meet those of the Western Cape, Northern Cape and PWV, and in the next two days the leaders of KwaZulu/Natal, the Northwest and the Eastern Cape

The Minister said he had been impressed with the level of preparedness of the Free State, largely because, like KwaZulu/Natal, the province's borders had "remained intact". He indicated that, where borders had been redrawn and former homelands reincorporated into new provinces, he expected it would take longer before the provinces were ready to man-

To Page 2

Provincial governments to get R200m in Budget

ONLY about R200m would be allocated specifically to the new provincial governments in the Budget this month to finance their administrations, state expenditure director-general Hannes Smit said yesterday.

Since the old administrations would continue running regional government functions in the short term, the usual allocations to the four provinces, the TBVC and the self-governing territories would be made, he said.

"The Budget will have exactly the same format as in previous years, except for a supplementary spending proposal to finance the provincial cabinets," he said. The amount — less than R200m — would not add to overall spending totals.

The total allocation to each region would be linked to functions, such as education, at present performed by those governments in the TBVC. As functions were formally handed to the new provinces, they would use the

GRETA STEYN

finance allocated to the old administrations — as well as central government allocations.

One exception was housing, where central government's allocation went to the national housing fund, which would distribute it to the regions, Smit said.

At present, there is a national housing board and four regional housing boards with access to central government funds. The relationship between the regional boards and the provincial governments has not yet been defined. Sources said the boards were operating in terms of National Housing Forum policies, but that could change if regional housing ministers disagreed with the policies.

Smit said a law would be passed soon to establish the reconstruction fund, which would kick off with R2,5bn from government.

Sources said the first direct alloca-

tions to the new regional governments were likely to come from the reconstruction fund. These allocations might be made before the fiscal and financial commission — to be appointed before the end of the month — had decided on formulas for sharing revenue.

Meanwhile yesterday, the PWV government announced it was convening a "township summit" on reconstruction and development in Soweto this weekend. PWV premier Tokyo Sexwale would open the conference with a speech which was expected to expand on the theme of rebuilding the township.

One of the main objectives of the summit was to broaden understanding of the role of townships in implementing the reconstruction and development programme at regional and local level. That would be done by discussing the PWV programme, highlighting past problems in development projects and discussing a plan to rebuild townships.

Education promotions halted

THE PWV region's education ministry suspended promotions in its four education departments yesterday.

It said the process of selection of candidates for promotion had become controversial.

"The ministry is of the view that a review of these procedures should be made with the participation of all interested groups.

"The procedures that are agreed upon would need to meet standards of democratic participation, accountability, recognition of merit, affirmative action and fairness. It is the view of the ministry that until procedures are established, no appointments into promotion posts should be

made.

"Appointments that have already been made have legal standing and must remain, but where such appointments are under dispute, a process for review will be instituted as soon as possible. This applies to all the four education departments in the PWV province."

Teachers, students and parents who were dissatisfied with recent appointments and promotions were asked to "allow this process to take its course and ensure that the right to fair labour practices is recognised."

The provincial ministry said it would set up the relevant procedures as quickly as possible. — Sapa.

PAC reviews poll results

THE PAC has established a number of commissions to prepare the party for local government elections and the next general election.

This follows a review at the weekend of the PAC's poor performance in the April elections.

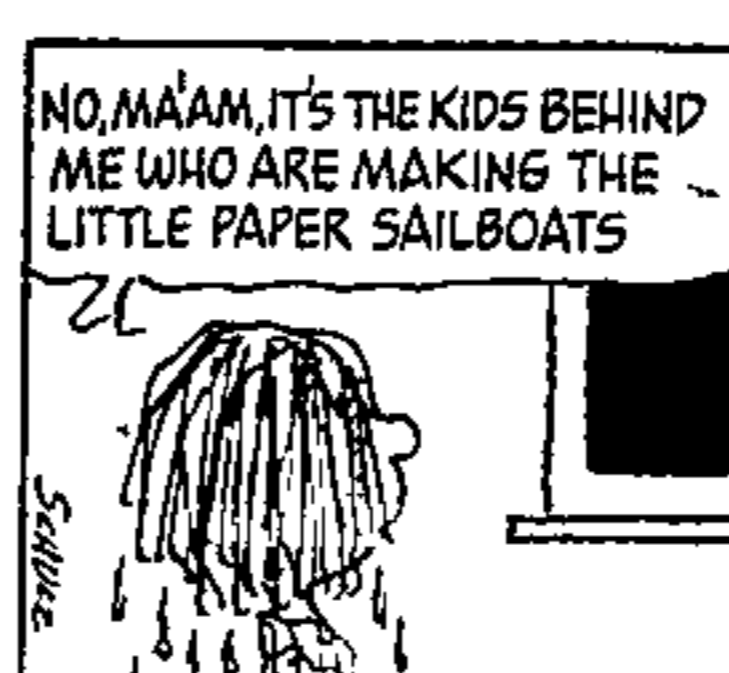
PAC publicity and information director Siphwe Sithole said yesterday that delegates at a national workshop in Johannesburg were unanimous the elections were "too free to be fair".

He said the Independent Electoral Commission's inadequacies had contributed to the PAC's loss.

Delegates at the workshop recommended to the PAC leadership that the party co-operate with government where it was in the interest of the nation and the spirit of reconciliation. — Sapa

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz



ANC man to lead top commission

CT 31/5/94

262

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

ANC LOCAL government spokesman Mr Thozamile Botha will chair the highly influential Commission on Provincial Government, the government has announced.

The commission will help decide on the devolution of powers from central government to the nine provincial executives and serve as adviser to the constitutional assembly on the evolution of provincial systems of government.

The Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development, Mr Roelf Meyer, announced yesterday that Mr Botha would be assisted by Mr Tjol Lategan, an NP MEC from the Northern Transvaal, as deputy chairperson of the commission.

Only the chairperson and deputy chairperson will serve full-time on the commission.

Mr Meyer also announced the various regional representatives who will serve on the commission.

They are

Mr Terrance Benecke-Jordaan, Mr Paul Daphna, Ms Patricia Lepunya (member of the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber), Mr D le Roux, Dr John Malatj (vice-rector of the University of the North), Professor Y Muthien (member of the regional demarcation commission), Mr Zam Titus (TEC member), Mr N Gwagwa, Mr R Jager, Mr T Tihacoane, Mr J van der Merwe, Mr V Vedlanker and Ms Marlene Webber.

Provincial governments will have to hold their horses for a while

CAPE TOWN — Provincial Affairs officials expect that it will take up to a year before provincial governments will be established in the departmental government of the Department of Provincial Affairs.

Departmental sources said the long delay in the establishment of provincial governments is due to the need to amalgamate some regional governments and to split others.

The comments came as ANC local government negotiator Thozamile Botha was on Monday appointed chairman of the Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Commission.

Other members of the provincial government are R Mervé, Z Titus, T Thlacokane, P Dapline, Muthen, J Gwaga, DET le Roux, J Malatu, Y Only Botha and Lategan will serve in full-time capacities.

Other members of the provincial government are R Mervé, Z Titus, T Thlacokane, P Dapline, Muthen, J Gwaga, DET le Roux, J Malatu, Y Only Botha and Lategan will serve in full-time capacities.

The departmental sources said although those in the know realised it would take up and running, the extent of the difficulties involved in the provincial administrations was not foreseen.

The holding of provincial elections simultaneously with national elections would take time to be established.

However, representatives of provincial governments have since expressed frustration.

TIM COHEN

...ion at the time it will take before they will be able to exercise their powers, but the delay is unavoidable.

Meanwhile, regional representatives will be required to continue delivering their services, as stipulated by the government structures without the backing of the provincial governments.

Pivotal in the process will be the establishment of the financial and fiscal commission.

The allocation of national revenue will be made after they are and the recommendations of the financial and fiscal commission have been taken into account, the constitution states.

The provincial governments will be authorised to do so by an Act of Parliament. The provinces will be entitled to an equitable share of national revenue.

The commission will recommend the division of tax income between the national and provincial governments.

The commission will recommend the division of tax income between the national and provincial governments.

...ion at the time it will take before they will be able to exercise their powers, but the delay is unavoidable.

Provincial budget delay

ET 1/6/94

262

JOHANNESBURG — Provincial Affairs officials expect it will take up to a year before provincial governments pass their first budgets

Sources said the long delay in establishing functioning provincial governments was inevitable considering the need to amalgamate some regional authorities and to split others

The departmental sources said although "those in the know" realised it would take time before provincial governments were up and running, the extent of the difficulties involved was not foreseen

The holding of provincial and national elections simultaneously was a "political decision" that did not take into account the likelihood that the provincial administrations would take time to be established

However, representatives of provincial governments have since expressed frustration at the time it will take before they will be able to exercise their powers, but national government representatives say the delay is unavoidable

Meanwhile, regional bureauc-

Question of regional tax needs settling

racies will be required to continue delivering their existing services, as stipulated by the constitution

During the interim period, provincial governments will not be able to change existing structures without the backing of the national government

Pivotal in the process will be the establishment of the financial and fiscal commission that will recommend the division of tax income between the national and provincial governments

The constitution states that provinces may levy taxes — but only after they are authorised to do so by an act of Parliament The

provinces will be entitled to "an equitable share" of national revenue once Parliament has fixed these amounts

The allocation of national tax revenue will be made after the national interest and the recommendations of the financial and fiscal commission have been taken into account, the constitution states

The PWV legislature's ANC caucus leader Mr Paul Mashatile said that while it could take about two months before provincial legislatures set up the administrative structures necessary to implement decisions, the provinces are not powerless

Provincial legislatures were empowered to pass laws on, among others, agriculture, health, education and transport, he said

This statement followed recent media reports that premiers were frustrated because they had not yet been given powers to govern

Mr Mashatile said President Nelson Mandela was expected within a week to make a proclamation to enable provincial legislatures to amend or repeal old laws — Own Correspondent, Sapa

Transition Act must first be changed

Three cities might go to polls soon

Star 2/16/94

■ OWN CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — Democratic local government elections in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg could be held within two to three months if lobbying for changes to transition legislation succeeds.

A probe is under way into whether major cities should recommend changes to the Local Government Transition Act, to purge it of clauses which have bogged down prospects of democratic municipal elections this year.

A possible scenario is that a transitional metropolitan council will be elected within two to three months.

Elections could be held at the same time for some local authorities, including the Cape Town City Council, perhaps with changes to municipal ward boundaries to include management committee and black local authority areas

Unlike the April election, voters' rolls would be compiled. All residents would be al-

CAPE TOWN, Johannesburg and Durban could face democratic local elections within three months (262)

lowed to vote, ending the property-based municipal franchise

Cape Town City Council executive committee chairman Clive Keegan met his Durban counterpart Peter Mansfield for talks last week.

A meeting has been requested with Ian Davidson, chairman of Johannesburg City Council's management committee — the equivalent of Cape Town's executive committee

The Act sets out a process for appointing metropolitan and local councils in a "pre-interim" phase before electing transitional councils on a partly race-based roll.

The process cannot be amended easily because the Act is protected by chapter 10 of the Inter-

im Constitution.

But the legislation has been a source of huge frustration in metropolitan areas because its provisions are more suited to small towns

Cape Town has about 70 local authorities, and redrawing municipal boundaries within a new metropolitan council area is expected to be prolonged, controversial and highly emotional

A Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum has been set up, but has operated for several months without official recognition

A dispute about the outer boundary of the metropole has been referred to the Western Cape Demarcation Board, while debate on "inner boundaries" — those between future local councils — has not yet begun

Until boundary disputes are resolved, voters rolls cannot be prepared, a setback that could delay municipal elections until well into next year

Part of the investigation into amending transition legislation will include what procedures will have to be followed

'SA needs local govt ministry'

Star 2/16/94

■ STAFF REPORTER

The failure to create a ministry of local government could jeopardise the implementation of the Reconstruction and Development Programme, especially in rural areas, a range of national development organisations say

The Local Government Transition Act was "drawn up without consideration of rural realities" and amendments to the Act were necessary if rural people were to get adequate representation

"There is consensus among

rural organisations on the need for district councils," the organisations said in a statement reflecting conclusions reached by them at a meeting earlier this week. (262)

District councils were not mentioned in the Act, but the organisations argued that they were vital to co-ordinate services in non-metropolitan areas and to ensure an equitable spread of resources and skills

District councils would "in no way undermine the authority of local structures, but would rath-

er enable the provision of services in areas with a lack of skills and resources"

The organisations — which include the National Land Committee, the National Rural Development Forum and the Land and Agricultural Policy Centre — intended to lobby relevant national and provincial Ministers as well as provincial committees on local government to ensure that rural local government and development became a priority, despite the lack of a strong national Cabinet portfolio

Municipal forums: plea to provinces

COMMISSION on provincial government chairman Thozamile Botha yesterday made an urgent plea to provincial governments to approve transitional municipal forums, saying this would speed up the democratisation of local government.

Botha also called for local government electoral legislation, which he said would make provision for, among other things, voter education. He said discussions would get under way soon and the proposed legislation was expected to be tabled in Parliament later this year.

He said the provincial governments needed to move urgently and identify MECs for local government. It was these officials, he said, who would — in conjunction with the provincial executives — approve the forums.

Before the present government was installed, administrators of the old provinces gave approval to structures applying to be recognised as the forums.

Botha said a delay in the setting up of the forums would mean a continued existence of "apartheid" municipalities.

He said the establishment of the forums would speed up the democratisation of local government, whose elections would be held in April next year. He urged the demarcation boards to "move fast" with the demarcation of boundaries, saying it was only after these had been decided that voter registration could take place.

BIDAY 3/6/94
WILSON ZWANE

Sanco general secretary Penrose Ntlonti yesterday blamed a lack of co-ordination at national level for the delay in the setting up of the forums (262)

Botha, whose commission would facilitate the establishment of provincial governments and advise the Constitutional Assembly on developing provincial constitutions, gave an assurance his organisation would play its role in the setting up of local government.

In terms of the legislation, the forums would act as caretakers until permanent structures were installed after the elections, he said.

On reports that Cape Town and Durban would lobby for changes to the legislation to enable them to hold elections within three months, Botha said "conformity" to the legislation was critical. He said since the first elections would represent a break from apartheid, they should be held at the same time.

In another development, Sanco said it would hold discussions with white ratepayers' associations in the near future with a view to getting them on board.

Ntlonti said his organisation had appointed a commission to look into its relationship with other organs of the civil society. He said the ratepayers' associations and Sanco were basically on the "same terrain".

Swift action needed to prevent crisis

Budget may solve provincial logjam

Star 31/5/94

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

The logjam around the creation of effective provincial government should be broken immediately after the national Budget is passed later this month, says Thozamile Botha, head of the Commission on Provincial Government.

Botha conceded that swift action was necessary, "otherwise we could have a crisis on our hands", in relation to the lack of powers and resources vested in the nine new provinces.

He stressed that groundwork had to be done simultaneously at central level and in the provinces themselves to end the present impasse.

On the one hand, provincial leaders are urging the president to devolve to the provinces certain powers vested temporarily in the central government so that provincial authorities can get on with their job

EFFECTIVE provincial government is severely handicapped due to a lack of powers and resources, concedes Thozamile Botha

On the other, the Constitution requires that provinces must have adequate administrative capacity to handle specific functions before devolution of the corresponding powers occurs. Botha pointed out that administrations were not built without money. (262)

"As soon as the Appropriation Act is passed and the Provincial Revenue Funds are established it will be possible to pass on funds assigned to the provinces," he said. "But there must be an accountable structure to receive these funds in each of the provinces. Provincial trea-

suries must be created now"

The provinces literally have to beg and borrow to create even the most skeletal administration.

But Botha insisted that if they could clear the first financial hurdle, resources would begin to flow.

"They have already set up strategic management teams in some provinces, but they are not able to move any further because, to proceed with passing legislation, you need resources."

Architects of the Constitution expected that many functions would be devolved by the president to the provinces within 14 days of the election of premiers.

Only as a fall-back arrangement does the constitution provide that, if devolution does not take place within the 14-day period, the president should appoint an administrator within central government to take care of the execution of a particular law within a particular province.

FM 10/6/94

ment elections by October, as planned, and the most ambitious time is April or May.

Botha set out the problems at the first press briefing by Constitutional Development & Provincial Government Minister Roelf Meyer, his deputy Mohammed Valli Moosa and department senior officials

The biggest obstacle may be registration of voters. This was not necessary in the April general election, which was based on the party list system of proportional representation. First comes the demarcation problem, not only of new municipal boundaries but delimitation of wards within them. Says Botha "To register voters, you have to know the boundaries and wards within which they live."

The future of rural local government is especially confused. Says Botha "Uncertainty about where rural communities belong, in terms of local government, has made it difficult to agree on town boundaries. Villages want to be incorporated into towns." So far only two — Klerksdorp and Port Elizabeth — of about 400 municipal areas have implemented the first phase of the arrangements by establishing transitional local government councils and forums.

Botha emphasises that it is important to press for racially amalgamated transitional councils and forums. Without them it will be difficult to finalise agreed boundaries, to reach agreement on ending rent boycotts and to count the voters.

On the question of rightwing resistance, Meyer is not perturbed. "We haven't had the opportunity yet to discuss the matter with rightwing town councils and we should first do so to see if we can find a working relationship and take matters further. Many things may have changed since the general election."

In terms of the Local Government Transitional Act, passed in December, local government elections will combine ward representation (60% of seats) with proportional representation (40%). Of the 60% elected from wards, 50% must be drawn from the historically black local authority areas and 50% from historically white areas (including coloureds and Indians).

Meyer sketched parameters that must be borne in mind. "Local government is essentially a function of the provinces and we would like to keep it that way. But, initially, we will have to deal especially with two areas of responsibility. One is the implementation of the Act on local government, plus the further development of the constitutional model for the local level. The other is the question of finance for local government, taking into account the circumstances of huge deficits, people still not paying rents, the lack of services, and the general need for urban renewal."

Organising and attending to rural local communities will be important facets.

Deputy Minister Valli Moosa says that when it comes to implementing the Reconstruction & Development Programme, "many aspects of it will have to be imple-

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

FM 10/6/94 Work for Hercules

Progress on structures for transitional local government has been so slow that elections for the third tier are likely to be delayed for at least six months. (262)

ANC chairman of the Commission for Provincial Government Thozamile Botha says it is not possible to hold local govern-

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mented at local government level. Unless these function and have some basic administrative structures, the RDP will not be implemented." He adds that local government will become the "hands and feet of the RDP."

On the rent boycott, Valli Moosa says that at national level the responsibility will lie primarily with the Ministry but, because the third tier "is so closely tied up with the RDP, the Government of National Unity will take responsibility for persuading boycotters to pay." Boycotters were not being asked, "even gently," to start paying, "simply because the administrations have collapsed to such an extent, thanks to the UDF, we did a wonderful job." (262)

Meyer stresses an urban renewal programme is an important element in overcoming the rent boycott "because that is the best way to convince people it is worth paying." ■

NEWS FEATURE *Organisations in rural areas to lobby for better services*

Rural regions want voice

■ **URBAN BIAS** *Communities want legal changes to Local Government Act:*

By Tyrone August
Political Reporter

THE CALL to give rural communities a stronger voice in local government is getting louder. Several rural organisations are planning a programme of action to ensure this call is heard.

A wide range of organisations recently attended a meeting, convened by the Institute for Local Government, to discuss a programme that will campaign for changes to local government law.

This was followed a few days later by a meeting of 69 rural communities in KwaZulu-Natal which set up a task group to address their problems with local governments.

Generally, local government is characterised by fragmentation and incoherence arising out of apartheid policies," wrote Mr Alastair McIntosh and Ms Anne Vaughan in a paper recently.

"(These policies) attempted to establish spatially demarcated and ethnically-based entities under differently legislated authority systems."

The two researchers, from the University of Durban-Westville's Institute of Social and Economic Research, looked at Northern Transvaal but their views apply to other rural areas too.

They regard most of the present local government structures — including those under the provincial administrations — as inadequate.

The existing system has reinforced vast inequalities," argue McIntosh and Vaughan, who feel the Regional Service Councils are partly to blame for these problems.

Instead, they suggest a new local government system made up of local authorities in towns, local councils in commercial farmlands and former homelands, and overarching district councils.

The meeting called by INLOGOV also placed district councils at the centre of their recommendations for an overhaul of the local government system.

"District councils are absolutely critical in non-metropolitan areas for co-ordination and equitable distribution of resources and skills," said those at the meeting.

"Such district councils would be made up both of direct representation of local authorities, ranging from small villages to towns and directly elected representatives."

"They would in no way undermine the authority of local structures, but would rather enable the provision of services in areas with a lack of skills and resources."

Those behind the proposal include the National Rural Development Forum, Border Rural Com-

mittee, Northern Cape Rural Development Forum and Transkei Land Services Organisation.

As an interim measure, they propose that the RSCs and the Joint Services Boards should be democratised and used until new democratic structures can be established.

"There isn't much local government in either tribal authorities or the JSBs," said Ms Estelle Randall of the Association for Rural Advancement.

"We need to transform them and make them more democratic. And where these don't exist, people are excluded altogether from any form of service delivery or access to resources."

Rural development

AFRA, the Natal Midlands Rural Development Network and the Regional Consultative Forum on Rural Development agreed last week to request a meeting with the Thukela and Midlands JSBs.

They plan to take up the problems of rural communities left out of local government processes, and have asked for an initial meeting with the two JSBs on June 29.

"The JSBs should be transformed as a matter of urgency, to make them consistent with the current local government process," they said in a joint statement.

A key aim of the organisations is to ensure that both statutory and non-statutory bodies are represented in the areas



Rural communities are still marginalised but are no longer silent. Their organisations are now demanding stronger representation in local government.

in which the JSBs operate.

They were scathing about the JSBs. "The Midlands JSB failed to follow through on promises there were long delays in service provision and structures were insufficiently democratic."

"The Thukela JSB lacked transparency and did not consult. It also did not promote community empowerment and there was no service delivery to black freehold areas."

The only long-term solution is therefore a new local government system. And this will only be possible if the Local Government Transition Act is changed.

The meeting hosted by INLOGOV drew attention to this. "The Act and the relevant constitutional chapters have been drawn up without due consideration of rural areas."

"If we are going to deliver to rural areas an appropriate democratic institutional framework is absolutely vital. A national effort is necessary to build effective rural government."

The organisations at the meeting said a national policy framework was needed

to ensure nationally uniform standards throughout the country.

"It is through local structures that people's voice can be heard (and) their newly found basic democratic rights assured," they said.

"Through democratic local structures, rural people's own priorities and needs can be addressed rather than being at the receiving end of traditional authorities, RSCs and JSBs."

Because of the Act's urban bias, McIntosh and Vaughan feel it does not take into account that very few rural governments will have the revenue to sustain a viable local government system.

This has serious implications for the poorer regions. "It could undermine a future local government system where expectations raised by the establishment of forums cannot be met."

"Secondly, such structures could become completely dependent on provincial grants and the patronage of provincial politicians for revenue and services."

McIntosh and Vaughan warn that this could result in "immense opportunities

for abuse."

Another problem area is the lack of clarity on the role of traditional authorities in rural government. Some civic associations reject these, while others believe there is room for them.

These divergent views have potential for conflict. McIntosh and Vaughan caution. The NRDF's Ms Louise Colvin also believes a debate should be opened on the role of traditional authorities.

There are many other areas of concern around rural government. The INLOGOV meeting suggested further consultation with rural communities to identify these.

Their programme of action includes seeing members of the national and regional governments as well as provincial committees on local government.

It is therefore clear that, while rural communities are still marginalised and disadvantaged, they are no longer hidden away in the backyards of the nation's conscience.

They now have a voice. And it is getting stronger and stronger all the time.

Star 9/6/94 Premiers to meet Govt over powers

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

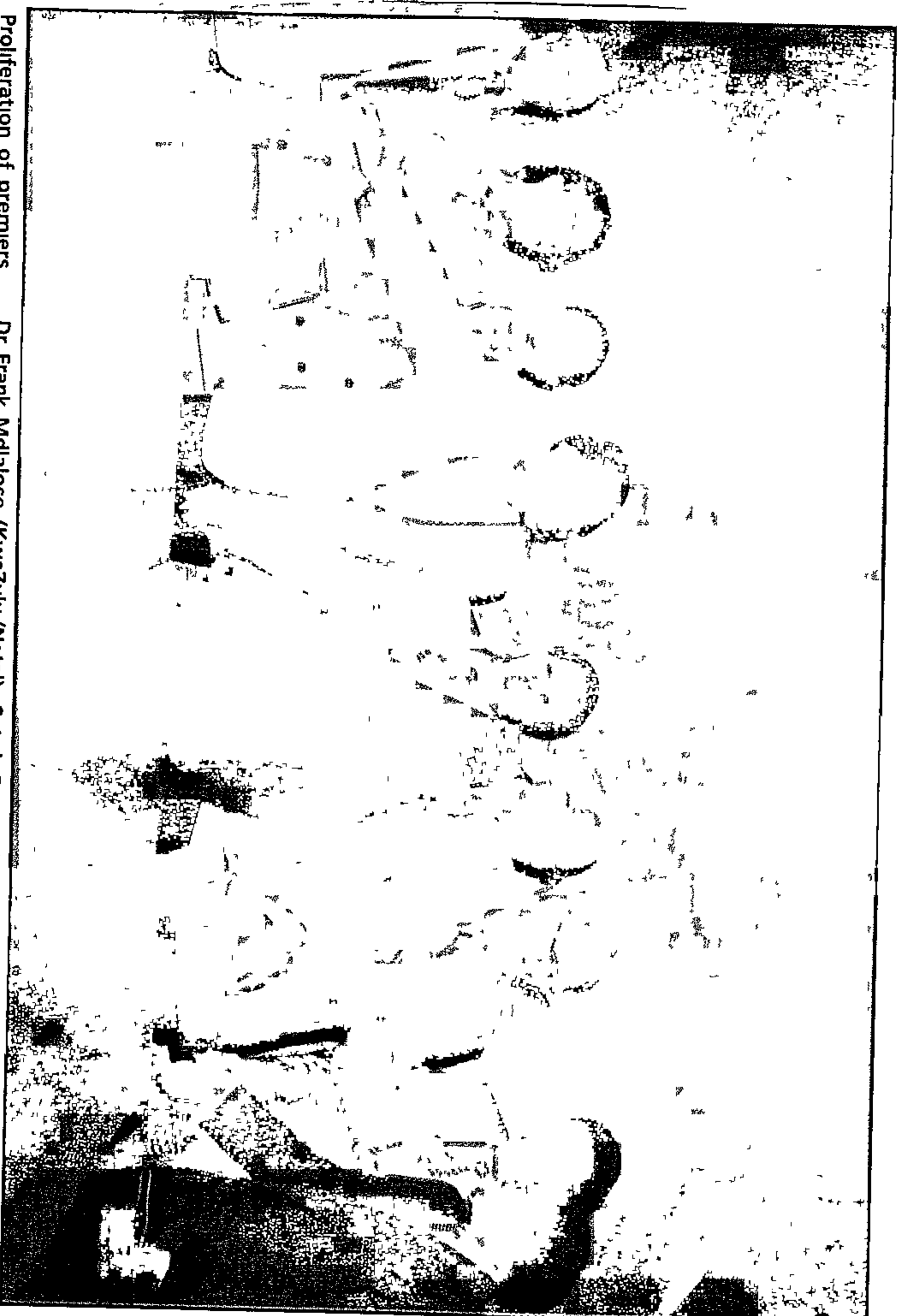
Premiers from the nine provinces will meet Minister of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Roelf Meyer and Minister of Public Service and Administration Zola Skweyza today to pursue the transfer of executive powers from central level to the provinces.

The administrative capacity of the provinces is a critical factor which must be taken into account when the president considers the devolution of powers.

The Public Service Commission has the job of merging and rationalising the administrations formerly attached to the four TBVC states, the six other homelands and the four provinces to form nine new provincial administrations.

This process extends beyond staffing and organisational structures to financial questions — such as where to allocate Regional Service Council levies and taxes from racing.

Constitutional and Provincial Affairs Deputy Minister Mohamed Valli Moosa noted that all premiers were exercising some executive powers in a de facto sense, although legally they had no powers.



Proliferation of premiers
Dr Frank Mdlalose (KwaZulu/Natal), Satish Roopa (acting, North West), Patrick Lekota (Free State), Tokyo Sexwale (PWV), Manne Dipico (Northern Cape), Raymond Mhlaba (Eastern Cape), Hernus Kriel (Western Cape), Matthew Phosa (Eastern Transvaal) and Ngoako Ramathodi (Northern Transvaal)

PICTURE SEAN WOODS

they provided American investors with a convenient and cost-effective way to di- into high equities and this was expected to grow to nearly \$1-trillion by 2000

Provinces begin to take up authority

B. Day 10/6/94

TIM COHEN

THE new provinces are due to get back about half their powers today after losing them last week.

After meeting provincial leaders yesterday, Deputy Regional Affairs Minister Valli Moosa said a proclamation would be published in the Government Gazette today, returning about 50% of provincial powers to the regions. Last week provincial powers were temporarily transferred to central government, which said they would be passed back to the provinces once they had demonstrated they were in a position to administer them.

Provincial Government Minister Roelf Meyer and Public Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya said they had met all the regional premiers, Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo and Deputy Finance Minister Alec Erwin in Pretoria.

Delegates had agreed that a permanent forum representing relevant central government Ministers and provincial premiers would be created, and would meet every month. The assignment of the remainder of powers to provinces would take place depending on the provinces' responses, due to be submitted in a week.

Moosa said provincial powers would be granted in a phased fashion, but there

would be differences from region to region as each province had its own peculiarities. Many existing provincial powers derived from provincial ordinances which differed from province to province.

Moosa said the Government Law Commission would assist in determining which laws passed by the former TBVC states would fall within the jurisdiction of central government. This would take some time.

The reconstruction and development programme was also discussed at the meeting. Naidoo had provided an overview of the programme with a view to encouraging development planning on provincial and local levels, the statement said.

Sapa reports that KwaZulu/Natal premier Frank Mdlalose said "certain powers are definitely coming our way. They are not half as many as we wanted to get."

PWV premier Tokyo Sexwale said premiers were not up in arms about the delay in receiving powers. The first powers allotted to provinces would allow them to set up their administrations.

Eastern Transvaal premier Matthew Phosa said the provincial powers were "no longer an issue".

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Provinces have longer to wait before wielding constitutional powers

CAPE TOWN — The new provinces were expected to get some of their powers only at the end of next week, after central government delayed last Friday's planned implementation, the Office of the Public Service Commission said yesterday.

But they would have to wait even longer before they got some of the more substantial powers listed in the interim constitution, commission deputy director-general Johan Grabe said.

"The first batch of provincial powers will comprise all the powers and functions contained in the ordinances and statutes of

the four old provinces, plus those of the former TBVC states and self-governing territories," he said.

Specific powers listed in the constitution, but excluded at this stage, included housing, agriculture, trade and industry, financial borrowing, land affairs, education, and provincial service commissions.

Grabe said the enormous workload encountered in preparing the first batch of legislation, particularly the need to get the technical details correct, had been the main reason for the delay. Government departments, assisted by state law advisers,

DAVID GREYBE

had begun work on the second batch.

Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi warned at the weekend that the success of the government of national unity could be in jeopardy if the constitutional deadlock with the Inkatha Freedom Party over provincial powers, particularly in KwaZulu/Natal, was not resolved soon.

He said Inkatha's qualified support for the reconstruction and development programme was contingent on the autonomous implementation by provinces of

RDP chapters in their jurisdiction

After meeting provincial leaders last week, Deputy Provincial Affairs Minister Vally Moosa said a proclamation returning about half the provincial powers to the regions would be published in last Friday's Government Gazette. He said provincial powers would be phased in, but there would be provincial differences as each province had its own peculiarities.

Grabe said the desire to proceed in an "orderly manner" had also slowed down proceedings. "It has been a hell of a process." However, the first batch of "quite

substantial" legislation would be ready for signing by President Nelson Mandela on his return from the OAU summit in Tunis.

It would then take a few days to prepare for publication in the Gazette.

Grabe said a "realistic" publication date was Friday next week. If government wanted it published earlier, a special Gazette would have to be prepared.

Nearly two weeks ago provincial powers were temporarily transferred to central government, which said they would be passed back once provinces demonstrated their ability to administer them.

Provinces get own powers

Star
PUBLIC Service and Administration Minister Dr Zola Skweyiya yesterday announced the transfer of major executive powers from the Government to the nine new provincial governments

1816194
The announcement followed weeks of intensive discussions between provincial premiers and himself, Skweyiya told a news conference. In accordance with the new constitution, all executive powers were until yesterday vested in the national Government

(262)
"This initial centralisation of powers was a transitional measure to allow for the orderly establishment of the new provincial governments and their administrations," the statement said

With these proclamations, almost all the laws of the now-defunct homelands and the ordinances of the old provinces have been assigned to the new provincial governments

The provinces would now have the authority to render services in respect of health, housing, urban development, local government, nature conservation, roads and various other functions. The remainder of the executive powers would be transferred to the provinces as soon as possible, but substantial amendments to these laws were required, Skweyiya said — Reuter

PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT

Turning on the power

An important step in the phasing in of provincial government was taken last Friday with the transfer of "major executive powers" from central government to the nine new provinces *fm 24/6/94*

Announcing proclamations to this effect, Public Services & Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya explained that the administration of almost 800 regional laws would now be transferred to provincial governments. They include almost all laws dealing with housing and health. The development follows weeks of intensive discussion between Skweyiya and provincial premiers.

In accordance with the constitution, all executive powers were, before June 17, vested in the central government (for about two weeks) in terms of a Presidential proclamation on May 26. This initial centralisation of powers was a transitional measure to allow for the orderly establishment of the new provincial governments and their administrations. *(262)*

Provincial powers

In terms of the constitution, Skweyiya explained, premiers may, after certain conditions have been met, request the State President to assign provincial powers to them. This has been done.

The effect of proclamations is to assign to the provinces almost all the laws of the defunct TBVC states, self-governing territories, as well as the ordinances of the old provinces.

Apart from health and housing, provinces will now have the authority to render services in regard to urban development, local government, nature conservation, roads and other functions.

Skweyiya points out that only the education laws of the former homelands have been assigned to the new provinces.

The remainder of the executive powers to be exercised by the provinces — for example, in agriculture and health which formerly fell under those national departments — are to be transferred to the provinces as soon as possible. Substantial amendments to these laws are required before they can be transferred.

Skweyiya says transfer of these powers will have to be accompanied by a restructuring of the relevant government administration.

CURRENT AFFAIRS

fm 24/6/94
Transfer of executive powers to the provinces, says the Minister, "represents a significant step in bringing government to the people. This will empower provincial governments to play their part in the rebuilding of the country." *(262)*

Skweyiya earlier announced the enactment by President Nelson Mandela of a new Public Service Act, gazetted on June 3. This provides for a unified public service deployed at central and provincial levels of government. The Act replaces various public service employment laws of the old SA and its homelands. It provides for 32 national departments and organisational components and nine provincial administrations, making it possible to rationalise the old structures into the new.

It also paves the way, says Skweyiya, for establishing uniform terms and conditions of employment for all public servants. Public service rationalisation rests primarily with central government, in co-operation with the provinces, according to the constitution.

Meanwhile, labour rights were extended on June 11 to thousands of public servants of the former TBVC and self-governing homelands, in terms of the Public Service Labour Relations Act. Thousands of public servants in homelands such as Bophuthatswana, Lebowa and Venda went on strike just before April's general election.

In terms of the new Act, the Public Service Bargaining Council established under the previous Act, will continue but provision is made for bargaining structures to be created in the provincial administrations within 90 days.

The new law also provides for employee organisations — not part of the Bargaining Council — to be admitted to it and take part in negotiations at all levels. ■

WITHOUT budgets, capitals and still with only limited powers, SA's nine provincial governments are battling to establish themselves in what is becoming a race against time. The patience of the electorate, whose opinion is likely to be tested again in local elections scheduled for April next year, is by no means finite.

How many months and how much money will be used before provincial governments become viable administrative instruments capable of producing the jewels promised so vehemently from the hustings?

A long delay in the achievement of provincial functionality will have a negative effect on national reconstruction and development programme (RDP) objectives. As one provincial official puts it: "The RDP cannot be successfully implemented without the effective participation of the provincial tier of government."

ANC and NP Cabinet members continue to boycott meetings in KwaZulu/Natal over the location of the province's capital. Little work can be done in establishing the new region's structures or policies until this has been resolved.

The PWV region, buoyed so far by a strong, high-profile showing from its premier, Tokyo Sexwale, must tackle huge logistical problems before it builds its first house or re-opens its first school.

It must first decide on a capital, which, after the recommendations of Friday's predictable report, is most likely to be Johannesburg. It must somehow integrate and learn to rely upon those of the estimated 80 000 career bureaucrats from the Transvaal Provincial Administration who will be allocated to the PWV, many of whom are based in Pretoria. It will be necessary to inculcate in them a new sense of mission and purpose. Incidents of sabotage have already been reported by PWV departments frustrated by lost documents and requests to TPA officials that have been ignored.

The culture of secrecy is still predominant in the public service, together with uncertainty over structures of authority. And the lack of powers granted to regional office-

Provincial govts in race against time to produce results

By *Adrian Hadland*

20/6/94

ADRIAN HADLAND

(262)

bearers means access to information and data in particular is a constant battle. "Having to fight to get information makes planning, development and implementation difficult," the official says.

But at least the PWV and Western Cape regions do not have former homeland administrations and legislative frameworks to dismantle and re-integrate. The Northern Transvaal, which ironically has been the first region to hold a full meeting of its legislature, has four homelands in its territory.

Matters are further complicated in the Eastern Cape where the rule of military councils in the former Transkei and Ciskei homelands have prevented the development of parliamentary-type structures which had been operating, albeit shakily, in other TBVC states and self-governing territories. Three thousand public servants who were allegedly dismissed unfairly by Ciskei leader Oupa Gqozo must also be reabsorbed into the Eastern Cape's provincial workforce with the attendant administrative and cost implications.

Each province is therefore likely to develop, and receive powers from the centre, at a different pace. The disparities, wherein one province could already have almost all its financial and legislative powers against another which has none, could have two outcomes. Either the weaker provinces could receive in-



□ BOTHA

unscrambled and restructured the administrative legacy of apartheid.

The 15-member commission, which met for the first time last week, has an immense task before it. It is charged with facilitating the establishment of provincial governments and with advising central government and the regional legislatures on how this can be achieved.

Botha, who was formerly the ANC's head of local government, has resigned his Parliamentary seat to tackle the job. He is on a fact-finding mission to each province to determine how things stand and will assist in the prioritisation of the provincial governments' activities and tasks. He will also assess the level of institutional restructuring that will be required.

With funding an obvious and immediate requirement, monies allocated by central government to the provinces — on the basis of triennial era budgets drawn up before the establishment of SA's new regions — will be channelled into a provincial revenue fund. Each province will be required to appoint a director-general who will be the accounting officer personally responsible for requisitioning money from the fund and distributing it for specific functions and service-delivery mechanisms.

Botha hopes to begin circulating a document within two weeks which will illustrate, step-by-step, how to

begin creating effective regional government administrations. "The process by which provinces can claim their powers is a critical area of prioritisation," he says.

Massive adjustments will be required to legislation in all the provinces to excise powers which will pass back to a national level and to expand those for which the constitution provides. Most provinces will have to go through everything from provincial ordinances to homeland constitutions in a bid to create the legislative frameworks they require to go about their business.

Perhaps the key to the success of provincial government lies in the concept of strategic management teams. In the pre-election period, numerous think-tanks and workshops were created or held and research undertaken in a bid to discover what device was needed to "manage change".

Reference was made to other countries, such as Namibia, which had been through similar processes and to business concepts which had assisted major multinationals in coping with an ever-changing corporate environment. The result was strategic management teams.

Each department of every provincial legislature will create small three- or four-person teams whose primary role will be to educate, re-orientate, train, communicate with and cajole public servants into making SA's new three tier government a representative of all interest groups in each department, and will involve public servants themselves in the re-shaping of their working environments and objectives. That, at least, is the theory.

It is through this mechanism that issues such as bureaucratic sabotage, leadership structures, employee grievances and the implementation of vital programmes will be addressed. It is also on these small teams that the success of provincial government, the RDP and possibly even the government of national unity rests.

The legislatures of the PWV, Free State and the Northwest regions begin full sessions today knowing they have much to accomplish, and they need to do so before the electorate becomes restless.

By NAZEEM HOWA

LOCAL government reform is unlikely to succeed in the longer term unless immediate changes are made to the legislation governing the negotiating of a new dispensation.

This is the view of Mr Clive Keegan, chairman of the Cape Town City Council's executive committee, who is extremely concerned about the constant delays in implementing democratic local government

"It has now become alarmingly apparent that the legislation is in urgent need of rewriting if we are to make any rapid or meaningful progress towards sustainable and efficient local government"

Mr Keegan said delays in implementing structural changes to local government made it impractical to prepare the council's operating budget to the same degree of detail as in previous years

"The uncertainty with regard to the functions and responsibilities of local authorities in the longer term and the priorities for service delivery made it very difficult to determine a financial strategy which bound council to a particular course of action," Mr Keegan said

"The Local Government Transition Act, which prescribes how new structures will be negotiated, has been overtaken by political developments in our country

"Now, because councils are still seen as the last vestiges of apartheid, it seems that there is an inordinate rush to get things moving"

Mr Keegan, who is also chairman of the provincial committee on local affairs, plans to try to persuade the government to consider changes to the relevant legislation

He said the lesson that must be learnt from local government restructuring in other parts of the world was that it should never be

Keegan warns on third-tier democracy

S Times [Cimetro]

19/6/94

WORRIED .. Clive Keegan is very concerned about local government reform

Picture TERRY SHEAN

rushed

"Rather, we should go through a proper process of thorough analysis and research of the implications of our proposals," he said

One particular aspect of the Act which seriously concerns Mr Keegan is the question of the interim phase which proposes that an equal number of statutory and non-statutory representatives take over the running of local

authorities

"The present system is considered undemocratic, but I believe it will be even less democratic for us to adopt a system which will see appointed political commissars taking over the running of our cities"

He fears that the nomination of representatives will lead to further delays in implementing true democracy at the local government level

"Nominated councillors are not accountable to anyone. And, particularly in the Western Cape where the National Party is in power, we could so easily see ANC representatives holding off on elections because of the organisation's poor power base in this region," he said

Instead, Mr Keegan would like to see a more direct approach to fully democratic local government elections

"I see no good reason why we should not move within months to the election of non-racial local authorities, and then set about the complete business of negotiating metropolitan structures and allocating powers between the metropole and redelimited primary local authorities"

Mr Keegan believes that elections at local level will not be nearly as difficult to organise as the April elections

"The Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) had no base to work from. Fortunately, local authorities all have functioning electoral divisions which have vast experience in organising local government elections. The only task they have to complete before voting can start is the compilation of voter's rolls and that is not too difficult a job," he said

Mr Keegan, who has been a key member of the Democratic Party caucus in the city council, has decided not to stand as a DP member when local government elections are eventually held (2/6/2)

"It should be quite clear to most people that the Democratic Party's time has passed. I plan to put all my energy into launching a coalition consisting of people from across the political spectrum who will enter the elections with the vision of making Cape Town one of the great cities of the world," he said

Budget good to provinces

Biday 24/6/94
DAVID GREYBE

CAPE TOWN — Central government has allocated a third — R45,1bn — of the R135,1bn Budget to the nine provinces, and introduced stringent measures to ensure their greater fiscal accountability

But because the transition from former financing mechanisms to a new model will be a phased process, Finance Minister Derek Keys was not in a position this week to allocate each province its own budget

Instead, this year's funds were allocated to the former four provinces, TBVC states and the self-governing territories. Final allocations to the provinces will be tightly managed by central government.

The Budget Review said the full year's budgets would go before provincial parliaments for the first time only next year

A Finance official said yesterday that in

the interim, the auditor-general would be responsible for auditing the former homelands' budgets, as well as those of the former provinces, for the first time

Once the transition financing process had been completed, the auditor-general would take charge of the audits of all nine provinces. SA could not afford to repeat the widespread misappropriation of funds that had taken place in the homelands in the past, he said ~~(261)~~ (262)

The Financial and Fiscal Commission, which has to be established by Monday in terms of the constitution, and the Departments of Finance and State Expenditure will be pivotal in the allocation of funds

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Provinces

Biday 24/6/94

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The new Public Service Commission is also involved in that it has initiated a systematic process of personnel and functional reorganisation of the former system of government at all levels

The provincial budget allocations are Cape — R6,424bn, Natal — R3,356bn, Free State — R1,901bn, Transvaal — R7,184bn, six self-governing territories — R13,56bn, and TBVC states — R12,635bn ~~(261)~~ (262)

The allocations to the former self-governing territories and TBVC states are: Bophuthatswana — R3,325bn, Transkei — R5,398bn, Ciskei — R2,325bn, Venda — R1,587bn; KwaZulu — R5,883bn, Gazankula — R1,588bn, KaNgwane — R912m, Kwa-Ndebele — R671m, Lebowa — R3,693bn, and QwaQwa — R813m.

● See Page 5

● Comment: Page 12

Local poll body set up

Business Day Reporter

CABINET yesterday appointed a technical committee to investigate preparations for local government elections (22)

With the local elections scheduled tentatively for April, the committee would examine issues such as compiling voters' rolls as well as the logistic, administrative and cost implications of such elections

The committee — provincial government commission chairman Thozamile Botha, Fanie van der Merwe of the Constitutional Development Department and Home Affairs Director-General Piet Colyn — is expected to report to Cabinet early in August

The committee would consult all relevant authorities and role players before making recommendations to the Provincial Government and Home Affairs Departments as well as provincial cabinets

Public largely ignorant of new developments and plans

Local govt credibility at risk

See 25/1/194

(202)

LOCAL government is closest to the people, yet the dramatic change occurring in towns across the country is passing many by, WeekendStar found in a survey conducted this week. LOUISE MARSLAND reports on the urgent need for communication between those in power and the people they are supposed to be representing.

A TOTAL breakdown in the credibility of local government is looming unless those in power start communicating with the electorate.

Only one person out of 40 people surveyed had some idea of what local government changes were around the corner.

Not one person knew that a new system of metropolitan government would be implemented and that several new town councils would be established with new boundaries — all in the next 12 months.

Politicians, more preoccupied with looking after their own futures and consolidating their power bases, have obviously not kept in touch with the electorate.

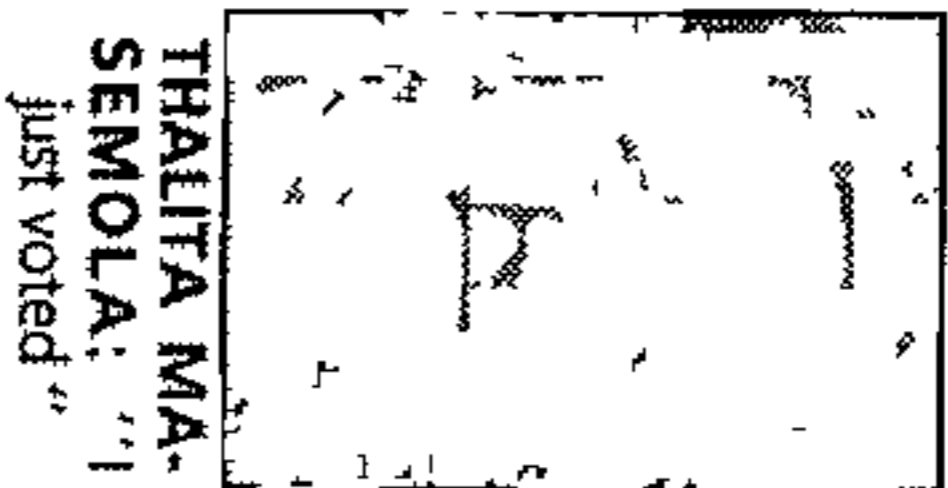
Steven Friedman, director of the Centre for Policy Studies, says the real danger lies in the fact that with municipal elections at least a year off, there will be nominated councils running cities and towns with no mandate from anyone.

"When unpopular decisions are taken, as happens when you run a city, local government structures will have no credibility. People will lose confidence in local government and messy situations could develop."

Only six out of the 40 surveyed by WeekendStar had ever heard of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber — established four years ago to negotiate future nonracial local government structures in the region — and only one of those knew what it did.

None of those surveyed had been contacted by their local elected or nominated public representatives participating on the various negotiating forums to explain what was going on.

In fact, this week, at a Metropolitan Chamber meeting, a special appeal was made for all delegates — political parties, ratepayers



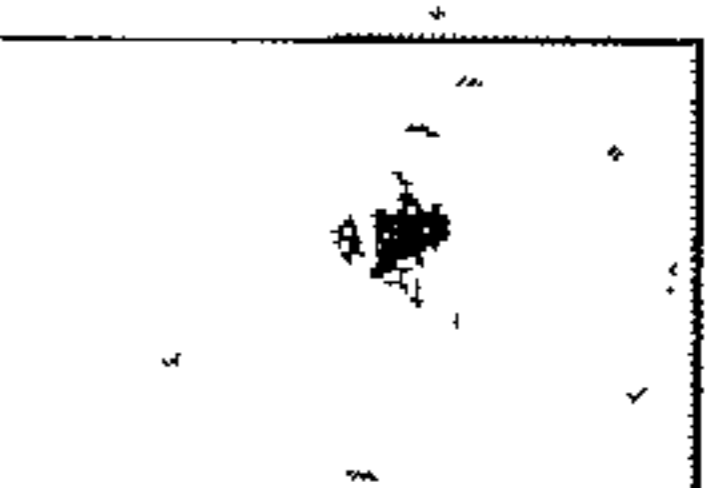
THALITA M. SEMOLA: "I just voted."



FRANCIS KETSO: "Well informed."



DORCAS MEFU-PHI: "Heard from friend."



IAN THOMPSON: "Knows of disputes."

Many have no idea what's going on

MOST residents are very confused about the changes occurring on their doorsteps.

Forty people were surveyed by the WeekendStar from the north to the south of Johannesburg this week to try to find out how much is known about the changes in local government.

Three questionnaires were asked: Do you know what form of local government the PWV Province will have? Have you heard of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, and what does it do? Have you heard from

your local town council, councillor, ratepayer or civic representative?

Only a handful answered in the affirmative. "I know we had to vote for them, but I don't know what we will get," said Alina Gerelo vitz.

Tharina Masekela of Deeploof, Soweto, has some hope: "I just voted, I expect anything. The civic association told us they'll give us work and improve our houses." Mpho Muthubi from Pinville, S.w.a., had heard of the Metropolitan Chamber

and said it was a "big thing".

Doi, a 51-year-old from the SA Municipal Workers Union, is involved in the charter and reports back regularly to members.

"New municipalities will be formed to try to upgrade towns that are not of a standard we expect," he said.

and civic organisations alike — to make an effort to attend meetings of the chamber's communication sub-committee.

Friedman says a wider survey in Port Elizabeth last year also showed that many people are totally ignorant about local government negotiations.

Friedman points out that keeping the electorate informed is totally contrary to municipal government culture in South Africa. He lays

the blame at the doorstep of public representatives.

Local authorities have never been able to provide satisfactory explanations for the lack of public participation. Many don't believe they should tell the ratepayers what is going on until decisions have been taken.

Johannesburg City Council spokesman Paddy Weech admits communication has been a problem. "How can one go to the ratepayers when things are still being discussed?" he asks.

Randburg management committee chairman Gary Cooney agrees. "We need to step up the communication process, but it is difficult because no agreements have been reached yet."

Randburg Action Committee chairman Harry Formanek says residents will wake up one morning in a new town, with boundaries they know nothing about and with someone appointed on their behalf.

"All communities are

being treated like numbers. The town councils and the ANC are talking numbers, not lives. In Randburg we have 13 different wards. These are going to be redrawn, probably into wards five or 10 times the original size. This means that the residents' organisations will find themselves without boundaries and without councillors. They could cease to exist as community organisations.

"Town council officials could become employees of the transitional municipal council, and the man in the street, worried about the potholes outside his driveway, will have no one to go to," Formanek says.

Cooney says both the town councils and the ratepayers are to blame for the "serious breakdown" in communication between councils and ratepayers.

"There are not enough people who take an interest at this level and that is very sad, because that is where the biggest change in their lives will come."

Cooney says he doesn't even know what to tell his staff. "I know that the Randburg Town Council is going to be dissolved, but I don't know what will replace it. My staff have asked me whether they should be looking for other jobs."

Veteran Sandton councillor Liz Clagg says the only way to guard against maladministration is through public involvement and knowledge. "But don't forget that people do get the government they deserve."

The Metropolitan Chamber is due to bring out a news-sheet next month which will be distributed to "opinion leaders" — business, trade unions, professional associations, and so on, to inform them about the process.

But what about the ordinary people?

Local govt ministry a possibility

CAPE TOWN — A separate local government department is likely to be established soon, NP and ANC sources say *Biday*

This issue and the approach to the government of national unity are the two main issues likely to be addressed by Deputy President FW de Klerk today following his return from overseas *118194*

The NP will get a new Cabinet portfolio after Finance Minister Derek Keys's resignation in October. His successor, Chris Liebenberg, will not represent a party

A highly placed NP official said yesterday that a separate local government ministry was a "strong possibility".

This option is favoured over the re-creation of a state expenditure ministry which the NP fears will result in the party shouldering responsibility for the ANC's "big spending" plans

Several NP members have been tipped to take over the post from Roelf Meyer,

TIM COHEN

who has his hands full with Provincial Government and Constitutional Affairs

They are Leon Wessels, who held the post under the NP government, Danie Schutte, who could be chosen because of pressure from Natal party members, and André Fourie who was previously regional government minister *(262) (3012)*

ANC sources favour the establishment of a local government portfolio, mainly because of pressure within the party from civic organisations

De Klerk is also expected to address the NP's role in the government of national unity, following what NP politicians regard as the recent unilateral announcement of policy by ANC members

Parliament reopens today with a Budget debate which will continue for a week

Govt bid to stave off municipal collapse

CLIVE SAWYER

CAPE TOWN — A central Government grant of R709 million is to be made to stave off the collapse of municipal services countrywide, Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer announced in the National Assembly yesterday

He said black local authorities had been urged to write off debts to them, which consisted mainly of arrears for service charges "Recovering these debts would be an exercise in futility" Other local authorities should also write off debts, he said.

"But having cleared the slate, we need to

create a new culture of payment for services." Meyer said non-payment led to the collapse of services, which in turn led to health hazards, crime and violence

While he stopped short of announcing the date of local government elections, he said enough time would have to be allowed for proper planning

Compilation of voters rolls, demarcation of areas of jurisdiction, delimitation of wards, financing and voter education would be key elements for success

"This does not detract from the fact that elections should be held as soon as possi-

ble," Meyer said

It was essential all election matters be coordinated to maximise efficiency Organised local government and all other role-players would have to be consulted "In the final analysis they will have to manage the elections in their respective areas"

A technical committee on local government elections reported to the Cabinet this week An announcement on the date of local government elections is expected within a fortnight

There is speculation in local government circles of an October election date

Statutory boost for nonracial local govt

Star 13/7/94

■ BY JO-ANNE COLLINGE

A major obstacle to nonracial local government will be cleared this week, when provincial premiers will get the power to give statutory status to the transitional municipal structures which have been agreed on by local-level political players

This was one matter which was resolved yesterday when Minister of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Roelf Meyer and his deputy, Mohammed Valli Moosa, held two meetings in Pretoria with representatives of the provinces

The first meeting was with the provincial MECs for local government and the second was a

gathering of the Premiers' Forum, which was also attended by Ministers Jay Naidoo and Zola Skweyiya and Deputy Finance Minister Alec Erwin

In a statement afterwards, Meyer said a special task force which had toured all provinces to assess the restructuring of local government had found good progress

"Negotiating forums are functioning in most local government areas. Progress in the OFS province is most noteworthy — of the 79 forums established, 60 have already reached agreements on the establishment of transitional local councils or local government co-ordinating committees," said Meyer

He announced that central Government would assign premiers the power to administer the Local Government Transition Act before the end of the week

This will give premiers the power to scrutinise the structures proposed by local negotiating forums and — if satisfied that they meet the requirements of the Act — to promulgate these agreements, thereby giving the structures full statutory powers (262)

The provinces also agreed to set up an interprovincial liaison committee on horse-racing and betting. The committee will consider the issue of illegal casinos

Make sure that local govt is representative

CIP NEWS 21/9/94

(262)

LOCAL government in South Africa has been run on the basis of separate development

Last year central government and other significant role players created a National Forum which deliberated on issues pertaining to local government. The result of these negotiations is the Local Government Transition Act 209 of 1993.

This law makes provision for transitional measures as far as local government restructuring is concerned. It further provides for equitable treatment of people irrespective of race.

On the other hand, white municipalities have traditionally been staffed by white officials. One could clearly discern a dividing line between black and white employees in the bureaucracy. Management, be it upper, middle, or lower, was directly in the hands of white officials.

Blacks were only visible at the ranks of assistant clerks while the lowest ranks of labourers were filled by blacks.

Mangaung City Council chief executive/town clerk THOMAS MKAZA argues that in reconstructing local government it is imperative that the process becomes transparent. Otherwise the local governments to be ushered in by the Transitional Local Government Act will lack legitimacy.

Reasons given most of the time were that blacks were not trained or were illiterate or untrainable. Words like "if you instruct a black person you should repeat your instruction because they are ever forgetful" were very common.

Black municipalities are a creation of a whole range of legislation. These "municipalities" took a variety of forms in terms of the authority and powers they had.

In fact black urban areas administration started off with the creation of the advisory boards, which were meant to advise the white municipalities. Due to pressure for more representative bodies advisory boards were substituted by the Urban Bantu Councils, which were themselves substituted by

the "notorious" Community Councils.

The Black Local Authorities Act No 102 of 1982 brought forth the establishment of the Black Local Authorities (BLAs). These BLAs were charged with all functions performed by a municipality.

In restructuring local government it is imperative that the process becomes transparent from the beginning to the end. Sight should not be lost of the fact that lack of transparency leads to lack of legitimacy in the resultant structure. A practical example hereof is the BLAs which suffered a severe blow because of lack of legitimacy.

The top-bottom system of governance has met with serious resistance over the past years. Most blacks have demanded

community participation and involvement in decision-making on matters affecting them.

A need for the introduction of blacks into the higher ranks of local government structures has been identified on numerous occasions. For instance in October 1991 the Commonwealth task force on human resources and development had already recommended that R25 million be set aside among other things to train 600 "top" black civil servants to join the public service.

The question that arises is what affirmative action programmes have been prepared for the public service? Is the current public service sensitive to the political development within the country or not?

These questions and many others are posed by public servants daily. If governmental structures are to reflect the composition of the communities that they serve then it is imperative that there should be direct intervention by the state in the creation of such structures.

DEVELOPMENT

Shifting focus

Fm 30/9/94

Urbanisation policy has always tended to favour the development of large metropolitan centres SA is no exception to this. Cities like Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban have enjoyed substantial benefits, sometimes at the expense of intermediary towns and cities (262)

However, says the Urban Foundation, a shift towards the development of secondary cities can be a fruitful step towards economic growth in the regions and speedy implementation of the RDP

"Secondary cities have a key role to play in building the national economy, in the development and economic growth of the regions, and in supporting the rural areas," says the foundation's Ann Bernstein

Intermediate or secondary cities like Pietersburg and Umtata are among the 23 secondary cities that merit more attention. They are also important from the viewpoint of promoting local autonomy

The foundation defines secondary cities as those outside the five metropolitan areas with populations of between 50 000 and 500 000, with local economies strongly dependent on few sectors and linked to rural communities

Research shows that they together contribute a fifth of the country's GDP. For example, Pietersburg contributed almost a quarter of Northern Transvaal's Gross Ge-

Fm 30/9/94

ographic Product in 1988, 40% of Eastern Transvaal's came from Witbank and 61% of Western Transvaal's from Klerksdorp

In four of the new provinces — Northern Cape, North West, Northern Transvaal and Eastern Transvaal — secondary cities are the largest urban centres. Besides, these cities provide essential support to the 21m people living in surrounding regions, towns and rural areas. The challenge for central and provincial governments, says the foundation, is to draw up strategic urban policy that promotes the development of secondary cities (262)

However, this does not imply the simultaneous decay of major cities. Founda-



Bernstein

tion research manager Rolf Dauskardt emphasises that government should refrain from making policies that inadvertently inhibit the development of secondary cities as in the past. Industrial, transport and other government policies affect secondary cities directly or indirectly

Moreover, larger cities receive artificial State assistance, which discriminates against secondary cities

"If these cities decline owing to the lack of support, the influx of people to the main cities will continue inexorably. This will not only put excessive pressure on the already overcrowded metropolitan areas. It will also reinforce economic stagnation in some regions," says Dauskardt ■

Meyer to meet premiers tomorrow.

Provincial empowerment to 'take years'

B/Dag 11/8/94

DAVID GREYBE

CAPE TOWN — Government yesterday dispelled any hope of a speedy allocation of remaining powers to the provinces, saying it would be years before the process was completed.

There were also indications in Parliament that the bitter battle with the Inkatha Freedom Party over provincial powers could flare up again.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer told the constitutional and provincial affairs select committee that he would meet provincial premiers tomorrow in an attempt to improve co-ordination between his department and the provinces.

To date government has handed out powers only under the former provincial and homelands systems, and the Transitional Local Government Act.

Meyer said he hoped the first phase of empowerment, providing for effective provincial administration, would be completed by the end of next month. However, the whole process "will take years".

He and his deputy, Valli Moosa, were asked to brief the committee as part of an ANC plan for MPs to become directly involved in the formulation of policy.

Committee chairman Pravin Gordhan said the committee would become "integrally involved" in the interpretation of the new constitution and the formulation of an approach and policy to issues handled by Meyer's department.

Meyer and Moosa were expected to keep the committee updated.

The committee also intended using the ANC constituency scheme for MPs, which

will be launched next month, to keep informed of "grassroots dynamics".

Meyer said his department's task was the creation of a new political infrastructure at national, provincial and local levels. However, it was not only about empowering political institutions. Effective administrative and financial capacities also had to be provided. (262)

There was general agreement in the committee that the Finance Ministry's delay in getting the Financial and Fiscal Commission off the ground was seriously hampering the empowerment process.

Gordhan said the process would take years because some of the new provinces had inherited "capacity discrepancies" to administer their own affairs.

Moosa said the department hoped to announce this month a "realistic" date for local elections. ANC sources said they expected the elections to be in the third quarter of next year. NP members warned against undue haste because the issue was politically sensitive. However, Meyer said pressure was mounting for democratic local government.

Referring to provincial powers, Gordhan said an important constitutional task was "an interpretation of the constitution which allows for a coherent and constructive approach to the sharing of powers".

Section 126 of the interim constitution, on the "legislative competence" of provinces, was not about exclusive powers as some parties believed. "It is not a handing

□ To Page 2

Provinces

B/Dag 11/8/94

□ From Page 1

over, it is a sharing of powers" (262) Gordhan said

Provincial powers had been defined so that central government could intervene in "all matters" to ensure uniformity, and common norms and standards. Provincial governments had a right to legislate on matters only to the extent that they were "best placed to prosecute those tasks".

Inkatha negotiators Walter Felgate and Mario Ambrossini said Gordhan's remarks were not surprising. Inkatha had always maintained that the ANC and NP had no allocated exclusive powers to provinces in terms of the constitution.

Government and provincial ministers act to end power squabbles

CAPE TOWN — A national and provincial government forum of premiers and ministers has been established in a bid to end the squabbling over the devolution of powers.

At a stormy "but productive" meeting with Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer and Public Service Minister Zola Skweyiza, the nine premiers and national and provincial ministers were told to set up joint technical committees immediately to resolve their differences.

The ministers have until September 15, when the new Canadian-style intergovernmental forum meets to draw up proposals identifying outstanding problems and

mapping a timetable to resolve them.

A lengthy resolution adopted at the meeting last Friday warned that "inordinate delays" in assigning powers was inhibiting delivery of the reconstruction and development programme (RDP).

Skweyiza said yesterday some of the blame for the delay lay with central government. However, another problem was the serious lack of interaction between ministers at national and provincial levels.

A spokesman for Meyer described the meeting as "a positive, development towards creating a problem-solving mechanism. We are now in the action phase."

Skweyiza conceded that the present

DAVID GREYBE

arrangement, under which the Public Service Commission and the Justice Ministry dealt with the issue, had not worked properly. For example, central government had mistakenly given to some provinces powers "that belong to national ministers."

Water in the Northern Cape was a case in point. Agriculture was another national government, under which the Public Service Commission and the Justice Ministry dealt with the issue, had not worked properly. For example, central government had mistakenly given to some provinces powers "that belong to national ministers."

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was depicted as a last-ditch attempt to end the public slanging match between the two levels of government.

Participants said the ANC premiers were as angry as their NP and Inkatha Freedom Party counterparts about the lack of allocation of powers, ostensibly because the provinces do not have the proper administrative capacity.

Free State premier Patrick Lekota had been the first to criticize central government for the continuing delays.

Northern Transvaal premier, Ngoako Ramathodi had said that the real problem seemed to be that central government did not have the structures to determine whether the provinces had the administrative competencies to take over powers.

The resolution stated the Public Service Commission, the Commission on Provincial Government, the State Expenditure Department and provincial governments establish a joint technical committee "to prepare an objective definition of administrative capacity", for the forum.

Another resolution stipulated that all legal and technical proposals regarding the transition and the distribution of powers and functions had to be made available to national and provincial governments "on an equal basis."

Culture of non-payment a 'threat' to local govt

JOHANNESBURG — A culture of non-payment of rent and basic service fees was one of the factors threatening the financing of local government, Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said yesterday.

In November a third of rents had been collected, compared to only a fifth in May this year, he said.

The solution lay in an integrated approach. If the situation could not be resolved action would have to be taken by the provinces' premiers.

The process of rationalising 17 former administrations into nine provincial administrations and assigning functions to provinces had taken more time than the premiers had expected.

In general there is good co-operation in spite of this particular problem.

"We have a system of co-operative provincialism," Meyer said.

He conceded that problems in transferring powers to the provinces had delayed the reconstruction and development programme. "The biggest problem is that we do not have the administration in place, through which delivery can take place."

Meyer said a joint committee — made up of members of his department, the Finance Department and Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo, responsible for the reconstruction and development programme — had been established to find ways to finance delivery of basic services — Sapa.

NEWS FEATURE *People with hidden agenda behind demos in 'coloured' townships — claim*

Write-offs 'not ill-informed'

ARREARS

Blame lies with

Tertius Delport,

says Mofokeng:

By Lulama Luti
Political Staff

WHILE THE RUMPUS over the decision of the PWV government to scrap rent and services charges in the "coloured" areas continues, housing minister Mr Dan Mofokeng has warned against those seeking to "take advantage" of the decision.

In an interview with *Sowetan*, in which he set out to clarify his position regarding last week's controversial decision, Mofokeng said the move was in accordance with recommendations approved at national level and that it was not ill-informed.

Referring to the September 15 stayaway in "coloured" townships, Mofokeng said the demonstrations were orchestrated by people who hoped to score points in preparation for local government elections next year.

"Our assessment was that the stayaways were not as successful as their organisers would have us think," he said.

"When we subsequently addressed residents in those areas we assured them it was not necessary to have stayaways for grievances to be heard," he said.

Regarding the disagreement between himself and National Housing Minister Joe Slovo, Mofokeng referred to a statement in which Slovo said the January 20 agreement between then State President FW De Klerk and President Nelson Mandela should go ahead undisturbed.

The agreement covered rent arrears accumulated up to January 20.

"Many people believe the agreement was meant for black people only. It wasn't," said Mofokeng, saying the blame should be put squarely on the shoulders of former Minister of local



FLASHBACK: Residents of the "coloured" township of Westbury take to the streets in support of a demand that they too pay a R45 monthly flat rate for rent.

Government Dr Tertius Delport.

Mofokeng said when Delport addressed a municipal conference in March he spoke about the January agreement as covering black residential areas only.

"Even then, he failed to submit proposals to his Cabinet for finances covering local authorities in the 'coloured' and Indian areas.

"This was a mistake on his part because the people drafting the finance and service charges agreement specified that the spirit and letter of the agreement was non-racial in application," he said.

"We've never advocated a wholesale writing-off of rent arrears. Our decision is based on three key national documents which deal with the issue of the finance and services charges, the extended benefit to promote home ownership and the Local Government Transition Act of 1993.

"And according to the Local Government Act powers devolved to provinces on July 15, disagreements which Transitional Metropolitan Councils (TMCs)

and Transitional Local Councils (TLCs) cannot deal with should be referred to the provincial legislature for resolution," said Mofokeng, explaining his ministry's involvement in the rent dispute.

"In part, the three documents state clearly that TLCs and TMCs should not inherit debts accumulated by black local authorities.

"They also deal with the promotion of home-ownership in which the feasibility of the transfer of municipal houses to people who have been living in them for years should be investigated," he said.

He added that mortgaged houses were not covered by the agreement.

Can the PWV government afford to have millions of rands in rent and service charges written off?

Said Mofokeng: "The question really is whether we will be able to recover the money. If the money cannot be recovered, there are provisions for local authorities to write off debts and look at alternative ways of securing funds.

"The agreement was taken at national

level and there was the Delport failure. However, an encouraging factor is that there's a technical committee looking into where the money will come from and we welcome that move," he said.

Mofokeng said he was surprised at the National Party's statements that the move was not a long-term solution and that it would set a "bad" precedent.

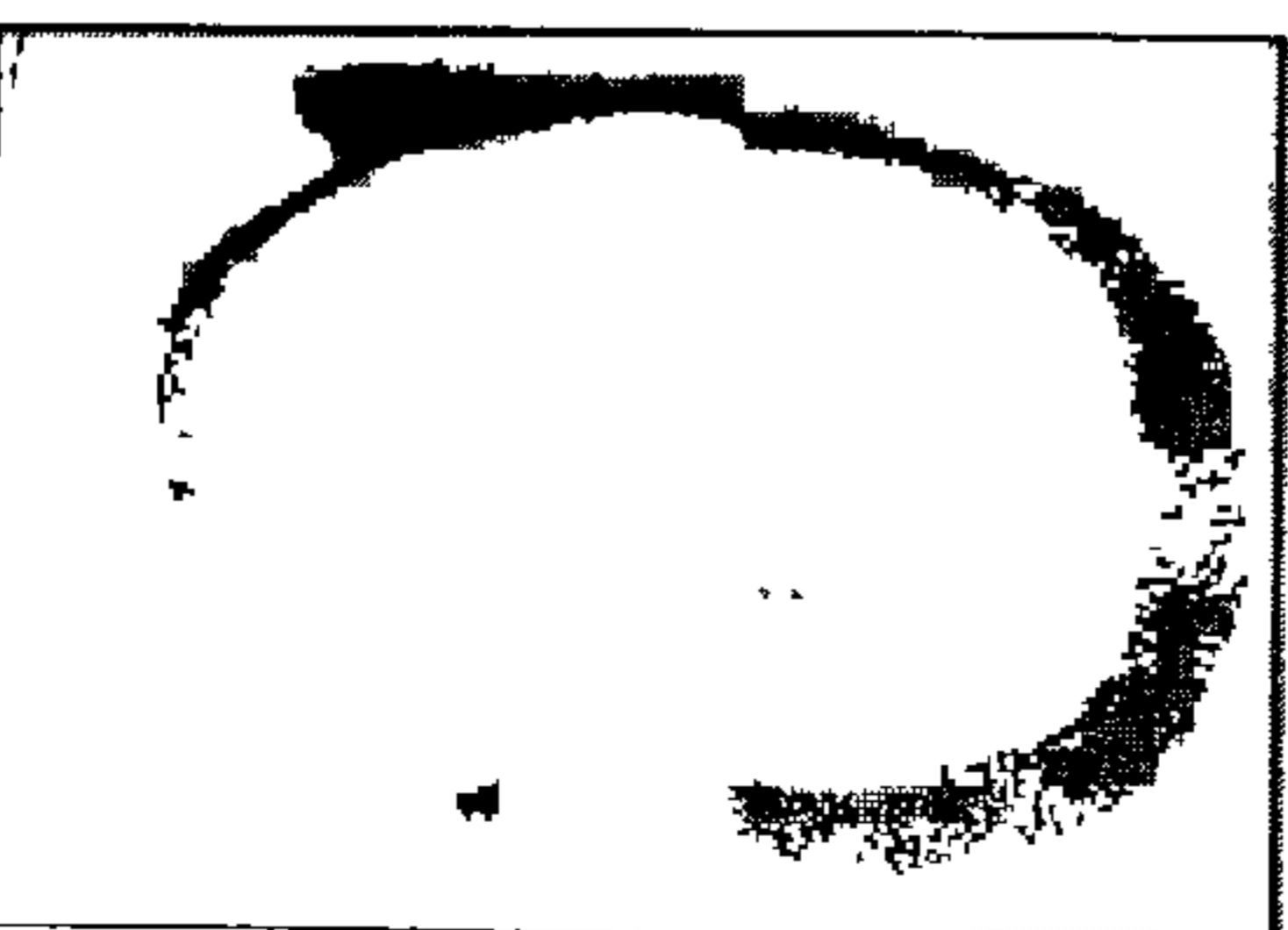
In July, said Mofokeng, the PWV cabinet mandated him to investigate and implement recommendations — and that the move to write off the debts was in line with those recommendations.

"The perception is that we are writing off arrears randomly. That is not true. We have not bowed down to any pressure nor have we made any concessions," he said.

The issue of marches and demonstrations was not cause for concern, said Mofokeng.

"People have a right to express their feelings in any manner. It's provided for in our constitution," he said.

"Any community that experiences problems with services should talk to



Dan Mofokeng

their local structures about resolving them.

"We are not going to allow situations where people come forward and claim that this or the other agreement should be extended to them," he said.

A provincial summit involving all stake-holders in housing and related issues is to be held on October 1 at a venue still to be announced.

A task team which will look into evolving a national approach to the rent issue is expected to be formed.

Mofokeng said he hoped this would help resolve the problem amicably.

No guarantees for regional loans

CAPE TOWN— Central government will not grant guarantees for provinces' loans, according to draft legislation on provincial borrowing powers.

The proposed legislation, which has been handed to the provincial governments for comment, sets specific limits on the provinces' ability to borrow.

Analysts said provinces would find it more difficult to raise finance on the domestic capital market without a guarantee of repayment from government. But the draft legislation does provide for foreign loans to carry a government guarantee.

On domestic loans, the memorandum explaining the reasoning behind the Bill said the decision not to grant guarantees had been based on "experience gained in the past" and the fact that national govern-

GRETA STEYN

ment "will have little or no control over the disbursement of loan proceeds of provincial governments".

The Bill proposed that provinces be given powers to enter the domestic capital market directly if they wish to. However, it provides for the establishment of a centralised institution to raise loan finance on the provinces' behalf. The memorandum says the Local Authorities Loan Fund could be restructured to fulfil the function of a centralised borrowing institution.

The provinces would not be allowed to float public loans on foreign capital markets. However, other types of foreign loans might be made available to provincial gov-

□ To Page 2

Loans

ernments. These loans would require the go-ahead from the Finance Minister after recommendations from the Fiscal and Financial Commission.

In terms of the constitution, provinces are allowed to borrow only for capital expenditure, but bridging finance is allowed. The draft Bill defined "capital expenditure" in terms of internationally accepted criteria. It specifically excluded expenditure on military goods, as well as maintenance payments on fixed assets.

On bridging finance, the Bill aims to "ensure that bridging finance is used in a manner which will ensure financial discipline and not as continuous revolving credit". Hence limits on bridging finance in anticipation of current revenue receipts would be based on a province's past performance. These bridging loans would have to be extinguished before the last two months of a financial year. A limit of 5% of budgeted current revenue would be placed on bridging finance for current spending.

For capital spending, bridging finance could be raised only through non-marketable financial instruments, and not through bank overdrafts.

□ From Page 1

□ Sapa reports that Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer told the Senate yesterday that an urgent investigation had been ordered into local government finances. The investigating team's first report would be delivered today.

He said he was concerned about the lack of resources for services, which could result in total collapse of infrastructure. Insufficient funds had been allocated for local government projects in 1994/95, and they would have to be ranked to ensure the most critical needs were met.

"The rehabilitation of collapsed infrastructure, the extension of infrastructure and the creation of institutional and financial capacity are among the programmes that need urgent attention," Meyer said.

WILSON ZWANE reports that a government official revealed that the task team included representatives of the Constitutional Development, Finance and State Expenditure Departments.

If approved by Meyer, the report would be circulated as a discussion document. It would also be made available to the Fiscal and Finance Commission tomorrow.

Report on finances of local govt authorities

Star 23/9/94

■ BY ESTHER WAUGH
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — A report on the financial state of local government authorities is to be released today.

Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer, who is meeting provincial members of executive committees today to discuss the report, said central Government should not immediately intervene in the financial state of local government authorities. This, he said, was the responsibility of local governments and the provinces.

Deputy Constitutional Development Minister Mohamed Valli Moosa said only 17 percent of those living in areas administered by black local authorities were paying for services in May. This figure had dropped from a 33 percent payment rate in November.

Moosa said there was no simple solution to the problem as

the reasons behind non-payment for services were complex.

The key to unlocking this problem was to establish legitimate local government authorities, he said. However, Moosa warned that there was a limit to the tax that could be paid in poor areas.

Moosa also briefed the ANC's weekly caucus meeting yesterday on the local government election. (202)

Addressing a media briefing after the caucus meeting, ANC chief whip Arnold Stofile said one of the biggest problems was compiling a voters roll.

He noted that voters rolls existed in white areas but it was difficult to compile these in black areas, especially rural areas.

A further shortcoming of the Local Government Transition Act was that it did not take into account that transitional local government structures could not be established in rural areas as no local government structures existed there.

'Little brothers' show up top three provinces

SITimes 25/9/94

By CLAIRE ROBERTSON

THE country's wealthiest provinces have been upstaged by their humbler neighbours in setting up their governments.

Persistent calls by the big three — the PWV, the Western Cape and Kwazulu Natal — for the devolution of provincial powers sounded hollow this week when a Sunday Times survey revealed that none of them had passed all the essential legislation necessary to raise, spend or administer funds.

The PWV has passed only the first of the three bills that comprise vital start-up legislation — an Exchequer Bill, a Provincial or Public Service Bill and a Tender Board Bill. Bickering politicians in Kwazulu Natal have yet to pass laws and the Western Cape has not voted on tender board legislation.



RESPECTED ... Mathews Phosa

Smaller regions have been ready for weeks or, in some cases, months. And several of these "little brothers" have also set about effective programmes of reconciliation.

In the Northern Cape, for example, the gridlock which leaders feared would follow the close election result has turned into an atmosphere of mutual respect and co-operation, with all legislation passed unopposed and the Freedom Front heaping praises on ANC Premier Manne Dipico.

"He's doing a good job," said Freedom Front representative in the regional assembly Professor Carel Boshoff. "He's hard working and modest."

A National Party spokesman in the Eastern Transvaal volunteered that he had yet to "hear a completely negative comment" about ANC Premier Mathews Phosa, and Mr Phosa himself spoke this week about a pleasant surprise on assuming office. The right wing, which had so bitterly opposed the



HARDWORKING ... Manne Dipico

ANC, had all but vanished since the elections.

But, like other regions, the Eastern Transvaal's leaders are occupied with planning and the minutiae of administrative house-keeping while they wait for the powers that be to sign cheques and initiate development projects.

Although several of the smaller regions have to contend with up to four previous administrations, the Eastern Cape inherited the worst of the homeland nightmares in the form of Transkei and Ciskei.

While the Legislative Assembly at Bisho has functioned efficiently and productively, becoming one of the first in the country to put all its structures in place, the lack of democratic culture in the former homelands — where almost two-thirds of the Eastern Cape population

live — made it hard for a democratic form of government to start acting immediately.

The Free State's reputation for steady government has not diminished since the elections. The work of the new government has proceeded in an orderly fashion.

In stark contrast, the business of governing Kwazulu Natal has hardly started and parliament will meet for only the second time tomorrow to pass its first legislation.

Perennial bickering between the ruling IFP and the ANC about the election result and the siting of the new capital has largely been responsible for the impasse.

PWV Premier Tokyo Sexwale has enjoyed a very high media profile, but much of the attention has been critical of his administration for appointing civil servants outside of the Public Service Act, and for forging ahead with a housing plan in conflict with national plans.

Although the Western Cape has failed to pass all three of the crucial start-up Bills, the Western Cape legislature has kept relatively busy with small-scale special projects such as operations against gangsterism and a 100-day Operation Clean Up involving the disadvantaged and the unemployed.

● Additional reporting by Ray Hartley, Chris Barron, Linda Rulashe, Norman West, Cyril Madlala and Ryan Cresswell.

PROVINCIAL REPORT CARD



First Term

	START-UP ACTS	ACTS PASSED	STANDING COMMITTEES	PUBLIC SERVICE	REMARKS
PWV	X	1	17	Functioning, but politically uncooperative	Disruptive influence, bit of a slow-off
Western Cape	X	5	3	Old CPA order still in operation	Must get down to work next term
Northern Cape	✓	5	20	Establishing administration almost from scratch	Well-liked, hard working
Eastern Cape	✓	5	12	Chaos in former Transkei and Ciskei	Making a real effort
Eastern Transvaal	✓	3	9	Integration of three administrations to begin soon	Well prepared for next term
Northern Transvaal	✓	3	5	Strikes and service cuts as four administrations jockey for power	A lot of catching up to do
Free State	✓	4	3	Functioning smoothly	Steady achiever
North West	✓	8	9	One of region's two administrations on a go-slow	Hard worker, distracted by squabbling
Kwazulu-Natal	X	0	12	Integration of two administrations proceeding well	May have to repeat the year

The Act that caused all the trouble

By Lutama Luti

Follower of Staff

The trouble that we are facing today is not a new phenomenon. It is a result of a long and painful process of economic liberalization that has been going on since the late 1980s. The government's policy of opening up the economy to international trade and investment has led to a sharp decline in the standard of living of the vast majority of the population. The rich have become richer, while the poor have become poorer. The middle class has been squeezed out of the economy. The government has failed to provide the necessary social services and infrastructure to support the needs of the people. The result is a country where the majority of the population lives in poverty and where the basic needs of the people are not met. The government should take immediate steps to reverse this trend and to provide the necessary social services and infrastructure to support the needs of the people. The government should also take steps to reform the economy and to create jobs for the unemployed. Only through these measures can the country be brought back to a state of economic stability and prosperity.

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Squawker

22/8/1992

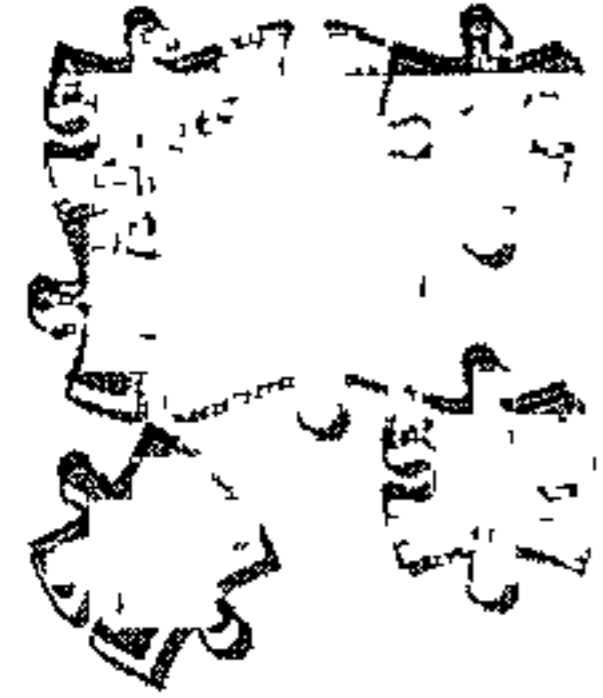
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LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Time to wake up

Thu 30/9/94

The vacuum in local government could destroy national policy objectives



Elections for the most basic level of government — local authorities — are due to take place “no later than October 1995,” says Provincial & Constitutional Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer. There is still the outstanding matter of registering the voters, which could — just — be pulled off in time if government wakes up.

Confusion over voter lists could be compounded by the complex process (still under way) of amalgamating the racially separate local authorities, in terms of the Local Government Transition Act.

The Act obliges existing local authorities to reach an accord with nonstatutory bodies such as civic organisations and establish interim authorities, which will be in charge of municipal affairs until democratically elected councils take over. The cut-off date for amalgamation is November 30, after which provinces are entitled to appoint transitional councils where these have been resisted or proved elusive.

By September 21, only 110 of the 458 potential negotiating forum areas nationwide had agreed to form transitional local councils (TLCs) or, the other option, metropolitan councils — as in Central Witwatersrand with its 52 member bodies representing local authorities, civics, ratepayers' associations, unions, business and political parties. But the number of formally proclaimed transitional councils stood at only 29 — one each in the PWV (potentially 19) and Eastern Cape (61), three in North-West (36) and 24 in the Northern Cape (61).

Other big cities such as Durban, Cape Town and Pretoria are also naturally pursuing the metro option, while smaller ones like Port Elizabeth (which has passed its first integrated budget) and Klerksdorp have successfully set up TLCs. In Port Elizabeth and Klerksdorp, agreement was easy because fewer political parties are involved and there had been dialogue between statutory and nonstatutory players.

The shape of the new emerged in the Central Witwatersrand recently following the arbitrated agreement on redrawn boundaries creating seven new municipalities. So, for example, Sandton incorporates Alexandra township and Roodepoort takes in Dobsonville. Nominations for new councillors — 50 statutory and 50 nonstatutory — are due this week (Freedom Front representation has held back the list) and the new boundaries and Wits Metro Council

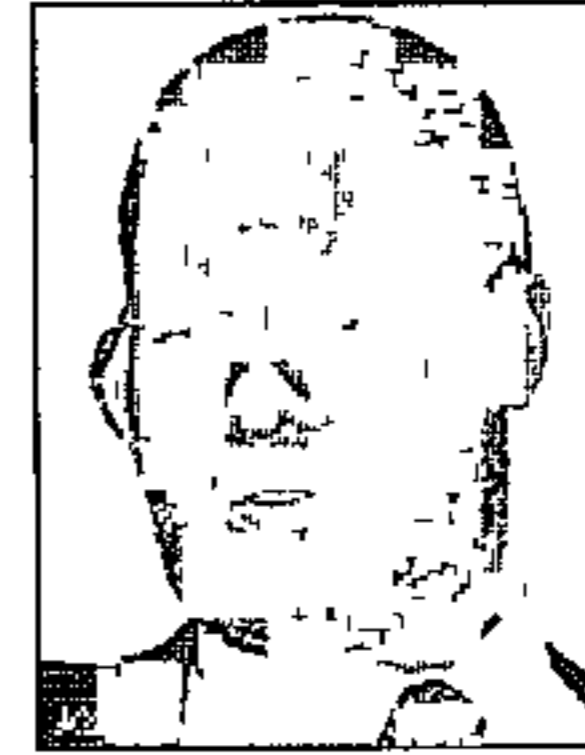
are due to come into effect on November 1. Until then, Johannesburg City Council remains the authority.

A key problem facing restructured local government concerns the allocation of powers and functions — an issue yet to be satisfactorily resolved between central and provincial government. The constitution is extremely vague on local powers and while the Local Government Transition Act lists 24 powers at this tier — such as bulk supply of water and electricity and local planning — they, too, are vague, with little understanding of the technicalities involved. However, local (and metropolitan) situations differ and it may be just as well that the precise definition of powers and functions has been left open to negotiation between provinces and metro or local bodies which have a better understanding of the texture of the third tier.

Under Meyer, the political head of the Department of Local Government, is Mohamed Valli Moosa the Deputy Minister, and Thozamile Botha, who is directly charged with the job of third-tier restructuring and spelling out local government powers. A one-time activist and leader of the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation before going into exile, Botha chairs the Provincial Affairs Commission, an independent body appointed by parliament. Botha is also Constitutional Development Deputy DG, under Niel Barnard. Below them come the provincial MECs for



Meyer



Botha

Local Government

International experience, the Urban Foundation has found, suggests the most important determinants of strong local government are the willingness of central government to allow local autonomy and the capacity of local government to use, and thus protect and reinforce, its independence. This highlights the importance of

certain key policy issues: adequate human and financial resources (problematic in the case of SA) and the effectiveness of local democracy.

Certainly, the level at which government expenditure is most visible and easily called to account, the local level, needs to

be stronger. In this way, local authorities will be encouraged to compete with one another for investment and be forced to offer the most attractive infrastructure, local taxes, water and electricity prices and services.

Further, in view of the ANC's emphasis on meeting basic needs in terms of the RDP, a greater proportion of government spending and actual delivery of services will have to be at local level. Despite centralising instincts, therefore, it may find that effective implementation of the RDP depends on strengthening local government.

Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo describes provincial and local government as “the hands and feet of the RDP”. However, too much emphasis is put on the provincial level, more should be placed on metropolitan institutions, given the importance of the relationships within (and between) major urban areas to the GDP, says local government consultant Philip van Ryneveld. While the provincial emphasis may be understandable given the vacuum in local government, the centre should be considering greater fiscal transfers to the local level, or better still, devolving additional power to tax, which should be accompanied by tax reduction at other levels. Van Ryneveld points out that accountability is enhanced where local authorities have the responsibility for raising their own revenues — though of course local revenue sources are limited and won't help much in areas, particularly black areas, where the local tax base is weak for historical and other reasons. Here, fiscal transfers from higher tiers will be necessary. But in major urban areas local

BUDGETS FOR BLACK LOCAL AUTHORITIES, 1992/93	
Mainly Soweto and Vaal Triangle	
	Rm
Budgeted expenditure	1 539
Budgeted income	1 356
Budgeted deficit	183
Actual income from residents	6
Actual income from transfers (Transvaal Provincial Administration, Regional Services Councils and subsidies)	712
ACTUAL SHORTFALL	812

authorities can be substantially funded through their own resources. This would be in line with the world trend towards greater local autonomy and is an issue that has to be addressed by the Constituent Assembly in writing the new constitution.

The R500m being made available this year (R350m next year) to local authorities from the RDP fund to kick-start restoration of services and infrastructure upgrading, says Naidoo, will be used to reward authorities that have implemented transitional councils and will pursue RDP objectives, and punish those that resist.

All this is taking place against a backdrop of instability in black local government, which could, if the process of local government reform is badly managed, spread to other areas.

"A serious deterioration in basic services in the core cities in particular would have devastating effects on the country's economy and capacity to carry through constitutional change," warns Van Ryneveld.

He notes that though many of the crises in local government have financial origins, these cannot be divorced from political and administrative issues.

In the Black Local Authorities (BLAs), it is observed that services in their areas are generally poor and sometimes non-existent, while the level of payments by residents has fallen from a third to just under 20% between November 1993 and May this year (see chart). Administrations in some black areas have collapsed.

The hope, however, is that political and constitutional change and the radical restructuring of local government "offer an opportunity to resolve the crisis and establish sustainable, effective third tier government for the whole country." This requires well thought out goals, strategies and management to prevent the danger of BLA instability spilling over.

In a sense, this has already happened with coloured areas recently making militant demands for flat-rated service charges and their rent arrears to be written off as in the case of the BLAs, and some Indian and white areas are also agitating.

Financially, the situation in White Local Authorities (WLAs), which have been responsible for coloured and Indian areas as well, is "relatively sound, though there are some signs of stress."

Van Ryneveld identifies growing concern about plans to restructure electricity supply in a way that could have a serious impact on the financial and administrative health of white local authorities. "Not only do (they) risk losing the surpluses they generate from electricity distribution, which they use to cross-subsidise other essential services, but they would also lose economies of scale arising from greater turnover." Figures show that if electricity supply is restructured in a way that prevents white local authorities from using surpluses to finance other services, it would mean a direct revenue loss to the authorities of

RENTE AND SERVICE CHARGES PAID BY RESIDENTS OF BLACK LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Province	Payment % Nov 1993	Payment % June 1994
Transvaal	28,4	19,6
Cape	22,5	10,0
OFS	30,0	12,0
Natal	53,5	37,4
AVERAGE	33,5	19,7

From 30/9/94
nearly R1,5bn

But the main concerns of white authorities relate to amalgamation with BLAs — in particular, the financial implications of transfer of liabilities, and service demands of black areas comparable to those in white areas.

Which leads to the most critical issues — those affecting the BLAs. The problems go back 20 years. Black township administration used to be provided by adjacent white authorities until they were replaced by administration boards in early 1970. These were later called development boards and their staff was appointed by central government.

After the 1976 riots, the BLA Act in 1982 provided for elected local councils, which inherited development board staff and were given powers similar to those of white councils.

In the Seventies, the sale of liquor provided the most important source of income for administration in the black townships, but, with the privatisation of the beerhalls in 1982, their income base was reduced.

Before 1984, blacks were not allowed to own fixed property outside the homelands, which meant there was no property tax system in BLAs. Residents paid rent and service charges for their State-provided housing, which ceased in the early Eighties and was later sold off cheaply. Flat-rated service charges thus generally came to account for most of the bill to the local authority. Few townships had electricity until about five years ago and water usage was not measured.

Attempts by the new township authorities to substantially increase service charges to improve services and introduce elected BLAs were resisted by the ANC-aligned UDF in pursuit of larger political goals. This, some argue, is what precipitated the crisis in the BLAs.

It is pointed out that "coherent and well established systems for collecting anything more than fairly negligible revenues have never really existed."

However, a rough estimate of expenditure by BLAs is around R1,5bn a year, with

perhaps 10% collected from residents. Most of the income is from inter-governmental grants and regional services councils.

According to Van Ryneveld, the main reasons for nonpayment are political, in that BLAs lack legitimacy, partly as a result of the UDF campaign to discredit them and partly because they lack financial viability, economic, due to high unemployment, poor administrative performance by the BLAs, and inertia, which is another name for the culture of nonpayment which government will simply have to break if the new local government system is to be sustained.

Suggested ways of dealing with the problem are:

□ First, restore services where they have collapsed and extend them to new areas. Though it is not necessary to complete this task before payment can begin, it is necessary that residents perceive that marked improvements have begun.

□ Second, the question of affordability must be addressed, through progressive tariff structuring or proportionate to income, subsidising the poor through welfare payments and providing appropriate levels of service. This needs to be addressed in the context of an overall approach to fiscal decentralisation.

□ Third, sound administration of service payments, including promulgation of tariffs, metering, billing, collecting and implementing appropriate sanctions for nonpayment, and

□ Fourth, establishing the legitimacy of the amalgamated authorities by introducing the TLCs, elections, and campaigns directed against nonpayment.

Ending the habit of nonpayment and cultivating a new civic consciousness will require real leadership from the ANC. But the problem also cries out for individuals to seize the initiative, as they have already done in relatively conservative places such as Port Elizabeth and Klerksdorp. Or are civic leaders waiting for central government to do everything? ■

CARRYING THE LOAD

BRIDGING FINANCE AND INTER-GOVERNMENTAL GRANTS PAID TO BLACK LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Year	Rm
1987/88	373,8
1988/89	460,3
1989/90	518,8
1990/91	644,0
1991/92	903,7
1992/93	791,8
1993/94	1 115,8*
1994/95	709,9

*Includes R160m set aside for writing off debts of Black Local Authorities

More powers for the provinces

Biday 28/10/94

CAPE TOWN — A further batch of powers would be assigned to the provinces from central government early next week, Public Service and Administration Minister Zola Skweyiya announced yesterday.

Addressing the National Assembly on his department's budget vote, Skweyiya said 18 proclamations concerning the assignment of health, education and local government laws would appear in the Government Gazette on Monday.

While close to 900 laws of the former TBVC states and provincial ordinances as well as some national laws had been transferred to the regions since June this year, a number still remained, Skweyiya said.

"A great deal of analytical work by the state law advisers is required, and in many instances special amendments are necessary in order to

ADRIAN HADLAND

ensure that the laws can be effectively applied in the provinces."

The assignment process was being overseen by an inter-governmental forum representing provincial premiers and national ministers.

Skweyiya also announced that a task team would be established to review the entire public service job grading system.

The public services of the 11 former TBVC and self-governing territories had used different sets of personnel policies resulting in disparities in job categories, salary scales, allowances and conditions of service.

In order to integrate the services into one national administration, these policies had to be reconciled with possible implications for salary scales and promotion levels, he said.

"The public service still exhibits high wage differentials and low basic wages, and there is still a need to close the wage gap."

While salaries and allowances lower than those generally prevailing had been brought up to par by July 1 this year, salaries that were higher than average would be gradually phased out over time as pay levels rose, he said.

With regard to the 1,5-million applications for 11 000 advertised public service jobs, Skweyiya said initial difficulties in dealing with the number of applications had been resolved and the selection process was now under way.

Skweyiya also said the Public Service Training Institute would be restructured to ensure it was equipped to train and retrain officials for the effective delivery of services.

Local Govt Transition Act might be amended

B/Dag
WILSON ZWANE

GOVERNMENT, in an attempt to accelerate the democratisation of local government, has proposed amendments to the Local Government Transition Act, which sources say will facilitate the implementation of the Act by giving clearer definitions to some of its aspects.

Sources said yesterday the amendments would be discussed tomorrow at a meeting between Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer and the nine local government ministers.

The sources would not be drawn on details of the amendments, but said they were aimed at fine-tuning.

They also said proclamations devolving a "host of other local government-related Acts" to the provinces would be made "very soon".

They said tomorrow's meeting between Meyer and the provincial local government ministers would be the "most significant" to date as major decisions were expected to be taken.

The decisions would encompass a host of issues.

These included local government finance and rural government.

Meanwhile, Constitutional Development official Willem van der Merwe said good progress had been made in the past month towards establishing local government transitional structures in a number of provinces, especially in the Free State.

Van der Merwe could not give the number of structures which had been set up, saying this would be discussed at tomorrow's meeting.

But according to the most recent figures, 447 or 94% of the forums had been established to negotiate the establishment of local government transitional structures.

Van Der Merwe said besides initial mistrust among parties at the negotiating forums, confusion over the Local Government Transition Act's Section 71C was holding up progress in some provinces.

This Section makes provision for the establishment of a "super-council" (a co-ordinating committee) to which existing local authorities (black and white) will nominate representatives.

It is understood that the Eastern Transvaal is not proclaiming the co-

27/10/94
ordinating committees

Van der Merwe said the refusal of some of the provinces to proclaim the co-ordinating committees — which many saw as a ploy to retain the status quo — necessitated renegotiations at the forums.

According to the figures, the Free State has the most number of agreements on the transitional structures, 76. Northern Cape is second with 42 agreements and the Northern Cape third with 24.

In the PWV only four agreements on the structures have been reached, but observers say a number of others are in the pipeline.

Meyer has said the deadline for the local government transitional structures is November 31.

In another development, sources said the Central Witwatersrand Transitional Metropolitan Council would not come into effect next Monday as planned because parties who negotiated its establishment had not reached agreement on how seats of its substructures should be allocated to participating organisations.

The sources said "we would be lucky" to have the council in place by November 15.

Collapse of services causes crisis

Local govt chaos may delay poll

B/Day 24/10/94

CAPE TOWN — Government has conceded that plans to hold local government elections in October next year may be doomed because of the administrative and financial collapse of black local governments in particular.

A government source said yesterday ANC and NP ministers "in the know" had realised that unless the democratisation process within third-tier government was accelerated there would be little choice but to postpone the poll.

He said government would be in a position to decide on a definite date only in April, which he admitted was a far cry from the original intention to announce the date two months ago.

"Government is still working on the assumption that the elections can be held in October, but realises it may be forced to reconsider. The country cannot afford a half-baked election." The biggest challenge was to prevent the total collapse of local government services, described by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer as having reached boiling point.

The source confirmed that Meyer's statement that local elections would be held "at the earliest" in October signalled a shift from government's earlier position.

The biggest problem was getting the process of demarcation of local boundaries and voter registration completed in time. The widespread collapse of mainly black local governments aggravated the situation. Their financial situation was at its worst yet.

A confidential government discussion document on the state of local finances, dated September 16, warns of "a very real

DAVID GREYBE

danger" that if the third-tier reform process is poorly managed, the instability, confined to black local authorities, could spread to other areas. (262)

"A serious deterioration in basic services, in the core cities in particular, would have devastating effects on the country's economy and capacity to carry through constitutional change."

Financial issues could not be divorced from political and administrative ones, the document said. The levels of service payments to black local authorities had plummeted from 33,5% to 19,7% between November last year and May 1994. It conceded that services "are generally poor and sometimes non-existent".

The document said black arrears to local authorities and Eskom stood at more than R1,1bn. The Eskom arrears of R874m were increasing by R45m a month. The arrears of coloureds and Indians were "in the region of R500m".

The figures did not include R5,5bn owed by black local authorities to the National Housing Fund. It said the Housing Department had recently accepted that the arrears would have to be written off as "politically not recoverable" because of the collapse of black authorities.

The culture of non-payment in black areas was blamed mainly on two factors, the NP government's "poorly conceived" black local authorities strategy and organised service charge boycotts.

The document, drawn up by a technical team which included representatives from the Constitutional Development, Finance,

To Page 2

Local government

B/Day 24/10/94

From Page 1

and State Expenditure Departments, as well as the Office of the Reconstruction and Development Programme, proposed a four-part strategy to restore payments.

Services had to be restored where they had collapsed, and extended to new areas. "While it is not necessary to complete this task before payment can begin, it is necessary that residents perceive that marked improvements have begun." (262)

Affordable tariffs had to be set. This involved structuring tariffs progressively, or at least proportionally, in relation to income, or finding other means to subsidise the poor, such as through welfare payments. But the issue needed to be addressed within the context of an overall approach to "fiscal decentralisation".

The administration of service payments had to be sound, which involved "attending to the promulgation of tariffs, metering, billing, collecting and implementing ap-

propriate sanctions in cases of non-payment", and,

The political legitimacy of amalgamated authorities had to be established. This included the introduction of transitional councils, holding elections, and campaigns directed at the issue of non-payments.

WILSON ZWANE reports that regulations to govern local government elections were expected to be gazetted before the end of the month, Meyer said.

The regulations had been drafted by a local government elections task team co-chaired by Van Zyl Slabbert and Khehla Shubane, Meyer said in an interview. They would be discussed at a meeting between him and the nine provincial local government ministers on Friday.

He said while government would like the regulations accepted as uniformly as possible in all provinces, the provinces would be given some leeway to add to them to meet their specific requirements.

'We are growing': The Civics in the new SA

HOW is Sanco doing since the elections? Sanco is growing — for example in areas like the Northern Cape and in the north of Natal. The end of the repressive homelands has made it possible for us to work in areas where we were previously prevented from being active. There has also been an increase in the number of requests to us to assist with establishing new civics. The climate is now one in which it is easier to mobilise and organise.

Key ongoing issues for Sanco include the involvement of our structures at various levels in the implementation of the Local Government Transition Act. Our campaign for community-responsive banking is ongoing; we have been centrally involved in ensuring that the implementation of the RDP is people-driven, and lastly, we have been interacting with various ministries to ensure the policy frameworks which are emerging will be civic-friendly.

Sanco played a central role in the struggle against apartheid. What is its role now? We will be giving the issue of local government urgent attention, otherwise our whole process of democratisation will come to nothing. We will be pushing for the Minister of Constitutional Affairs to establish a cabinet-level, dedicated machinery to give local government the sensitive treatment it needs — it is the first level of government that ordinary people engage with, and it's the area where the impact of apartheid can be addressed best. We want a dedicated ministry.

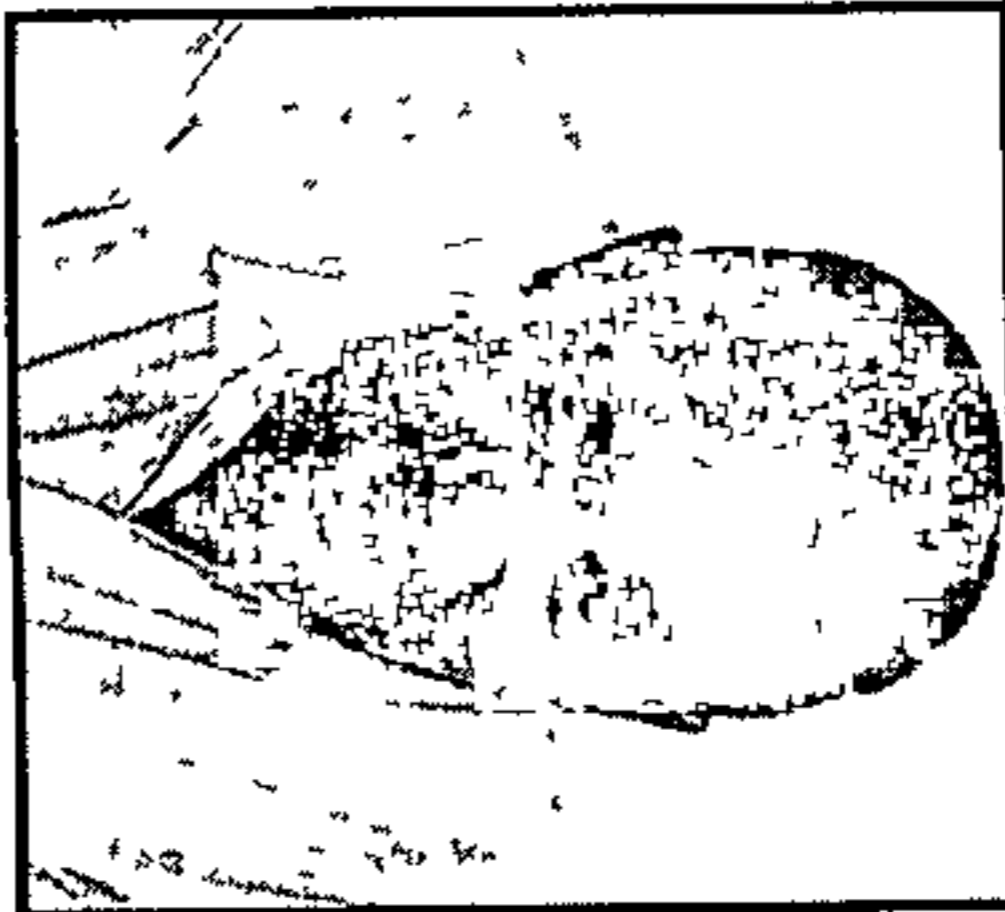
ARE civic associations inclusive enough to speak on behalf of communities? CIVICS cut across party-political and other affiliations. There's never been a blanket term to describe civics. They are uneven. In some areas they are very representative and in others less so. We cannot claim that every civic is 100 per cent representative, and we also think that this is a good thing. Civics are different kinds of organisations depending on their context. This is one of their strengths. Some emerged through the block and street committee system, while others came about when community leaders and different kinds of community groups came together to establish a civic.

This all affects their representivity. Attempts to ignore civics on the basis of their perceived weaknesses have proved disastrous for many development projects. **DOES** this affect the ability of civics to speak "for communities"? **THE** issues civics take up are so valid and

What is the future of the civics? Will they play a leading role in the new local government system? The new president of Sanco (the South African National Civics Organisation), Lechesa Tsenoli, has been involved in community struggles since his days in the United Democratic Front in Kwazulu/Natal. Born in Lesotho, he has lived and worked throughout South Africa. In this interview he looks to the future.

pressing that when we speak, while we do not speak for absolutely everyone, we aim to be as representative as possible — we have to be. We are aware of the instances where civics have not done proper consultation, and those campaigns generally fail. There have been instances of undemocratic leadership but this is not the situation we support. This is why we are increasingly using groups like IMSSA and NADDEL to ensure the proper election of civic leadership. While the representivity of civics is important, too much should not be made of this issue. It is their facilitative elements which are more important. We feel that development will never be sustainable unless it is supported by community groups.

WHAT services and benefits does Sanco National offer its members? **ON** their own individual civics cannot make a difference. We therefore play an important role in synthesising and analysing experiences on the ground. We also make interventions to create an environment friendly to civics. For example we want to influence legislation on local government so that it supports civics. Without Sanco civics would have a far smaller impact. There is also the issue of resources we want to be able to provide support to affiliates so that they are able to get greater access to resources. We aim to build up the civic infrastructure. Capacity building is something we prioritise through organisational development and support. We have a number of major projects in the pipeline, including one with a Swedish organisation for adult basic education and one dealing with negotiating skills and conflict resolution. Our role in advocacy and in articulating the needs of the poor and disadvantaged is a critical role we play at the national level.



HOW does Sanco's relationships with its affiliates operate? **OUR** affiliates participate in regional workshops, and this is where they inform us what their needs are. They make collective recommendations, and we act on these. We have found that effective communication is our biggest problem, although there have been levels at which we have managed to communicate. Sanco has been constrained by the political pressures it has been exposed to nationally, which has limited our ability to devote enough resources to developing our effectiveness.

HOW can civics participate in policy formulation? **BY** intervening at a national level to ensure that input from civics is taken into account when drafting policy. We seek the advice of others, and we develop options and possibilities. In this process we rely a lot on our allies in the NGO sector and in other progressive organisations. We interact with them through brainstorming and intervening in whatever is happening. We also commission studies and investigations, for example we are doing one on development finance, and we have a report coming out soon on Local Economic Development, which we see as a key pillar in an urban and rural development strategy.

WHAT does a democratic government mean for civics? **THE** danger is that of co-option by the government. It's now so different from the old days — the government is committed to doing the right things. This could easily land up generating apathy but that will take years to happen. We don't simply want to support government, we want to support people in their demands. If the

government plays along, then good, but if not, then they cannot expect civics to support them anyway. We are conscious of the need to cooperate wherever possible, but we also want to retain a culture of being critical.

HOW do you see your relationship with political parties in the future? **OUR** relationship with political parties is always defined by the issues at hand. We always saw ourselves as integral to the liberation process. We are now in a new situation but our broad principles remain the same. Our perceptions of the usefulness of the relationship will determine how we relate to political parties. We hope to do more work on political tolerance and deepening democratic accountability, which will allow us to keep an independent but close relationship to political parties.

We see no reason to change our decision to support the ANC but we must get direction on these and other matters from people on the ground. **WHAT** impact will next year's local government elections have on the civics? **THERE** is a belief that local government elections will make civics unnecessary. This is incorrect. What concerns us is good local governance, and we see this as meaning that structures in communities can interact with formal public authorities from a position of strength. This is the best formula for sustainable development. Formal public authorities are generally so big they cannot deal with communities, while their legitimacy cannot be taken for granted. People vote every five years or whatever. What determines the meaning of the democracy we have landed up with is the recourse communities have between elections. We want developmental local authorities, and we need to build institutions and structures to construct them. We must recognise that the process of democratisation is never complete — we are always only working towards it.

Sanco will not be contesting local elections as Sanco, although people may decide to support their own candidates. That is the nature of elections at a local level. We think that is a good thing. We do intend participating in discussions around who the candidates should be in local government elections. We don't want to do this here on the 12th floor of our office building in Johannesburg, but rather in local communities. That is where people know what is good for them and who is defending their interests. **With acknowledgments to Development and Democracy, published by the Urban Foundation.**

Local polls a minefield

Slabbert

ARG 29/10/94

(261) (30)

Will they be postponed to first quarter of 1996?

DAVID BREIER

Weekend Argus Political Staff

LOCAL elections next year face a minefield of difficulties, warns Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, one-time opposition leader who is now co-chairman of the task group planning the nationwide municipal elections due next October

And he acknowledges there is now talk of postponing the local elections to the first quarter of 1996

Why the great hassle at local level when the big league elections took place six months ago without too much of a hitch?

For a start, remember that in the national negotiations at Kempton Park small teams of technical experts settled contentious issues for the whole country, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert writes in the *Idasa* journal *Democracy in Action*

But, in each town and city, local people have to negotiate details — and they are not all experts

"In other words, the Local Government Transition Act expects ordinary people to take a range of critically important decisions, without the technical competence to do so," Dr Van Zyl Slabbert writes

For example, should bulk supply of electricity, water and sewerage, maintenance of cemeteries, administration of libraries and so on, fall under the new Transitional Metropolitan Councils (TMCs) or should some of these powers belong to sub-structures — or to city councils?

"Perhaps the most important difference of all is that transition at the local level will affect people in a very concrete and immediate sense

"It will affect them in terms of basic services that they have taken for granted or expect to be improved. The redistribution role that local government will have to play,

■ After the relative success of the April national and provincial elections, next year's municipal elections should be a piece of cake by comparison, right? Think again . .

in order to abolish the very severe inequalities and imbalances inherited from the past, will have a particularly dramatic impact," he cautions

The process of change in local government, simply put, is

■ Negotiating forums have been established

■ New councils will be appointed (not elected) shortly, representing both those who were in the old system and those who were excluded

■ Interim elections will be held, possibly next year. All municipal elections are to be held on the same day. Sixty percent of councillors will be elected in wards and 40 percent by proportional representation

■ Fully democratic elections will be held within a few years once the new constitution is finalised at national level

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert foresees major headaches — starting with the appointed transitional councils trying to tell boycotting township residents to pay for their services

For the problem with appointed councils is that they can be accused of lacking legitimacy — which is the reason many township residents give for boycotting payments in the first place

"It will be the difficult task of an appointed local government body to tell township residents not only that they will have to pay for services, but that they will face punitive action if they fail to pay

"What is worse is that this potentially fraught process will have to take place during the run-up to local government elections and at the same time as appointed tran-



■ Van Zyl Slabbert

sitional councils try to implement the projects and programmes of the Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP)

"It does not take enormous intelligence to conclude that somewhere along the line people are going to turn around and say to the appointed councils 'But who are you? Who elected you? What legitimacy do you have to demand of us that we should do these things that you command us to do?'"

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert foresees tough and unpalatable decisions taken at national, provincial and local levels to make things work

"For example, there is no way that an effective housing programme is going to get off the ground if the government is not prepared to take a tough line on people who invade vacant land destined for development purposes, or who illegally occupy houses intended for people on waiting-lists," he adds.

The answer is twofold, he says

■ Elected national and regional government must use their legitimacy to help the

appointed local bodies

■ Community organisations must come to the help of the appointed local councils

"Appointed bodies at the local level cannot be expected to take tough decisions without legitimacy conferred on them by the national and regional structures of government

"Firm guidance on land invasion, illegal occupancy of houses and arbitrary and destructive political populism will have to come from the national and regional governments

"If the national and regional leadership avoids coming to terms with these tough decisions, they will make the task of the appointed bodies at the local level virtually impossible"

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert also highlights the logistical problems before the interim elections can be held

"Who, for example, is going to be an eligible voter at the local level? What about the foreigners who have settled in towns and metropolitan areas? How does one distinguish between them and genuine citizens of South Africa? How do we set up effective voters' rolls after wards have been demarcated?"

He says these are the issues which gave rise to talk of postponing the elections to early 1996

A further complicating factor is that different political parties are in control at regional level in the three major metropolitan areas

The National Party in the Western Cape which includes Cape Town, the African National Council in the PWV including Johannesburg and the Inkatha Freedom Party in the Durban/Pinetown/Westville area

Dr Van Zyl Slabbert warns that these political differences can lead to local government issues being exploited for short-term political purposes and partisan gains

"It is necessary for us to have the kind of multiparty accord for local government elections that we had in the April general elections," he says

Local govt to control '95 poll

Political Staff

ADMINISTRATIVE control of next year's municipal elections would be in the hands of ministers of local legislatures and there was no central government involvement, Provincial Affairs Minister Mr Roelf Meyer said yesterday. (261)

Responding to an Inkatha allegation at the weekend that he was trying to usurp "the important function" of preparing and conducting the elections from Home Affairs Minister Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, Mr Meyer's spokesman, Mr Izak Retief, said no government minister had this responsibility.

CT 25/10/94
Mr Retief said it was ironic the IFP, which constantly sought devolution of power, insisted now that a central government minister would control the elections.

Even under the old system of municipal elections, the Minister of Home Affairs did not play a role in these elections. "Municipalities conducted their own local elections," he said.

Mr Retief said the local government task group would mediate in the run-up to the elections, planned for October next year.

ARG. 24/4/94

Cost of local elections will be 'substantial' (262)

PRETORIA. — The need for voters' rolls for next year's local government elections has "serious financial implications", the Local Government Elections Task Group says.

Task group co-chairmen Khehla Shubane and Frederik van Zyl Slabbert told a Press briefing in Pretoria they were not sure if the elections would cost more than April's general elections.

"But it would be a substantial amount," Dr Slabbert said.

Mr Shubane said: "The early indications are that financing would not only come from the central government, but from other tiers of government."

Regulations for the registration of voters had to be published before the end of November to allow sufficient time for the process. This would "hopefully" happen by Friday, Dr Slabbert said.

In terms of the Local Government Transition Act voters' rolls had to be compiled and the onus to enrol rested with voters.

Dr Slabbert said the task group was not a statutory body like the Independent Electoral Commission that handled the April elections.

It had been set up only to deal with the technical aspects of the elections. Political authority lay with Minister of Provincial Affairs Mr Roelf Meyer and MECs.

The provinces would be responsible for implementing the elections.

"We cannot take any political decisions and we have to work within the time frames laid down by the political decision-makers.

"The most we can do is to give advice should it appear that the time frames are not realistic."

Mr Shubane was confident the elections would be held in October as planned.

He said the task group would compile a diary of target dates for preparations. The provinces were to monitor progress at local level on the basis of the diary and report regularly to the task group.

In areas where there were no local authorities the elections would be the responsibility of regional services councils.

Dr Slabbert said some rural areas were having difficulty in coming to terms with the elections and getting clarity on how their traditional bodies would fit into the new dispensation. — Sapa.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Fri 25/11/94

Race against time

With the deadline for the next major step in local government reform now only days away, the process seems headed for confrontation in some provinces in the face of Rightwing resistance, confusion in rural areas and bickering over boundaries.

Transitional local councils (TLCs) or transitional metropolitan councils (TMCs) must be in place by Thursday. They should be the product of negotiations between interest groups at local level. If they are not established voluntarily in time they can be appointed by the nine provincial local government MECs.

However, provision has been made for a period of grace until the end of December, and it is unlikely that any action will be taken before the new year.

The TLCs will comprise an equal number of members nominated by existing local authority structures and "nonstatutory" groups, such as township civic associations, which have up to now not participated in local government.

But by November 8 only 34% of the 511 potential TLCs had been formed: three in the PWV, five in Eastern Transvaal, 12 in North West, 40 in Northern Cape, 46 in Eastern Cape, 11 in Western Cape, 57 in Free State, and none in KwaZulu-Natal and Northern Transvaal.

Of the four major urban areas only the Central Witwatersrand and Pretoria appear to be on target to form a TMC by the deadline.

Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer was scheduled to release full details of progress towards establishment of TLCs at a press conference in Pretoria today, after a meeting with provincial local government ministers. According to a government spokesman, 35%-40% are expected to be in place by Wednesday.

Though agreement was reached last month on the composition of the Cape's TMC, progress could be delayed by a boundary dispute with local authorities in the Hottentots Holland basin to the north of the city, and by resistance from Bellville, which will form part of the Cape TMC, to merging with Khayelitsha to form one of the subcouncils in the TMC.

Durban is not expected to meet the deadline, due to ongoing debate on how to

deal with the vast shack settlements that ring the city.

Karen Johnston, project officer at the Institute for Local Governance & Development in Cape Town, says there also appear to be problems in KwaZulu-Natal, where there is a large rural population and influential traditional leaders who tend to resist change. There has also been resistance in some towns controlled by Rightwing councils.

Nevertheless, she believes the first phase of the process has progressed relatively well. A late rush to establish TLCs is likely, simply to avoid having them forced on local authorities by the provinces.

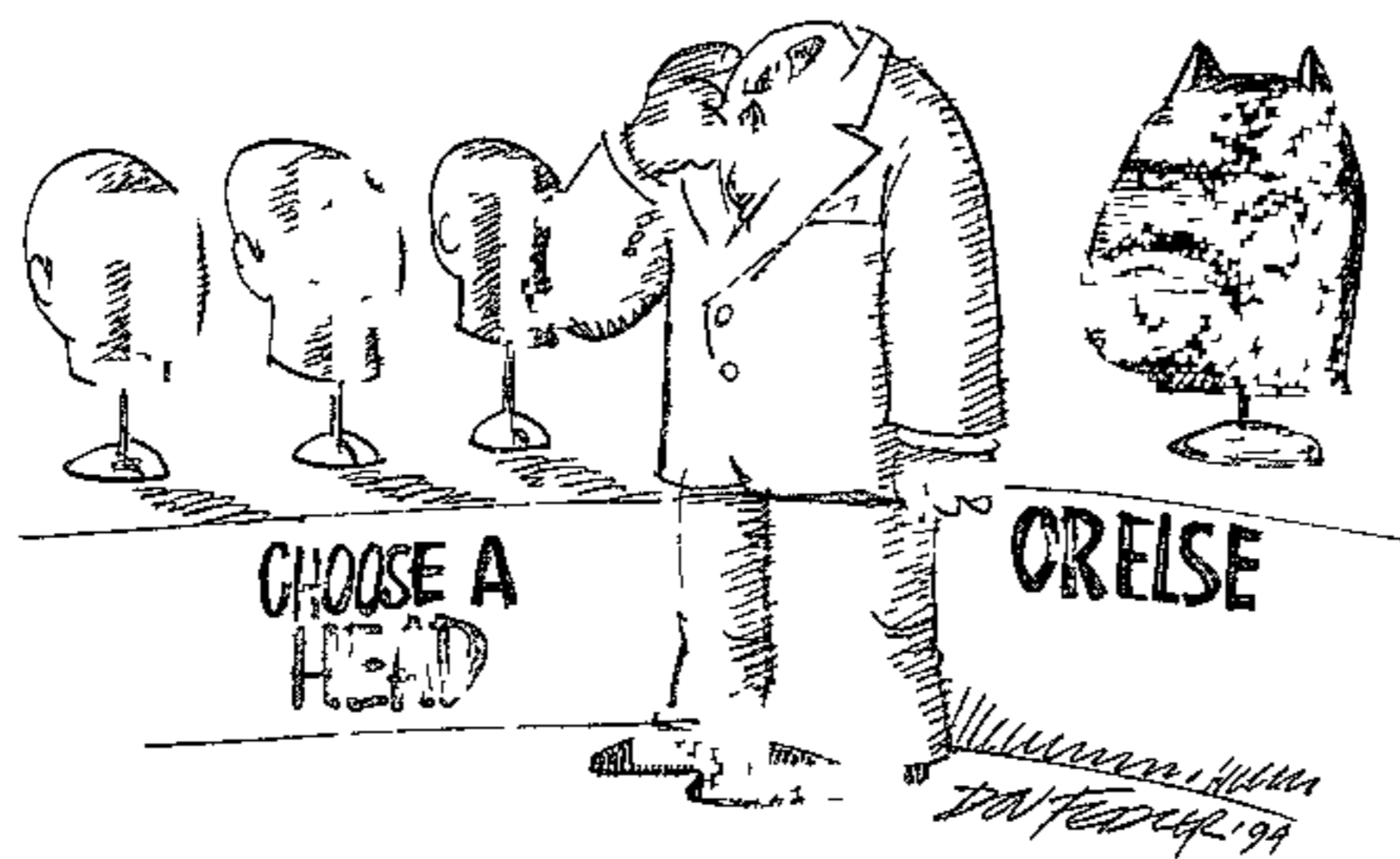
Depressed areas

But other issues continue to bother some local authorities, including the prospect of a massive reallocation of resources to depressed black areas and an increase in property rates and service charges to help pay for the upgrading of townships neglected during the apartheid years.

In theory, local government restructuring should be financed by intergovernmental transfers between central government and the provinces, but in reality the funds are simply not available.

This means former white-controlled local authorities and regional services councils will be relied on heavily to fund the development of former black townships.

In terms of the Local Government Transition Act passed by parliament last year



there are three phases for political transition at local level.

□ A pre-interim phase which includes negotiations in local or metropolitan negotiating forums and the appointment of TLCs or TMCs comprising an equal number of statutory and nonstatutory members,

□ An interim phase which will include

local government elections not later than October, and

□ A final phase which will include local government elections based on the final constitution being negotiated by the constitutional assembly.

The TLCs will have the responsibility of drawing up voters' rolls for next year's elections and determining who is eligible to vote. The interim councils that emerge from the elections will be based on a mixture of proportional representation, as was used in the April general election (40% of the seats), and ward representatives (60%).

The process will not be easy.

Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert, co-chairman of the government-appointed task group planning next year's local elections, said recently that transition at local government level "is still saddled with a crisis of legitimacy".

He pointed out that one of the main differences between transition at local level and transition at national level was that a far greater responsibility for finalising the transition at local level rested on the people who are doing the negotiating.

By contrast, at national level small teams of experts thrashed out contentious issues, which meant the main negotiating process did not get bogged down with detail. ■

PARLIAMENT

Transparent scorecard

How successful was the first full session of parliament under the democratic order? And what lessons did the representatives take with them as they breathed a collective sigh of relief and headed off for their end-of-year holidays?

Highlights, it could be said, were the grave train debate and Deputy President Thabo Mbeki's verbal jousts with the media. But excessive attention to such trivia tended to obscure what was really happening.

Not only were most MPs and senators confronted with a totally alien environment, but significant procedural changes meant that even those who survived the transition faced unprecedented challenges.

The Speaker, Frene Ginwala, succeeded in breaking down the barriers of formality erected by successive Nat administrations and created a "people's parliament" easily accessible to anyone interested in the process. The public galleries were never better used.

The most significant change was the

It's farewell to the peace secretariats

THE Wits-Vaal Peace Secretariat closed yesterday, leaving 300 employees without jobs

This followed the decline of political violence in the PWV and a lack of funds. Secretariat spokesman Meverett Koetz said it was decided in a meeting attended by Cabinet members a week ago that peace structures should be dissolved.

Koetz said people dealing with dispute resolution related to taxi and train violence would be integrated into Transport Minister Mac Maharaj's department, those dealing with community policing would go into Safety and Security Minister Sidney Mafumadi's bailiwick; and the socioeconomic, reconstruction and devel-

JOHANNES NGCOBO

opment committee members to Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo.

Government had previously stated, he said, that peace structures would be disbanded after a certain time. Nevertheless, the experience of its members in conflict and dispute resolution could be utilised.

Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthezi said on Sunday the Cabinet had decided that members would also be absorbed by provincial administrations.

The Western Transvaal Regional Peace Committee will also cease operations and efforts are under way to find employment for about 20 people, Sapa reports.

'Shortcomings' in accounts

CAPE TOWN — Outstanding rent and service fees owed to black local authorities in the former Cape province amounted to R201,5m in June last year, according to an auditor-general's report on the 1992/93 financial statements of the Cape Provincial Administration, Sapa reports

Eighty-six local authorities owed creditors R362,8m in June 1992, but creditors' accounts were not paid regularly because of their poor financial position

Installments on housing loans made by the National Housing Commission were not used to meet NHC commitments, but applied to finance operating activities

The report also noted shortcomings and deficiencies in the accounts of the Cape Town city council in 1990/91 and 1991/92. These included possible unauthorised

SPINNEY 11/11/94

expenditure of R12 150, which was paid to the then mayor's wife, and a "disturbing number of errors" in financial statements

Fruitless expenditure of R42m was incurred on the preparation of the 1993 valuation roll, which was later declared invalid by the Supreme Court

The municipality of Ritchie, near Kimberley, incurred unauthorised expenditure of R71 532 — this being a payment to a company in which a former mayor was a director during his term of office

It was reported yesterday that the auditor-general's office had found widespread irregularities in the books of the former Transvaal Provincial Administration

At least R64m in the form of warrant vouchers had been stolen by TPA officials, the report said

Deadline imposed on local govt talks

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Municipalities had until the end of the month to complete negotiations over the form of interim local government structures in their areas, Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said last night

Meyer warned that any delay in implementing nominated councils would set back plans for next year's local government elections. Delays would undermine the legitimacy of local governments which had to grapple with service charge boycotts

Meyer's spokesman Izak Rietel said that depending on the progress made by negotiating parties setting up the nominated councils, extensions could be considered after the end of November

Meyer met the nine provincial ministers of local government in Cape Town last week and it was agreed that where negotiating forums had not concluded negotiations, independent mediators would be brought in

Meyer also warned that white local authorities would be undermining their own position if they failed to implement interim local structures

Even the elected councils, expected to be elected in October, would favour the statutory — white, coloured and Indian — portions of municipal areas to ensure continuity

A delay in implementing the nominated councils and the elected inter-

im councils would delay a final election planned for 1997 or 1998

WILSON ZWANE reports that tensions are expected to rise between organised local government bodies and government if the proposed amendments to the Local Government Transition Act are passed

Sources said yesterday it had been proposed by various parties, including the constitutional affairs standing committee, that the Act should be amended to nullify Section 7 1(c) and preclude councillors from serving on provincial governments

The section provides for the setting up of co-ordinating committees for local authorities which could not agree on the transitional local councils. This option was favoured by CP-controlled areas

Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) official Ben van der Berg said the scrapping of Section 7 1(c) would be a tragedy and make a mockery of an "amicable agreement" which was reached at the Local Government Negotiating Forum

Van der Berg said the TMA would resist the proposed amendments in the "severest way possible". He was optimistic, however, that the matter would be resolved at a meeting between the organisation, Meyer and other government officials

Voters' register will ease local govt poll

THE major logistical problems experienced by the Independent Electoral Commission during the April elections were unlikely to recur during the local government poll scheduled for October, a provincial government commission workshop was told yesterday

Local government election task group co-chairman Khehla Shubane told the workshop in Pretoria the compilation of a voters' register would enable officials to predict far more accurately the number of voters likely to turn out at each polling station

Shubane said he was confident registration of voters could begin in January and would take about three months

This would give election managers six months to prepare polling stations with equipment in anticipation of a specific number of voters from the relevant areas

While some groups had suggested a three-month registration period was inadequate, the task group was "convinced" the time allotted would be sufficient, he said

Regulations regarding the elections, which had already been approved by the task group, were likely to be published in mid-December.

Reports by
ADRIAN HADLAND

This would enable voter educators and local authorities to begin formal preparations for the poll

However, there were some problems which could delay the election beyond its scheduled date of October 1995, Shubane said

The establishment of transitional local councils and transitional metropolitan councils, which were meant to have been up and running by today, was not on schedule. Provisions in the Local Government Transition Act forcing the creation of the councils might well have to be used to encourage this process

The Act itself was also too focused on urban areas, causing confusion about procedures in rural districts

The likelihood that traditional leaders were not "fully on board" was a further problem which was being discussed, Shubane said

If these difficulties could be resolved, there was no reason the local government elections could not take place in October as planned

RSC officials to fight for top jobs

TOP Regional Services Council officials will fight to retain their powerful positions when the RSC is dissolved to make way for the new Transitional Metropolitan Council next year.

This decision was taken at the RSC meeting yesterday after strong debate.

All 7 000 RSC employees' jobs will be preserved for at least several months, albeit on other bodies.

The dispute has arisen over the officials' status in the TMC, to which they will all initially be transferred.

Mr Neil Ross, a Cape Town City Council representative on the RSC, argued that the RSC's senior officials should not automatically get the plum positions.

Mr Ross's motion was outvoted and the council gave deputy chairman Mr Louwtjie Rothman a mandate to demand that the Cape Metropolitan Negotiating Forum accept the RSC's proposal.

In this proposal, the RSC's chief executive officer and the department heads of engineering, health, finance and administration must "continue to occupy these posts of the Transitional Metropolitan Council until such a post is advertised". Alternatively, the posts must be advertised as soon as possible.

CT 1/12/94

(263) (262)

Whip cracked over local govt

B1 Day

WILSON ZWANE

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela yesterday signed a proclamation amending the Local Government Transition Act, allowing for a clampdown on areas which had not met yesterday's deadline for the establishment of local government interim structures

The presidential decree, which Deputy Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa said would be gazetted today, would set tighter timeframes for the process to transform local government

He said the decree would accelerate preparations for next year's local government elections, including the delimitation of wards and voter registration

Mandela signed the proclamation hours after an attempt by the right-wing Transvaal Municipal Association (TMA) to prevent him from doing so failed in the Pretoria Supreme Court. The court referred the matter to the Constitutional Court which will sit next year

Among other things, the timeframes would apply to the establishment of transitional local government structures and the dissolution of existing municipalities

Areas which had not met the deadline

would be subjected to "new procedures", including the imposition of administrative bodies by provincial governments

But it is understood that some provincial officials have reservations about the proclamation, saying it tampers with the authority of the provinces which can now administer the Local Government Transition Act. But a source close to the Kwa-Zulu/Natal government said it was hoped the decree would give impetus to the process of democratising local government

In another development, the Northern Areas Group, representing ratepayers and residents in Johannesburg's northern suburbs, obtained an interim interdict in the Rand Supreme Court yesterday blocking the establishment of the Central Witwatersrand Transitional Metropolitan Council's (TMC's) new substructures

SUSAN RUSSELL reports that the group is disputing the voting process by which it was allocated only one TMC seat. The interim order granted by Judge R van

To Page 2

Local govt B1 Day

11/2/94

From Page 1

Schalkwyk will be in force until the dispute has been resolved

PWV premier Tokyo Sexwale was interdicted from establishing the TMC's substructures by a proclamation

The PWV government said its lawyers were studying the matter.

Meanwhile, provinces canvassed reported slow progress towards establishing interim municipal structures. In the Western Cape, 11 of 93 areas had transitional local councils, but a source said at least 10 were expected to be promulgated today

In KwaZulu/Natal there were 42 recog-

nised negotiating forums, 17 agreements to set up transitional councils and three established ones

Sapa reports that in the Eastern Cape, 47 out of 103 towns and cities had the councils. Provincial local government minister Max Mamase said he was disappointed, but was confident the remaining councils would be put in place this month

In the PWV, three out of 19 areas had transitional councils. But a provincial cabinet subcommittee would look at progress in Heidelberg, Cullinan, Devon, Bronkhortspruit, Vaal and Nigel

ARC6 12/12/94

Election fever to grip country again

Voting for your new local government may be more important than the last elections

Local government is what puts water in the taps, power in the lines and makes sure that refuse gets removed

Often described as the form of government closest to the people, it is the one area that everybody has an opinion about

This is why the municipal elections scheduled for 1995 are vitally important. Until then, local authorities will be run by nominated transitional councils

On a national level, only two key points are firmly agreed on as far as the election is concerned

These are that everybody in every corner of the country will get a vote, and that local government will have for the most part a two-tier structure. There are some large towns, such as Port Elizabeth, which are likely to have only one tier of local government.

But for the major cities, this means that in metropolitan areas there will be transitional metropolitan councils which will act as umbrella bodies for a number of smaller councils or sub-structures as they are termed in the Local Government Transition Act.

In rural areas, there are likely to be Rural District Councils with a number of transitional councils falling beneath them

Unlike the national elections, voters in the municipal elections will have to be registered

South Africans will go to the polls again, probably in October next year, but this time to vote for new local government. Municipal Reporter ANDREA WEISS looks at how you are likely to be asked to cast your vote in the 1995 municipal elections



and form part of a voters' role. This is a complicated process which will have to be completed within 90 days, starting 28 days after the election date is announced.

Transitional councils will have the task of seeing to registration, but it will be up to every potential voter to ensure that they are registered

It is anticipated that political parties will pitch in to ensure that as many people as possible are eligible to vote

People who wish to vote must have valid identification documents, not the voter's cards they were issued with for the general election. They must also have a fixed address

At this stage, how the addresses of those who live in informal settlements will be determined is still being decided, but a variety of systems are being considered, including the use of aerial photography

Another possibility is that a number of families can be registered as residents at an area address

Voters will also have to vote at the polling station closest to their home where their name

will be on the list. So if you're away on holiday, or have moved, you can only vote if you return to your home voting station

This is another important difference compared to the general election

In the Cape metropolitan area, it is likely that residents will be asked to vote three times

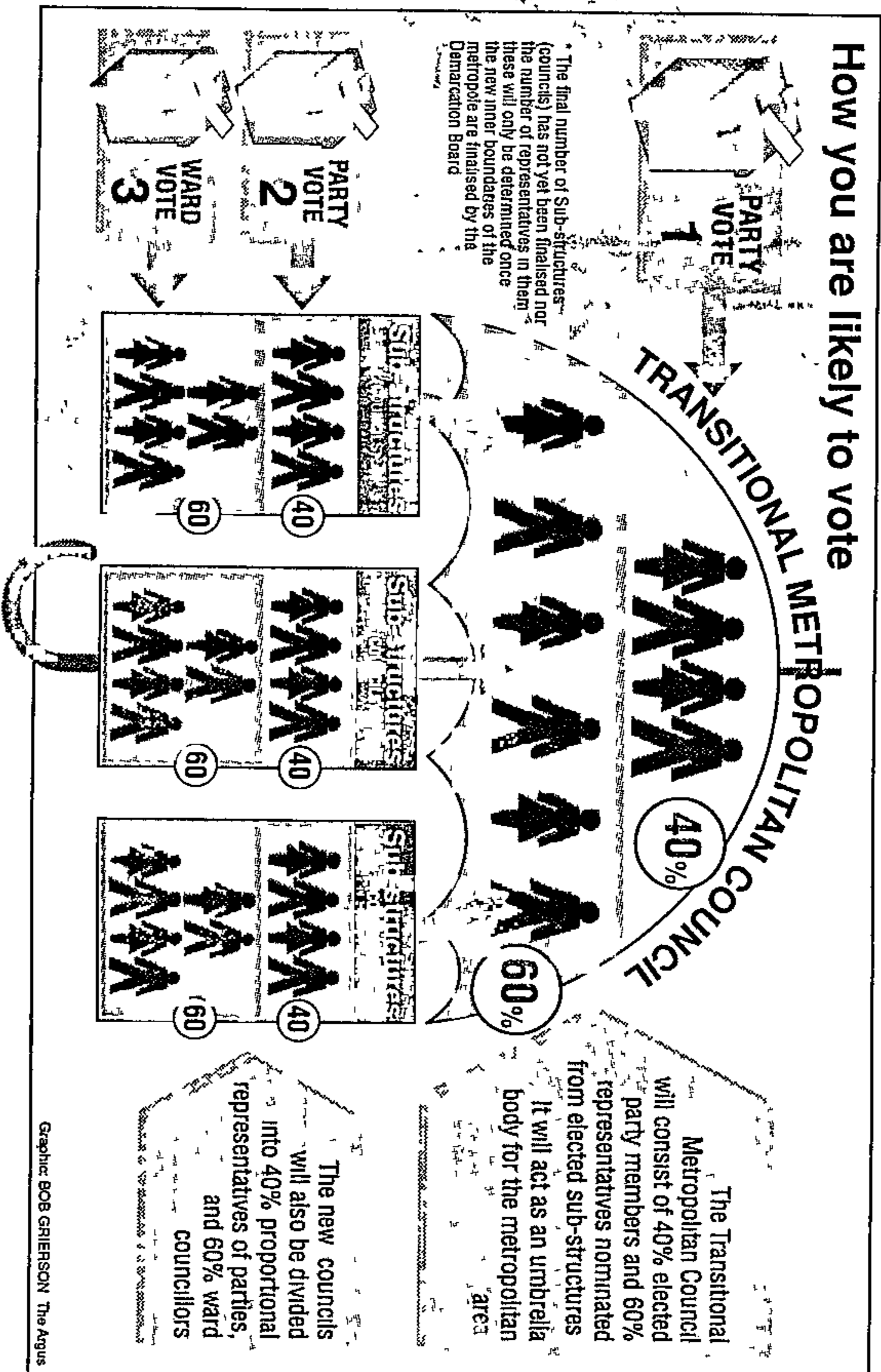
They will be asked to cast two votes for their local authority, or sub-structure. One vote will be for a ward councillor, the other for a party

The new councils will be divided into 40 percent proportional representatives of parties, and 60 percent ward councillors

One peculiarity of the Act is that there will be an equal number of wards for areas which used to fall under white local authorities and those under black local authorities — a factor which will skew the final representation

This clause was called the "sunset clause" by housing minister Joe Slovo, because it protects minorities

How you are likely to vote



TRIPLE VOTE: Residents of the Cape metropole will probably be asked to vote three times in the municipal elections scheduled for next year. This graphic illustrates how they will be asked to vote

The other vote people will be expected to cast will be for the Transitional Metropolitan Council which will act as an umbrella body for the metropole area. This vote will purely be on

party lines for the 40 percent party representatives on the council. The remaining 60 percent of the TMC will be drawn from the sub-structures which will nominate their representa-

tives upwards. A confusing factor in all this is that every ballot paper for every local authority may look different depending on which parties participate. Smaller civic organisations will be allowed to register as political parties to compete for the proportional representation vote, meaning that a whole welter of new bodies might

Graphic: BOB GRIERSON, The Argus

Graphic: BOB GRIERSON, The Argus

Local government polls gathering steam

BY CHARMEELA BHAGOWAT
CITY REPORTER

The local government elections train chugged into motion yesterday with the release of polling regulations and a tight schedule for transitional local authorities.

While no specific date has been set for the elections, the Task Group on Local Government Elections announced in Pretoria that transitional authorities around the country had to start registering voters no later than January 27.

The regulations will be promulgated by all provincial governments by January 1, according to task group co-chairman Dr Van Zyl Slabbert.

After that, transitional auth-

orities will have just 90 days to prepare the first draft of their voters rolls, which, after a series of inspections, will have to be finalised within about 12 weeks.

Stipulations

Referring to the nomination and finalisation of candidates, the regulations stipulate:

- The returning officer should invite nominations 100 days before the elections
- Party and ward candidates should apply for nomination 80 days before polling
- Candidates should be finalised 40 days before the elections

One of the most significant changes in the new set of regulations is the broadened definition of "address".

Star 16/12/94

The task group's Paddy Roome said people would not need a fixed street address to vote in a particular metropolitan area or ward anymore.

All they would need was a "significantly precise address" enabling the local government to allocate the area in their jurisdiction, said Roome.

"It has imposed an obligation on local government to identify areas with no addresses and to establish zones so that the areas can be identified."

But the onus is on voters to ensure they are on the roll, although the responsibility for registering voters remains with the local authority.

Task group co-chairman Kehla Shubane said people who had

property in one area but lived in another would have the opportunity to decide where they wanted to vote — one of the benefits of using a voters roll instead of the old identity document and address system. The roll would also prevent people from registering in more than one area.

Cost

The cost of the elections has not yet been finalised, but Slabbert said the central Government would bear the bulk of the costs, while provincial and local governments had to work out how much they could contribute.

Referring to the regulations, he said "These should be the cranking-up mechanisms to get the process going."

PUBLIC SECTOR - LOCAL AUTHORITIES - GENERAL

199~~5~~

JUNE - DEC.



Blauw gets top police position

26/11/95
JACKIE CAMERON

MAJOR-GENERAL Adam Blauw, 45, was yesterday appointed deputy provincial commissioner, the second highest police post in the Western Cape, in the latest round of appointments to senior police posts.

He was promoted from his position as a colonel at Wynberg area headquarters.

Other promotions to major-general level are that of Mitchell's Plain station commander Colonel Wally McKaiser to deputy provincial commissioner of the Northern Cape, and Bellville South station commander Lt-Col Jacobus Japhta as assistant to the Southern Cape area commissioner.

Regional Police Minister Mr Patrick McKenzie said equal opportunities for women would be taken into account in the next round of appointments to station commissioners' posts.

● National police Commissioner George Fivaz announced yesterday 194 new appointments in the SAPS, including 27 under the mentorship of senior officers.

REDRESSING IMBALANCES: Provincial police commissioner Lieutenant-General André Beukes (left) and regional Minister of Police Mr Patrick McKenzie (right) congratulate the new deputy provincial commissioner, Major-General Adam Blauw, after his appointment was announced yesterday. He is the first non-white police officer to be appointed to the second most senior police post in the province

PICTURE: ANNE LAING

Row over proposals for rural government

(262) ST 4/6/95

By JACOB DLAMINI

A PROPOSED two-tier model of rural local government has come under sharp criticism from development organisations who say it will benefit only traditional leaders and farm owners

The model was put on the table by the Ministry of Provincial and Constitutional Development at a meeting of provincial local government ministers in Pretoria on Monday.

In terms of the plan, each province will be divided into six to 10 district councils, excluding metropolitan areas, rural voters will not necessarily have local councils but will elect representatives directly to the district council by way of proportional representation. Traditional leaders will be automatically represented. Existing rural local councils will have the same status as town councils

But the National Land Committee, a network of

organisations helping rural communities, has warned that the proposal, if accepted, will have dire consequences for rural local government

The committee's rural local government co-ordinator, Tebogo Makgobola, said the proposed model would not give rural people adequate representation in local government.

He said the model was also biased in favour of traditional leaders

"It seems the ministry's main concern is to maintain the status quo. We would like to see traditional leaders subjected to due democratic practices, but that will not happen with this model."

However, this was disputed by Mohammed Valli Moosa, Deputy Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister, who said the model was in

keeping with "the national consensus that there should be a two-tier structure for local government in both the metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas".

Mr Moosa said his ministry was drafting an amendment to the Local Government Transition Act to include the model.

The model was welcomed by Kwazulu Natal Traditional and Environment Minister Chief Nyanga Ngubane, who said it was a vindication of IFP proposals on the matter

The Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa also welcomed the proposal but said the dispute over what powers were to be given to traditional leaders still had to be resolved

General secretary Chief Shilungwa Mhinga said "Chiefs have been at the forefront of development in rural areas and deserve more than just ex-officio status in district councils"

NEWS Sanco Eastern Transvaal region indicates it will not canvass voters for

Sanco and ANC at loggerheads

By Johannes Ngcobo

TENSION between the South African Civic Organisation and the African National Congress is deepening over the forthcoming local government elections.

Some Sanco regions have vowed not to cooperate with the ANC in the November elections. But Sanco general secretary Mr Penrose Ntonti last week played down the

tension between the two parties, saying the rift was caused by certain individuals whose agenda was "mischievous". He conceded, however, that there were some "problems" between Sanco and the ANC in some parts of the Eastern Cape, Eastern Transvaal and Gauteng.

It is understood that the tension between the two in the Eastern Transvaal was so serious that Sanco in the province had indicated it would not canvass voters for the ANC

Sowetan 5/6/95

Recently, the Sanco branch in Tsakane of the East Rand vowed it would not submit voter registration forms to the Transitional Local Council offices because the ANC-led structure was taking unilateral decisions without consulting its constituencies.

Ntonti said the rift was caused mainly by the inability of those serving on interim local structures to "interact properly" with the ANC.

(262) (2000)

NI - NEXT TO NI

UK protests at rugby service

OWN CORRESPONDENT

LONDON: There are increasing protests about the quality of the SABC Rugby World Cup service being broadcast in Britain by Independent Television (ITV) and the scheduling of some programmes

British rugby fans, used to the experienced and expensive quality of BBC rugby coverage, have contacted newspapers to protest particularly against the use of slow-motion replays which disrupt the run of play and the "strange" camera angles used by the SABC

A spokesman for the main TV broadcast sponsors, the brewers Heineken, said the company was "disappointed" about some aspects of the coverage and was having urgent talks with ITV

Law will invalidate appointments

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL STAFF

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela will sign a law this week invalidating the appointment of two additional members of the Western Cape Provincial Committee, Deputy Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Valli Moosa said yesterday

The cabinet had approved the amendment adopted by the Portfolio Committee on Constitutional Affairs, but the National Party members of the cabinet had voted against the amendment last week.

The new law would also invalidate all decisions taken by the Provincial Committee since the appointment of the two additional members, Mr Moosa said.

50 000 jobs a year needed

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL STAFF

ABOUT 50 000 new jobs would have to be created in the Western Cape every year to reduce unemployment and keep up with an estimated annual population increase of 100 000, according to the provincial Reconstruction and Development policy paper.

The document, released on Friday by Minister for Economic Affairs Mr Chris Nissen and Premier Mr Hennis Kriel, said the officially accepted population estimate for the province was 3,633 million. The most recent estimate, however, was 4,2m and the truth was somewhere between

Projections indicated that this would grow to five million by the year 2000 and six million by 2010

"It is clear that the province's infrastructure and natural resources cannot cope with this increase"

"Unless the growth in gross

CT 5/6/95

geographic product reaches an estimated four to seven percent over the next five years, the province will not be able to sustain its job-creation ability

"Maximising the growth potential of the province over the next five years should be a key priority of the RDP."

The document identified RDP-linked high growth sectors as low-income housing and infrastructure development, agriculture, electricity and water distribution, basic education, health services and transport.

Summit

It warned, however, that "acute problems of poverty, unemployment and a lack of basic facilities" characterised many communities in the province.

Mr Nissen said the document had been released for public comment before an RDP summit in the Western Cape on July 22.

Crucial op for Reeve

LONDON: Superman star Christopher Reeve will have a crucial operation today which doctors hope will set the paralysed actor on the road to recovery

He was injured in a fall from a horse.

Two damaged vertebrae will be fused to prevent further damage to his spinal cord.

The operation, in which surgeons will use metal plates, screws or wires to anchor the bones, could take up to five hours

But experts warn it may at best keep Reeve alive. It will not guarantee that the once athletic star will ever recover the use of his limbs — Own Correspondent

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• A FINE BLEND OF COMFORT AND QUALITY
7 WOLFE ST WYNBERG

Delimitation disputes will not be allowed to delay November

Tim Cohen

(252) 905 516195

CAPE TOWN — Government is bracing itself for serious disputes over ward delimitation for local government elections in November.

Constitutional Affairs Deputy Minister Valli Moosa said in fighting over the drawing of ward boundaries was likely to be even more fierce than that characterising area demarcation for transitional metropolitan councils throughout the country.

Moosa said at the weekend that the anticipated disputes over wards would not be

allowed to delay polling, which is scheduled for November 1.

A delay, or the even the possibility of a delay, was likely to derail the whole process. "It's impossible to negotiate if there's no pressure," he said.

Moosa's comments follow a dispute in Cape Town over municipal boundaries, which has ended in deadlock after two days of negotiations, and a row over ANC proposals for a rearrangement of metropolitan substructures in Johannesburg.

The ANC intends to press for an amendment to the Local Government Transition

Act to allow for a final decision on delimitation to be taken by a yet to be established special court in the event of an irresolvable dispute between parties. The amendment, which could be achieved by presidential proclamation, would also prevent local government ministers from reconstituting provincial committees responsible for negotiating delimitation.

With the voter registration deadline at midnight tonight, the rate of voter registration was about 60% of eligible voters in the country, said Moosa.

Although special registration would be

permitted for another month, Moosa indicated it would be impossible to extend the final registration date any further.

He indicated that although provision for the funding of political parties was not provided for in the election laws, he was strongly in favour of government funding for parties participating in the election.

One of the main requirements for a true democratic system was the existence of political parties, and for this to be ensured government funding was required. Rather than parties being required to obtain funds from private sources which

could encourage corruption, an open system of public funding was preferable.

Public funding would also have an advantage in that it would allow scrutiny of parties' expenditure, he said.

EDWARD WEST reports that Western Cape local government MEC Pieter Marais said he would take government to the Constitutional Court if the Local Government Transition Act was amended.

Controversy erupted when Marais included Khayelthsa in the central and southern Cape substructure instead of the northern peninsula.

polling

NP to fight amendment

CT 6/6/95 (265)
ANTHONY JOHNSON
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT (267)

THE National Party vowed yesterday to oppose a proposed amendment to the Local Government Act that would allow the government to alter the number of members of provincial councils.

The Committee on Constitutional Affairs met to discuss amendments to the bill that would allow the Government Minister Mr Peter Mares' recommendation of the provincial committee.

Disagreed

The chairman of the National Party study group on constitutional affairs, Mr Andrew Jones, said NP members of the committee and of the national executive had recorded that they disagreed with the ANZ proposal for an amendment that allowed central government interference in provincial legislation. The NP would oppose it, he said.

Ministers now in charge of local appointments

Cape Town — A provision in the Local Government Transition Act giving the central Government the decisive say in appointments to provincial committees on local government was amended again by Parliament's joint constitutional affairs committee yesterday.

It now gives the Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development the task to fill vacancies in these provincial committees in consultation with the Minister of Justice, and after consultation with the premier of the affected province.

The Act was recently amended by the committee to provide for the minister and his deputy to fill vacancies, after consultation with the premier.

But a special adviser to Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer, S S van der Merwe, told the committee yesterday that as

(262) ~~(261)~~
the constitution regulated the relationship between the minister and his deputy, the Act should stipulate a full minister as his consultee.

He proposed that "Minister of Justice" be inserted in place of "Deputy Minister".

This was approved, with the ANC, DP and PAC voting in favour and the NP and IFP against.

STAN 7/6/95
The amendments are aimed at overturning controversial appointments by Western Cape MEC for Local Government Peter Marais to the province's local government provincial committee.

In dispute is the proposed placement of the Khayelitsha township in Cape Town's central metropolitan sub-structure rather than in that of Tygerberg as the Demarcation Board proposed — Sapa.

'ADMINISTRATIVE CAPACITY LACKING'

Provinces battle to spend RDP money

25/9/95
26/9

PROJECT management teams will be sent to the nine provinces to help them identify and launch specific community projects.

THE country's nine provinces are having difficulty spending the millions of rand in RDP funds allocated to them by central government, because they do not have the necessary administrative infrastructure, a senior RDP official said yesterday.

In a bid to accelerate spending, project management teams were being sent to the provinces to identify specific community projects and get them off the ground, deputy director-general in the RDP office Mr Bernie Fanaroff said.

Consultant to the RDP office Mr Danie du Plessis said as a result, more than R1,7 billion in RDP funds which went unspent in

1994/95 had been rolled over to the present financial year.

It was envisaged that at least 20%, or about R1,5 billion, of the 1995/96 RDP budget would be rolled over to the 1996/97 financial year.

In spite of this prediction, Mr Fanaroff said, all the signs pointed to "much more rapid delivery" of RDP projects during the year.

With few exceptions, such as job creation affected by the slow delivery in housing and public works, all 33 tasks outlined in the RDP White Paper were on track.

More than R1 billion in foreign aid to fund RDP projects would become available in the coming

financial year, following agreements between South Africa and donor nations.

However, the absence of macro-economic guidelines and the slow pace of reprioritising departmental budgets had prevented the government from doing little more than tinker with the national budget.

● Mr Fanaroff said the RDP office was also implementing "a cashflow management programme" to accelerate delivery where possible.

This programme would enable the RDP office to divert unused funds from projects where departments were unable to keep up with their own projected schedules, to projects where departments were spending faster than originally planned, without affecting the overall allocations — Sapa-Reuter

Firms asked to invest in R60bn plan

ET (BR) 9/6/95
(267)

BY BRUCE CAMERON

POLITICAL EDITOR

The government is to launch a campaign to attract huge amounts of private sector capital to fund a R60 billion, 10-year programme to upgrade local government infrastructure

The plan could see the partial or full privatisation of some local government services with the way likely to be opened for private sector investors to take equity stakes

Local government will also be given the go-ahead to access the capital markets with loan issues

An investment conference is to be held in August to which all the institutional investors are to be invited to thrash out details of the financing proposals

At a news briefing, Bernie Fanaroff, the deputy director in minister without portfolio Jay Naidoo's office, said that the government was looking for a voluntary accord, Reuters reported

"We're talking voluntary investment, Fanaroff said "Clearly, if it turns out that there is not enough voluntary investment, then the government is going to have to ask the question How do we gear up other investment?"

However, in an interview with Business Report, Naidoo said there was no intention to re-introduce prescribed investments on institutional investors

Naidoo said he was looking for co-operation from the private sector

He also said that apart from raising loan capital, local authorities would be able to look at a variety of relationships with the private sector

This could range from the Queenstown option, where the management of services had been contracted out to the private sector, through to the private sector taking an equity stake in a local government service, on which a return could be expected

He agreed the move amounted to a form of privatisation

In his report to parliament, Naidoo said that during the 1970s, the government secured a substantial private sector investment in bonds issued by local authorities

"Our aim is to mobilise an even larger sum through the new democratic local authorities

"The challenge is to redirect all our national resources to support the reconstruction and development programme

"This means the budget re-orientation within the government of national unity

"Effectively, the whole budget must become our programme fund But it also means gearing up the resources of the private sector and parastatals"

Naidoo said the metal industries' funds have agreed to invest in reconstruction and development programmes

He said the contractual savings institutions, or mutual societies, which hold about R4 000 billion, should follow suit

"Why not, for example, invest a major portion in local government services and infrastructure This would go a long way to kick-start local economic development"

Naidoo said public sector resources would be used to subsidise weaker local authorities or to act as a catalyst to private investment

The steeplechase race to the local elections finish line has many obstacles. But none is as critical as the ongoing demarcation disputes, reports City Editor Paula Fray.

Demarcation rows nobbling polls

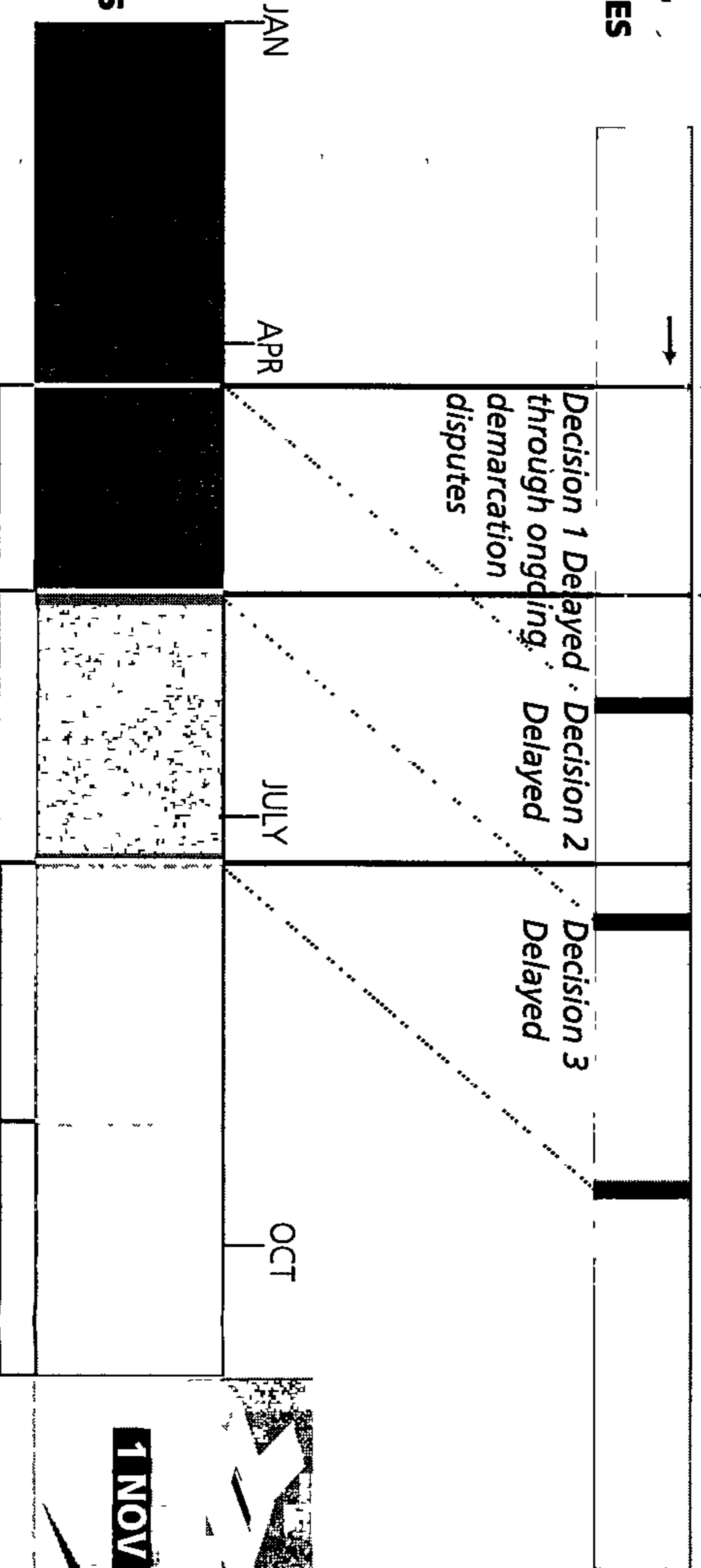
(2/17) SAN 13/6/95

WITHOUT POLITICAL RESOLUTION THERE CAN BE NO ELECTIONS

POLITICAL DECISION #1
 POLITICAL DECISION #2
 POLITICAL DECISION #3

EXTERNAL BOUNDARIES DETERMINATION OF NO. OF SEATS DELIMITATION OF WARDS

28 APR 8 MAY 18 JULY



GRAPHIC: JIGNASA DIAR

Task Group DEADLINES

Determination of number of seats of wards

Delimitation of wards

Nomination of candidates

Printing of ballots; polling preparations

Politicians' DEADLINES

Without political resolution, there can be no elections, warns the Task Group, pointing to three vital political decisions which have already been postponed and now face further delays — determining external boundaries, determining the number of seats and the delimitation of wards.

In essence, the group is dealing with poised dominoes and each one needs to be in place for the process to succeed. The demarcation issue could therefore hold up the entire process as it is one of several interlinked decisions needed.

Since the start, the road to South Africa's first local government elections has been posted with deadline markers. And, since the start, these have had to be adapted.

It was only the delinking of the voters' roll process from the delimitation of wards that made the extended registration period possible, says the Task Group. However, the breathing space gained by this decision is slowly being eroded by the political disputes — mainly in metropolitan areas — around the demarcation of the external boundaries for the interim period after the elections.

These demarcation decisions are central to the entire process

Having successfully cleared the registration hurdle, the Local Government Elections Task Group is now faced with several political obstacles along the way to a successful elections campaign.

Whatever the merits of the objections to the proposed demarcation of certain metropolitan areas, the continued disputes have serious implications for the November 1 elections.

In Cape Town, the demarcation dispute moved to central government after the Local Government Transition Act (LGTA) was amended to declare invalid all decisions taken by a restructured provincial committee between April 30 and June 7.

This negated Local Government MEC Peter Marais' Cape Metropole demarcation — to exclude Khayelitsha from the Tygerberg substructure — which was proposed after the committee was restructured to include NP-leaning members. Marais has threatened to take the issue to the Constitutional Court.

In Greater Johannesburg, members of the Transitional Metropolitan Council's statutory side — consisting of NP, DP, CP, Freedom Front, Federal Party and ratepayers representatives — have rejected Gauteng's proposal to reduce its substructures from seven to four, incorporating the CBD with parts of Soweto. They too, have threatened litigation and have passed a motion to institute urgent Supreme and Constitutional Court action if the decision is not reviewed.

Where concurrence over the demarcation proposals is not reached, the premier can approach the Special Electoral Court to resolve the issue.

However, if the matter is taken to the Supreme or Constitutional Court, the process could be held up for months — delaying plans for a November 1 election, warns Task Group co-chair Dr Fedlerkyn Zwi Shabber.

are likely to be delayed and it is unlikely that all transitional authorities made their ward representations by the weekend deadline.

The Demarcation Board is faced with the unenviable task of ensuring that each ward contains approximately the same number of voters and people.

Furthermore, the provisions of Schedule 3 of the LGTA and Section 245 of the Constitution — that the geographic areas of the previously White local authorities and Coloured and Indian management committees are to be allocated 50% of the wards — are expected to complicate their task even further.

There is little flexibility left as the Boards have to hold public hearings and finalise their investigations into the ward delimitation by June 30 and submit reports to province by July 4. The wards and seats must be formally proclaimed by July 18.

Compliance with this extremely tight timeframe is critical for the elections to be held on November 1, says the Task Group. In the meantime, the voters' roll is being prepared and should be signed and certified by July 31.

But, there are other complications, there are still no less than 14 proclamations of local authorities outstanding.

Furthermore, the timeframe for the nomination process is determined by the date of the elections but this date, announced by President Mandela as November 1, has yet to be gazetted.

And, once wards have been delimited and voters' rolls for individual wards drawn up, the task still ahead includes candidate nominations, determining the number and position of voting stations, and, of course, election day.

as the elections must be held countrywide on the same day, according to the Constitution.

Furthermore, the demarcation of external boundaries is needed before wards can be set up.

voter will have to vote — can be delimited, says the task group.

It is understood that the Minister and Deputy Minister of Constitutional Affairs will be asked to urgently intervene in ward representatives comprise

60% of council seats. By month-end only five provinces (Western Cape — except for the metro, Northern Cape, Free State, Eastern Transvaal and North West) had finalised

the number of seats. Already faced with extremely tight timeframes, the Demarcation Board's investigation into ward delimitations — which are supposed to start this week —

Business backs provincial autonomy

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The Durban regional chamber of business called yesterday for a maximum devolution of powers to provinces, but cautioned against KwaZulu/Natal isolating itself from the rest of SA.

Appearing before the legislature's constitutional affairs standing committee, chamber president Robin Boustred said. "The chamber supports a federal system. There has to be devolution of power as far down as one can go." Devolution should involve guaranteed legislative and executive powers, as well as administrative functions. At the same time, the chamber said it was concerned about the "perceived

tendency" of politicians to be more concerned about power than the economic success of KwaZulu/Natal.

In a written submission to the committee, the chamber proposed that provincial powers be entrenched in the national constitution, and amended only by a specific constitutional mechanism, for instance a two-thirds majority, and with the consent of the affected province.

The chamber made its submissions at the first hearing of the committee which is seeking public input on the type of constitution KwaZulu/Natal should have

The chamber said a federal-style consti-

BD 13/6/95 Continued on Page 2

Provinces

Continued from Page 1

tution would lead to healthy competition between autonomous provinces to the economic benefit of SA.

Devolution of power would strengthen fiscal discipline, as each province would be accountable for its expenditure to the electorate and to central government. However, the chamber said, KwaZulu/Natal generated only 15% of the national wealth although it had 25% of the population.

Important policy decisions that should remain with central government related to foreign affairs, taxation, correctional services, the judiciary, defence control and administration and land reform and agriculture. Central government should also formulate policy decisions on safety and security, although each province would have its own police force. Economic policy would also be a national function, but should be complemented by a provincial economic policy, it said

3 (262) (20) BD 13/6/95

IFP 'will go to court' over ANC plan for chiefs' pay

ARC 14/6/95
Political Staff

(26) (344)

THE Inkatha Freedom Party will take the government to the Constitutional Court if the remuneration of traditional leaders is taken away from provincial governments

IFP secretary-general Ziba Jiyane made this threat yesterday after President Nelson Mandela had clashed with KwaZulu-Natal traditional leaders at a meeting in Durban over the issue of centralised payment for chiefs

The three-hour meeting failed to bridge the gulf between Mr Mandela, who is insisting on centralised payment in order to free chiefs from political manipulation, and the IFP, which says traditional authorities are a provincial competency

The Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill will be finalised and approved by the cabinet today. It will then go to the National Assembly and the Senate, where it is certain to be passed by the ANC majorities

IFP leader and Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelezi attended the meeting in his capacity as chairman of the KwaZulu-Natal House of Traditional Leaders, but did not speak much during the sometimes heated discussions

But he warned at a media briefing afterwards that there could be no rec-

conciliation if Mr Mandela persisted with the Bill

"I cannot see that we are going to have reconciliation. Quite clearly from this style of consultation, this style of dealing with us, it is clear to us that there cannot be any reconciliation"

"There is no way we'll accept what is foisted upon us. We think that is our democratic right and therefore in a situation of this kind I'm very depressed, because I can see no light at the end of the dark tunnel," Chief Buthelezi said

The 34-strong delegation of IFP-aligned chiefs, led by Traditional and Environmental Affairs MEC Chief Nyanga Ngubane, were said to have been peeved that Mr Mandela had come to tell them that Bill was going ahead

Mr Jiyane said yesterday the IFP believed the move was an ANC ploy to win the chiefs over to its side ahead of the local government elections

"President Mandela is using his office to fight ANC battles. But he is violating the Interim Constitution that was written by the ANC itself. We will fight this all the way," said Mr Jiyane

Mr Mandela reportedly told the chiefs that the decision on their pay had already been taken

Mandela plans to grant traditional leaders the same perks as MPs

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — Government planned to give traditional leaders the same perks as MPs, President Nelson Mandela said after meeting Kwazulu/Natal chiefs yesterday.

And the central government was determined to pass legislation empowering it to take over the remuneration of chiefs, Mandela said.

The Bill would be presented to the Cabinet for its approval today.

At the three-hour meeting in Durban, called as part of his consultation on the Bill, Mandela encountered stiff resistance from the 25-member delegation of Kwa-

Zulu / Natal chiefs

led by Inkatha president and Home Affairs Minister Mangosuthu Buthelez and Kwazulu/Natal traditional affairs MEC Nyanga Ngubane, the chiefs demanded that payment remain a function of the provincial government.

In an apparent attempt to entice chiefs away from Buthelez, Mandela said, "We should put them in the same position as other MPs who have uniform salaries, who are provided with official residences, who have official transport, who have secretaries (and) who have drivers."

The Congress of Traditional Leaders of SA (Contralesa) estimates there are about

800 chiefs in SA

Mandela said for chiefs to be respected they had to be given such perks.

However, it would take two years or more for the perks to be implemented, as resources had to be mobilised. Consideration should be given to the fact that government had inherited a R250bn debt.

Describing himself after the meeting as "very depressed", Buthelez said Kwazulu/Natal chiefs would oppose payment by central government and would "never accept what was foisted on us".

Mandela's commitment to consultation was a "charade" and central government was behaving in the same way as the

apartheid regime.

Reconciliation could not be achieved in such a climate and he could "see no bright lights at the end of the dark tunnel", Buthelez said.

Ngubane said the proposed legislation was unconstitutional, as traditional affairs was a provincial competence. Consideration would be given to taking the dispute to the Constitutional Court.

Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer, who chaired the meeting, said he was quite confident that the proposed legislation conformed with the constitution. It was enabling legislation which did not interfere with existing legislation at provin-

cial level.

The payment system was in chaos at present, Meyer said. Salaries of chiefs with the same authority differed. Chiefs outside the former homelands were being paid by central government, while those inside the former homelands were being paid by provincial governments.

The legislation would bring about uniformity, he said.

Reacting to Mandela's plan to grant perks to chiefs, DP finance spokesman Ken Andrew said it was "totally unacceptable that taxpayers' money should be squandered to buy the support of any group of people".

Stormy passage for controversial Bill

BY PATRICK BULGER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town — The Cabinet approved the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill yesterday in the face of opposition from the IFP, which accused President Nelson Mandela of trying to bribe chiefs.

Although the IFP has claimed the Bill is unconstitutional because it takes from KwaZulu-Natal a power assigned to it by the interim constitution, the Bill does not stop provincial governments from continuing to pay chiefs.

The Bill has been at the heart of a bitter dispute between Mandela and IFP leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, who have accused each other

of politicising the institution of traditional leadership

In a statement issued after the cabinet meeting, the IFP accused Mandela of offering to pay traditional leaders the same salaries as MPs

"President Mandela's determination to bulldoze the Bill in the face of stiff opposition from the majority of the amakhosi in KwaZulu-Natal reflects the president's lamentable failure to distinguish between his executive role in government and his party political role," IFP spokesman Ed Tilleff said.

But Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said he had understood Man-

▶ To Page 3

A stormy passage for leaders Bill

From Page 1

Mandela to say that he wanted traditional leaders' salaries to be standardised countrywide

He said the Bill was likely to be passed into law during the current session of parliament

Five of the six provinces with traditional leaders have agreed that the central Government will pay their traditional leaders, excluding KwaZulu-Natal.

Meyer denied there was any political motive behind the Bill, or that there was any attempt to buy the support of chiefs. The Bill, he said, was an example of "concurrent legislation" in terms of which the central Government could legislate concurrently with the provincial governments

Mondli Makhanya reports that opposition parties have united against Mandela's plans to pay traditional leaders through the central fiscus.

The NP and PAC yesterday joined the IFP in condemning the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill

NP KwaZulu-Natal spokesman Pieter van Pletzen said yesterday that taking the payment of chiefs away from the provinces would be unconstitutional. Van Pletzen also condemned Mandela's statement that chiefs should receive the same perks and benefits as parliamentarians.

"Where are we going to get the money from?" he asked.

PAC secretary-general Maxwell Nemdazivhanani said the IFP had a "weightier argument" because South Africa had no national monarchy.

Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa KwaZulu-Natal chairman Zibuse Mlaba said the organisation would begin a campaign within a fortnight of lobbying chiefs in the province to support the Bill.

Battle may end in Electoral Court

Action call on boundaries

(262)

2/15/95

■ POLITICAL STAFF

Deputy Presidents Thabo Mbeki and F W de Klerk have been called upon to try to resolve the dispute about Cape Town's municipal boundaries which is threatening local government elections on November 1

But in Gauteng, after yesterday's provincial cabinet meeting, it seems more likely than ever that the Johannesburg boundary battle will end up in a specially convened Electoral Court

Speaking in Cape Town yesterday, Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said the two deputy presidents would "become involved" in the city's boundary dispute, which he felt could still be negotiated

Western Cape Premier Hernus Kriel has threatened to go to the Constitutional Court to have a presidential proclamation on the issue nullified.

Meyer conceded that "if there is going to be a number of court cases, it will definitely have an effect on the elections". However, he refused to be drawn further on the issue

In Gauteng, the provincial cab-

inet remained deeply divided over the boundaries of municipal sub-structures in the Johannesburg metropolitan area.

National Party MECs are still resolutely opposed to the proposal by ANC MEC Dan Mofokeng that the metropolitan area be divided into four primary municipalities, informed sources say

All indications are that this plan will also not win the two-thirds majority it needs in the Gauteng Committee on Local Government

If this is the case — and a meeting on Monday should make matters clear — the Electoral Court must come into play

However, differences concerning the other three metropolitan areas in Gauteng — Greater Pretoria, the Vaal and the North-Eastern area — have been ironed out in the cabinet, according to Gauteng communications director Chris Vick.

There are strong indications that the Committee on Local Government will approve the plans for these three areas

It is felt that boundaries have to be finalised within days.

GOVT SET TO PAY TRADITIONAL LEADERS

R1m a day for chiefs

CT 15/6/95

(257)

KWAZULU threatens legal action over the amakhosi bill. **ANTHONY JOHNSON** reports.

TAXPAYERS will have to fork out at least R1 million a day as more than 2 000 traditional leaders (amakhosi) prepare to board the gravy train

The cabinet yesterday approved the controversial Traditional Authorities Bill designed to eliminate the huge regional disparities in the payment of traditional leaders and to empower the central government to compete with the provinces in dispensing patronage to the amakhosi

The step was angrily rejected by the IFP as a "mercenary courting gesture" by President Nelson Mandela designed "to bribe" traditional leaders with perks on a par with MPs in a bid to win their support

The move also sparked division in the National Party, with NP central government ministers endorsing the draft legislation, but in kwa-Zulu/ Natal the NP slammed it as "arrogance" on the part of the President designed to "deliberately create further confrontation" in the strife-torn province

Constitutional Affairs Minister Mr Roelf Meyer and his deputy Mr Mohammed Valli Moosa dismissed suggestions that the draft law was a political ploy designed to strip the IFP of its ability to influence chiefs

Mr Meyer said the legislation was aimed at providing uniform remuneration to various categories of traditional

leaders in different provinces

At present payment of incumbents with equivalent positions could vary from over R300 000 a year in kwaZulu/Natal to a mere R2 400 in the Free State

A number of the chiefs are political appointees elevated to their current status by the Verwoerdian plan to buy off traditional leaders to do the bidding of the National Party

The minister could not say how many traditional leaders there were but estimated there were about 20 kings, queens or paramount chiefs, at least 800 amakhosi or chiefs and at least 1 000 headmen

Traditional leaders receive about R41 million a year in salaries and perks but government sources estimate this could increase ninefold to about R369m

Mr Meyer admitted during a post-cabinet briefing that chiefs could be paid twice — by both central and provincial government — and even thrice via local traditional communities

Presidential spokesperson Mr Parks Mankahlana said last night that remarks by Mr Mandela that the government planned to give traditional leaders the same salaries and perks as MPs had been misunderstood

"They will not necessarily receive the same salaries and perks as MPs, but the mechanism whereby they will receive standardised payments will be similar," he said

Dr Frank Mdlalose kwaZulu/Natal premier, said his government would consider legal steps to oppose the bill, Sapa reports

Boundary rows threaten to delay elections

Political Staff

DISPUTES over municipal boundaries in South Africa's three most populous provinces — Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape — could force a postponement of the November 1 local government elections

Negotiations to end the disputes appeared deadlocked in all three centres today, with only hours left before the stipulated deadline for final demarcations to be agreed on

Top officials — including Provincial and Constitutional Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer and the co-ordinator of local government elections Frederick van Zyl Slabbert — were in meetings today in an attempt to resolve the crisis

In the Western Cape, little progress appears to have been made in resolving the dispute between the National Party and

all other parties in the province over the inclusion of Khayelitsha in the Bellville-Durbanville municipal area

While the national cabinet requested Deputy Presidents Thabo Mbeki and F W De Klerk to intervene in the province's demarcation row, no meetings have been held with provincial Premier HERNUS KRIEL

As the demarcation dispute in Cape Town drags on, prospects for the Western Cape being able to keep pace with a series of deadlines leading up to the November poll are increasingly unlikely

Mr Meyer wrote to Mr Kriel late last week proposing that two new members — Cecil Herrandien of the NP and ANC-aligned K Chetty — replace the two ANC-supporting members fired from the committee by Western Cape local government MEC Peter Marais

But Mr Kriel has rejected the proposals

(262)
AAG 20/6/95
In KwaZulu-Natal the Inkatha Freedom Party, which controls the provincial government, has rejected new boundaries proposed by the multi-disciplinary demarcation board.

Durban metro IFP councillor Anthony Grinker said his party would use all constitutional means to oppose the proposed boundaries which, he claimed, discriminated against Indian residents of the metro and created economically crippled sub-councils

In Gauteng, Ian Davidson — leader of the Democratic Party in the greater Johannesburg transitional metropolitan council and a leading member of the provincial committee which was to have resolved a demarcation battle there — said no solution had emerged and elections would probably have to be postponed

Local election date at risk as demarcation debacle deadline passes

Drew Forrest and Mdunduzi ka Harvey

THE failure to meet today's cut-off date for demarcating three metropolises has put government under intense pressure to concede a selective or wholesale postponement of the local government election.

Local government election task group co-chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said he would meet Local Government Minister Roelf Meyer, his deputy Valli Moosa and local government MECs in Cape Town today on the "time-frame crisis" facing the

Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg metropolitan areas

Last week Meyer warned that if the Cape Town boundary dispute was not settled by today, the November 1 election date would be threatened. He said the Cabinet had asked Deputy Presidents Thabo Mbeki and FW de Klerk to mediate. By yesterday neither De Klerk nor Mbeki had met Western Cape premier Hermus Kriel. Mbeki leaves today to visit Denmark, Ethiopia and Switzerland. Yesterday Kriel's spokesman, Frikkie Odendaal, said the province had initiated

Constitutional Court action over central government's intervention in the demarcation of Cape Town through proclamations nullifying the composition of the provincial committee. Respondents were government, President Nelson Mandela, Meyer and Justice Minister Dullah Omar.

Court action is also pending in Johannesburg following a deadlock on demarcation between Gauteng local government MEC Dan Motokeng and the multiparty provincial committee. In Durban, Inkatha has rejected demarcation board proposals, saying they dis-

criminate against Indians and create economically unviable substructures.

Inkatha election campaign official Anthony Grinker said the matter had still to be considered by local government MEC Peter Miller and the provincial committee. He could not see the election taking place this year.

Slabbert said he would present government with an audit of the country's 703 local authority areas, showing their election readiness. This would enable it to "look at contingency measures". Postponing the entire election would al-

most, certainly mean rescheduling it to next year to avoid the holiday period. A selective postponement will require an amendment to the constitution, which stipulates that polling must coincide throughout the country.

Slabbert said wards had to be delimited and voters' rolls divided by voting station by August 13 to allow for the nomination of candidates. "I told the politicians that a November date presupposed an enormous degree of political co-operation. Parties did not have the luxury of screaming at each other right down to the wire."

PROVINCIAL MINISTERS for local government are committed to the November 1 elections and the "boundary wars" in the Western Cape, Gauteng and kwaZulu/Natal would not sabotage them. **ANTHONY JOHNSON** reports.

RAGING boundary wars in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban would not be allowed to torpedo plans to hold South Africa's first non-racial local government elections on November 1, the government vowed last night

As the ANC and the National Party re-opened negotiations on the unresolved Khayelitsha demarcation row, Provincial Affairs Minister Mr Roelf Meyer told the Senate during a debate on his budget vote that provincial ministers were "fully committed" to the date

The Western Cape boundary dispute burst open during debate again yesterday, when NP members accused the ANC of trying to bulldoze a central government decision on the Western Cape

ANC members countered that the NP was trying to sabotage the election process and had reneged on an agreement not to tamper with the composition of provincial demarcation committees

Mr Meyer, who had earlier held a crisis meeting with local government ministers from seven of the nine provinces (Gauteng and the Eastern Cape did not attend), said: "We have to ensure that we have elections on November 1 — that, we are fully committed to"

Government sources would

not say whether the interim constitution would be amended to allow a staggered election process, if the country's three largest cities failed to resolve demarcation disputes soon. One source said that provinces might be penalised in terms of RDP allocations.

Earlier, Deputy Presidents Thabo Mbeki and F W de Klerk met to discuss ways of defusing the Cape Town boundary dispute now ensnared in a web of enmity, and threats by the NP-led Western Cape government to take President Nelson Mandela to court.

Negotiations

After Mr De Klerk met Western Cape Premier Mr Hennis Kriel yesterday, the Western Cape premier said "it was decided that negotiations between the NP and the ANC would resume"

● Gauteng Local Government Minister Mr Dan Mofokeng, who threatened to go to the Electoral Court to resolve the Johannesburg boundary dispute, said last night he was confident the poll could go ahead on November 1 as planned

● The IFP in kwaZulu/Natal warned last night they have not ruled out court action if boundary decisions ran counter to the interests of established groups

POLL DEADLINE WILL BE KEPT

GOVERNMENT, PROVINCES AGREE . . .

21/11/95

21/11

Local govt could be granted power to levy surcharge on national taxes

Sello Morthabakwe

21/6/96

THE Financial and Fiscal Commission favoured the introduction of surcharges on national taxes, including income tax, by lower levels of government, the commission said yesterday.

It released a framework document for intergovernmental fiscal relations detailing its approach to financing lower levels of government.

Lower-tier governments could be granted the discretion of implementing flat-rate surcharges on national taxes, fuel levies

and transfer duties, it said.

Personal income tax would be most suited to an additional surcharge by provincial authorities. Local governments could be granted the discretion of supplementing revenues from property rates and implicit excises on services such as electricity with a surcharge on, among others, the fuel levy and transfer duties.

"The national tax bases must be used unaltered, but provinces and (in some cases) local governments may add a few percentage points to the national tax rate according to their own discretion," the commission said.

It emphasised that surcharges on personal income taxes should be limited to a few percentage points, partly to keep the maximum rates within acceptable limits and not dissuade people from living in particular provinces.

Ideally local governments should raise as much as possible of the revenue that they spent, the commission said. It would recommend that borrowing powers be extended to provinces to finance capital expenditure, but not for recurrent expenditure. However, allocation of loans should be left to capital markets and credit rating

institutions as government involvement in these markets was likely to lead to incorrect allocation of resources.

The commission would have access to government's draft Bill on provincial borrowing powers and would make recommendations for inclusion in the Bill.

It would further recommend that lower-tier government debts be guaranteed by national government only if the debt concerned essential services. If national government guarantees were unlimited, the lower government's liability would become part of SA's national debt and affect

the country's credit rating.

Commission chairman Murphy Morobe said the commission would, before September, have to draft a final document on a revenue-sharing formula for the 1996/97 financial year.

Revenue-sharing funds would be allocated according to a formula incorporating minimum standards and objective variables such as population numbers. It would be possible to phase in the formula only as suitable statistical data became available.

"This is also necessary to avoid disrupting public services," the commission said.

Meyer berates provinces

Adrian Hadland

CAPE TOWN — The increasingly strained relationship between SA's central and provincial governments was degenerating into a political "cold war" which threatened to undermine stable administration, Provincial Affairs and Local Government Minister Roelf Meyer warned the Senate yesterday (262) 21/6/95

In a hard-hitting speech, he appealed to provincial premiers and their executives to refrain from using provincial government structures "as a vehicle for their political promotion" While he did not refer to individual provinces, Meyer was clearly referring to the Western Cape — led by his own NP, — and Inkatha Freedom Party-led KwaZulu/Natal

It was understandable that provincial

governments were keen to prove their ability to govern and that a measure of inter-governmental conflict should exist between governments dominated by different political parties, but if left unchecked, "provincial government could be politicised to the extent that it undermines good governance" While the vigorous pursuit of provincial aspirations was viewed by central government as provocative, overreaction by the centre was seen as a threat to the provinces' independence

"This unfortunate circle of suspicion and mistrust is threatening to undo all the potential virtues of a decentralised and responsive system of administration"

The negative perceptions generated by this cycle made it increasingly difficult to

Continued on Page 2

Meyer (262) 21/6/95

Continued from Page 1

deal with matters where legislative intervention was required to ensure good administration in the provinces.

A rapid change of emphasis and attitude was required by all role players.

SA's system of provincial government was designed on the understanding that a co-operative approach should be adopted between the first and second tiers. "The time has come for us, both central and provincial governments, to focus on SA." The constitution had not envisaged that all disputes be taken to court for resolution. He asked the Senate, as regional govern-

ment's representative at the centre, to use its influence to temper provincial political ambitions.

Deputy Provincial Affairs Minister Valli Moosa told the Senate phenomenal progress had been made in registering voters for local government elections. Seven provinces had registered more than 70% of eligible voters and two more than 80%.

Finalising provincial boundaries remained an important issue. Local-level negotiations had proved the only solution in resolving disputes. "Affected communities are urged to put aside emotional actions and fears to make way for negotiations among all role players," Moosa said.

No vote for tribal areas?

CT 22/6/95

BUPHAS. Most people living under tribal rule in Myanmar will not be able to vote in the first democratic local government elections.

After months of political wrangling between the USDP and IIP over the issue of appointing tribal leaders, the government has been struck out by the most tribal area outside transitional local council boundaries in the province.

Political sources said this could only be changed if the USDP and IIP literally shared the area, which is extremely unlikely. - OCA
Correspondent (267)

● See Page 6

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'Disgrace'⁽²⁶²⁾
DP is left
out of talks

ARC 22/6/95
Municipal Staff

THE latest round of talks between the African National Congress and the National Party about the dispute over new metropolitan boundaries is, a "disgrace", says the Democratic Party caucus in the Cape Town City Council.

It says all the role players should be involved.

The boundary dispute in the Western Cape was of concern to all role players and not an issue that could be finalised and determined by back-door deals between the ANC and NP, caucus leader Neil Ross said.

"It is therefore with distress that we find the words of Premier Hennis Kriel that negotiations between the ANC and NP are to be re-opened on the boundary dispute.

"This dispute is not between the NP and the ANC, — it is between all the role players and the NP Deals behind closed doors negate the whole process," said Mr Ross.

Slow progress on urban demarcation disputes

Mduduzi ka Harvey

THE Western Cape provincial government was divided over legal action against central government linked to the Cape Town demarcation dispute, party sources said yesterday.

The sources said some members, including provincial premier Hernus Kriel and local government MEC Pieter Marais, favoured a negotiated solution to the dispute. Others remained adamant that the legal option should be pursued to stop central government interference in provincial matters.

Later yesterday Kriel's spokesman Frikkie Odendaal said the provincial government would press ahead with its Constitutional Court case against central government. The proceedings would be called off only if a negotiated settlement was reached, he said.

In KwaZulu/Natal, local government and housing MEC Peter Miller said a multiparty commitment to settle short-term differences was essential if local government elections were to go ahead.

Conflict in the province centres on the number and form of substructures in Durban, as well as changes to tribal boundaries by the demarcation board. Meetings between parties at both provincial and central government level were in the pipeline, and Miller said he expected matters to be resolved by the end of this month.

In Gauteng, premier Tokyo Sexwale's legal adviser Mark Phillips said legal documentation on the Greater Johannesburg demarcation dispute had been referred to the Special Electoral Court, which would give the city's metropolitan transitional council and other substructures three days to make representations.

□ The Gauteng cabinet yesterday adopted a formula for the allocation of electoral seats based on data supplied by the Central Statistical Service.

The province's four metropolitan areas — Johannesburg, Pretoria, Vaal and North East Rand — would be allocated 30 seats for a potential electorate of less than 700 000, 40 seats for between 700 000 and 2-million, 50 seats for between 2-million and 3-million, and 60 for more than 3-million potential voters. The formula will be submitted to the provincial committee. If rejected, it will be referred to the Special Electoral Court.

● Comment: Page 10

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (262)

Up the poll

PM 23/6/95

Boundary wrangles in the three most important provinces seemed set this week to force a postponement of November's local government elections

Disputes over demarcation board proposals in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape were not expected to be resolved by this week's deadline

In the Western Cape the row appears headed for the Constitutional Court. The National Party-controlled provincial government under Hennis Kriel wants to overturn a central government proclamation which sought to restructure the Nat-dom-

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

inated provincial committee, which had earlier endorsed municipal boundaries that the ANC regarded as politically favourable to the NP

The ANC wants to neutralise NP domination of the area by having the massive (predominantly ANC-supporting) Khayelitsha township included in the northern district. The provincial government, however, wanted the township included in the Cape Town district

The Nats in the province say ANC hardliners pressured President Nelson Mandela to sign the proclamations overturning the composition of the provincial committee before the dispute could be negotiated. They believe a compromise was possible, but was not given a chance by the ANC

Local government election task group co-chairman Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert was due to brief government Ministers in Cape Town this week on the state of readiness for the elections. He was expected to tell them that court action to resolve the boundary disputes would inevitably mean a full or partial postponement of the election

Postponement of the poll in Gauteng, the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal would require a constitutional amendment, because all local government elections must be held on the same day in terms of the interim constitution

Postponing the election as a whole would probably mean a delay until March or April next year ■

Luring chiefs to democracy

There has been an outcry over the payment of traditional leaders, but there are sound reasons behind the proposals, writes **Ann Eveleth**

BEHIND the draft Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill approved by Cabinet last week and President Nelson Mandela's long-term proposal to provide chiefs with parliamentary perks lies a comprehensive strategy to turn traditional leaders into tools of development, and their home-land-sponsored G3 rifles into spades.

While the proposals have come under fire from the Inkatha Freedom Party, the National Party's KwaZulu/Natal caucus and the Democratic Party as an expensive form of "political patronage" designed to allow ANC pipers to call the tune for recalcitrant traditional leaders, Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini's Royal Council spokesman Prince Sifiso Zulu says they're missing the point.

"It is unfortunate that these parties are blinded to the reality of the unique situation in South Africa where we're trying to democratise the entire country. If traditional leaders were going to

be stumbling blocks to democracy and development, that would have to be addressed. You can't expect traditional leaders to open up to democracy without some movement toward recognising their importance and difficulties," said Zulu.

Zulu added that the provision of official residences would go a long way toward raising the status of chiefs and reducing their antagonism toward development. "In traditional communities, chiefs have been highly respected, but in contemporary society we have respect for those with high education levels and good jobs. If a young man goes to university, earns good money, and comes back to build a big house, the chief's status falls and the young man gets more respect."

The provision of houses will reduce the need for chiefs to earn money to boost their status through "arbitrary fines, surcharges and land fees", while providing a "breakthrough for development" in their areas, says Zulu. It will also facilitate their blending with modern society. "Traditionally, the kraals of *amaNtosi* have been located high on the slopes of hills, off the main roads and inaccessible for security reasons. If you build an official residence, they will obviously have to come down from the slopes, nearer to the main roads

where they will be more accessible to people," said Zulu.

Congress of Traditional Leaders president chief Pathele Holomisa adds that the other infrastructure — cars, secretaries and drivers — are "not for personal use, but to facilitate the work of the tribal authorities".

"Traditional leaders have great responsibilities — they are administrators of land and communal affairs, they are judicial officers with responsibility for civil and some criminal cases, they settle disputes — most of their time is spent attending to the needs of their communities. They deserve to be well paid," said Holomisa.

Holomisa rejected calls that communities should pay for their own traditional leaders, rather than spending tax money on them. "People in tribal areas are the poorest of the poor in this country. It is no longer the time when the people would simply till the land for the chief. People have their own work to attend to. They also pay taxes and they don't need to be burdened with such payments," he said.

Contralesa KwaZulu/Natal chairman chief Zibuse Mlaba predicted the Bill could also herald the end of violence in South Africa's rural areas. "The payments have been used in the past to turn traditional leaders into

WJM23-29/6/95

(212)

warlords. People are dying in this province because they think they are fighting for their chief. This will stabilise the situation." Mlaba rejected claims that the package would make traditional leaders puppets of the ANC. "The recipe for the kind of patronage exercised by the apartheid government and its homeland subsidiaries does not exist. Previous governments held power over chiefs through the ability to appoint or depose chiefs. That is not part of the Bill, so I don't see how the ANC will become the political paymasters."

Holomisa said the question of inheritance among traditional leaders needed to be sorted out once and for all and pointed out that Contralesa has called repeatedly for an independent commission of inquiry into the legitimate status of traditional leaders around the country, particularly those whose position is disputed.

"Many — but not most — of the traditional leaders in South Africa were appointed by apartheid, but that has nothing to do with the legitimacy of the institution. As far as those people go, the communities know who is the real traditional leader, and this needs to be sorted out. Then the communities and customary law will determine the successors," said Holomisa.

SPEAKER FEARS 'HARDENING OF POSITIONS'

ANC call to debate boundaries denied

ET23/6/95

(26)

WHILE the NP holds a "bosberaad" that probably includes the boundaries row, an ANC demand for a snap debate on the issue was refused. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

THE Western Cape ANC caucus yesterday accused the Speaker of the provincial legislature, Mr Willem Doman, of political bias in refusing two requests for a snap debate on Premier Hérnus Kriel's legal action against President Nelson Mandela.

Mr Kriel and his NP-led cabinet were wrapping up the final day yesterday of a "bosberaad" at a secret location in the Overberg, where the demarcation crisis was almost certainly top of the agenda.

However, ANC whip Mrs Tasneem Essop contested Mr Doman's initial reasons for denying a snap debate — that boundary negotiations had actually recommenced and that it was "not to the advantage of the province".

The debate request focused on

recent confirmation by Mr Kriel that the province would foot the bill for the Constitutional and Supreme Court challenges to the central government's amendment of the Local Government Transition Act.

Mrs Essop asked what negotiations were "supposed to achieve" if the Premier had already handed in legal papers on his constitutional challenge.

Giving additional reasons for his debate refusal yesterday, Mr Doman said there "was and still is an agreement to recommence negotiations".

More than one party was involved in these negotiations and he had made his decision so as not to favour any particular party.

NP sources in provincial gov-

ernment said they believed Mr Doman was afraid debate would "harden positions" and reduce the prospect of a settlement in time to enable the November 1 elections.

Others suggested the matter was "sub judice" — something experts scoffed at.

Mrs Essop said Mr Kriel's decision was patently not supported by the majority of the people while taxpayers' money was going towards an NP party ploy.

● The central government stepped in after Local Government Minister Mr Peter Marais "loaded" the powerful Provincial Committee with NP sympathisers to ensure his Cape Metropolitan boundaries (and all subsequent decisions) went through.

Provincial committees were set up as watchdog bodies under the Kempton Park agreements to ensure a fair and unbiased transition process.

LEGISLATION 'FORCED THROUGH' — IFP

Rush over amakhosi bill

CT 23/6/95

AN UNUSUALLY short time has been allowed for comment on the controversial bill on the payment of traditional leaders before it is debated in Parliament next week

THE controversial Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill will be passed by Parliament next week after the public was given an unprecedented 41 hours to comment on it

"All interested parties" had until midday today to submit their comments on the bill before its consideration by the Portfolio Committee on Constitutional Affairs on Tuesday and its inevitable passage through the National Assembly on Wednesday next week

Portfolio committee chairman Mr Pravin Gordhan issued a state-

ment on Wednesday evening inviting comment until midday today

The bill gives the President the power to pay traditional leaders "in respect of their tribal roles" while they continue to be paid by provincial governments for "provincially administered statutory functions"

This means a traditional leader may be paid two salaries — one from central government merely for being a traditional leader and another from the province for actual work done

The bill has been sponsored by

President Nelson Mandela, who originated it in the context of perceived IFP manipulation of the amakhosi of kwaZulu/Natal

Mr Mandela and the ANC have since been criticised for similar political manipulation and have faced allegations that they are attempting to "bribe" the chiefs

The bill has sparked a number of verbal confrontations between Mr Mandela and the IFP leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi

Yesterday, the IFP parliamentary caucus said in a statement it was "extremely concerned" about the way the bill was being "forced through"

The 41-hour invitation to make submissions was a "ruse" that made a mockery of the principle of transparency

(267) (3577)
Traditional leaders from the northern coastal region of kwaZulu/Natal yesterday rejected the bill

A joint statement issued after a meeting of traditional leaders in Empangeni said the leaders unanimously rejected "the divisive manner" in which President Mandela "forced" the bill through Parliament

This was against the will of the vast majority of the amakhosi, the statement said

● Pan Africanist Congress MP Ms Patricia de Lille said yesterday the PAC welcomed the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill "to clear up who is truly a traditional leader, because many were appointed by the apartheid regime" — Political Correspondent, Sapa

Traditional leaders Bill nothing but a ruse — IFP

Adrian Hadland

CAPE TOWN — The IFP lashed out yesterday at the "unseemly haste" with which the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill was to be pushed through Parliament.

The Bill, which was approved by Cabinet earlier this month and tabled in Parliament on Wednesday, will be debated in the Senate next week.

The Bill determines that all traditional leaders in SA are paid by central, not provincial, government.

The IFP's parliamentary caucus said yesterday that interested parties had been given only two days to comment on the Bill.

It said this was "clearly nothing but a ruse" which was a mockery of the principles of transparency and accountability which underpinned SA's new government.

The IFP said it was obvious the parliamentary committee which would approve the Bill the morning before the debate would be acting

only as a rubber stamp

ANC chief whip in the Senate Bulelani Ngcuka said yesterday the Bill had been approved by Cabinet, consultations with traditional leaders and interested parties had taken place and government was determined to get the legislation through before Parliament's mid-year recess.

Sapa reports that traditional leaders from the northern coastal region of KwaZulu/Natal had added their voice to the IFP's rejection of the Bill.

In a statement from Empangeni, the leaders said they unanimously rejected the "divisive manner" in which the Bill was being forced through Parliament. This was against the will of the vast majority of the chiefs.

Earlier this month, President Nelson Mandela failed in a Durban meeting to reach a compromise with the chiefs. Mandela said the Bill was aimed at raising the living standards of traditional leaders.

Some KwaZulu/Natal traditional leaders had expressed fears that payment by central government would undermine their autonomy.

PAC president Clarence Makwetu said at a media briefing yesterday that funds for the remuneration of traditional leaders had always come from the central government and the PAC "failed to understand why it has now become an issue".

The PAC was opposed to traditional leaders being able to serve in other statutory bodies and to earn two salaries. "If they want to come to Parliament, we see no reason why they should continue as traditional leaders.

"They will then be making laws and going back to implement those same laws."

PAC MP Patricia de Lille said the PAC welcomed the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill. "We need to clear up who is truly a traditional leader because many were appointed by the apartheid regime."

23/6/95

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THE ANC's frenzied outcry over the IFP's plan to claim more federal powers for KwaZulu/Natal has done nothing to dampen the IFP's determination.

The reason becomes clear from a reading of the interim constitution. Provincial governments need no prior approval from central government to exercise their authority under the constitution. If one of the two tiers of government feels aggrieved by any legislative move by the other, it has to seek redress in the Constitutional Court — the most common remedy internationally under federal-type constitutions.

This raises two cardinal questions. First, how much of the IFP's audacious plan would be likely to be adjudged constitutional? Second, can the ANC in KwaZulu/Natal or in central government stop the IFP?

Mangosuthu Buthelezi is deadly serious about his scheme, and it will take more than hysterical rhetoric to force him to abandon it. Buthelezi's advisers know only too well he leads a "10% party" and, if he hopes to become a truly national political force, he has to assert himself in his own backyard.

The IFP's national council has already endorsed the plan, and expects substantial progress on its implementation by the time the party holds its annual general conference in four weeks' time. All 20 proposals could be adopted by a simple majority in the regional legislature.

The ANC in KwaZulu/Natal refuses, however, to be drawn into a debate on the merits of the plan. ANC provincial spokesman Dumisani Makhaye says the ANC has "a problem" with such an approach. He argues some of the proposals are unconstitutional, but adds: "The plan must be seen as a package, not 20 individual points, within the context of Buthelezi's rise and resist calls."

The IFP's biggest constitutional hurdle is not schedule 6 of the interim constitution, which lists provincial legislative competences, but section 126 (3) dealing with "provincial legislative authority".

IFP's 'go it alone' strategy may lead to weaker provinces

DAVID GREYBE in Cape Town

70 23/6/95

Schedule 6 lists the powers provinces will have. But central government has not passed all of them on. However, the vaguely worded section 126 (3) is the key on which the court will have to base its judgments if and when challenges arise. The section states a national law will prevail over a provincial one if:

- The national law deals with a matter "that cannot be regulated effectively by provincial legislation";
 - The national law deals with a matter that, to be performed effectively, requires to be regulated or co-ordinated "by uniform norms or standards" throughout SA;
 - The national law is necessary "to set minimum standards" across the nation for public services;
 - The national law is necessary "for the maintenance of economic unity, the protection of the environment, the promotion of interprovincial commerce, the protection of the common market in respect of the mobility of goods, services, capital or labour, or the maintenance of national security" and;
 - The provincial law "materially prejudices the economic, health or security interests of another province or the country as a whole, or impedes the implementation of national economic policies".
- Some observers maintain the only

way to deal with the inevitable constitutional clashes between central and regional governments must be found in international federal experience. According to one "Constitutions can only act as guidelines for the courts. The courts judge each case on its merits and is the final arbiter. No constitution can provide all the answers".

Take for example the IFP's plan (points 4, 5, 6 and 7) to introduce legislation to wrest control of "all matters" related to land, water and forestry management. It justifies its plan by referring to schedule 6 provincial powers. It argues in order to administer effectively schedule 6 areas such as agriculture, environment, indigenous and customary law, local government, nature conservation, regional planning and development, traditional authorities and urban and rural development, it needs control over all land, water and forestry matters.

However, central government does not buy this argument. Its case — arguably stronger — is that national departments already exist in these three areas. Central government is also responsible for land reform. Further-

more, it must set national norms and standards and, lest we forget, it is ultimately responsible for the success of the reconstruction and development programme, of which land and water issues are pivotal.

Clearly, there will be clashes between the two tiers of government. If they fail to resolve their differences themselves, either side can take the issue to the Constitutional Court. But, an observer notes: "What is so bad about that? It is basic democratic practice under federal arrangements like in the US".

The IFP also plans to take "firm control" over trade and commerce (point 12). If the provincial government does not fall foul of national norms and standards it can raise, in Inkatha's words, "very substantial revenues" in terms of provincial business licences. However, there are vast areas of trade and commerce which, in terms of section 126 (3), cannot be administered provincially. Lotteries and gambling (points 8 and 9), a schedule 6 item, would seem open to be claimed by the region.

Some of the IFP proposals are highly sensitive politically. The IFP, under point 2, wants to change the name of the province to the Kingdom of KwaZulu, and adopt the former KwaZulu government's emblems

and flag. The ANC has threatened mass action if it happens, but this does not detract from the fact that the proposal appears constitutional.

Perhaps the most controversial proposal is the plan to establish armed "provincial security and protection forces" — using former IFP self-protection unit members — "for the protection of people and property". This phrase is taken from the constitution — one of the few exceptions in a clause which otherwise forbids the establishment of armed forces outside the SANDF. The IFP says the purpose would be protection of VIPs and state property. The court would have to examine carefully whether its functions were indeed limited to this. Politically, the IFP's only hope of selling this proposal to the ANC is if it agrees to a multiparty armed outfit, which includes ANC self-defence unit members, under non-partisan control.

Some observers believe Inkatha will find it difficult to legislate to prevent chiefs being paid by central government as planned (point 20). They point out it is perfectly legitimate to pay chiefs for so-called "national functions" which cut across provincial borders.

At the same time, central government does not appear to have any legal grounds to stop provinces paying chiefs for provincial services. This, of course, would make it difficult to introduce uniform pay scales for chiefs, which was President Nelson Mandela's original stated reason for introducing national legislation. For the rest, the IFP's proposals appear constitutional. But as one observer notes, "That does not mean they are politically smart".

Roelf Meyer warns Inkatha is flirting with political danger by abandoning consensus-seeking. He accuses Inkatha of abusing and manipulating the interim constitution for narrow party political gain.

Meyer says the entire provincial system in SA could be threatened if the IFP goes ahead with its plan. The IFP's strategy, because of its provocative nature, could strengthen the hands of the ANC's so-called centralists, and provinces could end up weaker under the final constitution.

(262)
LTM 24/6/95

'Keep tight rein on local govt powers'

By JOHN PERLMAN
CHIEF REPORTER

Central government should continue to keep a tight rein on provincial and local government spending and tax-

ation powers, according to a discussion document released this week by the Financial and Fiscal Commission, set up this year to advise the Government on intergovernmental fiscal relations.

The commission, recommended that lower-tier governments be able to levy flat-rate surcharges on personal income taxes, fuel levies and transfer duties. But the overall framework proposed in the document keeps a firm central government grip on revenue collection, fund allocation and borrowing.

The commission's proposals represent the first significant

input to a debate with strong political undertones following President Mandela's threats earlier this year to cut off funding to KwaZulu-Natal.

While the interim constitution's prohibition of provincial income taxes was appropriate, it would be possible for sub-national governments to impose surcharges on personal income tax, the commission said. This power should, however, be limited to provincial governments, and constraints were recommended.

Surcharges

"National definitions" of the tax base should be used by all regions and the tax should be collected by central government. The maximum surcharge should be "limited to a few percentage points" so as not to "dissuade" people (especially the rich) from liv-

ing in particular provinces. The surcharge should also not force a "significant lowering of the national (tax) rate" as this would shrink the pool of shared revenue.

Provincial and local government surcharges on the fuel levy would be raised "relatively easily" and duties on transfer of fixed property had "potential". However, the commission opposed provincial surcharges on most other taxes. Company income tax should be retained "for the exclusive use of the national government". VAT "should not be levied on a provincial basis". Provincial sales tax was impractical; and taxes on minerals and other natural resources could be levied at provincial level but were "inappropriate".

Direct provincial government access to customs and

stamp duties, financial services levies, marketable securities and capital transfer taxes was also rejected.

The key issue of a revenue-sharing formula was dealt with in broad principles. The thrust of the report, however, suggested firm central government control of the process.

The commission suggested its first task should be to divide revenue between national and sub-national governments. The total would then be subjected to an agreed revenue-sharing formula. This would "link the total to what was economically affordable from the perspective of the country as a whole and prevent the formula becoming open-ended", and result in the formula being a mechanism for dividing the available amount rather than determining it.

A strong redistributive strand came through. "High-income areas will be able to finance their own services more easily than (poorer) areas and the magnitude of (central government) transfers should be inversely related to fiscal capacities."

The proposals provided for a number of other central government controls on provincial and lower-tier spending.

Auditing

Funds allocated under an Act of Parliament would have to be used in the prescribed way. "Only if a province is able to comply with the conditions more cheaply than envisaged will it have discretion over remaining funds."

Accounting and auditing structures would have to be finalised before functions were transferred to lower-tier governments.

Demarcation negotiations break down

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Western Cape demarcation debacle will now almost certainly go to the Supreme and Constitutional Courts following the breakdown of central government-brokered talks after only 40 minutes on Friday.

Provincial Local Government Minister Mr Peter Marais, whose

alleged "loading" of the provincial committee to secure his party's interests ahead of the November 1 poll led to the impasse, remained unapologetic at the weekend.

Referring to his legal attempts to have central government's retrospective amendment of the Local Government Transition Act declared unconstitutional, Mr Marais said "I don't consider the

election date more important than my constitutional rights."

He said sticking to his party's position not to have Khayelitsha included in the Tygerberg sub-structure was motivated by the township's best interests and Cape Town's capability to immediately render effective services.

Tygerberg would consist of seven municipalities which would

take nearly two years to "unbun-dle" before they could help Khayelitsha. Cape Town was "open for immediate business".

The other argument was that the iKapa townships (Nyanga, Guguletu and Crossroads) — which Mr Marais is prepared to include in Tygerberg — had crumbling infrastructures. However, Khayelitsha was a newer township

with a strong infrastructure.

This would be less draining on Cape Town's annual income of R2 billion compared to Tygerberg's annual income of R800 million.

ANC Western Cape chief Mr Chris Nissen said he regarded it as "extreme bad faith" for the NP to proceed with court action in spite of their public commitment to re-open negotiations.

(257) CF# 26/6/95

ART 26/6/95
**Buthlezi
lashes out
at Bill on
chiefs' pay**

(26/6/95) ~~26/6/95~~
Political Staff

INKATHA Freedom Party leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi says his party will use its "power and determination" to defeat the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill, due before parliament this week.

The Bill would "become the battleground for the rule of law and the protection of communal property and traditional societies", Chief Buthelezi told a rally at Mtubatuba in KwaZulu-Natal yesterday.

He has clashed repeatedly with President Mandela over the Bill which empowers central government to pay traditional leaders's salaries.

He also hit out at what he said were government attempts to sideline tribal chiefs.

He said the ANC was "hell-bent" on imposing the traditional leaders' Bill even though the amakhosi of KwaZulu-Natal had rejected the proposal.

They had called the Bill unconstitutional and alleged that central government was imposing on provincial jurisdiction because the provinces had constitutional jurisdiction over traditional authorities.

The Traditional Leaders Bill, tabled in parliament last week, is to be discussed by the portfolio committee on constitutional affairs tomorrow and the National Assembly on Wednesday where it will undoubtedly be passed by the ANC majority.

Griqua chiefs seek pay

CT 27/6/95

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(267)

LEADERS of the Griqua and Nama peoples have urged the government to pay them in terms of the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill

The bill is to allow central government to determine the remuneration of traditional leaders and pay them from the national fiscus. It is to be debated in the Senate today and the National Assembly tomorrow.

In letters to the parliamentary select committee on constitutional affairs, representatives of the Gri-

qua National Conference of South Africa, the Griqua Peoples' Organisation and the Namas of the Richtersveld said their traditional leaders should also be paid

Mrs K D Cloete, secretary of the Griqua National Conference, said Paramount Chief Andrew le Fleur II was a descendant of the Griqua founder, Captain Adam Kok, and was the recognised Griqua leader

The Rev James Kanyiles, head of the Griqua Peoples' Organisation, said he was the lawful successor to Mr Nicolaas Waterboer II

and leader of Griquas living in west Griqualand and Albany

Both said the remuneration of traditional leaders should be suited to their status and duties

Mr Paul de Wet, of Khuboes in the Richtersveld, said the Namas leaders should also be paid

Meanwhile, the Black Sash and Human Rights Committee have criticised the brevity of the period allowed for public comment on the bill. It was tabled on June 21 and the deadline given as 12pm the following day — Sapa

Elections ⁽²⁶²⁾ row: 'It's this ~~(263)~~ week or bust'

CHRIS BATEMAN

CT 28/6/95

HOPES for the nationwide November 1 elections faded further yesterday as three provinces remained bogged down in demarcation squabbles or court actions — with the Western Cape's court challenge unlikely to be heard before mid-August.

A staggered election among the provinces loomed large when co-chairman of the Local Government Task Group Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert warned politicians yesterday they had "just this week or bust".

Acting president of the Constitutional Court, Mr Justice Ismail Mahomed, said it was "very unlikely" he and his 10 colleagues would convene an urgent sitting before the current court recess ended on August 14.

His court is being asked by the NP-led Western Cape government to declare President Nelson Mandela's retrospective amendment of the Transitional Local Government Act unconstitutional and an interference with provincial affairs.

President Mandela made his proclamation on the recommendation of the powerful ANC-led Constitutional Committee — preventing the alleged "loading" of provincial committees by local government ministers.

It automatically nullified the appointment of two NP-leaning members to the Western Cape Provincial Committee which would then have ratified Local Government Minister Mr Peter Marais' controversial demarcation proposals.

Dr Slabbert said yesterday that "if this drags on to mid-August — then elections on November 1 are impossible".

Gauteng and kwaZulu/Natal also had to solve their problems before the end of the week.

● See Page 5

POLITICS

SENATE FLOOR CROSSED TO PASS BILL ON TRADITIONAL LEADERS

NP supports ANC on chiefs

IN SPITE of warnings by the IFP that the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill was "suicidal", the ANC and the NP voted against the IFP, DP and the Freedom Front yesterday to pass the bill in the Senate.

NATIONAL PARTY members crossed the floor of the Senate yesterday to vote with the ANC against the IFP, the DP and the Freedom Front to pass the Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill.

The IFP warned the bill was "suicidal" and that the amakhosi (chiefs) of KwaZulu/Natal would never accept it. But the Senate passed the bill, opening the way for its passage through the National Assembly today after which it will become law.

The bill provides for central government to pay traditional

leaders for their "tribal roles". Provinces will continue to pay them for the "statutory functions" they perform.

Its passage has been marred by several bitter disputes since President Nelson Mandela first proposed the measure. All of these disputes flared again in yesterday's debates.

The IFP continued to claim the bill was unconstitutional because traditional affairs are the preserve of provincial governments. There were renewed claims the ANC was trying to bribe traditional leaders and that the ANC majority was

"steamrollering" the bill through Parliament.

NP members criticised aspects of the bill when it was debated in the Portfolio Committee on Constitutional and Provincial Affairs before reaching the Senate.

NP justice spokesman Mr Dame Schutte said there had to be a limit on the term "traditional leader" as the bill referred to paying all of them whether they had a national role or not. Norms should be applied to avoid double payments.

The NP's Mr André Fourie said the party did not have a problem with the bill, but could not understand why it was being rushed.

When the division was called in the Senate, NP members crossed the floor to join the ANC majority where they voted for the bill. IFP Senator Musa Zondi said

the bill was "inherently unconstitutional", "intrusive" and "arrogant".

"Whoever believes that the amakhosi of KwaZulu/Natal can be ignored is making a suicidal mistake. They will not be crushed," Senator Zondi said.

He warned the bill was an acid test of pluralism. It would undermine traditional society and any attempt to buy the loyalty of chiefs would also fail.

DP Senator Errol Moorcroft said his party accepted the "historical reality" of traditional leaders, but in terms of the constitution there were no differences between citizens in terms of their birth.

ANC members argued the bill was "enabling legislation" which did not prescribe the detail of paying traditional leaders but merely

established the principle of paying them at the national level. It also provided for the rationalisation of traditional leaders' payments which differed countrywide.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Mr Roelf Meyer said other pay traditional leaders received would have to be taken into account when central government paid them.

Before the debate, IFP MP Mr Peter Smith tried to have the bill stopped when he proposed the debate be held over and a process of consultation be started.

ANC MP and portfolio committee chairman Mr Pravin Gordhan said Parliament would have to define who were traditional leaders and said the Council of Traditional Leaders should be established urgently — Political Staff

CT 28/6/95

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Parties cry foul over Bill's passage

Adrian Hadland M 28/6/95

CAPE TOWN — The controversial Remuneration of Traditional Leaders Bill was passed by the Senate yesterday, despite objections by the IFP, the DP and the Freedom Front.

The Bill sets the principle that the payment of traditional leaders across SA should be handled by central government.

Introducing the Bill, Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said uncertainty and disparities existed concerning traditional leaders' pay between and within different regions.

Equivalent leaders received R2 400 per annum in one province compared with almost R300 000 in another, Meyer said.

There was a need for certainty and a better understanding of how these leaders should be accommodated, he said.

The NP recommended the formation of a body of experts to assist in determining pay scales and to ensure that traditional leaders were bona fide, NP senator Cornelius Ackermann said.

ANC senator Mohammed Bhabha said R75m was being spent annually on traditional leaders. The Bill did not envisage placing additional people on government's

wage bill but aimed to rationalise and clarify the payments.

The IFP expressed its outrage at the Bill's passage. The speed at which the legislation was passed made a "mockery of the principles of accountability and transparency," IFP MP Peter Smith said.

He said the ANC had made it clear, by its approach to the Bill, that it was motivated only by the pursuit of power.

IFP senator Keith Zondi said the Bill was intrinsically unconstitutional and undermined the place of traditional leaders in society.

DP senator Errol Moorcroft described the Bill as a "thoroughly bad piece of legislation".

The DP opposed the notion of inherited leadership, questioned the genuine lineage of many traditional leaders and argued that it was unacceptable for government to pay for services rendered to cultural groups and local communities.

Moorcroft said the Bill would also substantially reduce the powers of provincial government.

The Bill was passed, with the IFP, DP and Freedom Front voting against, and will be passed to the National Assembly for debate today.

Earnings per share (cents)

Crucial concession on ward allocations

ET 29/6/95 (262)

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE Parliamentary Portfolio Committee on Constitutional Affairs made a landmark concession yesterday in the allocation of election wards, to avoid situations in which people of one population group might be unfairly privileged.

The current allocation of wards on a 50/50 statutory/non-statutory basis in terms of the interim constitution has led, for example, to a situation in George in which Africans are outnumbered nine-to-one but get half the wards.

This situation is repeated in several towns across the country. In Oudtshoorn, blacks are outnumbered six to one by other race groups yet stand to be allocated half the available wards.

Conversely, in Bathurst whites, coloureds and Indians are outnumbered nearly seven-to-one by blacks — yet get half the wards.

Yesterday the committee urgently requested more information to enable similar anomalies to be identified.

Mr Roelf Meyer, the Minister of Provincial Planning and Constitutional Affairs, revealed he would be holding a special meeting of all provincial ministers on Monday to brief himself on such cases.

He suggested a four-point solution which involved getting exact information from all nine demarcation boards within 14 days and then resolving individual anomalies with their help and that of Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert's Inter-Provincial Task Group.

If anomalies remained after this he would agree to amend the constitution, legislation and election regulations.

—This latest problem comes as Dr Slabbert has expressed severe doubt about whether the November 1 elections deadline will be met.

— And yesterday Western Cape Demarcation Board chairman Professor Fanie Cloete described local government elections by November 1 as "improbable".

He said kwaZulu/Natal, Gauteng and the Western Cape had virtually no chance of completing their demarcations in time to meet Friday's election regulation deadline, upon which a series of subsequent preparatory deadlines depend.

Professor Cloete said yesterday's conclusion that the constitution needed amending to avoid absurdities strengthened his view — especially with the Western Cape's court challenge over the greater Cape Town boundary dispute now due only on August 14 at the earliest.

Disputes

Meanwhile, Reuter reports that Mr Meyer said yesterday he objected to disputes between central and provincial governments being settled in court, saying "that will bring South Africa nowhere".

Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel has said he will go to the Constitutional and Supreme Courts over the demarcation dispute.

● In Johannesburg, the South African National Civics Organisation has announced it will begin a mass action campaign this weekend to force the DP and the NP to accept Gauteng Local Government Minister Mr Dan Mofokeng's controversial proposals to demarcate greater Johannesburg into four sub-structures.

Controversial chiefs' pay legislation passed

Political Correspondent

ARG 29/6/95

LEGISLATION on paying traditional authorities has been passed in the face of an Inkatha Freedom Party threat to ask the constitutional court to overturn the measure

The legislation has been interpreted widely as an attempt

to neutralise the IFP's sway over traditional leaders in Kwazulu-Natal by removing their control over pay

The president will decide the levels of pay, after consulting the Council of Traditional Leaders and Commission on Remuneration of Traditional

Leaders

Provincial and Constitutional Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said it would be a mistake to ignore traditional leaders in the constitution

The National Party supported the bill. It was opposed by the IFP and Democratic Party

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Meyer tells MECs to sort out demarcation

CAPE TOWN — Inconsistencies in ward allocations prescribed by the Constitution and the Local Government Transition Act could force them to be amended before the November elections.

While Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer believes provincial MECs and the demarcation boards might be able to resolve the problem, parliamentarians believe the Constitution will have to be amended.

The Act prescribes that wards must be so demarcated that black communities get half the total for all local government authorities, with the other half split among white, Indian and coloured communities.

The system has already created distortions. In Plettenberg Bay, for example, there are 29 blacks and 10 475 white, coloured and Indian voters sharing 10 wards, which means 29 people have the same say as 10 475. Carletonville has a similar problem.

At a joint constitutional development parliamentary committee meeting yesterday, department of constitutional affairs adviser SS van der Merwe said the extent of the problem was unclear.

Local Government Elections Task Group co-chairman Van Zyl Slabbert had been unable to give him accurate figures because the demarcations were still taking

place. *MD 29/6/95 (26M)*
Slabbert thought the problems should be addressed individually without restructuring the whole system, Van der Merwe said.

Meyer suggested a way to resolve the problem before resorting to a constitutional amendment: that all provincial MECs "apply their minds" to ward demarcation.

Demarcation boards would also need to be approached to provide information within 14 days.

The matter would be discussed at Monday's Minmac meeting, Meyer said.

Problems should be solved by the provinces, the demarcation boards and the local government task team.

Only if problems still remained after these attempts should legislation be amended.

The amendments would apply in exceptional cases only, and time scales would have to be adjusted before polling day on November 1 by provincial proclamations, he said.

Committee members agreed in principle to Meyer's plan, but postponed discussion on the substance of the amendments.

The parliamentary committee would be kept informed of developments during the recess and, if necessary, the committee would be recalled, co-chairman Pravin Gordhan said. — Sapa.

IFP accuses 'secretive' Asmal

Feroz Chothia *MD 29/6/95*
DURBAN — Water Affairs Minister Kader Asmal had held secret meetings in KwaZulu-Natal about the province's water problems, by-passing the legitimate provincial government, the IFP said yesterday.

Asmal's spokesman Themba Khumalo hit back

by calling on the IFP to "rid itself of the mentality that it had a monopoly" over rivers and dams in KwaZulu-Natal. The constitution stated that water affairs was a national competence, Khumalo said.

Sapa reports that the IFP accused Asmal of being "devious in the extreme" for by-passing the provincial government and then attempting to blame the IFP for being "obstructive to delivery".

Asmal said in his budget vote earlier this week that IFP "obstructionism" was the major obstacle to water delivery in KwaZulu-Natal.

The IFP said: "Asmal has on various occasions secretly visited KwaZulu-Natal and held meetings concerning the supply of water to the province without inviting IFP persons to these meetings, deliberately by-passing the legitimate government of KwaZulu-Natal." *MD 29/6/95*

Khumalo confirmed that Asmal had met non-governmental organisations and department officials in KwaZulu-Natal, but said it was not secretive.

Khumalo said the minister had met a KwaZulu-Natal government delegation lead by Premier Frank Mdlalose in March. This meeting was to discuss IFP demands for control over water affairs and forestry.

Asmal's repeated attempts to arrange follow-up meetings with the provincial government had been unsuccessful, and this was frustrating attempts to supply water to needy areas. There needed to be co-operation between the national and provincial governments to implement reconstruction and development projects, he said.

The IFP had threatened earlier to pass legislation in KwaZulu-Natal seizing powers related to water and forestry to bring government "closer to the people". It said yesterday it was doing everything in its power to facilitate the delivery of water.

Khumalo said rivers flowed from one province into the other. It was vital that water affairs remained with central government to "deregionalise" the SA economy.

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT (262)

Be-rating the rich

FM 30/6/95

The parlous state of local government in SA is reaffirmed in Greater Johannesburg's "Robin Hood" budget, released this week. That business and wealthier residents would be taxed more heavily to finance upliftment in poorer areas was never in doubt — after all, that is one of the *raison d'être* of metropolitan government.

But the R6,5bn budget — making it the sixth largest government in the country — offered no assurances that the higher rates, business levies and service charges would actually bring about sustainable improvements in living conditions for the poor.

Metro Budget & Finance Committee chairman Ian Davidson warned that the city could face a R190m deficit next year (requiring a 22% rates increase, before inflation) unless service payments in black townships improved. Despite the much-publicised Masakhane campaign to improve services and payments in the townships, Soweto was still paying only 29% of its rent and services fees and Alexandra barely 14% in April.

Such stunning disparities seem not to disturb TMC executive committee chairman Collin Matjila, who referred only fleetingly to the problem in his budget speech when he said that Masakhane's success should be measured not only by increased payments, but also by local authority's ability to deliver affordable and effective services to its communities.

By these standards, too, the Johannesburg Metropolitan Council's record gives cause for concern rather than confidence. Its refusal to devolve full administrative powers to its substructures, or local councils, that actually do function (notably, former Sand-

ton, Randburg and Roodepoort) has brought a discernible drop in municipal standards in those areas in the last six months.

Traffic lights that remain broken for days and tardy rubbish removal are now commonplace, as is the rising ire of ratepayers. After all, they may be willing to subsidise improvements in Soweto and Alexandra, but why should they do so at the expense of their own neighbourhoods?

The problem is largely due to over-centralisation of administration. Metropolitan officials argue that they cannot devolve powers to some substructure councils without doing so for all. And as some substructure councils are dysfunctional (such as the south-eastern area, which never had a council of its own, and the western area, encompassing most of Soweto, which was rendered largely ungovernable) they must withhold powers from all.

But the real reason for not empowering the substructures may reflect a centralist mentality among ANC and NP officials, who dominate the TMC. It may be that they simply don't want to diffuse power — endeavouring instead to bolster a centralised administration, only to find that it swiftly becomes overloaded with the minutiae of its municipal substructures. The result is a clogging of municipal functions and consequent decline in services.

But this is only part of the troubles besetting metropolitan government. Transitional metro councils — such as Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban — will exist in their present form until the local government elections on November 1 replace them with the first fully democratic local councils. But the process itself is so fraught with political power play that it may yet derail the elections.

Disputes over metropolitan boundaries (the number and extent of internal substructures) proposed by demarcation boards in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape were still on course this week for adjudication in the Electoral, Supreme and Constitutional courts — time-consuming processes that could force local elections nationwide to be delayed until next year. The interim constitution stipulates that all local government elections must be held on the same day, so any part-postponement would require a constitutional amendment.

While Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer insists that the elections will go ahead as scheduled, there seems little he can do to avoid a delay if the NP-controlled Western Cape government under Hernus Kriel goes ahead with its Constitutional Court action. Kriel wants to overturn President Nelson Mandela's proclamation that seeks to wrest control from the NP of the Western Cape provincial committee, the body that must endorse the province's local government boundaries.

The ANC wants to dilute NP domination of the area by having the populous — and largely ANC-supporting — Khayelitsha township included in the northern district.

Why elections may be delayed

LOCAL government minister Dan Mofokeng's determination to overturn a negotiated agreement sub-dividing greater Johannesburg into seven areas is at the heart of the boundary dispute in Gauteng.

Mr Mofokeng, the ANC and its allies advocate dividing greater Johannesburg into four areas, while the National Party, Democratic Party, Conservative Party and others want to retain the current seven-structure system — the result of protracted negotiations before the transitional metropolitan council was formed.

Mr Mofokeng wants to combine Soweto with the wealthy central business district and join former white areas with townships

For example, he wants Roodepoort, which had no township in its area, to be combined with Diepmeadow and Meadowlands

At the crux of the dispute is the status of the Johannesburg central business district

Under the seven-structure system, the CBD was kept separate because, with its commercial and business considerations, the negotiators felt it had different needs to predominantly residential areas

They decided the funds the area generated would be divided throughout greater Johannesburg

Opposition parties say Mr Mofokeng's proposal to link the area with Soweto is aimed at securing the R545-million the CBD generates in rates and services for the sprawling township.

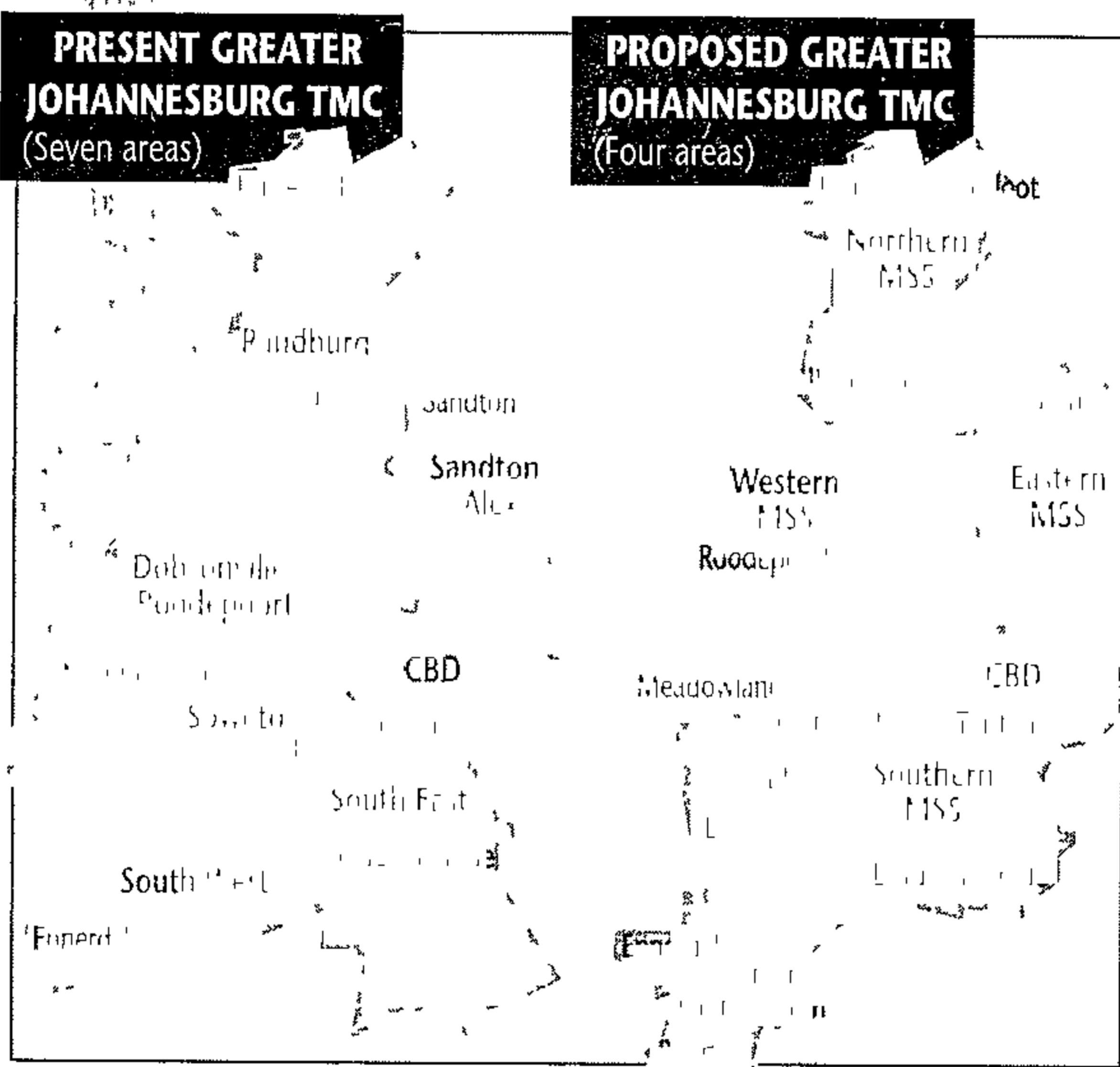
Mr Mofokeng maintains the seven-structure system isolates large parts of Soweto and creates financial, administrative and service imbalances

He says the four-structure plan will result in a

Disputes over municipal boundaries in Gauteng, Kwazulu Natal and the Western Cape are threatening to hold up the local government elections. **ANDREW TRENCH, CYRIL MADLALA and KEN VERNON** report

(267) (266) ST 2/7/95

Areas dispute divides Jo'burg



Graphic: FIONA KRISCH

more equitable spread of resources in the area.

The DP claims his plan is a "cynical attempt to gerrymander" greater Johannesburg's borders to allow the ANC to control them after the election

The opposition groups

also complain the agreement would negate the four years of talks leading to the seven-structure system.

But Mr Mofokeng says his opposition consists of those who wish to retain separate white areas

His arguments have not prevented a rebellion in the transitional metropolitan council against the Gauteng government

During the most acrimonious debate the new council has experienced, opposition parties, led by

the DP, forced through a motion in which greater Johannesburg rejected Mr Mofokeng's plan and prepared to take court action if necessary

The motion placed the ANC-dominated council in direct confrontation with the Gauteng administration

The provincial committee also refused to ratify Mr Mofokeng's plan.

It has now been referred to an electoral court which has still to meet

It is understood that talks are under way among parties in the transitional metropolitan council to try to reach agreement on a position which they can present to the electoral court to try to expedite proceedings

But fears persist that the delays could force the local elections to be postponed. The wards cannot be demarcated until the dispute has been resolved

Adding to the problem, the provincial committee has refused to approve a proposal by Mr Mofokeng for the allocation of seats in different areas

This has also been referred to the electoral court, leading to further delays in the preparations for the local government elections

Staggered local elections on cards

CT 4/7/95

CHRIS BATEMAN

DEMARCATION disputes in Cape Town, Durban and Johannesburg could jeopardise nationwide local elections on November 1, the government admitted last night — fuelling speculation that staggered elections could be held

However, Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Mr Roelf Meyer said yesterday it was of "crucial importance" not to delay the elections because there were critical financial and administrative decisions that needed to be taken by democratically elected councils. He said a meeting yesterday between government and provincial ministers and Dr Fredrik van Zyl Slabbert's task group had acknowledged that political will on all sides was needed to resolve outstanding problems as quickly as possible.

After the meeting the government admitted last night for the first time that there were "serious

problems" with rural transitional councils and that the Durban, Cape Town and Gauteng demarcation disputes could jeopardise the elections

But Mr Meyer said enough progress was being made in six of the nine provinces. Political will would be required on all sides to solve the problems in the shortest possible time

Impossible

(262)

Earlier Mr Kehla Shubane, co-chairperson of the Task Group on Local Government, said that while November 1 elections were "virtually impossible" in Durban, Johannesburg and Cape Town, other areas could go ahead

In the Eastern Transvaal urban area, North-West urban and rural areas and Port Elizabeth, transitional structures could realistically meet the November 1 target

One top election planner said Mr Meyer and Mr Valli Moosa (his



CRUCIAL: Constitutional Development Minister Mr Roelf Meyer

deputy) would at the "very least" have to prepare themselves mentally for a staggered election

A countrywide postponement to a single date would put elections at the end of February next year at the earliest and create insurmountable budgetary and administrative problems

The government's insistence that the November 1 date is still universally attainable is fast losing credibility as the Gauteng, kwaZulu/Natal and the Western Cape demarcation disputes drag on or remain bogged down in court

Dr Slabbert and Western Cape demarcation board chairman Professor Fanie Cloete have openly said a national November 1 date is impossible

288)

SA's future hinges on its local governments

BDS/7/95 (267)

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SA WOULD fall into worse conflict than it had in the past if efforts to effect sound local government structures failed, Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer said yesterday.

Opening the Rebuild SA Investment and Tourism Forum at the World Trade Centre, Meyer said the reconstruction and development programme had to be a success, and it could only deliver through highly effective local government structures.

Meyer said the few problems being experienced could not stop local government elections being held in November, because there was commitment among South Africans to see that the elections took place.

Among the problems were the "complex and sensitive" integration of former black and white local authorities, disputes over boundaries and demarcation of wards and the lack of capacity to prepare for local elections in rural areas.

"SA is going to be a success if (people's) expectations are met. And there is commitment that this happens," Meyer said.

Police Commissioner George Fivas said police had only managed to "stabilise" crime in SA in the sense that crime had not worsened, but it had not declined either.

The fight against crime would succeed if the other components of society — especially business and labour — played their part in improving social conditions in the country.

"The RDP is important for SA and we emphasise that its programmes should be successful. We cannot fight crime without the upliftment and improvement of society," Fivas said.

The development of a national crime strategy was under way and all the role players in the police and other departments had a part to play

in its formulation.

Fivas said that for the first time the police were being seen by the community as a legitimate force.

The challenge for SA was that organised crime was no longer localised. "The problem with international crime is that the criminal has become smarter and transport (across borders) makes it easy for him to move."

He said in working for the success of the RDP, police had embarked on programmes to make sure that areas earmarked for development were made safer before work was initiated.

To counter police corruption, the SAPS was developing anti-corruption units which would investigate every complaint about the police that came in.

Stellenbosch University's Prof Willie Esterhuyse, looking into the state of SA life, gave the country every chance of success, saying a major stabilising factor was the growing culture of negotiation and reconciliation.

He said although affirmative action had a negative effect on whites, it had compelled them to develop an entrepreneurial spirit and brought about the emergence of an empowered group of people from the ranks of those who had previously been excluded from top positions.

He said SA's stabilising driving forces had a clear edge over the destabilising ones.

"We will encounter a couple of rough rapids on our way to the future. I, however, do not foresee any catastrophe. Political stability will increase over the next five to six years.

"A consolidation of government as well as of government policy positions is taking place. Policy implementation will become more visible over the next two to four years, impacting constructively upon our political environment," Esterhuyse said.

Money or the boss? Chiefs choose the cash

262 (SOUTH) WIM 7-13/7/95

Chiefs may still profess loyalty to IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi, but the lure of parliamentary payment is stronger, write **Mehlo Mvelase** and **Ann Eveleth**

THE Inkatha Freedom Party has pledged an all-out battle to halt the implementation of the controversial Renumeration of Traditional Leaders Act passed in Parliament last week, but rumblings on the ground indicate such moves may do more to alienate the party from its traditional support base than to secure it.

IFP leaders last week vowed to challenge the Act in the Constitutional Court and provincial leaders have indicated they plan to pass legislation restricting chiefs from accepting the central government payment outlined in the Act.

An informal poll by the *Mail & Guardian* over the past two weeks suggests, however, that such a call may fall on a growing number of deaf ears. Twelve out of 14 Zulu chiefs interviewed randomly and spanning the north to the south coasts of KwaZulu/Natal say they would welcome central government payment — especially if it would see their stipends increased.

Only two chiefs — both known to belong to a small circle of IFP chiefs close to IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi — said they would refuse such payment, as well as the "parliamentary" perks promised by President Nelson Mandela last month. While the IFP has alternately claimed the support of between 260 and 280 of KwaZulu/Natal's 300-odd chiefs, excluding only a tiny minority linked to the ANC, none of the 12 positive respondents have had previous public links to either the ANC or the Congress of South African Traditional Leaders (Contralesa).

Many said they support Buthelezi and all had attended the Ulundi meetings of *Iso le Sizwe* (Eye of the Nation), the organisation of former KwaZulu homeland officials formed by Buthelezi prior to last year's election, whose attendance the IFP has used to confirm their support levels.

The poll results, however, also suggest personal security for tradi-

tional leaders remains the largest single stumbling block to freeing chiefs from political control. None of the 12 positive respondents were willing to have their names published, fearing reprisals. The chiefs spoke to the *Mail & Guardian* on condition of anonymity.

Most of those interviewed said they could not afford to reject the prospect of higher living standards, while their communities sought benefits from the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

One chief pointed out that "if the government starts to build houses for the people, they will have better houses than us and they will undermine us. We heard Mandela last year promising the king a better life and he has bought the king a fleet of cars, so the king lives like a real king now. We also want cars and a better life."

The chiefs also said they welcomed plans to standardise payments. "The problem with the KwaZulu government is that right now, some chiefs are not getting equal salaries. Some chiefs are getting cars from Ulundi, and others are not. Some indunas or chairmen of the IFP are getting cars from Ulundi and they live a far better life and end up instructing us what to do in our areas. They become more powerful than us and take decisions over us," said one chief.

Another chief pointed to his ramshackle home and said "Look at my house — it's like a shack. Even though my home and my family were attacked during the violence because I supported the IFP, I was never compensated from Ulundi."

Another chief asked "If someone can offer you a better salary than where you work, wouldn't you take the offer? The life we live under presently is very bad. If Mandela's aim is not to destroy the Zulu kingdom, then it is a good thing he is doing."

One chief, who stressed that he likes Buthelezi, because "he is fighting for traditional norms and standards of the Zulu nation", said he supported the ANC's call for chiefs to abandon party politics. "Unless all

chiefs become neutral we will have problems. When chiefs take sides, people on the ground start to fight."

Suggesting the ANC strategy is beginning to bear fruit, the poll results also support claims by ANC KwaZulu/Natal deputy chairman chief Zibuse Mlaba that Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini and Contralesa's neutrality calls are receiving growing support from chiefs in the province.

Mlaba claims up to a third of KwaZulu/Natal chiefs have given their support to the call, following a chiefdom-to-chiefdom campaign initiated last year by the late ANC Midlands leader Harry Gwala, which saw Gwala and Mlaba leading delegations to visit individual chiefs and convince them to abandon politics.

Mlaba said many chiefs had indicated they would support Contralesa, once they were convinced it had become neutral following its formal separation from the ANC alliance.

Observers note that if such a trend continues it could cause the planned provincial legislation to "become stillborn" and deliver a psychological blow to IFP attempts to mount a constitutional challenge to the Renumeration Act. While a small number of chiefs continued to benefit financially from their high status

in the IFP and positions in parliament, the reality was that most chiefs in the province had lived in poverty under the KwaZulu government and many continued to do so.

The IFP argues that the Act is unconstitutional because it interferes with the schedule six powers of provinces, which include traditional leaders — and has indicated it may fight the Act on a technicality over the ANC's failure to consult the non-existent Council of Traditional Leaders provided for in the Interim Constitution.

Observers point out that this is an ironic strategy, given that the IFP has opposed the formation of such a council, and note that the leaders likely to comprise the council had, nevertheless, been consulted by Mandela, with only the IFP-aligned KwaZulu/Natal leaders objecting



President Mandela Promised perks

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Goose and gander

(24)
(262)

FM 7/7/95

Local authorities are nervously awaiting judgment in a test case in the Port Elizabeth Supreme Court that could define the rights of towns and cities to recoup arrears from rates defaulters

The Port Elizabeth municipality has asked the court for a declaratory order to determine whether it is entitled to more than R9 000 in rates arrears owed to the municipality by two businessmen

Abraham Prut and Dimitri Coutsourides, sole trustees of Markman Venture Trust, are refusing to pay the arrears. They argue that their debt should have been written off last

year when the Port Elizabeth transitional local council wrote off R62m in arrear service charges owed by residents of neighbouring black townships. By not doing so, the businessmen maintain, the council is discriminating against them.

A magistrate declined to rule on the matter earlier this year, arguing that the issue involved constitutional interpretation and was therefore beyond his jurisdiction. The council then approached the Supreme Court for the declaratory order — a legal procedure which enables anyone to ask the court for clarity on important issues.

Judge Henning Liebenberg reserved judgment last Thursday.

Counsel for the municipality, Richard Buchanan SC, says Prut and Coutsourides' argument fails to consider the circumstances which gave rise to the council's decision to scrap arrear service charges — it was a practical decision not designed to favour anyone. He also draws a distinction between service charges and rates, which were not applicable in townships at the time.

A court ruling against the council could have serious consequences for other towns and cities that depend on rates for a large part of their revenue. "It could open the door for thousands of ratepayers across the country to refuse to pay arrears," says Port Elizabeth town clerk Paul Botha.

The case so far has not spawned a rash of rates defaulters in the city, says Botha. But he notes that many black neighbourhoods are still hamstrung by service payment defaults of up to 96%. ■

MARAIS 'REJECT' GETS SENIOR POST

Boraine now No 2 in constitutional affairs

MR ANDREW BORAINÉ, sacked by Mr Peter Marais from the provincial committee, is now technically in charge of election preparations. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

FORMER Nusas president and UDF stalwart Mr Andrew Boraine, yesterday became the country's second most senior constitutional affairs bureaucrat

Mr Boraine, whose recent dismissal from the Western Cape provincial committee led indirectly to the local demarcation impasse, is now technically in charge of the November 1 election preparations

As deputy director-general of constitutional affairs (responsible

for local government) he will work under Dr Niel Barnard

The Western Cape's Constitutional Court challenge is over President Nelson Mandela's overturning the appointment of two NP-leaning non-statutory members to the local provincial committee — one of whom replaced Mr Boraine

The provincial committees vet all local ministerial demarcation proposals in advance of the November 1 elections. The local one would have passed Local Gov-

ernment Minister Mr Peter Marais' controversial demarcations

Mr Boraine said he had no illusions about the task ahead but felt there was some hope of settling the seemingly intractable Durban, Cape Town and Gauteng demarcation disputes.

Real issue

Mr Marais fired Mr Boraine from the provincial committee for "failing to attend sufficient meetings", something Mr Boraine rejected yesterday as "spurious".

The "real issue" was whom Mr Marais had replaced him with

CT 7/7/95 (213) (262)

Provincial staff face another pay delay

(262) ET 10/7/95

STAFF REPORTER

PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION staff who expect salary increases in the middle of this month will probably have to wait a little longer, director-general Mr Herbert Beukes said at the weekend

He said recently negotiated salary adjustments for public service staff due to take effect on July 1 "will now be implemented somewhat later"

He did not say when Public relations officer Mr Peter Sidego said between 30 000 and

40 000 people could be affected.

The Public Service Commission had reported that it had been unable to finalise its administrative arrangements in time

Mr Beukes gave an assurance that all the salary adjustments would be retrospective

UK gives R11m for poll

(262) ET 10/7/95

PRETORIA Britain has donated R11 million towards South Africa's local government elections, British High Commissioner Sir Anthony Reeve announced yesterday

He said the money would be used to support the local government elections task group, provincial election task teams and sub-provincial teams

British support would focus particularly on the provision of election advisers and computer equipment for the UK/Commonwealth technical resource group which would assist the election task group, he added

The British contribution forms part of a R15m international assistance programme provided in conjunction with the Commonwealth Secretariat and Australia

Thirty overseas advisers are already assisting local organisations in organising the local elections. — Sapa

Legal battle looms over chiefs

By Mathatha Tsedu
Political Editor

ILLEGAL confrontation is looming between the Government and the KwaZulu-Natal provincial authorities over the payment of chiefs.

MEC for traditional authorities Chief Nyanga Ngubane has drafted two bills that, if passed, would effectively render President Nelson Mandela's recent Bill over chiefs redundant. Ngubane's Bills,

The KwaZulu-Natal Amakhosi and Iziphakanyiswa Bill and the KwaZulu-Natal Amendment Bill on Payment of Salaries, Allowances and other Privileges to the Ingonyama (king), are expected to come before the legislature that starts on August 15.

The two Bills would bring the payment of chiefs under the jurisdiction of the province, and would also create a trust run by Ngubane for all the King's funds. Chiefs who defied this would be

fined up to R500. The Bills come after the king's indication that he would prefer to be paid from national coffers, a move in line with national legislation.

A lawyer approached by *Sowetan* yesterday said the move by Ngubane was unconstitutional. "Where there is concurrent competence of national and provincial governments, the province cannot pass legislation that is not consistent with national legislation."

"The only route the IFP and the pro-

vincial government can take to fight the national Bill is to go to the constitutional court." The national legislation was introduced to bring payment of all chiefs throughout the country under one umbrella, thus removing the discrepancies that exist from region to region.

However, due to the political differences between the ANC and the IFP, the issue has become a tug of war, with KwaZulu-Natal insisting on retaining these powers.

(257) ~~257~~ Sowetan 10/7/95

ANC will not bankroll local candidates

David Greybe

CAPE TOWN — The ANC local government election campaign would cost an estimated R20m, but none of the funds would be drawn from the party's national coffers, ANC national election co-ordinator Roshene Singh said yesterday.

All funds had to be raised locally by ANC election committees.

The general election cost the ANC an estimated R60m.

The ANC was still registering voters, in the belief government would accept an ANC proposal to allow the millions of unregistered voters a final chance to register

in the month before the November 1 poll.

Singh said the biggest problems still facing the ANC were not knowing the exact boundaries of wards and councils — they will be proclaimed next week — and a persistent lack of voter education.

She blamed the fact that only about three-quarters of the country's more than 23-million potential voters had registered on the lack of voter education.

Up to 90% had indicated they intended voting.

Singh complained there was "no vibe" around the local election, unlike last year's general election, and warned of a "dangerous situation" developing closer to the

election if another opportunity to register was not afforded.

The ANC had therefore proposed that voters' lists be made available at the estimated 20 000 voting stations a month before the election, to allow voters who had registered to check that they were and to allow for late registration.

According to Singh, the ANC proposal had found favour with central government.

"At least then we will be able to say everyone was given a chance to vote."

She said the ANC was searching for up to 14 000 candidates to stand for it on Novem-

(267) M 13/7/95 Continued on Page 2

ANC

Continued from Page 1

ber 1. However, ANC candidates did not need to be party members.

"They need only subscribe to the ANC code of conduct."

She said "popular local personalities" would be approached to stand under the ANC banner.

The ANC would start holding "several thousand" conferences around the country, to choose candidates to stand in each of the

(267) M 13/7/95 estimated 700 elections planned.

ANC candidates, who will make up 60% of councils, will be identified by an ANC logo next to their names. The remaining 40% of the councils are to be derived from "party lists", chosen on a proportional representation basis.

Singh said ANC candidates would be trained in the skills of campaigning "and what it means to be a councillor" during August, before electioneering proper begins in September. Candidates have until September 4 to register.

Call to cabinet on borders

(262) CJ 14/7/75

CHRIS BATEMAN

THE ANC called on the national cabinet yesterday to not concern itself with the demarcation of the party and urged it to stay on the narrow party political approach of the NP and AP.

Speaking in Grahamstown after meeting with top

ANC negotiators in the three problem areas of Durban, Cape Town and Grahamstown, ANC spokesman Mr Poniwe Msimang said the party was now "nationalised".

Our guiding principle must be that all political issues must be dealt with at provincial and national level

before taking responsibility to local and technical people.

The cabinet must now decide how to find a "good" political solution to the problem.

Mr Msimang said the party must be consulted in that process, he said.

Cabinet urged to act on demarcation

Adrian Hadland

(26D)
BD 14/7/95
THE ANC called yesterday for the Cabinet to step in and resolve all outstanding demarcation problems in a bid to keep local elections on track for November 1

It was up to the country's highest executive body to "lead the country and come up with a solution in the national interest", Gauteng local government MEC Dan Mofokeng told a news conference "This is no longer a provincial or local issue, it is a national issue"

But NP and IFP leaders immediately rejected the proposal and vowed to fight it at the highest level.

IFP secretary-general Ziba Jiyane said the ANC-dominated Cabinet was an inappropriate forum for the solution of local and provincial problems "It is not the

prerogative of central government to decide on local government matters"

NP MP and local government spokesman Jaco Maree said Cabinet had already failed to intervene in a boundary dispute in the Western Cape. The NP was, therefore, sceptical that a similar mechanism could be used now to sort out demarcation difficulties in Gauteng and KwaZulu-Natal as well as in the Western Cape.

"The matter is now in the hands of the (special electoral) court," he said.

ANC MP Carl Niehaus said the ANC viewed the current demarcation problems as a national political issue. "The guiding principle for resolving these problems must be that all political avenues should be exploited and exhausted at both provincial and national levels before taking recourse to legal and technical processes"

Call for Cabinet to resolve demarcation disputes

(262)
STW 14/9/95

■ BY JOVIAL RANTAO
POLITICAL REPORTER

In a bid to ensure that local government elections will take place on November 1, the ANC yesterday called for Cabinet intervention in demarcation disputes in Gauteng, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape. The proposal was rejected by the IFP.

ANC parliamentarian Carl

Niehaus yesterday told a press conference that the demarcation problem was a national issue that could only be resolved through a political process in which a "win-win" situation could be negotiated for all communities, calling for a "speedy" solution from the Cabinet.

The ANC MP said the NP and IFP have realised that they had lost elections at national level

and they now wanted to use the provinces to control and to preserve their respective domains and privileges.

Gauteng MEC for Local Government and Housing Dan Mofokeng said he did not believe that all political negotiating avenues had been exhausted.

"It's too late to work around the time frames and make sure elections are held as scheduled,"

he said. Delaying the election would be equal to delaying delivery of services to communities and legitimising local authority structures.

IFP secretary-general Ziba Jiyane said the proposal was an attempt to render the local and provincial governments redundant by referring the dispute to an ANC-dominated Cabinet.

Towards better local governing

Sowetan 17/7/95
(262)

By Joshua Raboroko

Moagi always wanted to make South Africa successful

NEWLY-appointed communications manager of the Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council, Mr Jerry Putsoana Moagi, believes local governments are well-placed to initiate and sustain development

A former trade unionist and political activist, he says local governments should identify, mobilise and direct resources, especially to critically disadvantaged areas

"It (local government) is also the delivery arm of Government because it operates closest to the people," says Moagi, who bases his views on the research and studies he undertook while in exile in Botswana and Tanzania.

He studied local government and obtained an advanced diploma from the Tanzanian Institute of Development Management in 1980. He embarked on this course of study because the now-defunct Urban Bantu Councils in South Africa lacked knowledge of local government operations

Moagi was opposed to the local government structures created under apartheid. At the time, whites made decisions and laws for black local authorities. "They used the UBCs and administration boards to carry out their wishes. Black local authorities were unpopular," he says.

Kliptown-born Moagi was a member of the Black People's Convention during the late 1970s and a member of the Black Allied Workers' Union. The memories of Bawu's leader, Mr Drake Koka, are still vivid in his mind.

"Black organisations have a role to play in converting white superiority to a level of humanity," he says.

After matriculating from Orlando High School in 1973, Moagi worked for a dairy company in Johannesburg.

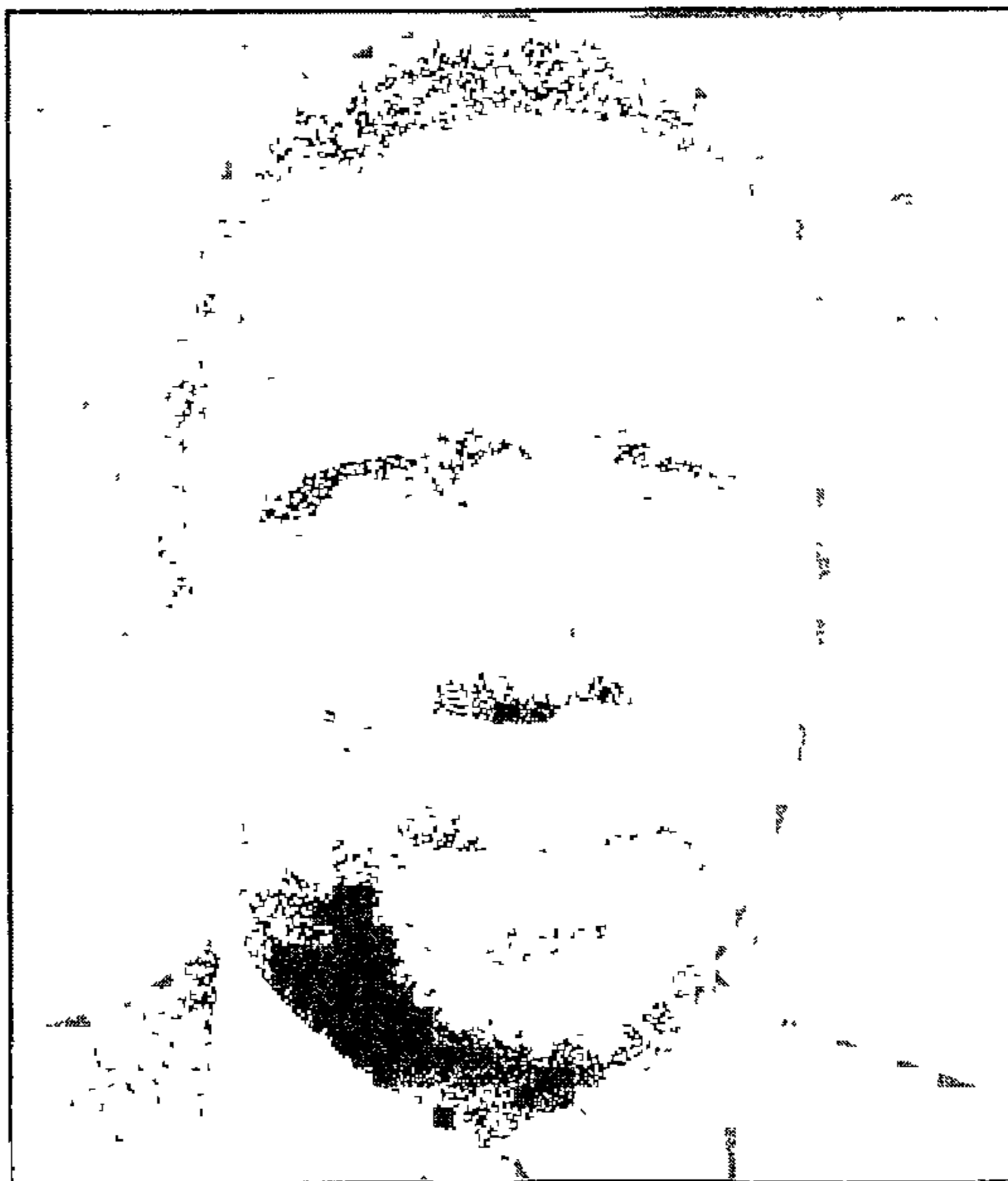
He was victimised because he did not believe in white superiority and was accused of "unionising the workers".

Fired for leading strike

The company was soon threatened with industrial action sparked by wage demands. Moagi was fired for apparently leading the strike. Thereafter, he was harassed, intimidated and interrogated by security policemen. Realising his detention was imminent, he fled to Botswana, where he studied and taught English at a primary school.

He later joined the African National Congress and went to Tanzania where he continued his studies and obtained a diploma in local government.

While in exile, he was optimistic that South Africa would one day have a black Government, although most of his compatriots were pessimistic. "I had a dream that in the future I would be



Jerry Moagi ... local government is central to developing South Africa.

PIC JOE MOLEFE

expected to play a role in making this a successful country," says Moagi.

He came back home in 1991 under the auspices of the United Nations Reparation Committee. "I had a fervent desire to impart my knowledge about local government when I returned home," he says.

He worked for the ANC's centre for law and local government, which aimed at "empowering the people", as strategic support adviser.

It was a dream come true when he was offered a job by the GFTMC. He has a staff of 14 and does not mince his words when speaking about affirmative action programmes.

"My staff knows that I am very sensitive when it comes to gender problems," says Moagi. "Race and gender inequities need to be strongly addressed by the council. The under-representation of women in senior management is a problem reflecting the SA tradition of promoting males to higher positions."

Moagi sees his role as advocating the hasty transformation of cultures both in the council and outside. "It is imperative for South Africans to become world-class if they are to survive and be compared with other classes in the world," he says. "This culture must permeate the

local government institutions. This closeness should be able to bring people — black and white — to realise we need each other."

The transition to democracy in South Africa cannot be complete without the democratic transformation of local governments, Moagi says.

Democratic transition

The process to achieve democratic transition at local levels has been a long one and will continue to involve negotiations and compromises right up to the local government elections on November 1.

Moagi says the local government crisis is characterised by

- Unacceptable levels of service provision in many areas,
- Non-payment of rent and service charges,
- The collapse of many local administrations,
- Little investment in local areas, and
- Violence and unrest, financial problems and lack of viable and legitimate local government structures.

But, adds Moagi, people should realise "the reality is that the legacy of apartheid cannot be undone in six months of transitional government".

Nedlac told of funding bottlenecks

BY THABO LESHILO

ET(MR) 19/7/98 STAFF WRITER

The development chamber of National Economic Development and Labour Council (Nedlac) has expressed concern to the body's executive council over bottlenecks being encountered in the disbursement of the R850 million allocated to the municipal infrastructure programme.

The programme was a presidential lead programme designed to help normalise the delivery of basic infrastructure at the local level. It also aimed at encouraging people to pay for facilities.

The chamber recommended that the programme be managed by Nedlac and the government to speed up the allocation of funds.

It also recommended that the government and Nedlac co-manage the Masakhane campaign. An urgent meeting to this effect was being planned between Nedlac and the ministry of constitutional development and the ministry of housing.

The development chamber expressed its "extreme concern" about the delays in establishing a national development agency.

This affects the effective planning and implementation of development programmes, it said.

Cabinet decides on staggered polls

STAR 27/7/95

(26L)

■ BY MONDLI MAKHANYA
POLITICAL REPORTER

The two main parties in the Government of National Unity have welcomed the Cabinet's decision to proceed with local government elections on November 1, saying that this would contribute to the speedy resolution of demarcation disputes in Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban.

"The Cabinet has given the country bold and mature leadership out of uncertainties created by pessimistic suggestions by certain political parties for the postponement of the elections," the ANC said.

NP local government spokesman Jako Maree said provincial governments should adhere strictly to timetables, to ensure elections were conducted in a democratic manner.

The Cabinet decided yesterday that local authorities which could not hold elections on November 1 would be compelled to do so within the first

quarter of next year.

The interim constitution and Local Government Transition Act will be amended to allow for staggered elections.

The Cabinet also decided to set up dispute-resolution mechanisms to settle demarcation problems.

"The whole thing has been held in the hands of the parties, and the situation is that the disputes can go on indefinitely," said Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer.

He said 75% of local authorities were ready to hold local elections on November 1.

Meyer said premiers would have to apply to his ministry if they wanted certain local authorities in their provinces to be exempted from the November 1 poll. They would have to provide valid reasons, such as ill-preparedness.

"For both psychological and practical reasons, a date for elections for exempted areas should be set before the No-

vember 1 elections take place," said Meyer.

He said serious attempts would be made by the Government to increase the number of local authorities and the percentage of voters able to take part in the elections.

This could be accomplished by resolving Greater Johannesburg's internal boundary dispute, finding a political solution to the Cape Town metropolitan dispute, and separating the Durban metropolitan area from the other 46 KwaZulu-Natal transitional councils prepared for the elections.

Meyer's deputy, Mohammed Valli Moosa, said the Government would act firmly against local authorities and provinces which were not co-operating with the transition to democratic local government.

Local authorities wishing to hold elections on November 1 will have to fix boundaries and wards by August 22.

► ANC, IFP row — Page 3

Battle for provincial power is on

(261) Rkt 29/3/95

ANC-held regions also want more autonomy

The battle over provincial powers resumes next week as the NP and IFP, with ANC-controlled provinces, push for more federal powers — but the Constitutional Court will have the final say.

DAVID BREIER, Political Staff

AFRICAN National Congress central government *aparatchiks* are locked in an internal power struggle with ANC-controlled provinces who want to increase their federal powers.

Analysts said these internal divisions in the ANC emerged in the struggle over whether South Africa should become a real federation or remain mainly centrally controlled.

Until recently the ANC, which favours greater central government control, was ranged against the National Party and the Inkatha Freedom Party which want greater federal powers. The NP controls the Western Cape and the IFP rules Kwa-Zulu-Natal.

But a new trend has developed in which the other seven, ANC-controlled provinces are increasingly identifying themselves with the demands of the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal for more powers.

The battle over federalism is due to resume next week when the constitutional assembly (CA) recess

ends. But, this time the pro-federal forces will be bolstered by divisions within the ANC.

The CA is negotiating South Africa's new constitution to replace the interim constitution in 1999.

The ANC's official policy set out earlier this year is that the Senate should be the seat of provincial powers, with representatives from the provinces present in the Senate. But, the NP and IFP see this as a meaningless substitute for putting provincial powers where they belong — in the provinces.

The Western Cape is locked in a legal battle with the central government over the government's decision to override the province's controversial policy on municipal boundaries.

Provincial sources say this forms part of the Western Cape's determination to fight for provincial powers in the new constitution against the ANC centrist onslaught.

The battle is being waged all the way up to the Constitutional Court where the Western Cape has made one of its applications on the municipal boundary dispute.

This court is where the key policy decisions on the future of federalism will be taken, experts say. But, there are fears in constitutional circles that the Constitutional Court is loaded in favour of the ANC and its decisions on federal powers may go against the minority parties.

The IFP is pushing for a new provincial election in KwaZulu-Natal in order to obtain a two-thirds majority to pass the province's own constitution

Richard Humphries, deputy director of the Centre for Policy Studies in Johannesburg, writes in a newly published article in Indicator SA that the ANC-controlled provinces are also pushing for greater powers.

"In spite of differing party-political control of their executives, the nine provinces have developed a shared commitment to guarding and maximising their legislative prerogatives and provincial interests from undue central government interference," Mr Humphries writes.

Mr Humphries said the ANC-controlled Gauteng and Eastern Transvaal provinces had both adopted independent perspectives to advance their interests — including Gauteng's dissatisfaction with its budget allocation.

Public administration minister Zola Skweyiya clashed with two other ANC-controlled provinces, North West and Northern Province, over the size of management echelons in their public services.

National education minister Sibusiso Bengu — widely described as a weak minister — has had difficulty persuading some provinces to follow his guidelines, notably on Model C schools and Afrikaans as a medium of instruction — especially in Gauteng.

Progress in transferring national powers to the provinces has been slow, Mr Humphries points out.

"This tends to 'impact' most heavily on key provincial functions, but it has not deterred provincial members of executive committees (commonly

known as provincial ministers) from adopting aggressive or high-profile positions," he added.

"For example, although no policing functions have yet been vested in the provinces, some MECs responsible for policing issues are highly active and vocal," he said.

Observers believe two of the country's most active provincial police ministers, the Western Cape's Patrick McKenzie and Gauteng's Jesse Duarte, are probably better-known than national safety and security minister Sidney Mufamadi.

Mr Humphries said central government bureaucrats were taking a "technicist" approach to transferring powers in a process that was being dominated by central government.

"For example, as the Western Cape pointed out in a recent submission, some 18 Acts which 'impact' on its ability to implement policies in the field of urban and rural development, have not yet been transferred to any of the provinces."

But, State law advisors argued that six of the Acts dealt with land issues — which are not a provincial function. Yet, the Western Cape was determined to obtain these powers.

"Although the most public opposition to the slow pace of transfer is expressed by the two minority-controlled provinces, it is shared by ANC-controlled provinces.

"Even ANC parliamentarians query whether the Public Service Commission could not have dealt with the process of assigning national laws more quickly," Mr Humphries added.

The ANC's chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on provincial affairs, Pravin Gordhan, hoped the transfer of housing, health and transport powers would be complete by early this year — but it has still not happened.

Although some housing legislation was transferred to the provinces, these powers were not meaningful, according to the Public Service Commission.

"These disputes will continue and could develop into conflicts around provincial legislative prerogatives," Mr Humphries predicts.

One reason was the vagueness of the interim constitution on demarcating central and provincial powers.

This had led to trade and industry minister Trevor Manuel saying provincial powers on trade and industry were "philosophical", implying their powers should not be taken too seriously.

"But, Mr Manuel's view is unlikely to find much favour in the provinces, since it is abundantly clear that all nine of them cherish the prospects of using trade and industry portfolio to stimulate provincial economic development," Mr Humphries said. He pointed out that provinces were inherently in competition with one another over economic resources.

Mr Humphries said Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale also urged central government to give the provinces more room to manoeuvre by "going easy" on interpreting government's powers to override provincial decisions.

Mr Humphries said the decisive rulings on these disputes would be made by the Constitutional Court.

'Revise provincial govt'

CT 31/7/95

(262)

SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHANNESBURG, An ANC constitutional conference held here at the weekend proposed a new council of provinces to replace the Senate and provide a new system of provincial government.

A conference resolution said the council would "process national legislation which affects provinces", share in national gov-

ernment, facilitate inter-governmental relations and provide local government with a voice at the national level

The system was intended to give provinces "effective power and integrate them as part of one united South Africa"

ANC secretary-general Mr Cyril Ramaphosa called for the IFP to be dealt with "once and for all"

The resolution proposes that

the ANC draw up constitutions for kwaZulu/Natal and Western Cape, which are not held by the ANC

A resolution said provincial coats of arms were acceptable but provincial flags were not

Delegates also resolved that responsibility for local government should be detached from the provinces and made a "distinct tier of government"

● See Page 5

ANC moots new system for provinces

■ POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

An ANC constitutional conference meeting in Johannesburg at the weekend has proposed a new House or Council of Provinces to replace the Senate and to provide for a new system of provincial government (262)

A conference resolution said the Council/House of Provinces would "process national legislation which affects provinces", share in national governance, facilitate inter-governmental relations and provide local government with a voice at national level

The system of "co-operative governance" — first unveiled amid controversy at an ANC constitutional conference earlier this year — is intended to give provinces "effective power and integrate them as part of one united South Africa"

Flags Stan 31/7/95

On provincial constitutions, the resolution said the ANC should draw up its own constitutions in KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape, but not in the ANC-controlled provinces

On provincial symbols, a resolution urged that provincial coats of arms were acceptable, but not provincial flags. It went on to argue for a constitutional amendment to disallow the adoption of provincial flags by a simple majority of a provincial legislature

Delegates also resolved that responsibility for local government should be detached from the provinces and made a "distinct tier of government"

The conference accepted the bulk of the recommendations from the previous conference. These included provision for a joint proportional representation/constituency-based electoral system, a revised Senate, an end to a Government of National Unity in 1999, an executive president assisted by a prime minister and limitations on provincial constitutions, local government and traditional leaders

THURSDAY
AUGUST 3, 1995 ★

Local govt 'pivotal' (252)

CT 3/8/95

STAFF REPORTER

THE way in which the local government issue was resolved would determine the future of urban and rural development in South Africa, the Surplus Peoples' Project (SPP) said yesterday.

In its annual report, the SPP said given the "volatile history" of local government in SA, the resolution of the local government question was pivotal to a successful transition to democracy.

"No provinces have yet finalised their approach to the rural government question."

It said in areas such as the Eastern Cape and the Northern Province this was partly due to disputes between different interest groups, particularly traditional leaders and civic organisations.

Contralesa warns Mandela

Sowetan 24/8/95

By Pamela Dube

THE Congress of Traditional Leaders of South-Africa has given President Nelson Mandela and the Government seven days to reconsider the Local Government Act (267)

According to Contralesa president Chief Phathekile Holomisa, his organisation would consider legal action should the Government fail to heed their demand

Holomisa said traditional leaders

felt the Act had failed to recognise the important role chiefs played in their communities. He said the Bill was drafted with only the urban voters in mind. He said the feeling among traditional leaders was that the Act disempowered chiefs.

According to the Act, chiefs are only expected to nominate 10 percent of their representatives to the Rural Representative Council.

In particular, Contralesa queried Section R65, which categorises the

institution of traditional leaders as a mere interest group.

"That is unacceptable. This (Act) undermines our authority and limits the representation of traditional leaders in the rural council," Holomisa said.

A major concern to Contralesa is that while urban voters would be expected to vote for the parties and representatives of their choice, this would not be the case in rural areas. Voters here would only vote for parties and not ward representatives.

Chiefs want more power in local government

(262) W/M 18-24/8/95

Marion Edmunds

TRADITIONAL leaders are targeting President Nelson Mandela in a campaign to get more power before local government elections

Head of the Congress of Traditional Leaders, Chief Patekile Holomisa, sent Mandela a letter last week reminding him of promises made during multi-party negotiations. These included the setting up of provincial houses of traditional leaders and a national Council of Traditional Leaders

Holomisa, who is an ANC MP, is also threatening to take the government to court to challenge a proclamation that gives traditional leaders seats on rural local councils in an ex-officio capacity or as part of an "interest group". This would put traditional leaders on a par with rural women, who are also defined as an interest group

"We resent this," said an angry Holomisa this week.

It is clear that there is a movement to get matters traditional back onto the table in the run-up to the elections. Both IFP and ANC sources confirm that a secret meeting between Contralesa and IFP-aligned *amakhozi* took place this month to find common ground. Furthermore, hitherto unknown traditional leaders are

emerging out of the shadows. The Department of Constitutional Affairs is having discussions with Griqua leaders, who could be included in a Northern Cape House of Traditional Leaders.

Chief Holomisa is clearly irritated that traditional leaders are not being favoured in the setting up of rural local government. "It's becoming clear that the government listens only if you are aggressive. We want to co-operate but we are the guarantors of the rights of our people."

ANC MP Pravin Gordhan, chair of the Constitutional Affairs Portfolio Committee, rejects criticism that the ANC is not heeding traditional leaders. He says his committee, responsible for vetting all local government proclamations, had not been approached by Contralesa.

And ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said this week that the constitution could not justify inequality between men and women and men and men, according to traditional customs. However, the ANC is also fully aware of the influence traditional leaders have in the rural areas, particularly when it comes to gathering support for the transition in local government. It would be foolhardy to alienate them less than two months before the elections.

Final blow to November poll hopes

(262) ARLT 17/18/95
ANDREA WEISS, Municipal Reporter

A FINAL blow has been dealt to the Cape metropole's election hopes for November 1 — and polls throughout the country are at risk.

This follows the decision by the Constitutional Court to postpone the case between the Western Cape and the central government.

The court decided to reconvene on August 30 to consider a dramatic new argument put forward by the National Party's lawyers on the eve of yesterday's urgent hearing.

A decision at this date would leave barely two months before the poll — making it impossible for the Cape metropole to fulfil the legal requirements of the election timetable.

The new argument before the court has considerably raised the stakes of the landmark hearing because it challenges the right of President Mandela to make any amendments to the Local Government Transition Act by proclamation in the run-up to local elections.

Mr Mandela has made several amendments to the act by proclamation, one of which deals with laying down guidelines for rural local elections.

The new argument represents a shift from the National Party's original challenge to the Cape Town Supreme Court which was only against the two amendments affecting appointments to the provincial committee for local government in the Western Cape.

Now the way in which amendments have been made is under attack, using the argument that they go against Sections 61 and 62 of the Interim Constitution.

Should the National Party's argument succeed before the Constitutional Court, the amendments would be legally invalid and elections throughout the country would be in jeopardy.

Mr Mandela was given the right to amend the Local Government Transition Act by proclamation last year when the National Assembly decided it was necessary to have a speedy method to resolve problems in the run-up to the election.

But any proclamations made by the president would have to be passed by majority vote in a joint constitutional affairs standing committee of the senate and national assembly.

Proclamations would also be reported to the national assembly which could by majority vote decide not to support them.

Last week the NP's lawyers failed in a bid at the Cape Town Supreme Court to have two of the amendments set aside.

These nullified two appointments to the Western Cape's provincial committee for local government and decisions taken by that committee when the disputed members were in office.

At yesterday's Constitutional Court hearing, Jeremy Gauntlett SC, appearing for President Mandela and Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs minister Roelf Meyer, was asked to provide a list of other proclamations which might be affected.

Mr Gauntlett pointed out to the court that should the new argument succeed, it could have profound implications for the rest of the country.

Report dampens hope for provincial power

ST 27/8/95

(262) (3044)

By RAY HARTLEY
Parliamentary Correspondent

INKATHA leader Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi could be forgiven for saying "I told you so" following a constitutional assembly report this week which could weaken the case of those wanting more provincial power in the final constitution.

The report, drafted by technical advisers, suggested that constitutional principles agreed at Codesa added little to the debate on the division of powers between central and provincial government — as Chief Buthelezi had warned last year.

The principles were the subject of months of bargaining, mostly between Inkatha, the ANC, the NP and the DP, and were supposed to ensure that future constitution writers did not ignore the views of those who attended Codesa.

Presenting the report to the constitutional assembly's top negotiating forum, Professor Dennis Davis said: "Principles differ from rules of law. They do not apply on an all-or-nothing basis, like rules of law."

Then he showed how the principles would have little effect on key debates on the allocation of regional powers.

On the question of "residual powers" — the issue of where authority would be assumed to reside if it were not allocated — Professor Davis said that since South Africa was a central state before April

1994, all power would be located centrally unless it was specifically given to a province.

The hard-fought principle 18.2, which bars constitution makers from giving provinces "substantially less or substantially inferior" powers would not prevent a reduction in provincial powers.

"It is impossible to devise a definitive test which would authoritatively decide the question of when powers and functions are less or inferior, but not substantially so," he said.

It could be argued, said Professor Davis, that a clause saying that national and provincial government would have to be granted exclusive powers did not mean that the provinces would have to have legislatures.

Principle 21, which says the level of government where decisions could be taken "most effectively", did not automatically imply "that the lowest level of government should always be the level so empowered," he said.

The ANC's Professor Dirk du Toit welcomed the report as "a very important piece of work", but the DP's Colin Eglin was displeased with the interpretation that residual powers would rest with central government. The PAC's Patricia de Lille, an ardent advocate of centralisation and opponent of the constitutional principles, expressed her guarded happiness with the report.

Chiefs vote for boycott

Vendas and Shangaans ready to go to court for equal representation

Sowetan 27/9/95
By Khathu Mamalla

THE ESTABLISHMENT of the house of traditional leaders in the Northern Province suffered a major setback when the Venda and Shangaan chiefs resolved to boycott the process at the weekend.

The decision was taken at a meeting of chiefs in the former Venda and Gazankulu homelands on Sunday.

The chiefs have vowed to boycott all processes aimed at establishing the house unless the provincial government accedes to their demands for equal representation.

The provincial government had offered chiefs in the former Lebowa homeland a total of 19 seats, while Venda and Gazankulu were allocated 10 and 11 seats respectively.

The failure of the Government to allocate an equal number of seats to the three main tribes in the province has fuelled accusations that the Government favours Northern Sotho chiefs.

Chief Cedrick Mhinga's right-hand man, Mr. George Rhangane, said yesterday the Venda and Tsonga-

Shangaan chiefs intended seeking legal advice from a well-known advocate Mr. Dikgang Moseneke.

Rhingani said the meeting between the chiefs delegation and Moseneke would take place this week.

He added that the chiefs were also contemplating going to the constitutional court in a bid to resolve the crisis.

Approached for comment, spokesman for premier Mr. Ngoako Ramatlhodi, Mr. Jack Mokoabi, said commissioner on tribal authorities Mr. Benny Boshielo was best qualified to talk on the subject.

Attempts to get Boshielo proved fruitless yesterday.

Earlier Boshielo had said more seats had been allocated to the Northern Sotho chiefs because there were more than 130 Pedi chiefs, while there were only 28 Venda chiefs and 33 Tsonga-Shangaan chiefs.

This explanation has been rejected by the Venda and Tsonga-Shangaan chiefs, who maintained that chiefs were the custodians of culture and that different traditions were equal.

NP will take local govt fight to court again, warns FW

BD 27/9/95 (262)

CAPE TOWN — The NP might appeal again to the Constitutional Court if the ANC pushed through legislation enforcing controversial local government proclamations, NP leader FW de Klerk said yesterday.

This had been unanimously agreed to by NP leaders at the heart of the dispute, including Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel and Provincial Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer, he said.

They had decided the party would support legislation necessary to allow local elections to take place. But the NP would oppose the measure if it also covered "unnecessary" issues such as the presidential proclamations on demarcation in the Western Cape which were overturned by the Constitutional Court last week.

"Agreement was reached on a strategy to promote this stand," De Klerk said. "If there is no success in making the legislation acceptable to the NP, there is a possibility it could be tested in the court again."

De Klerk said NP leaders supporting the stand on proclamations included Western Cape local government MEC Peter Marais and Cape NP leader Dawie de Villiers.

Earlier yesterday DP spokesman Ken Andrew said his party would not rubber-stamp local government legislation simply to get the NP and ANC out of a crisis of their own making.

He said multiparty talks should be held before the Bill came before Parliament, in an attempt to reach agreement on what should be done.

NP justice spokesman Danie Schutte said his party was shocked that the ANC and Mandela were adamant the court ruling was not a defeat. They were clearly irresponsible in their stance that the ruling supported central government's right to intervene in matters "deemed important to the country's transition."

PAC deputy president Motsoko Pheko said his organisation welcomed the court decision. — Sapa

Cabinet risks local govt elections clash with Constitutional Court

Kevin O'Grady and Tim Cohen

ANOTHER Constitutional Court challenge to legislation vital to the local government elections loomed yesterday when the Cabinet decided to include two disputed proclamations in an amendment Bill to go before Parliament next month.

The NP has declared proclamations R58 and R59, which affect the Cape Town demarcation dispute, "unnecessary" and has threatened Constitutional Court action if the legislation in-

cludes them.

The Cabinet also rejected a pay rise for nurses during the current financial year but pledged to improve salaries through the bargaining process.

Cabinet secretary Jakes Gerwel told a media briefing after yesterday's Cabinet meeting the ANC had voted in favour of including the proclamations.

The NP supported a compromise proposal of its own that the disputed proclamations be included in a separate amendment Bill.

All the presidential proclamations

made in terms of the Local Government Transition Act were declared invalid by the Constitutional Court last week on grounds they should have been processed through normal legislative channels. Many are crucial to the local election.

Gerwel said it was likely Parliament would reconvene on October 9 and the Bill would be tabled in the National Assembly on October 11 and in the Senate on October 12.

The Constitutional Court last week gave Parliament until October 25 to

pass the necessary legislation to ensure the November 1 elections went ahead as planned.

Gerwel said Cabinet had agreed "unanimously that every effort should be made to ensure local government elections take place on November 1 and thereafter as agreed".

The NP argues that section 61 of the constitution — which provides that laws affecting the powers of a province must be approved by the majority of that province's senators — would apply if the Bill includes the disputed

Cabinet (262)

Continued from Page 1

NP 28/9/95

One option was for the NP to suggest amendments to the legislation when the issue was discussed by the parliamentary constitutional affairs committee next week. Because the NP wanted the election to go ahead, it would also investigate taking only the disputed clause to court, he said.

ANC MP and parliamentary constitutional committee chairman Pravin Gordhan said he thought it would be possible for the NP to take the matter to the Constitutional Court without affecting the election date.

Describing the NP's stance as a "pointless and opportunistic exercise", Gordhan said the NP would have to decide whether it wanted to be spoilers.

He indicated he agreed with Constitutional Court president Arthur Chaskelson's comment that it was an "inefficiency" of the Local Government

Transition Act that demarcation disputes were not automatically referred to the special electoral court.

Gordhan suggested that amending the Act to provide for this might well be discussed by the constitutional committee next week.

ANC MP and constitutional law expert Dirk du Toit said he was of the opinion that provincial senators would not have to pass the proposed legislation as suggested by the NP.

This was because section 61 of the constitution came into play only if a particular province was affected. Although the problem had arisen in a single province, the legislation affected all provinces equally and would be backdated to cover all provinces, he argued.

Speaking at the media briefing on nurses' pay, Public Service Minister Zola Skweyira said there were no funds for salary increases in any sector of the public service. Changes brought about in the bargaining chamber would "lead to a more effective, equitable and sustainable payment system", Cabinet believed.

proclamations

As most Western Cape senators are NP members, the party could block the legislation.

The ANC, however, argues that section 61 does not apply in this case and the dispute could go to the Constitutional Court.

NP executive director Fannus Schoeman said it was premature to suggest the issue would definitely end up in the Constitutional Court, as other possibilities exist.

Continued on Page 2

ANC overrules NP objections to polls Bill

Star 28/9/95 (262)

■ BY PATRICK BULGER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

ANC members of the Cabinet yesterday overruled NP objections to controversial draft legislation which will allow local government elections on November 1

The draft Local Government

Transition Act Second Amendment Bill will be passed into law during a special four-day sitting of Parliament from October 9 - 12. The Bill includes the disputed presidential proclamations that the Constitutional Court ruled invalid in a landmark judgment last week.

Although the legislation

needs only a simple majority to pass through Parliament, the NP indicated that it would not accept the legislation because it rolled back the CC's rulings on President Nelson Mandela's Western Cape proclamations.

Deputy President and NP leader FW de Klerk claimed after the meeting that the

ANC's rejection of an NP proposal to table two Bills in Parliament had "cast a dark cloud over the election".

The NP-led Western Cape provincial government has already threatened to go back to the Constitutional Court if the new legislation reinstated the struck-down proclamations.

amendments amount to unconstitutional interference in provincial government functions. And while the ANC has slammed the premier's stance, he has received NP support.

Faure's concern is that recent precedent shows that, even if the Constitutional Court rules in Mdlalose's favour, it is likely to allow latitude for the introduction of retroactive constitutional amendments, allowing government to do as it wishes anyway.

"This is worrying, in the sense that political considerations appear to overshadow what should be decisions based on law. This undermines both the sovereignty of the interim constitution and the Constitutional Court as its guardian."

This, Faure adds, is compounded by the ANC's huge parliamentary majority, which allows it to change the interim constitution virtually at will, unless all the opposition parties band together to prevent this. (The ANC's majority falls just short of the two-thirds needed to carry constitutional amendments.)

However, Faure believes the reaction of the opposition to government's recent education Bill suggests that it is beginning to get the message. ■

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Questions of delivery

FM 29/9/95

The Constitutional Court's striking demonstration of independence — in finding Section 16 (a) of the Local Government Transition Act unconstitutional — can rightly be seen as strengthening federalism.

But the primary issue that led to the ruling is parochial, involving attempts by the Western Cape's NP-dominated legislature to shift the burden of township deficits away from those rate-paying wards where it draws its greatest support.

In this sense, the demarcation wrangle prefigures problems that will arise once the community elections have taken place, however scrappily. A primary intention of the November poll — where it can take place, and assuming parliament can indeed pass the amendments wanted by the ANC without further legal appeals — is to put into place democratic local councils that can facilitate delivery of RDP projects and general social upliftment.

But who is to say that local politicians are best-qualified to assure delivery?

Until now, in many areas, a network of nongovernmental organisations (NGOs) and their community-based counterparts (CBOs) has for some years taken the major responsibility for getting projects "into the ground." Yet as a sector, they have been tarnished by some high-profile scams and face a funding crisis (*Current Affairs* August 18).

The essential problem is that foreign donors — particularly those of the European Community — have switched resources from the NGOs to government itself, as represented in the RDP funds presided over by Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo. It is no secret that those funds have become bottled up while the NGO-CBO network, which is at least in daily contact with developmental problems at grass-roots level, faces an uncertain future.

Some of this structural conflict surfaced last week when the Independent Development Trust (IDT) released its fifth annual report. The IDT was originally mandated to uplift "the poorest of the poor" using a R2bn grant in the March 1990 Budget — a grand gesture made just a month after the release of Nelson Mandela and the unbanning of the liberation parties.

Further funds came from investments, the sale of strategic oil stocks, and R70m of RDP money allocated by Minister of Public Works Jeff Radebe. According to IDT figures, by June this year it had committed R2,9bn to over 3 000 projects. It has built 2 400 new classrooms, assisted 100 000 people to acquire serviced land, and is aiming at funding 300 rural clinics by the end of the year.

The future of the IDT is also a matter for speculation. The evidence suggests that it has accomplishments in precisely the area where the RDP is flagging — delivery — even though it has its critics who see it as dispensing conscience money from the old regime, a role it has long outgrown. The IDT supports a huge number of NGOs and CBOs, and is working towards the creation, with government, of a new national funding agency that will be tied into government structures, particularly the RDP.

Nevertheless, it was hard not to detect a certain asperity in IDT chairperson Dr Mamphela Ramphele's address to a press conference at the launch of the trust's fifth report. She spoke proudly of how the IDT "has, against many odds, managed to negotiate for itself operational space which focused on its mission of reducing poverty through sound developmental intervention strategies which empowered NGOs and stimulated a vibrant CBO network."

But then she added "I am concerned that, in its understandable anxiety to eradicate the prejudices and injustices of the past through the RDP, our government may be creating a bureaucratic nightmare which can undermine the development capacity

nurtured over the years of struggle."

Government's initiative in proposing a National Development Agency (NDA), to sort out some of these problems, was welcome. It "should be instituted as soon as possible," and the IDT and the Kagiso Trust had been asked to draft a framework within which the NDA could function.

If the IDT disappears into the NDA, what, precisely, will be the new body's relationship with Minister Naidoo and the RDP? Will it become a channel for NGO-CBO funding, and, if so, will the funds that

are currently making their way into the RDP be re-diverted to the new entity? Surely not.

As important once the community elections have seen the emergence of democratic councils — a happy outcome — does this not sow the seeds of further conflict over resources at local levels? There will undoubtedly be cross-pollination between the local councils and the innumerable development NGOs and CBOs operating at micro level. But not always.

Here, perhaps, lies the sting of Ramphele's criticism of a bureaucratic nightmare. The NDA, should it be little more than a conduit for RDP funds, would find it hard to disentangle itself from the difficulties that have arisen under Naidoo's stewardship of government's symbolic upliftment programme.

This would mean that a National Development Agency — whose major antecedent, the IDT, has for years striven for independence — would be engulfed by the political choices that might ultimately have to be made about the RDP itself.

Chief among these is the question of whether the RDP should exist at all, and whether it is fulfilling its mandate as a fast-track agency for change. Many critics, including the *FM*, feel that it is not doing so, and that its projects might more speedily reach fruition if they were budgeted for in the normal fashion, with different ministries executing their social upliftment function where appropriate.

The local councils will certainly add a new, highly politicised dimension to the intricate problems of getting available money "into the ground" — and they will want to "own the projects" to please their constituents.

Meanwhile, donors might have to face up to a choice between the RDP and the NDA, once it comes into being. They will certainly not want more reports of acrimony over control of the funds, wastage, greed and nondelivery. ■



Naidoo funds bottled up while NGOs complain

(262)

SA a society with different needs

Sowetan 29/9/95 (262)

By Pamela Dube
Political Staff

Unlike black people in cities, those in the rural areas worry about basic needs

THE FORTHCOMING local government elections bring to the fore differing needs of the South African society.

While the electorate in black communities and rural villages are concerned more about basic needs, the middle class affluent blacks and whites in suburbs of the big cities are concerned more about crime.

Local government election manifestoes of black political parties - the African National Congress, Pan Africanist Congress and to some extent the Inkatha Freedom Party - tend to "address" issues affecting the majority of South Africans

The concerns of the black electorate are lack of housing, schools, clinics, employment and other basic facilities and their candidates are out promising to "address" those.

However, within the ranks of black political parties, there is a small fraction of the party candidates, who work on the fears of the affluent South Africans, promising to stamp-out crime

Last week, two northern Johannesburg ANC white candidates, Mr Martin



Sweet and Mr Clive Gilbert, when introducing themselves to the media, had the need for communities to be protected against criminals as their central theme.

Sweet said four out of seven households he visits in his ward, which covers areas like Kew, Greswald, Bramley Gardens, Lombardy, Lyndhurst, Corlett Gardens, Sunningdale, Syferfontein, are talking of emigrating.

"People feel that their lives have been threatened by these vicious criminals. Wherever I go, the voters are talking about fear of being hijacked, robbed or raped," he said.

National Party candidate for Ward 3 (Bryanston) in Sandton, Mrs Margaret Leitner, said for South Africa to prosper "we have to start with security".

"Unless we are safe in our homes, offices and on the streets, we will never make anything meaningful for ourselves. Growing criminal elements are threats not only to individuals but the nation as a whole.

Even more threatening, the four candidates note, is the fact that the high rate of crime is impacting negatively on investor confidence.

Business in the suburbs of Hyde Park, Craighall and Hurlingham in the Sandton area is booming. But the NP candidate for the area, Mr Michael Cato, feels that if the Government does not employ stringent measures to curb the upsurge of crime, then business in his area will go down.

Hostels and right wing seen as threats

Mass call-ups to bolster poll security

BD 2/10/95 (262)

Stephané Bothma and Drew Forrest

THOUSANDS of Citizen Force members countrywide have been called up for military service to help in policing next month's local government elections and to provide added security at potential flashpoints.

The response to the call-up could be severely affected by the moratorium on the prosecution of Citizen Force soldiers failing to report for duty.

However, the SA Police Service said at the weekend it was confident that, with the help of the SA National Defence Force (SANDF), it would have sufficient manpower on duty during the elections on November 1.

Far right-wing strongholds in the Northwest and Gauteng hostels were identified as potential security flashpoints, election task group co-chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said last week.

He said a National Intelligence Agency and police intelligence briefing to the task group last week indicated that very tough racist attitudes in right-wing strongholds such as Venterdorp and Schweizer-Reneke still existed. "In Gauteng, there is a risk that long-standing hostel tensions will spill over into the campaign."

SANDF spokesman Col John Rolt said yesterday it was not yet possible to supply details of the number of call-ups

as SA's 10 territorial commands still had to supply final details of their requirements to defence headquarters.

"We are not calling people up on a national basis and the planning is decentralised — depending on the needs of the individual commands."

However, it is understood that several thousand orders to report for military camps had already been sent to former national servicemen.

Military sources said it was expected that only about 10% to 15% of those called up would report for duty. "We will just have to send out call-up orders until we have enough people reporting to their commands," one said.

SAPS national safety services communications director Ray Harrald said the police service had completed comprehensive planning for policing the elections. "Provision has been made for high density patrols and the guarding of polling booths," he said, adding that voters need not fear for their safety.

It is expected that all public leave and rest days will be cancelled over the election period.

Slabbert said there was no sign that the three-cornered battle between black parties in the Northwest — the ANC and the parties of Lucas Mangope and Rocky Malebane-Metsing — would take a violent turn.

Continued on Page 2

Call-ups

Continued from Page 1

The major no-go areas were in KwaZulu-Natal, which would not be voting this year.

Slabbert said the main threat was to candidates as campaigning intensified, while polling, as "a fairly structured event", was less likely to be disrupted. A major consideration in declaring November 1 a public holiday had been the release of policemen from court duties to guard polling stations. Before the elections were staggered, it was estimated that 20 000 polling stations would be needed.

The task group's job was to monitor security and alert the provinces to incidents. Provincial authorities would in turn contact local communities.

Slabbert said election preparations were broadly on track — assuming that the current parliamentary crisis

was resolved. Serious problems with voters' rolls had occurred only in Gauteng, while the fact that there had not been a scramble to register during the supplementary registration period showed "we are close to target".

Only 16 000 additional voters had registered in KwaZulu-Natal.

Local Government Affairs Minister Roelf Meyer had been "bullish" after surveying the Northern Province.

The degree of election readiness in the Eastern Cape was unclear.

Slabbert said the task group had forwarded proposals to government on how to deal with "unplaced persons" who could not be placed in a polling area because they had supplied inadequate personal particulars. There are estimated to be 60 000 such voters in the Western Cape metro area alone.

Slabbert said a central register of unplaced persons would be compiled and made available to polling stations. Unplaced voters could vote there or be redirected to another station

Revamp local govt policies — Meyer

Mduduzi ka Harvey

BD 3/10/95 (262)

LOCAL government was riddled with problems of non-payment of rent and services, an inadequate tax base, and a lack of proper metering, billing and tariff systems — despite injection of R802m in funds in the current financial year, Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said yesterday.

Addressing more than 600 national and international delegates at an Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants conference in Alberton yesterday, Meyer said despite the fact local government had inherited financial shortfalls, it should ensure its administration was based on sound principles of public administration, good governance and public accountability.

He said there were also problems with the merging of different administrations and the costs thereof, ineffective default procedures and changing local government budget priorities.

The restructuring of local government would entail reviewing the functions of local government and instilling the need for greater efficiency and effective use of resources and accountability for those resources, Meyer said.

Ideally, each level of government should generate enough revenue to finance its own expenditure, but fiscal disparities had made this impossible.

He said that there were problems associated with the existing system of

inter-governmental grants to local government, which included the fragmentary nature of transfers.

The first task in this regard would be the establishment of a uniform system of transfers.

The exact state of local government finance nationwide was difficult to determine due to lack of proper statistics, long-term infrastructural plans and other data required for such research.

Meyer said that the constitutional development department had requested provincial local authorities to submit statistics about their cash flow, service charges arrears and payment levels, but information about arrears was still being awaited a year later.

A more realistic picture of local government would materialise only once local authorities had prepared the 1996/97 budgets.

At present, however, it was clear that the aims of Masakhane were not producing desired results, and that politicians at all levels of government should seriously advance the cause for payment of services.

Government should also, he said, take a firm stand and resolve a minimum standard of services, since communities were expecting more than they could afford.

If current trends of service delivery and payment for services continued, local government would face collapse, Meyer said.



Gauteng local government and housing MEC Dan Motokeng, left, and Dumnisane Majola, top right, address 600 national and international delegates at an Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants conference in Alberton yesterday, while Pretoria Town Clerk Chris van Heerden listens.

Picture CATHY PINNOCK

Cape office for Cosatu

Wyndham Hartley

BD 3/10/95

COSATU is to open an office near Parliament before the end of the month to ensure that the interests of the working class are looked after effectively in the legislative process.

Gauteng set to act against striking nurses

Kathryn Strachan

GAUTENG's health department is set to take disciplinary action today against those nurses who took part in

Stephan Matlala said nurses would return to work on a work-to-rule basis, Sapa reports. "Nurses will clock in but will not provide quality treatment," he said. "This would continue until their

Ministry urged to revise process

Clash over budget powers for provinces

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — A row over the constitutionality of the national budget process has broken out between government and its financial advisory body, centring on the provinces' rights to develop and implement their own budgets

Senior Financial and Fiscal Commission officials said that during a fortnight of budget meetings, it had become apparent that government officials were not sufficiently aware of the need to adapt the budgeting process to take account of the new constitution

But Deputy Finance Minister Alec Erwin yesterday strongly rejected the commission's view, saying the officials concerned were creating "an entirely erroneous impression". The ministry's approach was consistent with the constitution and with the commission's own framework proposals, he said

The commission officials argued that although interim measures were clearly necessary, no medium or long-term plans were under discussion to grant provinces the power and scope to draw up their own budgets. They warned that if government did not implement the constitution's directives on provincial powers, it was in danger of spending huge amounts on provincial governments, but gaining none of the benefits of a decentralised system

Commission chairman Murphy Morobe urged the finance ministry to expedite plans to revise the budget process to take the constitution into account. Commission deputy chairman Antony Melck said it became clear at the budget committee meetings that national government and the commission had very different ideas about what the constitution required regarding the province's budgeting powers.

Government apparently believed little change was needed to the current system, in which the finance and state expenditure departments had the final say in setting provincial budgets, right down to individual budget lines

But because the constitution set out provincial structures with specific powers, the provinces were clearly empowered to take their own budget decisions, except where uniform standards were specifically set, Melck said.

The commission's interpretation of the constitution had led it to believe that, in addition to potential conditional allocations, "block grants" ought to be made to the provinces. The provinces would be responsible for dividing grants in ways consistent with their responsibilities and development priorities, within the parameters of their own and national legislation

Melck said under the state expen-

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NP 'opposed to amendments, but will not impede elections'

BD 4/10/95 (262)
Wyndham Hartley

THE NP is implacably opposed to local government amendments tabled in Parliament yesterday, but will do nothing to impede the local government elections.

NP leader and Deputy President FW de Klerk told a media briefing the Bill, which seeks to correct the faults found by the Constitutional Court, would not be supported by the NP in its present form.

De Klerk, who was speaking after a day-long caucus of the party's national and provincial MPs and senators, restated the NP's "absolute commitment" to act in such a way that the November 1 elections would not be impeded. "We have developed a strategy to manage our resistance to the Bill without throwing a cloud over this election," he said.

He also indicated that a further court challenge to the Bill as tabled could not be ruled out.

De Klerk said the caucus was told to go home and work because there would be an election in 28 days' time.

About two weeks ago, the Constitutional Court ruled that numerous proclamations relating to the local government poll were illegal.

Should the Bill not pass through Parliament before October 25, it is unlikely that the elections will be able to take place.

De Klerk rejected media speculation that the caucus meeting would be a fiery showdown between the supporters of Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer and Western Cape premier Hernus Kriel.

He said the caucus had been positive, inspirational and there were "not even sparks". It had discussed strategic planning to take the party into the next century and a draft document containing the NP's proposals for the final constitution. The caucus adopted a resolution expressing gratitude for De Klerk's leadership.

Ignorance a 'danger to local govt'

Mduduzi Harvey

(262)

PD 5/10/95

THE greatest danger to local government would be the combination of confidence and ignorance of newly appointed community leaders who thought they had the technical competence to run local authorities, said Local Government Election Task Team co-chairman Van Zyl Slabbert.

Addressing the Institute of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants conference in Alberton yesterday, Slabbert said, in many local authorities there was a decline or non-existence of qualified expertise as experienced councillors were moving to the private sector.

Emerging structures would be faced with the daunting problem of inheriting a stagnant revenue base which would not cope with community demands.

Slabbert said political competition between parties would also have a negative effect and this

problem would have to be solved at a central government and provincial level if the expectations and fears of communities were to be addressed.

Further, the development of local government in rural areas would be affected by the setting up of new structures where none existed. This would require the redefining of the relationship between traditional leaders and the newly elected leaders.

Slabbert said the elections would not stabilise politics at local government level, but would call the bluff on the legitimacy of local authorities. The challenge ahead included implementing sound economic reforms and legitimate restructuring of local authorities, said Slabbert.

ABSA CE Dame Cronje said the banking sector was well positioned to provide short and medium-term funding to local authorities to bridge their current expen-

diture needs, but this would become possible only when local authorities had a sound and sufficient track record.

Local authorities would also need a credible credit rating system. For long-term funds, banks were hesitant to invest in long-term stocks and bonds of local governments because of the uncertainty surrounding their financial position in the transitional phase.

Cronje said to build bankers' confidence, local government should raise as much spending from own resources.

He said it was clear that local government found itself in an era marked by uncertainty and in rendering services would need outside financing.

However, the banking sector would jealously guard the safety of its depositors' money. This would demand prudent financial management by local government.

IFP seeks independence for all

(262) Star 5/10/95

Effective government could be better achieved through respect for regional autonomy, writes Ruth Rabinowitz

There was an agreement between the party whips that nothing of this nature would be tabled yesterday and the IFP broke that agreement. It is now going to be very difficult to find consensus on the constitution," said National Party Member of the Provincial Legislature Pieter van Pletzen.

Those who claim that the IFP is advocating a secessionist constitution for KwaZulu-Natal are either misinformed or are deliberately misleading the public, he says.

Since establishing the Buthelezi Commission in 1980 and first proposing a federal solution for South Africa's problems, Dr Mangosuthu Buthelezi has unflinchingly advocated classical federalism. The IFP stance at Codesa and Kempton Park, its submissions to the Constitutional Assembly and its proposals for the province of KwaZulu-Natal reflect the same federal aspirations.

Behind these lies the belief that with the multiplicity of cultures, societies and economic groupings in South Africa, peace will best be achieved if groups are free to express their differences. People of all races, regions and religions will then be united peacefully in their diversity.

This would necessitate a political system which limits central government power and provides for a combination of self-rule by the provinces and shared rule between the pro-

vinces and the centre. It allows people to retain sovereignty by vesting power at the lowest level capable of administering it, developing it up to the next level of government only when it is in compelling public interest.

It allows civil society to be an area of independent government control and for competing factions of society to be a check on government power.

Far from preventing national unity and promoting balkanisation, the IFP believes that respect for differences in the nine provinces will foster national unity while catering to social, cultural and economic pluralism within each province. South Africa will be a single country in which communities will retain their sense of identity. This will remove the stresses and tensions emerging as a result of the ANC's enforced unitary policies. With the stated goal of national unity and correcting the ills of the past, laws are being introduced to enforce uniformity.

The Interim Constitution grants shared powers to the provinces and the central government, but provides no fewer than 15 reasons why the centre can override the provinces. It is neither simple nor precise and leaves provinces uncertain about the extent of their competencies.

The problem also arises that central government intervenes in matters of provincial competence. Policies such as the proposed Police Bill, the National Education Bill, the land laws

and the National Health Insurance Scheme for Primary Health Care tend strongly towards central domination.

Clarity, accountability and effective government could be better achieved through respect for diversity and regional autonomy.

As in America, Canada, Australia, Germany and Nigeria, the provincial governments are given legislative and executive autonomy over matters affecting individual provinces differently, such as education, culture, civil service, local government, traditional affairs and customary law.

This autonomy does not amount to secession. It merely implies a degree of independence which is limited by the Bill of Rights and certain essential minimum norms and standards, set by the centre. In addition, the provinces should be entitled to some independent taxing powers so that they are not totally at the mercy of central government for funds. A percentage of taxes should be redistributed from wealthier to poorer provinces. Autonomy is balanced by equalisation.

This simple federal system will stimulate people-driven initiatives. It will permit tailor-made solutions to local problems and will provide incentives by allowing for experimentation and competition between provinces.

The ANC, by contrast, advocates that with regard to shared powers, the central government law takes prece-

dence over provincial law. In its latest proposals, the ANC advocates still further overrides allowing the centre to intervene far more extensively in provincial affairs.

The only factor which would prevent a central government law overriding a provincial law would be a decision by the Senate. The Senate, however, functions as a shadow national assembly, with a considerable ANC majority, influenced more by party loyalty than by responsibility to the provinces. The ANC's proposal that local government representatives should have seats in the Senate further weakens the provinces' power.

When the IFP refused to participate in the elections it was concerned that in the Constitutional Assembly the ANC would use its majority to thwart a federal constitution. Therefore it agreed to elections on condition that international mediation be held to review the federal nature of the constitution before drafting began.

Federal constitutions are not arrived at by the decision of the majority. They are arrived at by a covenantal agreement between majority and minority parties, in the interests of peace and national unity. The solutions for different provinces may differ. Asymmetric constitutions often keep different provinces linked to the whole, as with Quebec in Canada and the Basques in Spain, both of which have federal systems. This is a less

separatist solution than the Freedom Front's confederal proposals for a volksstaat, which the president appears willing to consider.

The IFP could not lend legitimacy to the agenda of the Constitutional Assembly which repeatedly rejected all IFP proposals and continued to draft the constitution while the ANC and NP dishonoured the international mediation agreement. Mediation was intended to influence the provinces' legislative autonomy and would have impacted on provincial constitutions.

Now KwaZulu-Natal is drafting its own constitution, for which the IFP advocates the same classical federal blueprint as it proposed for the central constitution. In the absence of international mediation, the IFP proposes that the provincial constitution claim only those powers granted by the Interim Constitution.

If such a constitution is adopted in the province and is accepted by the Government, perhaps South Africa will begin to enjoy the peace, investor confidence and reconstruction that everyone longs for.

If, as now appears to be the case, the final constitution represents only the interests of the majority party, the IFP, which holds the majority in KwaZulu-Natal, will reject it. The founding fathers of the South African constitution will have robbed our constitution of the respect and support critical to its long-term success.

Would-be voter chaos seen for November poll

ARG 5/10/95

(304A)

(2b2)

Political Correspondent

LOCAL government elections on November 1 face severe disruption at the polls from unregistered would-be voters determined to cast their ballots.

Many expect that something will be done to accommodate them, in spite of the law requiring those not on voters rolls to be turned away.

There is widespread ignorance of where to vote, with some people believing they will be able to vote at any polling station, as was the case in last year's election.

Most voters do not know the names of candidates.

These are among results of a survey by the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa) conducted in rural areas of the Eastern Cape, North West, Northern Province and the Free State, and in metropolitan areas in Gauteng.

The Western Cape and Kwazulu-Natal were not included in the poll.

Director of Idasa's public information service Dr Mamphele Ramphele said a large turnout was expected.

Voter education had been a relative success, with most people aware of the importance of voting.

Some 83 percent of those who had registered intended turning out to vote.

Dr Ramphele said political parties did not seem to have paid much attention to publicising the names of candidates.

"Parties rather than personalities are being flashed in front of voters."

Bob Mattes, project manager of Idasa's public information service, said while the turnout would be large, it would not match that of last year's national and provincial elections.

He said 27 percent of those ineligible to vote had said they intended to go to the polls.

This would mean "massive disappointment" when they were not allowed to vote.

"Especially if younger people try to go and vote and get told 'your name is not on the list, you must go home'," Dr Mattes said.

Only seven percent of those surveyed knew that people whose names were not on the roll would be turned away.

Dr Mattes said the figures about people being confident of knowing voting procedures might present too optimistic a picture.

"We didn't ask them where they would vote, only if they thought they knew where — and where they have in mind could be wrong."

Eighty-one percent of those surveyed could not name a single candidate.

The Free State was the most extreme case, with 100 percent of those polled unable to say who was standing for election. Dr Mattes emphasised that this figure applied only to rural areas in the Free State.

New law may be challenged

CT 6/10/95 (262)

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela's legal counsel warned MPs yesterday that special legislation to rescue the November 1 local government elections could face further challenges in the Constitutional Court

About 50 MPs began work yesterday in the standing committee on Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs on a proposed Local Government Transition Act Second Amendment Bill

The bill was drafted to overcome the Constitutional Court's decision on September 22 to reject

enabling legislation in which Mr Mandela issued proclamations to prepare for the November 1 poll

The national assembly is to vote on the bill on Wednesday and the senate on Thursday

Advocate Mr Jeremy Gauntlett told the committee it was impossible to tell from the court's 155-page judgment on last month's successful National Party challenge whether the bill would survive a further attack

Western Cape Premier Mr Her-nus Kriel and provincial Minister of Local Government Mr Pieter

Marais challenged two proclamations in which President Mandela overruled Mr Marais and blocked NP plans to change municipal boundaries in Cape Town

Mr Gauntlett, who represented Mr Mandela and Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister Mr Roelf Meyer in the case, said the court ruled only on the constitutionality of an amendment enacted to delegate certain powers to Mr Mandela

It did not give an opinion on the substance of the challenged proclamations — Reuter

Parties 'should focus on jobs'

ET 6/10/95 (262)

BARRY STREEK

FOUR of party leaders on
centrality of jobs, housing and
services during the run for the
local government election
campaign. The leaders said
the party's focus should be
on jobs.

The council is expected to be
a hot party battleground in the
next three weeks, he said. It
is a hot issue because the
results of a survey of rural voters
in four previous campaigns of
the council have been mixed.

Dr M. ... of the
party told local government
leaders that the party should
focus on jobs and housing.

addressing housing and jobs
and

other issues such as
education, health and
social services. He said
the party should focus on
jobs.

When people voted in the
local government elections, it
was a vote for the party.

He said the party should
focus on jobs and housing
and other problems. He said
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been mixed.

Chaos after speaker rules on chiefs' pay Bill debate

BD 10/10/95 (262)

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — Four opposition parties walked out of the KwaZulu-Natal legislature yesterday after speaker Gideon Mdlalose reversed an earlier ruling and allowed debate to take place on two Bills intended to prevent the Zulu monarch and other traditional leaders from accepting central government remuneration.

Mdlalose then proceeded to allow one of the Bills to be put to the vote, but nullified the vote when it emerged that the 38 IFP MPs present failed to make a quorum.

The legislature degenerated into chaos.

Angry ANC and IFP MPs toyed, moved tauntingly towards each other, hurled insults, and shouted at each other to "get out".

IFP MPs Khayelihle Mathaba and Blessed Gwala were present with their shields and sticks. Mathaba brandished his stick at ANC MPs.

The ANC, NP, DP and PAC staged a walkout in protest against Mdlalose's decision to discard the legislature's rules by

yielding to the IFP's demand that the Bills be debated.

One Bill aimed at preventing chiefs from accepting payment from central government, while a second imposed similar restrictions on King Goodwill Zwelithini and his family.

The ANC, NP and DP mustered the required one-third of signatures to petition Mdlalose to have the Bills referred to the Constitutional Court on the grounds that they violated the rights of traditional leaders to earn an income from other sources.

IFP chief whip Mike Tarr said a one-third minority could not have a veto power, and the legislature should debate the Bills.

ANC chief whip Ina Cronje disagreed, arguing that the legislature's rules clearly stated that debate could not take place on a matter which was sub judice.

In his initial ruling, Mdlalose said he "morally" supported the IFP view that the debate take place, but the legislature had to first suspend the relevant rule.

The rule could be suspended only with a two-thirds majority.

NP chief whip Rudi Redinger challenged the IFP to introduce a motion to have the rule suspended, knowing that the IFP would be defeated as it fell far short of a two-thirds majority.

But premier Frank Mdlalose said he understood the speaker's ruling to mean that the debate could proceed without the rule being suspended, while local government MEC Peter Miller (IFP) said he was "somewhat confused" by what the speaker had said.

"Clarifying" his ruling, the speaker then said that in the absence of a motion to suspend the rule, the debate could proceed.

This triggered chaos, forcing the speaker to adjourn the legislature for about an hour.

He returned to say that the initial ruling did not accurately reflect his position. He had meant to say that the debate could continue as the Bills were not sub judice and there was no need to suspend the rules.

The speaker finally decided the Bills would be put to the vote at the next session of the legislature. This session ended yesterday.

Taxi drivers in appeal for registration

BD 10/10/95

Theo Rawana

TAXI drivers were insecure, exploited and underpaid players in an industry that refused to recognise them as full-time, permanent employees because they were not registered, a taxi driver told the National Taxi Task Team in Johannesburg yesterday.

Pleading with government to speedily "formalise the taxi industry" and register drivers, Gadi Sibanyoni of the 5 000-strong National Taxi Drivers' Organisation said drivers were sometimes driven to pocket a fraction of the day's takings because they found it difficult to make ends meet on R100 to R150 a week.

The task team, set up by Transport Minister Mac Maharaj to investigate problems in the taxi industry and formulate solutions for

recommendations to him and his provincial counterparts, was in Johannesburg yesterday in the first of a three-day session which was part of a national process of public hearings.

Led by national transport management and support services chief director Dipak Patel, the task team was scheduled to complete the hearings on December 6.

Sibanyoni said "Taxi drivers are people who are not recognised by anyone, looked down upon as daily workers whom owners can get rid of any time."

"We cannot even apply for loans from the banks or open accounts at shops because we are not seen as full-time employees. And we are the first in the line of fire in the event of violence."

Caught between owners who demanded a high fixed turnover at

the end of each day, passengers who complained of overloading, the prospect of loading potential hijackers, a Road Transportation Board which did not build loading or off-loading zones and traffic officers who penalised drivers, the driver always suffered from stress, Sibanyoni said.

Traffic officers would penalise a driver for the unroadworthy condition of a vehicle, only for the owner to tear up the ticket and throw it away, knowing that the driver would be the one stopped and locked up for the offence — and the owner would easily get another driver, he said.

"We need to be given security, full employment with all benefits such as medical aid — and we need training so that taxi driving can become a career," Sibanyoni said.

Farmers threaten boycott of November elections

(262) BD 10/10/95
Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — The local government elections in rural areas came under renewed pressure yesterday with a threat that more than 40 000 farmers might not participate in the poll on November 1.

This emerged in Parliament's constitutional affairs committee yesterday when the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) suggested that the rural council representation for farmers, farm labourers, women and other non-paying "interest groups" be radically revised and that the election be delayed until the end of March next year.

The union proposed that 44% of seats go to levy-payers, 40% to non-payers and 20% be determined by proportional representation. The current arrangement is that the maximum any single interest group, including farmers, can hold is 10%.

At the same time, Inkatha threatened that if an unsatisfactory rural local government model was approved, there would be no poll in KwaZulu-Natal even by the end-March deadline.

Western Cape rural areas, the whole of KwaZulu-Natal and some isolated areas where there are boundary disputes are already out of the election

and will go ahead with polling later.

There is also a threat of an election boycott by traditional leaders and their supporters in the rural Eastern Cape.

SAAU vice-president Chris Du Toit said the powerful Transvaal Agricultural Union had withdrawn from local government elections but could be persuaded to return if the 40% formula, as suggested by Free State premier Patrick Lekota, was approved. If the present provisions were retained, the whole of organised agriculture would boycott the elections, he said.

The national union has more than 40 000 members.

With about 40% of SA's population living in rural areas, any further reduction in participation in the poll will be a serious blow to its legitimacy.

The debate threatened on occasions to degenerate into a slanging match as NP members supported farmers and ANC members argued for the SA Agricultural Workers' Union (Saawu).

Cosatu's Neil Coleman, speaking on behalf of Saawu, said there were about 60 000 farmers and millions of farm workers. The farmers' proposal made for disproportionate representation which was unconstitutional.

Continued on Page 2

Farmers

(262)
Continued from Page 1

Lynelle Johns, of the agricultural policy unit, said the SAAU's presentation was destructive and warned that other agricultural unions could also make threats. Coleman said the SAAU was trying to blackmail Parliament.

Du Toit told the committee farmers were not prepared to pay the levies to rural local government if, as had happened with regional services councils, all the money went to the urban areas.

Government is understood to fear a levy boycott by farmers.

The SAAU also came under fire from ANC members of the committee for allegedly violating an undertaking that options for rural local government would be negotiated and explored without disrupting the election.

Changes to the constitution will be needed to implement the SAAU's 40% proposal as it does not comply with the provisions for a proportional representation component in the election.

See Page 5
Comment: Page 14

Whites privileged under old rule 'must be tolerant'

□ Ramaphosa stresses urgent need for local government

ARG 10/95

(262)

EAST LONDON — White people who had the benefits of orderly civil administration during the apartheid years have no right to look down on black people who do not, says Constitutional Assembly chairman Cyril Ramaphosa

At a meeting in the East London city hall last night, Mr Ramaphosa said the challenge which faced South Africans was to put in place an administration and effective local government to fill a years-old gap.

"White people had local government, black people didn't. Whites had the infrastructure and administration to collect rates and taxes — but that didn't happen in Mdantsane."

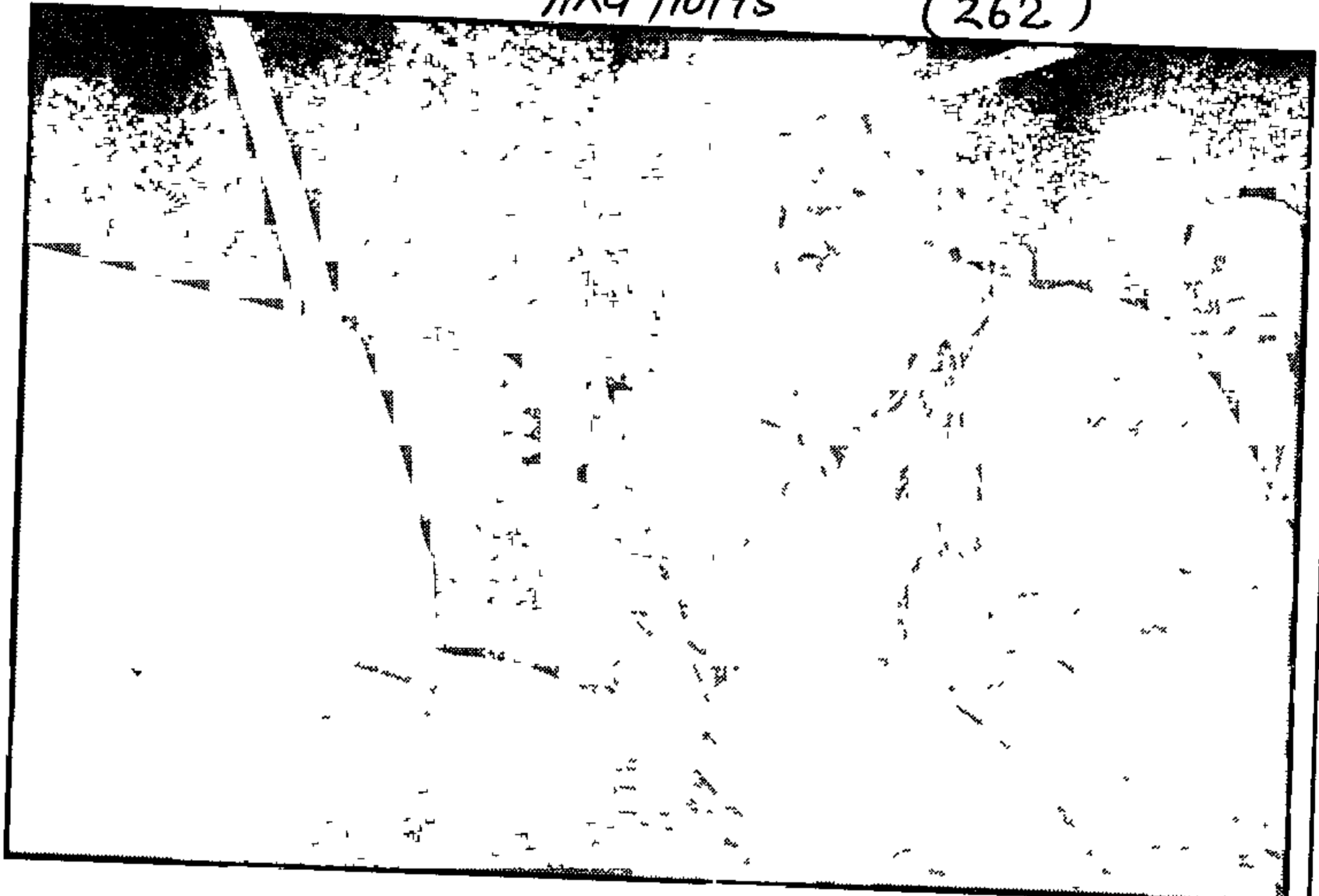
Mr Ramaphosa was answering a question by Taxpayers' Action Organisation chairman Pitt Fennell, who asked why the government had failed to put in place ordinary civil administration, even in its strongholds

Mr Ramaphosa said he was disturbed by an apparent element of racism in Mr Fennell's attitude and challenged him to go with him to Mdantsane or Soweto and talk to the people living there

There was no problem which could not be solved by sitting round a table and negotiating solutions, Mr Ramaphosa said

He believed this was the path to follow, rather than boycotts, which should be a last resort

At a business dinner last night Mr Ramaphosa said he



Picture OBED ZILWA, The Argus

DEATH THREATS: Stellenbosch council election candidate Faghrie Patel with his car, which was shot at last week, and the cellular phone over which death threats have been made to him. With him are fellow Stellenbosch Civic Alliance candidates John Anthony and Dawie Carolissen. ● Full story — page 1.

was teaching his domestic worker how to drive as his personal contribution to the RDP.

He said he was taking her for lessons in his own car. This was in line with one of the aims of the RDP, which was to teach new skills

At the dinner he said salaries paid to South Africa's policemen and women were scandalous and needed to be addressed as a matter of urgency

His own bodyguard earned only R900 a month

"He is an Afrikaner who says he is prepared to take a bullet to protect me. He has a wife and two children. We expect that man to be committed and loyal and above corruption"

Policemen were among the worst-treated civil servants in the country and had not been given the support they needed to fight crime effectively

Their conditions of service were appalling

Mr Ramaphosa said violence in KwaZulu-Natal was beginning to affect investor confidence and some businesses were considering pulling out of the province

"Unless we solve the problem it has the potential to drive the country into a quagmire," he said — Sapa

NP may block local polls bill

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

THE National Party was to decide today whether to block controversial local government transition legislation in the senate, a move which could scupper prospects of elections in the Western Cape before the March 30 deadline

Parliamentary committees on constitutional affairs will vote today on the Local Government Transition Act Second Amendment Bill, prior to the bill going to the national assembly and senate for approval later this week

The bill is aimed at rectifying procedural irregularities in proclamations on local government, rejected last month by the Constitutional Court. Encapsulating the proclamations in legislation is essential to the November 1 local elections going ahead

ARG 10/10/95
The African National Congress has refused so far to accede to NP demands to split the bill into two parts, which would allow the November elections to go ahead while preserving the Western Cape NP's victory in the Constitutional Court

The NP is considering invoking the constitution to demand that the bill be passed only if a majority of senators in affected provinces — in this case, the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal — assent to it

But there is concern in NP circles that using this tactic may mean a referral of the question of whether the measure itself is applicable to the Constitutional Court

Such a delay could imperil deadlines to enable the March 30 deadline for local elections to be

(262) ~~(262)~~
met, in which case the government would be entitled to appoint administrators to Western Cape metropolitan and rural local authorities

Whether it attempts to use the senate device or not, the NP will vote against the bill, which requires only a simple majority to be passed

It is certain the NP will refer clauses it finds unacceptable to the Constitutional Court

Even if this happens, it will not affect the November elections

Yesterday, the bill was attacked by the SA Agricultural Union, which said it would consider boycotting the elections unless its members were allocated 40 percent of the seats on transitional representative councils for rural areas

DP proposes way out of impasse

(262) CT 10/10/95

A COMPROMISE: Democratic Party amendment to facilitate the parliamentary passage of crucial local government legislation found favour with the African National Congress and the Inkatha Freedom Party last night

However, the National Party maintained a stony silence after

earlier telling the joint parliamentary constitutional affairs committee, which is considering the legislation, that it wanted a separate bill to address the matter.

The amendment, put forward by DP constitutional affairs spokesman Mr Colin Eglin, proposes that where vacancies on

provincial local government committees occur in a province that has more than one party in its executive, these should be filled on the basis that half the members be acceptable to the majority party and half to the other parties

ANC MP Mr Salie Manie said that although the ANC thought

the proposal could form the basis of an inter-party agreement, it would be guided by the response of other parties

Mr Peter Smith (IFP) said the amendment was acceptable in principle, provided an executive council retained certain powers in certain circumstances — Sapa

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Local govt essential for RDP

CF 10/10/95

(-62) ~~(-62)~~

Effective local government is essential for the RDP to be successful. Minister without Portfolio Mr. ...

He said the creation of local government structures was one of the challenges facing the Reconstruction and Development Programme.

Without strong local government it would be difficult for the RDP to be implemented.

... problem hindering RDP plan ...

He said creating jobs through the RDP was a better plan than merely hiring out contractors to do the work.

Mr. ... to meet ...

Vertical text on the right margin, possibly a page number or reference.

Previously undetected 'Gauteng islands' found

(262) ~~262~~
Drew Forrest

BD 11/10/95

GAUTENG may be SA's smallest province, but it has previously undetected outposts in Mpumalanga

A special Gauteng gazette published on September 1 reveals that there are 16 "Gauteng islands" in former KwaNdebele, now part of Mpumalanga. A Development Bank source estimated their total area at about 50 000ha

Gauteng government spokesman Jo-Anne Collinge said the islands were a hangover from the apartheid era, when portions of Transvaal Provincial Administration-land had been surrounded by the KwaNdebele homeland. When it was incorporated in Mpumalanga, the land was included in Gauteng "possibly as a result of a drafting oversight"

The 16 portions were serviced by Mpumalanga on an agency basis for Gauteng, Collinge said. Despite their anomalous position as Gauteng residents in exile, they would be able to vote in Mpumalanga in the forthcoming local government election, as services were rendered there

Earlier this year, Gauteng premier Tokyo Sexwale and his Mpumalanga counterpart, Mathews Phosa, struck the deal on disputed border areas of KwaNdebele, Moretele 2 and Moutse. These will remain in Mpumalanga, while residents' demands for services in Gauteng will be addressed by the provincial directors-general.

Collinge said there were a number of similar "irregular situations" across the country. In some cases, functional urban areas had been dismembered by the new provincial boundaries. Bronkhorstspurt, for example, was part of Gauteng, while its biggest township, Ekangala, was in Mpumalanga. Soshanguve, on former trust land, was in Gauteng, while its sister townships of GaRankuwa and Mabopane had been included in Northwest

Green light for local elections Bill

(262) BD 11/10/95
Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — Vital legislation that will allow the local government elections to go ahead was approved by the constitutional affairs committee last night, but it could result in a poll boycott by organised agriculture.

The Local Government in Transition Second Amendment Bill, which goes to the National Assembly today, overrules controversial actions taken by the NP in the Western Cape. It also rejects proposals by the SA Agricultural Union, significantly increasing the chances of a boycott of the rural local government elections by its members.

The ANC, in a dramatic closing session, deleted a contentious section which could have faced court action, and beefed up the powers of the Special Electoral Court to force provinces to proceed with elections.

Attempts by the NP to have the measures aimed at their Western Cape colleagues dealt with separately failed, as did a DP amendment, because the ANC majority dominated voting.

Deputy Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa said the objects of the amendments were to ensure the transformation of local government could not be hindered by provinces. The Bill removed any uncertainty from the legislation as identified in the recent Constitutional Court judgment, and also removed any chance of further court action.

NP MP Jacko Maree said his party would oppose the election because provincial governments should be allowed to get on with the job.

The IFP and DP objected to the measures from the ANC on the basis that they infringed on the competencies of the provinces.

Continued on Page 2

Elections (262) BD 11/10/95

Continued from Page 1

DP veteran Cohn Eglin also described the ANC's late substantial amendment to the Bill as "unfair" to the work of the committee.

The danger of organised agriculture boycotting the elections increased dramatically with the ANC's rejection of the union's proposals for increased farmer representation in rural areas. The union suggested a 40:40:20 split of representation between farmers, other interest groups and those elected to district councils through proportional representation.

Freedom Front MP Corné Mulder said the union would not participate in the election and would withdraw its candidates if the Bill went through in its present form which grants 10% representation to organised agriculture. He added that the Freedom Front

would also have to oppose the Bill. He accused the NP of climbing on the organised agriculture bandwagon for election purposes.

NP MP André Fourie said that when the ANC position became clear the NP was deeply disappointed and suggested that the ANC in the committee was going against the wishes of President Nelson Mandela, who had asked a group of ANC premiers to negotiate with the SAAU. The 40% formula was one of the suggestions that emerged in that committee.

Deputy Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Minister Valli Moosa (ANC) said the proposal by the SAAU would have amounted to entrenched white control of rural local government.

A major advantage for the local government elections was achieved, however, when amendments were adopted which should allow rural local government polls to go ahead in KwaZulu-Natal early next year.

ANC's surprise move catches NP off balance

(262) (263)

■ BY PATRICK BULGER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town - The ANC stunned the NP in Parliament last night with a manoeuvre that will rule out another appeal to the Constitutional Court and ensure that the local government elections go ahead on November 1.

Shortly before Parliament's portfolio committee on constitutional affairs was due to vote on the Local Government Transition Act Second Amendment Bill, the ANC dropped the controversial presidential proclamations that the Constitutional Court had earlier ruled unconstitutional, and to which the NP had been objecting.

The ANC's surprise move, announced by Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Deputy Minister Mohammed Valli Moosa, makes it impossible for the Western Cape's NP government to refer

Star 11/10/95
▶ To Page 3

NP caught off guard by ANC move

◀ From Page 1

the law to the Constitutional Court

NP members were stunned when Moosa told Parliament's portfolio committee on constitutional affairs that the proclamations were no longer considered necessary, but that they had been necessary in June when President Mandela issued them.

Instead, the ANC introduced a new clause in the Bill which invalidates the actions taken by Western Cape MEC for Local Government Peter Marais, who reconsti-

tuted the provincial committee because the NP did not accept the local government demarcations it had initiated.

Until last night, there was the possibility that the Western Cape government could appeal to the Constitutional Court to rule on the substance of the proclamations.

The court recently threw out the proclamations and gave Parliament until October 25 to rectify the problem - not because of what they contained, but because they were issued by Mandela rather than Parliament.

NOVEMBER 1 POLLS BACK ON TRACK

ANC steamrollers Nats

THE ANC has steamrolled NP opposition to a bill that will prevent Premier Mr Hernus Kriel from putting Khayelitsha into the central city municipality instead of Tygerberg.

A PARLIAMENTARY committee yesterday adopted a bill to be put to the National Assembly reversing boundary decisions by the Western Cape and making a boycott of the local government polls by white farmers likely

The ANC steamrolled NP opposition to adopt a trimmed down Local Government Transition Act Amendment Bill that is guaranteed passage by the ANC-dominated national assembly

Once President Nelson Mandela has signed the bill into law, it will put the November 1 election of 701 local government bodies back on track

It will also invalidate Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel's bid to shift Cape Town's debt-laden Khayelitsha black township from the NP-supporting Tygerberg municipality to the city's liberal central region

The elections were put in doubt by a Constitutional Court ruling

CF 11/10/95
last month that arrangements promulgated by Mr Mandela were invalid and would have to be validated by Parliament

"We can go on and have the elections on November 1," Minister of Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Roelf Meyer said after the committee vote

Farm levies

At the same time, the ANC majority rejected a compromise proposed by Mr Meyer to avert a poll boycott by members of the mainly white SA Agricultural Union

The SAAU asked the committee

(262)

on constitutional development and provincial affairs on Monday for a guarantee to white commercial farmers of at least 40% of the seats in rural local governments likely to be funded almost entirely by levies on their farms

Mr Meyer proposed a formula that could have given farmers, who constitute about 10% of the rural population, up to 30% of the seats on some rural councils.

ANC members of the committee rejected this

"The farmers won't go back on their word. They will boycott the election," rightist Freedom Front MP Mr Corne Mulder said after the vote — Reuter

Panel accepts local govt bill

A PARLIAMENTARY committee has adopted a bill reversing boundary decisions by the Western Cape

The African National Congress steamrollered National Party opposition to adopt a trimmed-down Local Government Transition Act Amendment Bill

The bill is certain to be passed by the ANC-dominated national assembly

Once it has been signed into law by President Nelson Mandela, it will put the November 1 local government elections back on track

It will also invalidate Western Cape Premier Mr Hernus Kriel's attempt to demarcate boundaries in a way that would cut debt-laden Khayelitsha out of the NP-supporting Tygerberg municipality and include it in Cape Town's central region.

The elections were put in doubt by a Constitutional Court ruling last month that certain arrangements promulgated by President Mandela were invalid and would have to be validated by Parliament by October 25 — Reuter

● See Page 4

(262) CT 11/10/95

ANC, NP clash as local government Bill is passed

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — ANC and NP relations in the government of national unity plunged to new lows last night — with attacks from the ANC on Deputy President FW De Klerk — during the debate which saw the National Assembly approve legislation allowing the November 1 elections to go ahead.

Transport Minister Mac Maharaj (ANC) said he would ask President Nelson Mandela to have De Klerk removed as cabinet security committee chairman. He claimed as his justification a newspaper report quoting De Klerk as saying he could use the military to regain power in SA.

He said, before launching a furious attack on De Klerk and the NP, that he had agonised all night over whether to approach Mandela. De Klerk chairs the cabinet committee in which all sensitive security matters are discussed. Maharaj said if De Klerk could contemplate maintaining rule through mil-

tary means he was unfit to chair the committee De Klerk rebutted Maharaj, saying that he had been misquoted. He had said that when he was president the NP could "have clung to power" with the use of the military. Instead the NP had believed this would have resulted in a devastating conflict and had decided it had to change.

He said Maharaj's accusation that he was threatening a coup was "devoid of all truth" and denied it with contempt. He accused Maharaj of political mischief and asked why he would say something which undermined everything he had done since 1989. The NP would deal with the ANC through the ballot box and not through force.

Maharaj then refused to apologise and said he would pursue his approach to Mandela. De Klerk, he said, had shown that he lacked the responsibility to chair the security committee.

The debate was characterised by fe-

Continued on Page 2

Elections

Continued from Page 1

rocious clashes between the ANC and the NP. Four ANC ministers lashed the NP, particularly in the Western Cape, for being racist and trying to derail local government democratisation.

The Bill was approved by 237 votes to 102 as the ANC used its muscle to defeat the combined opposition and send the Local Government Transition Second Amendment Bill to the Senate today. Only Senate approval and the

signature of the President stands between the Bill becoming law.

□ Sapa reports that an organisation representing Northwest farmers has applied for a court interdict to stop local government elections in the province. The Transvaal Municipal Association applied for the interdict following local government MEC Darkey Africa's proclamation of five district councils, which are umbrella bodies covering rural and urban councils.

Association president Ben van den Berg said his organisation objected to the fact that district councils would not represent farmers.

Election law passed

(262)
Star 12/10/95

■ BY PATRICK BULGER
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

Cape Town - The National Assembly yesterday passed crucial legislation to ensure local elections go ahead on November 1. The NP, as expected, voted against it.

The Local Government Transition Act Second Amendment Bill was also opposed by the Freedom Front and the IFP, but the DP, PAC and African Christian Democratic Party voted with the ANC to pass it by 237 votes to 102.

The legislation will come before the Senate today, where the ANC majority will ensure that it is passed. The Senate session will be the last act of Parliament this year after this week's special four-day session, made necessary by the Constitutional Court's rejection of proclamations issued by President Mandela earlier this year.

Meanwhile, a new row over the elections is looming after the ANC said yesterday it wants unregistered people, estimated to number five million, to be able to vote on November 1. ANC elections co-ordinator Saei Macozoma told a media briefing that it wants people to be able to register on the day of the poll.

The party's research indicated that 30% of people who wanted to vote had not initially registered.

After more recent efforts to increase registration, this figure had dropped to about 10%.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said about 17,3-million people were registered to vote. Election organisers estimate that as many as five million people have not registered, including those who did not want to vote.

The DP has indicated it will oppose the move and will go to court. The NP is also opposed to it.

Private sector embraced in plan for development via local

By **John Chalmers**

GOVERNMENT yesterday unveiled a R61bn, 10-year blueprint to shape SA's urban and rural development through local government transformation.

The plan has a strong focus on private sector investment.

Minister without Portfolio Jay Naidoo said the strategies were a vision for urban and rural development that would guide public and private investment in addressing past distortions, while boosting job creation.

He invited public debate on the strategies, to be facilitated by the National Economic, Development and Labour Council, with public inputs to form the basis of White Papers on development strategies.

RDP office development planning chief director Chippie Oliver said the cost of the strategies at R61bn was based on a compromise between the provision of basic, intermediate and full services. These would be funded through state grants, borrowing and private sector investment.

BD 13/10/95

Government was looking at new methods to fund delivery. While private sector investors appeared averse to risk and were slow to commit themselves, government was confident investment would be forthcoming "now that we have a framework".

Reform at local authority level involved building democratic local and district councils in rural areas and boosting the efficiency of urban local government through a partnership with the private sector. Rural areas housed the bulk of the poor, with about

67% of the very poor in these areas.

"Integrated rural development in target areas can boost jobs through a well defined land reform programme, market development, small-scale agricultural development and infrastructure," the strategy said. This would be achieved by building local government, improving services to farmers and entrepreneurs, promoting development, building infrastructure and educating rural dwellers. Implementation of the rural strategy would be facilitated by local government, with residents and

their elected representatives taking charge of development in their areas.

District councils would obtain funding in several ways, including local fees and service charges, and also sharing funds from the provinces with the poorest districts receiving the most.

The urban strategy indicated 75% of SA's population would be living in urban areas within 25 years. The management of such rapid urbanisation would require major public investment in municipal infrastructure, security and local economic development.

government

IFP fail (2b2) in bid to CT 13/10/95 sink act

ANTHONY JOHNSON
POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE senate last night followed the national assembly in passing crucial local government legislation after a last-gasp bid by the IFP to have the measure declared unconstitutional failed.

But both the National Party and the IFP warned that fresh court-challenges to aspects of the contentious legislation were imminent.

At the conclusion of the senate debate, the IFP tried to block the legislation in the senate on the grounds that it encroached on the powers of certain provinces.

However, senate president Mr Kobie Coetsee — after ordering an adjournment of the House — ruled that he did not have the discretion to make such a ruling.

The legislation was eventually passed by 57 votes to 18, with the ANC and DP supporting the measure and the NP, IFP and Freedom Front opposing it.

Action

Western Cape Premier Mr Hermus Kriel declined to comment yesterday on what course of action his government would take in the wake of the action designed to ensure that Khayelitsha would be incorporated in the Tygerberg local authority instead of central Cape Town.

However, it is reliably understood that Mr Kriel was locked in consultations with lawyers to weigh the province's legal options.

The NP is expected to outline its battle plan at the weekend.

IFP senator Ms Ruth Rabinowitz said her party was considering taking the bill to court because of unhappiness with restrictions placed on how specific areas in provinces had to be represented.

She said the bill was a motion of mistrust in provincial governments and kwaZulu/Natal in particular, and the IFP would oppose it "with all available means".

Tim Cohen

CAPE TOWN — Five provinces, including three where the ANC is the majority party, have complained about the limited flexibility granted them by government in developing their own budgets.

The five provinces, which responded to inquiries canvassed from all provinces last week, said they believed the constitution gave them the right to receive "block grants" from national government, or that they were entitled to set their own priorities.

But all five respondents said they were happy for norms and standards to be set by national government as long as these were set in terms of objective criteria and were established within the guidelines in the constitution.

The provinces were responding to differences which have emerged between the financial and fiscal commission and the national finance ministry about provinces' constitutional rights to plan and draw up their own budgets.

The commission — established in terms of the constitution to advise government on provincial funding — has strongly criticised national government for not initiating plans to grant the provinces the power and scope to draw up their own budgets.

The financial and fiscal commission said although interim measures were clearly necessary to allow provinces to develop budgeting capacity, it warned that if government did not implement the constitution's directives on provincial powers, it was in danger of spending huge amounts on provincial governments, but gaining none of the benefits of a decentralised system.

The national finance ministry has denied that there is a substantial difference between its views and those of the financial and fiscal commission and says its current budgeting methods are consistent with the constitution.

'Budget development a constitutional right'

(262) 16/10/95

In response to this argument, Gauteng finance MEC Jabu Moleketi said "The current budget process permits very little flexibility to set provincial priorities."

In principle, the accountability of provincial governments should be developed.

"This implies scope for provinces to set their own priorities within a national expenditure framework," Moleketi said.

Finance MECs from the Northern Cape, Western Cape and Free State said their reading of the constitution led them to the conclusion that all nine provinces should get "block grants" from national government.

RDP-linked

Western Cape finance MEC Kobus Meiring said section 155 of the constitution and the recommendations of the financial and fiscal commission implied that provinces should receive block-grants which should be handled by the provincial legislature.

"If this is not the case, the provincial legislatures have no role to play and, therefore, are defunct," Meiring said at this stage 90% of the province's grant from central government could not be reprioritised as it was allocated at central government level.

Northern Cape finance MEC Goolam Akharwaray agreed, but said the constitution and the commission introduced a "certain conditionality" on how budget allocations could be spent.

Ideally, block grants would be linked to economic and development plans that were currently being developed with the national

reconstruction and development programme office, he said.

"We accept that there is a clear need for certain norms and standards to be adhered to in terms of fiscal allocations for the provision of certain public goods and services," he said.

However, whether they should be determined by national government for the "investigated functions" (welfare, roads, housing, education, health and agriculture) was open to debate.

Free State finance MEC Harold Lerumo said there was not enough flexibility to develop and implement "our spending priorities." Even if provinces realised that certain departments were under-funded, there was nothing they could do about it because they had to adhere to government's national budget.

"We take 18 months to prepare the provincial budget, but it takes the budget committee two hours to cut and change government priorities," he said.

KwaZulu-Natal finance MEC SJ Mhlungu said his government had accepted the current system as an interim measure but that it should be done away with as soon as an alternative was provided.

The current system created the problem that funds could not easily be diverted from a certain function without creating administrative and political problems.

Flexibility went hand in hand with certainty of revenue, he said.

If a province was certain of how much money would be forthcoming, it would be better placed to determine its own priorities within the framework of the national norms and standards.

New local govt watchdog to fight 'illegal' councils

(262)

Mduduzi ka Harvey

BD 17/10/95

THE newly formed National Organisation for Ratepayers and Municipal Associations has brought court action against Northwest local government MEC Darkey Africa, saying he had imposed a fourth tier of local government which stripped councils of the right to implement their own levies and tariffs

Organisation director Johan Roos said Africa had imposed "illegal" transitional district councils in the province not provided for in the Local Government Transition Act. He said the case would be heard in Mmabatho's Supreme Court on Thursday

The organisation, whose vision includes Afrikaner self-determination in local government and for those who identify with Afrikaner culture, was established as part of a drive by the Transvaal Municipal Association to establish a national ratepayers' association.

Organisation members have vowed to fight for ratepayers' interests in a new local government dispensation, and to monitor the transgressions of ANC-controlled local authorities

Roos said the organisation would fight local authorities calling for continued payment of flat rates in the townships, at the expense of communities paying economic rates. These discriminatory rates would be challenged in the Constitutional Court

After the elections, the organisation would challenge "reverse discrimination" in local government.

Roos said that the organisation was currently expanding its membership countrywide.

Once established, it would mobilise for the "responsible" development of disadvantaged communities without eroding the established tax base of developed communities

Political comment in this issue by A Fine, newsbills by C Pickard-Cambridge, headlines by V Strauss, all of 11 Diagonal Street, Johannesburg

NP beats ANC in race to win over Vaal voters

Nomavenda Mathiane

(262)

(215)

BD 19/10/95

THE NP has made inroads into Vaal informal settlement areas, beating the ANC in the race by promising to provide water and housing for the homeless in the area.

The two parties are fighting over Sebokeng Zone 12 extension and the area's adjoining squatter camps.

Candidates contesting are former Robben Island prisoner Ace Motaung for the ANC, who is running against former ANC member Norman Posa, now standing for the NP, and Peter Tladi who is an independent candidate.

Both parties are campaigning around providing essential services and building houses.

The Vaal complex is divided into two metropolitan substructures — east and west. In some formerly white areas, the NP was fighting against the FF and the DP. The Rate Residents' Association of SA is also campaigning in the area, as are a few independents such as former Delmas trialist Jerry Tlhopane, who is standing in ward 14 in Sebokeng.

Tlhopane is campaigning on the delivery of services, and the high rates introduced in July.

Intolerance has surfaced in some areas where parties have accused each other of tearing down posters. The ANC has also accused NP candidate Posa of campaigning as an ANC member, saying it planned to take the matter up with the electoral committee. But NP Vaal representative Johan Kilian refuted the allegations.

ANC sources in the area fear the "hostel warlords" from KwaMadala hostel, scene of ongoing faction fighting, who failed to be nominated, might intimidate residents against voting.

Rural areas worst affected

Scores of local poll candidates disqualified

Drew Forrest *BD 19/10/95*
and Mduduzi ka Harvey

THE disqualification of scores of local government election candidates poses a mounting threat to the legitimacy and inclusiveness of the poll, particularly in rural areas

In some rural areas, all or most ANC candidates have been rejected, raising the prospect of NP or far-right walkovers, and therefore unrepresentative structures, or the postponement of polls.

In Gauteng, the ANC has asked the provincial cabinet to address the issue. "We cannot have a situation where elected councils are unrepresentative," said ANC regional secretary Paul Mashatile. "It would affect perceptions of the election's legitimacy."

Sources said the Gauteng ANC had floated the idea of reopening registration "for a day or two" for candidates disqualified because they do not appear on the voters' roll.

The NP said yesterday it would not accept this. "We want to find solutions and ensure elections go ahead," said

NP Gauteng local government head Johan Kilian. "But if the proposal is to restart registration, we would only be opening a can of worms."

There have also been suggestions of a multiparty tribunal, empowered by regulation to review individual disqualifications.

In the Eastern Cape, the provincial cabinet has endorsed a request by the rural authorities of Albany, Bathurst, Alexandria, Uitenhage and Port Elizabeth to postpone elections to November 29 after ANC party lists were rejected because candidates' addresses were incomplete.

In the Algoa regional services council area, with about 800 000 voters, 95% of ANC candidates have been rejected because their nomination forms arrived late, according to Centre for Policy Studies researcher Graeme Gotz. This cast doubt on the legitimacy of the election in that region, he said.

In Mpumalanga, 157 of the 850 candidates have been disqualified.

In the transitional local council of

Continued on Page 2

Candidates

Continued from Page 1

Hazyview, all the ANC's candidates have been rejected after failing to hand in party lists on time. Six ANC candidates for the Volksrust transitional local council have been disqualified after registering for the neighbouring Amersfoort transitional local council.

A total of 33 ANC candidates have been debarred in the Eastern Services Council area of Gauteng because they are not registered, ensuring white control of councils in the rural towns of Bronberg, Blesbokspruit, Suikerbosrivier and Vischkuil if the election goes ahead there. Mashatile said that as a last resort, the poll in the affected towns would have to be delayed.

All ANC candidates have also been disqualified in Cullinan, Gauteng, on grounds they are in arrears with municipal service payments. Mashatile said candidates had been unable to pay because local government administration had collapsed in the area.

Many of the disqualifications are the subject of court action. ANC election spokesman Roshene Singh said legal proceedings had been filed in the five Eastern Cape rural areas, the South Cape, Northern Cape and Cullinan. In the South Cape, the returning officer had rejected party lists handed in during the supplementary registration period. Singh said the officer had applied the law incorrectly and the matter would go before the Supreme Court on October 25.

In the Northern Cape, Singh said, legal action had started yesterday on the rejection of candidates in arrears. The Hazyview disqualifications would also be challenged.

Singh said ANC lists had also been rejected in parts of the Western Cape, but the party had been included on ballot papers pending court action. If the ANC lost the case, its name would be deleted from the papers.

Other areas of concern included the Free State, where four candidates had been rejected, and Roodepoort.

See Page 5

Canvassers to be protected by law

~~262A~~ (262)
Business Day Reporter

BD 19/10/95

ANYONE denying canvassers and voter educators access to public or private property could face a fine of R60 000 or three years in jail, according to planned changes to election laws.

The new measures, aimed at providing farm workers with election information, had been circulated to provincial governments with a recommendation that they be promulgated in the provinces, a local government task group spokesman said yesterday.

Election workers in rural areas had expressed concern at problems in gaining access to farm workers, said the spokesman. With two weeks to go before the local government elections, urgent action was necessary to ensure a free and fair poll.

Canvassers do not have to give advance notice before entering property, according to the new regulations. However, they should attempt to get hold of owners or lawful occupiers of the property and supply full details of themselves and their activities.

Property owners can insist on security arrangements "normally applicable to visitors", and can deny access if there is no one to canvass or if the visitors act in an intimidatory way.

Employees cannot be addressed by party representatives and voter educators during working hours.

FM 20/10/95
LOCAL ELECTIONS
(262)
Sorry, you can't vote

With less than two weeks left until the local elections, the Institute for Democracy in SA (Idasa) has highlighted the troubling prospect of disturbances at the polls if large numbers of unregistered voters arrive at voting stations with unfulfillable expectations of casting their ballots

As part of a broader survey of the election, Idasa interviewed 425 black households in five provinces — mainly rural but also in metropolitan Gauteng — and found an average 85% registered to vote — far higher than the HSRC's April figure of 69% who were at that stage aware of the need to register. The big three parties have clearly been working hard — 100% of those intending to vote for the NP have registered, ANC 95%, IFP 93% and PAC 83%

CURRENT AFFAIRS

The Idasa survey closed on October 2, so it provides a good "snapshot" of the final registration percentages

Of those polled, only 83% intend to vote and 17% do not — an abstention rate that reaches 24% in Gauteng, suggesting either a low level of interest in the election or that many were coerced into registering but will stay away on November 1

Idasa found that among the unregistered, 27% still intend to try to vote and a further

29% have not made up their minds. A third of these people believe they will be allowed to vote, 59% are unsure. It is consistent with a survey conducted in July by the private Research Services group for the Department of Constitutional Development which showed that of the 27% of voters still unregistered at that time, more than 40% thought they would vote anyway

Since the publication of the Idasa survey results, electoral officials have said that un-

registered voters will be able to register on the day — but only for future elections

Idasa also notes a "vacuum of information" about the election. Ignorance of the location of voting stations is one problem, a lack of knowledge of candidates is another. And because the candidates — at the time of the survey — were largely unknown, they would inevitably be "flagged" by voters according to their party allegiances, prejudicing independents

DA

Or, as past president Rocky Ridgway told Sacob's annual conference, in Port Elizabeth, this week "SA has changed but the change still has to be paid for" (see *Business* page 67)

Provincial Affairs Deputy Minister Valli Moosa says the cost will become clear only as the newly elected local authorities start the exercise of budgeting and expenditure on areas where the needs are five times more people have to be catered for now than under the old dispensation

In some cases, says national co-chairman

Outgoing Sacob president Les Weil, after attacking government for not giving enough attention to the importance of good administration, offered the private sector's skills and budgeting experience in helping new councils

"Let us seek to help each other. Secondments from the private sector to the civil service can be negotiated. There are many able, retired businessmen who would be willing to lend their years of expertise to the cause of good governance"

"When government concludes that the

privatisation of State assets is essential to create the wealth we seek, businessmen will know how to structure, advise and execute this policy"

Moosa says he accepts Weil's offer of business help and adds that though the financial effects of the new, democratic local government dispensation will become clear only over time, government will consider developing parameters within which tax and budget policies



Moosa



Slabbert

of the Local Government Elections Task Group Frederik Van Zyl Slabbert, it is a case of "heaven help us" — as in the sprawling Botshabelo township outside Bloemfontein, where most of the council candidates are 24 years old or even younger

"The lack of skills and experience could be a serious problem as the demand for expenditure seems to exceed the reality of a limited tax revenue base," he says

Ridgway says Port Elizabeth's experience with the transitional local authority has shown "three negatives that need urgent attention if we want to avoid bankruptcy"

- Sections of the black community not paying for service charges,
- The budget looking like a wish list and unlikely to balance, and
- Election fees, not taxes, increasing, with the accent on spending, not saving

But he says the business community's attitude of "benign neglect" — not attending or influencing important budgetary meetings and taking the line of least resistance by ignoring vital local government policy and tax issues — is partly to blame

"My message is take advantage of the openness of local government. If the price of freedom is eternal vigilance, so is the price of economic survival"

"To what extent has organised business encouraged businessmen of ability and integrity to stand for council? A token encouragement — or not at all? There is a great opportunity for competent councillors to influence budgets to the benefit of all the inhabitants of the city"

will be executed

"We do not want to tax investors out and loan-funding by authorities will be watched closely. We do not want to increase our debt." He hints at a special dispensation for large metropolitan authorities, some of whose budgets exceed those of provinces

Moosa's assurances are timely. Sacob's Ken Mason says some businessmen are investigating moving to Maputo and Swaziland. "Gauteng already provides 60% of SA's tax base and gets only 15% back from central government. We need refunds, not more taxes"

(262) Fm 20/10/95
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The cost is still to come

The real cost of reform, at local government level, will become apparent only after the November 1 local government elections

How 'local' will these local elections be?

■ South Africa's road to democracy takes another major step with the local council elections. DANIEL SILKE — a research assistant at the Institute for the Study of Public Policy at the University of Cape Town and an independent political analyst — argues that serious questions are emerging about the potential of the elections to assist the healthy development of a multi-party political system. These point to a possible centralisation of power and authority.

THE 1995 local council elections are proving to be an unusual poll. Across the board, political parties are grappling with a variety of conflicts. Do they localise their campaign and address mundane issues or do they nationalise their efforts and turn the election fray into a vote of confidence for their leadership at a parliamentary and Government of National Unity level?

Given the peculiar postponement of voting in both the Western Cape Metropole and the entire KwaZulu-Natal, how will the results on the evening of November 1 affect these two troublesome regions in the run-up to their own elections?

In theory, local elections should promote smaller parties. South Africa's political landscape has, since the 1994 elections, been dominated by the three partners in the GNU. There has been little opportunity for the minority groupings (the DP, PAC and FF) to make their presence felt and this voting opportunity is likely to see all three parties (along with a variety of independents) raise their political voices in a desperate attempt at continued political survival.

The smaller parties are certainly advantaged in that they can capitalise on errors and inconsistencies among the GNU partners (the ANC, NP and IFP). Indeed, the DP has exploited a frustration among the township residents of Alexandra and Soweto regarding the now endemic wave of crime in the area and has been attacking the ANC on these issues.

Similarly, the PAC has been highlighting existing tensions in the Grabouw area of the Boland and will pick up votes accordingly.

However, both the NP and ANC will be seeking, in the final two weeks of the campaign, to draw voters to national issues.

The ANC will continue to argue that its national agenda — that of implementing a successful RDP — can only be secured through effective control of local structures.

The NP, in turn, will continue to accuse the ANC of being a power-hungry party which seeks to dominate all aspects of public life. In addition, the NP has sought to attack the ANC on its lack of ability in fighting crime.

These contrasting styles of electioneering will be tested on November 1. Should the ANC and NP be able to effectively "nationalise" their campaigns, the smaller parties can expect some shocks. After all, it is only 18 months since the emotional 1994 election and a residue of loyalty is still firmly entrenched in the minds of most ANC voters.

The poor performance of the NP in opposition (somewhat hamstrung by the machinations of the GNU) has left its support base soft and ripe for picking, from both the FF and the DP. A tilt to the right by the NP in the last few weeks of the campaign might restore some lost support as nervous voters return to the De Klerk fold and leave the minority parties trailing behind.

The staggered nature of this election also poses problems and opportunities for all parties. Both the IFP and NP are unable to contest their respective strongholds. This suggests that their results around the rest of the country will be patchy at best.

While the NP is likely to score successes in the voting areas of the Western Cape, Northern Cape and in selected municipalities in Gauteng, its final result will certainly not be as stunning as its victory in the Western Cape last year.

The IFP, meanwhile, is heading for a major defeat in Gauteng province — its only region of support outside KwaZulu-Natal.

For NP and IFP stalwarts going to the polls at the end of March next year, these results could seem depressing. A poor national showing by both the NP and IFP is likely to demoralise party formations in those areas and will certainly encourage the ANC and smaller parties to mobilise disaffected support.

What is certain, however, is that both the IFP and NP will be throwing everything into retaining dominance in their respective regions.

In turn, the ANC will also be out in full force and will use President Mandela to capture potential ANC votes. The ANC is likely to benefit the most from staggered elections. Their success nationally will spur them on, while they will look for every opportunity to gain at the expense of the ailing NP and IFP following their November 1 results.

If anything, the real battle for survival will only be in late March of next year. To an extent, this perverts the current campaign. Results are likely to show a trend towards the majority party and away from a multi-party orientation. This bodes negatively for the establishment of a true multi-party culture in South Africa over the short term.

The DP also faces a dilemma. Should the much vaunted (and costly) Soweto campaign of Tony Leon fail to produce a breakthrough in black support, the party's battle in the Western Cape will struggle. However, even a small increment in black representation for the party will be viewed as a rebirth of the DP in an area it desperately needs for long-term survival and growth.

The pressure at the hustings will also have a negative effect on the continued survival of the GNU. As seen over the last week, ANC revelations on the activities of senior IFP officials were perfectly timed to impact on the pending vote. It is to be expected that fresh tensions will emerge during the run-up to the March encounters which will further strain the cosy three-party agreement at a national level. This pressure has the potential to derail the GNU.

In many ways, the November 1 elections are likely to increase the centralisation of political power behind the ANC. Although a vital step in establishing grass-roots democracy, they will fail to create a democratic culture.

ARG 21/10/95

Loss of power angers chiefs

DURBAN — Tribal chiefs from around the country are to meet at the Union Buildings to protest against local government laws which stripped them of traditional powers, a top Zulu chief said (262)

KwaZulu-Natal's Traditional Affairs Minister Chief Nyanga Ngubane said chiefs and their subjects would hold an "Imbizo" in Pretoria on October 28 and would deliver a memorandum to President Nelson Mandela's office (262)

The traditional leaders oppose a recent amendment to the Local Government Transition Act which "deprives chiefs of their powers and violates constitutional principles", he said ARG 21/10/95

They had planned the meeting at the Union Buildings on October 14 but Chief Ngubane said it was rescheduled because of "problems in other provinces"

He said chiefs, including those of the Congress of Traditional Leaders of South Africa (Contralesa), had agreed to attend the Imbizo — Reuter

NP is using poll to build future support in black areas, says Meyer

Drew Forrest

THE NP was unlikely to win any wards in Soweto, but was using the local election campaign to build support for the future in black areas, Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said yesterday.

The party had started in the same way in coloured townships, which had grown into NP strongholds, he said. Meyer was interviewed during a campaign roadshow in Soweto. The NP is fielding about 30 candi-

dates in three-quarters of Soweto's wards, which are distributed across three greater Johannesburg metropolitan structures.

In contrast with the general election — when he said there was "far less goodwill" — Sowetans were welcoming. His impression was that NP campaigners in black areas across the country had encountered a similar change in atmosphere.

Meyer's positive profile in the township — in part the consequence of his key negotiating role at the World

Trade Centre — was evidenced by the fact that he was widely and enthusiastically recognised in Soweto. A shebeen owner in Dlamini opened his bar specifically to serve him. "We don't hate him — he is Cyril (Rampaphosa's) friend," said one resident.

Meyer said the changed mood might flow from election apathy. Low turnout in local government polls were an international phenomenon. Disappointment with the ANC's failure to deliver on its promises was also a factor, he said. The NP's partic-

ipation in the government of national unity had contributed to a new perception of the party by showing that "black and white can work together to establish a basis for peace".

Meyer said the NP's best prospects in black townships were in Gauteng, where greater political maturity gave more scope for multiparty politics. The party had established branches in black areas throughout the province.

Commenting on Mphahlela in the Soweto branch — the NP's first deputy mayor in the township and other mem-

Meyer

Continued from Page 1

greater Johannesburg and "make progress" in black areas

Edward West reports that Meyer was repeatedly questioned by candidates in the north Boland last week about the perceived conflict of interest between him and the Western Cape Government over demarcation of the Western Cape metropolitan area. As the responsible minister, Meyer was central to government moves to overturn Western Cape appointments to the provincial committee and controversial demarcation proposals the committee endorsed.

During a whistle-stop tour of Ceres, Prince Alfred's Hamlet and Walseley, Meyer said "I am both a party loyalist and responsible for my portfolio. Feasible use this Catch-22 situation to spread rumours and create perceptions

of a conflict of interest." There was no direct conflict between himself and Western Cape premier Hennie Kriel, although they represented different interests. Kriel acted for the province, while he had to look after NP interests in provinces where the party was a minority. If (Western Cape local government MEC) Peter Marais had his way in changing the provincial committee, Dan Mokoeng would have done the same thing in Gauteng.

Meyer said NP general assembly member Melt Hamman said he was confident the party would win majority support in the north Boland and improve its showing in last year's poll.

The area contains 25 of the 95 Western Cape towns voting on November 1. In the three towns visited by Meyer, the white vote is split between the NP and ratepayers' associations. This could give the ANC control. However, Meyer said traditional ANC supporters were divided between the ANC and civic organisations

bers were ousted after flouting the party line on the demarcation of Johannesburg — Meyer said it would take time for local leadership contests to resolve themselves. Leadership would emerge from a new wave of NP supporters since the general election. Many NP candidates in Soweto had come forward of their own accord.

He predicted the NP would hold on to its established support among whites, coloureds and Indians in

Continued on Page 2

THE decision to hold local government elections on the same day throughout the country was an unfortunate one. It has turned local government elections into a "mini-general election" focusing on national political issues and encouraging national politicians to flex their muscles. Local elections should be about local issues. The stuff of the local campaign should concern how political parties, ratepayer groups and their candidates intend to run the city or town and why one party will do a better job than another.

Voters should hear different proposals and ideas. Candidates should be asked tough questions, and answers should be demanded. These questions should include the personal qualifications of the candidate to represent that neighbourhood — does he/she live in an area — and how their election will help the local community to address its problems. Candidates should be asked how communities will pay for all they are promising. They should also be asked whether people who do not pay for services will continue to receive them. And whether their candidate favours the subcontracting of local services to local small businesses. I would insist that may candidates promise not to vote themselves a salary increase for at least the first three years in office.

Candidates need to be asked what they will do for the city or town as a whole. How will they encourage business development and job creation? What plans do they have to ensure that the central business district functions well and does not decline? How do they intend to ensure that city services do not deteriorate, but even improve? What plans do the candidates have to ensure that the communal government decisions on issues that affect their own area? And, most importantly, candidates standing for office should be asked: "Will we ever see you again if you are elected?"

The 1995 community elections will more often than not fail to provide opportunities for most voters to question their local candidates or have any idea what these candi-

These are the questions to ask the election candidates

ANN BERNSTEIN

(262)
RD 23/10/95

Does anyone know, for example, what any political party's vision is for the future of Johannesburg or Soweto? What are different parties saying about the funding of urban development or local government privatisation.

These are the kind of issues that local governments once elected will need to grapple with. If they have been elected because of their views on matters extraneous to local government, their task will be harder. Local councillors will not know what their voters will support and this could make them more cautious in tackling tough issues than they need to be. And, as we all know, the newly elected local authorities will face many hard, important choices.

These include dealing with the central components of apartheid's legacy; our socioeconomic urban realities; and competitive urban development in a global economy.

Apartheid has left our urban areas with two central legacies. First, the new local authorities will have to understand and "patch together" urban entities conceived and built around notions of race and segregation rather than function and economics.

Building the black and white components of the cities together will be a difficult task and will take different forms in each city, town and metropolitan area. There will be economic, infrastructural, political, transport and social components of this challenge.

The second component of the apartheid legacy is an attitudinal dynamic in black and white communities. For many black South Africans, the poor quality of their local services and the nature of the struggle against apartheid have resulted in a deep-seated "culture of non-payment" for services. Turning this around, as the faltering Operation Masakhane has found, will require not only super-efficient administration and service provision but also strongly enforced penalties for recalcitrance — a topic not many seem to want to deal with.

But there is an attitudinal lag for many white residents, who resent the now active presence of much larger numbers of people and all the consequences of that.

The third challenge facing the newly elected local governments concerns the realities of urban life in an urbanising, developing country. Most large cities and towns are growing in population. A large percentage of the population is poor and unskilled and without formal employment. Irrespective of racial issues, most cities in developing countries are divided within themselves into "legal formal cities" and rapidly expanding "illegal informal cities". The demand for infrastructure, services, housing, schooling and community facilities far outstrips the available resources.

The fourth challenge is the new global reality and how this affects cities. As nations start to align their trade policies and bring down barriers, so the differences between countries start to matter less and the comparative advantages of particular cities start to matter more. In many respects, the new arena for global competition, the places where companies will compete, will be cities rather than countries. SA cities will need to orientate themselves to this reality and manage their cities as competitive arenas for investment and growth.

The newly elected local governments will need to sustain and encourage further economic growth, and this will require developing a sound working relationship with business and incultating an entrepreneurial environment. On the other hand, they will need also to deliver on some of the promises they are making to the electorate. Many of these promises will seem to involve redistribution from the very business sector they need to encourage. They will need to find a way of combining the two needs, in the short and the longer term.

Thus the critical challenge for the future is a local political, economic and strategic one. The new local governments will need to bring together racially segregated and divided cities and towns and build a common and achievable vision of a prosperous future as one effective urban entity. This unification of purpose will require a vision with something for everyone.

The specifics of the vision in a city or town will need to emerge through a participative process and creative politics.

To take Johannesburg as an example, the new local authority could lead a process whereby key city stakeholders participate in defining a new vision — say Johannesburg as Africa's leading communication, financial, media, telecommunications and service city.

Local government can then formulate the steps required to realise this ambition; and the respective roles of the state, the market, communities and individuals.

And within this agreed strategic and action framework responses to a range of difficult issues can be assessed. Do we double the regional services council levy if we want to be Africa's leading service centre? Can the city continue to have no authority over airports if we want to be Africa's international gateway? Are we dealing with the housing crisis with sufficient urgency?

Successful local government in the new SA will require the emergence of civic "coalitions for growth and development" — a political partnership between the key players built around a commonly developed vision of their future and how to get there.

□ Bernstein is director of the Centre for Development and Enterprise.

the province needed to be...

Park council prompts white elephant gibes

Tim Cohen

BD 23/10/95 (262)

THE NP has already won all rural local government seats in Kruger National Park, prompting derisory remarks about parties which have an affinity for "white elephants" and some concern about election procedures in rural areas.

The ANC has made light of losing the park to the NP, which is unopposed in the area, quipping that some parties have a special appeal to animals. Mpumalanga ANC spokesman Jackson Mthembu also voiced concern about getting the vote in the park, asking: "How do you canvass lions?"

The Kruger Park rural local council area was just one of the areas in which procedures adopted by provincial authorities were problematic, he said.

He complained that it and other rural areas were proclaimed very late, with the date of proclamation ending up being very close to the date on which nominations closed.

Consequently, in some areas the nominations closed before parties were aware that the area had been proclaimed.

According to provincial statistics, 33 of the 127 seats in the rural areas were uncontested, compared with six of the 318 proportional representation seats for town councils.

Although he conceded that in some cases the problems were the parties' own fault, he argued that it would result in some areas having completely unrepresentative rural councils.

In the disputed Hazyview area, where ANC candidates were disqualified because they had not put their addresses on their nomination forms, there were about 5 000 whites and 50 000 blacks.

He suggested that in these areas a "political decision" was necessary, proposing that the elections in these areas be postponed.

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Council trainers outline problems

Nomavenda Mathiane

^{BO 23/10/95}
LACK of a national framework for local government, funding and capacity building for councillors were some of the problems highlighted by local councillor trainers who gathered in Johannesburg yesterday.

Meeting under the auspices of the National Business Initiative and the UN Development Fund, trainers from government and non-governmental organisations said if local government was to succeed as a strong tier of government, a national framework to guide the process ought to be put in place.

National Business Initiative co-ordinator Ray Russon said the

~~(173)~~ (262)
people at the meeting resolved to form a steering committee to take up with government the issue of local government training

Delegates noted the lack of resources to facilitate local government training. Areas that needed attention were training councillors to handle matters such as budgetary processes, management, delivery of services, the reconstruction and development programme and motivating residents to pay for services

Government and donors were asked to give financial assistance to training projects which would enable councillors to meet the challenges of their positions, as problems were being experienced in rural areas.

2,8m voters unregistered

CT 23/10/95

(262)

~~2044~~

JOHANNESBURG: Fewer people would vote in the local government elections than in last year's general election, Market Research Africa (MRA) said yesterday

According to a national survey, 16% of people who said they voted last year had not registered for November's elections

About 2,8 million potential urban voters were not on the voters' roll when registration closed. About 1,6 million of these unregistered voters were black

"The results of November's elections could be quite different if

all those who were entitled to register had done so," MRA managing director Ms Hanna Fourie said

"However, the registration figure is up by 26% from an earlier study in March this year"

Almost half the black voters interviewed said local elections were of greater relevance than the 1994 election. However, only one in four of white, Indian and coloured voters agreed.

The survey showed 65% of coloureds, 68% of Indians, 76% of whites and 82% of blacks intended to vote — Sapa

Local government election campaign is a damp squib

TIM COHEN

(262)
80 25/10/95

SA's first democratic election last year was something of a Hollywood movie, the joys, the drama, the tragedies and the elation were more the stuff of soap opera or a national victory on the sports field than an example of a normal political contest. By comparison, the local government election is a damp squib.

Is the lacklustre local government election campaign simply an understandable antichimax compared with last year's national election, or is it seriously lacking?

Political analysts lay the blame for the uninspiring election on three things: the perennial problem of poor organisation by parties and by the organisers, surprisingly poor campaigning by the political parties and the format of the elections themselves.

Underlying all these problems is what some analysts describe as the low level of political maturity of SA politics in general, which is partly a consequence of the infancy of SA's democracy.

Others disagree, arguing that voters are in fact making shrewd choices given their existing options and the real problem lies not with SA's population, but with poor conceptualisation of the election by the parties themselves.

Those analysts who argue in favour of SA's lack of political maturity say their case is proven by a single statistic: polls show there is only about a 12% "floating vote" — people who are prepared to be swayed to vote for one of several parties. Hence, says Cape Town University political studies department head Hermann Gihomee, to a large extent the local government election is more of a census than a proper election.

The small floating vote goes some way to explaining the fact that the election has not really focused on local issues because political parties are essentially attempting to shore up their existing national support. Hence, the NP says it does not expect major gains or major losses in

the election because people are not yet ready to swap parties.

The way the campaign has developed, the ANC has been forced into fighting the election on its record in government over the past 18 months, while other parties have seen the election primarily as an opportunity to attack that record. Hence, the election debate has been framed in national terms, Gihomee says. Crime, a major national issue, has emerged as the focus of almost all parties' campaigns — even though policing does not fall within the jurisdiction of local government.

For a variety of reasons (some of which have nothing to do with the ANC, some of which have everything to do with the ANC) government's record is seen as poor. The ANC seems to have been taken by surprise by the extent of the apathy and is desperately trying to show that things are starting to move nationally, Gihomee says. But it is difficult to do so without visible signs on the ground.

Although the polls show the levels of party support are almost the same as they were in the national election, they also show that enthusiasm for the major parties, particularly the ANC, is down. Consequently, the ANC's biggest problem

will be getting people to the polls, which explains why the ANC's two nationally produced posters say "Let's make it happen" (to develop enthusiasm) and "Vote ANC" (to encourage voters to go to the polls).

Gihomee points out that, in the context of unchanged levels of support and decreased enthusiasm, the parties which are organised best are likely to do well.

Here again the ANC is vulnerable, partly because as by far the biggest party it has the largest margin for error.

This raises the possibility that ANC members will feel cheated by the results of the election in areas where it patently has the highest level of support.

Because of a combination of some quite extraordinary administrative lapses on the part of ANC organisers and some very inflexible interpretations of the election regulations, some local councils will end up without ANC councillors even though the party has strong support in the area concerned. The large numbers of unregistered voters in some areas and the issue of "unplaced" voters are related prob-

lems, partly a consequence of the election's complexities and partly just poor planning.

But, says Centre for Policy Studies contract research officer Graeme Gotz, the "maturity" of the electorate is demonstrated by hugely decreased levels of violence in the election, which suggests that the SA population has to a large extent taken democratic values on board. (The comparative lack of violence and intimidation associated with the election could, however, also be attributed to a perception that local government is unimportant.)

If anyone is acting "immaturely" in the campaign it is the political parties, he says.

None of the parties have managed to communicate particularly exciting messages, with all campaigns being largely reactive and negative in nature.

None of the parties are really "addressing the urban space" by presenting a vision of transformed, post-apartheid cities.

During the national election, the ANC sensibly did not dwell on the past and launched a very focused campaign with a simple and direct slogan — "jobs, peace, freedom". By doing so it presented a "shining light" compared with the current

campaign in which leaders tend to indulge in mudslinging rather than dealing with issues related to local government, he says.

For historical reasons, parties in SA tend to take their supporters for granted, Gotz says.

This is partly the result of an enduring "struggle mentality" in terms of which the ANC in particular tends to see itself as "liberator" and therefore sees support for other parties as betrayal.

Hence, the national character of the current local government election campaign is a consequence of the small floating vote which is itself a result of SA's history.

The format of the election, with wards largely split between white and black areas, has also contributed to a distorted campaign, forcing the contest back into the apartheid mould of politics, with the CP's posters, for example, urging voters to "stop ANC chaos".

With few cross-community wards, "none of the ideals of the new SA have come through", he says.

The situation in the rural areas is, if anything, worse, because the parties have failed to develop and communicate a coherent vision for this section of SA's population.

Rural dwellers are concerned mostly about their security of tenure rather than their personal security. But none of the parties have presented a campaign particularly relevant to rural voters.

Overlaying all of these problems is an apparent desire on the part of organisers and the parties simply to get the election over with, and consequently a tendency to sweep organisational errors under the carpet. Delays are being resisted and last minute changes flatly refused. Whether these changes should be entertained is debatable, but the fact that so many areas are uncounted augurs badly for the future of some local governments.

The election campaign was bound to be a letdown after last year's agony and ecstasy, but do we really deserve this?

Sorting the problem

PM 26/10/95

The Post Office is about to re-engineer its mail sorting procedures, improve postal delivery and launch an aggressive campaign to claw back business from courier companies for parcel business.

Postal delivery reached its nadir over the past few months while the Post Office moved operations out of Johannesburg to Ormonde in the southern suburbs.

Systems have been redesigned under the guidance of consulting firm Proudfoot which is credited with commercialising New Zealand's Post Office. Its target is to deliver 95% of mail within two days if addressed to somewhere in the same city, four days between cities, and five days for mail addressed elsewhere.

But the proof of the pudding is in the eating. Commerce and industry have been plagued by late deliveries which even prompted the Johannesburg Stock Exchange to issue a cautionary to its members to allow extra time for response to pre-listing statements, share options and debenture

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

offers Other complaints include late delivery of tax statements, invoices, business invitations, telephone accounts and municipal rates

According to Post Office technology GM Quintin McGrath, the worst is over and the public can expect to see an improvement

Several projects aimed at rejuvenating the postal service are now in place or nearing completion. Hub and Spoke, a system aimed at streamlining the mail sorting process, is currently being bedded down Track and Trace, a registered mail system based on bar coding technology, has been in operation since July Excellpos, a retail banking computer system, has been plagued by delays but should be in operation by March

McGrath says bar codes, which are electronically scanned to check articles are correctly sorted, also assists in monitoring how efficiently the Post Office handles its daily average of 7,7m articles In the past, statistical sampling techniques were used to give a rough idea how mail loads varied. With a computerised system, the Post Office has more accurate methods of matching its staff level with the mail load.

Under the Hub and Spoke system, mail is sorted at 26 centres instead of 1 600 post

offices. The improvement should have the most effect in Gauteng where five operations have been consolidated into a new R40m Witspos centre in Johannesburg's southern suburbs. The centre replaces the Post Office's Jeppe Street branch where all bulk mail had to be delivered, its parcel section in Harrison Street, its customs section in Loveday Street, and other operations in Doornfontein and Boksburg

The Post Office's computer activities were stepped up in 1992 when it bought Volkskas Bank's mainframe centre in Pretoria for R20m

The move was coupled with an ambitious project to effectively turn its countrywide branches into banks by installing a massive computer network

McGrath says the initial specification of the retail banking system was not clearly defined, forcing the Post Office and its suppliers to renegotiate the contract Continued delays resulted in a legal dispute with lead contractor Olivetti Africa, but the issue has been settled and the system is entering its



Jeppe Street Post Office . bulk mail centre — relic of the past

test phase

Once in operation, Excellpos will simplify counter transactions and make postal orders and money orders more inviting

Post Offices face competition from the growing trend of sending messages through computer networks such as the Internet While the volume of letters and bills sent "snail mail" could decrease, parcels volume should increase as people make their purchases using electronic catalogues

'Rural council representation not satisfactory'

Farmers threaten Pretoria blockade

(262) (S) Star 26/10/95

■ BY NORMAN CHANDLER
PRETORIA BUREAU

As disenchanted farmers consider a mass blockade of Pretoria, the Government has told organised agriculture that proposals for the representation of rural taxpayers and farmers on rural local government councils are not satisfactory.

Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer conceded this at a meeting held this week between South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) and provincial and national government officials at President Mandela's insistence.

The meeting was called as farmers consider mounting a blockade of Pretoria for the second time in five years to show the Government that they are a political force to be reckoned with.

The proposed mass action is in protest against amendments to the Local Government Transition Act, which would give farmers

10% of seats on rural councils to be established in terms of the new legislation. They want 40% of the seats.

It will also demonstrate farmers' anger over land reform proposals, labour legislation as it affects their workers, the breakdown of law and order, cheap food imports, and the imposition of high tariffs on other imported foodstuffs and goods.

At the meeting - attended by the premiers of Mpumalanga, Northern and Northern Cape provinces, and deputy Provincial Affairs Minister Valli Moosa - Meyer said he would instruct officials of his department to immediately establish a negotiating forum to address local government issues, including representation. Details of the forum are to be released later this week.

SAAU executive director Jack Raath, who had earlier said the portfolio committee's recommendation that farmers should only have 10% of seats on rural coun-

cils was "totally unacceptable", said after the talks that "a reasonable approach and process to solving the problem, albeit not in time for the November 1 elections, had at last been established".

Meanwhile, farmers say they will take a decision on mass action - a move known to have the support of KwaZulu Natal, Gauteng and some Free State farmers - after the local government elections next week.

In a bid to stave off mass action, Free State Premier Patrick Lekota has already proposed a compromise - that the 40% representation on rural councils should be made up of farmers, small businessmen, land owners and traditional leaders while farm workers, women voters and other groups would also have a 40% representation.

The remaining 20%, says Lekota, would be allocated on the basis of proportional representation.

Local polls expected to run smoothly, says Slabbert

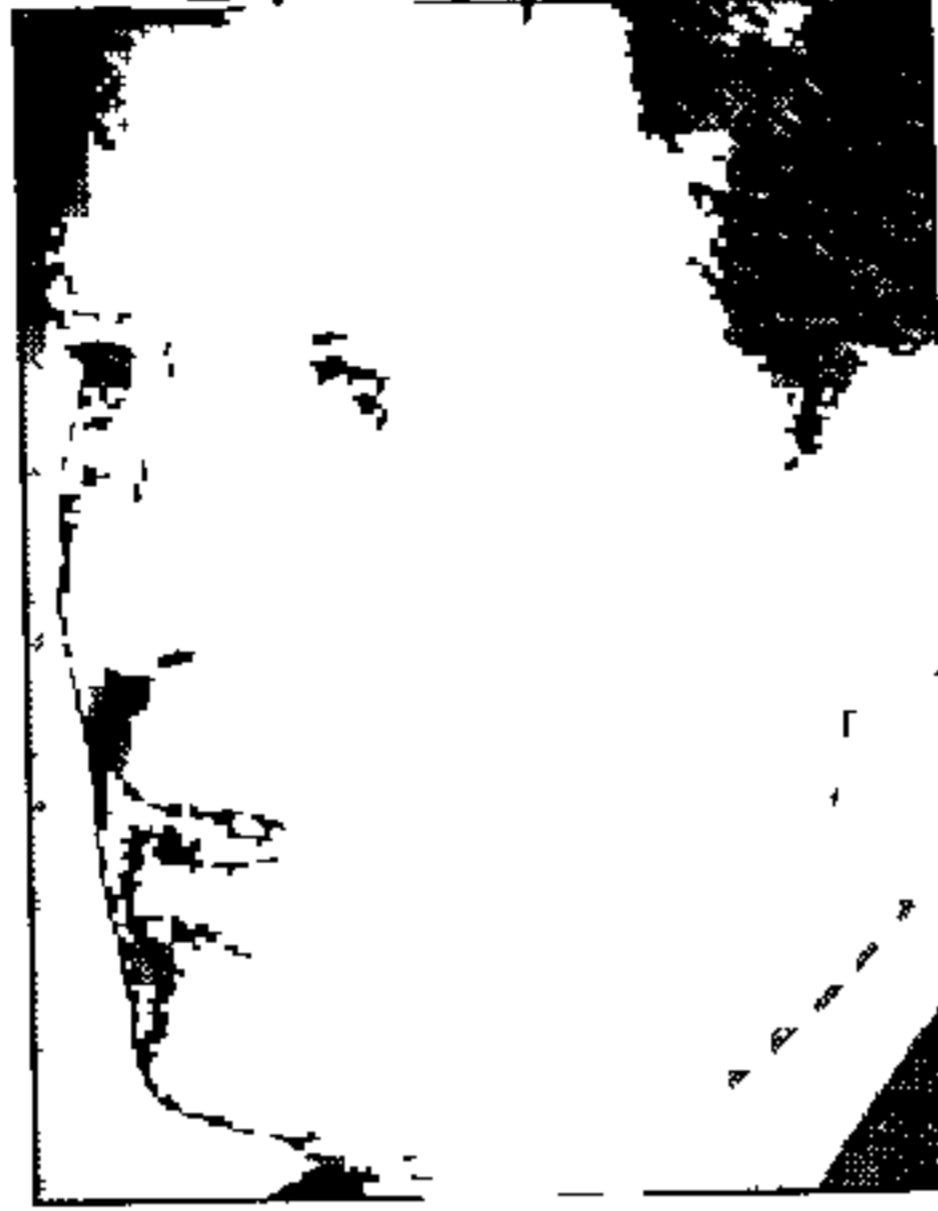
MMABATHO: Next week's local polls are expected to run smoothly with no organised action aimed at disrupting the elections, Local Government Task Group co-chairman Dr Van Zyl Slabbert said yesterday.

Speaking after yesterday's final meeting of the North-West provincial co-ordinating committee in Mmabatho, Dr Slabbert was upbeat about the success of the elections countrywide.

After visiting six of the eight provinces where elections would take place, he said the general trend had been confirmed in the North-West.

"The North-West is in a state of good preparation. There are practical localised problems; but we don't find any regional trend of difficulty.

"The returning officers and



UPBEAT: Dr Van Zyl Slabbert is optimistic about the elections.

management committees we have talked to are on top of the difficulties, and barring political problems that we cannot control, I think

from a logistical and organisational point of view there is no reason why these elections should not run fairly smoothly in this province."

Nor was there a "nationally or regionally organised intention to disrupt the elections", he said.

However, there were more than 700 local transitional councils that had to hold elections, "so you must accept that there may be problems somewhere. You must accept there may be aggrieved sections of a local community who feel upset, but we haven't discovered any of any consequence."

On the province's 3 824 unplaced voters, Dr Slabbert said this was a "manageable problem" which could not be compared to the situation in Greater Johannesburg with 22 000 unplaced voters.

— Sapa

LOCAL ELECTIONS - 1

Why and how your votes count

(262) FM 27/10/95

So loud has been the clamour against crime in local election campaigns across the country that it has all but drowned out such nettlesome issues as the financing and structuring of local government once the hustings have passed

Crucial though the crime issue is, it is primarily a policing matter, with provincial and national implications. It is of course also an important facet of local government, but only one of many issues that jointly determine local government's ability to build and maintain the quality of life of its citizenry.

Of primary concern to the election of local representatives and parties, is whether they will be able to satisfactorily perform all of the tasks required of them. For without that assurance, crime prevention itself will certainly be compromised.

As the primary delivery arm of the RDP, local government after November 1, will be responsible for a wider range of services, in a greater array of functions and responsibilities, than have ever before been devolved to local level.

For example, most of the country's 700-800 local governments will be taking charge of new functions such as transportation, primary health, education, housing and security in their areas of jurisdiction. The interim constitution even allows for local governments to establish their own municipal and metropolitan police services. These functions apply even to those areas such as KwaZulu-Natal, Cape Town, the Western Cape rural districts which have had to postpone their elections until next year, for they will continue to be governed by transitional authorities in roughly the same way as the soon-to-be-elected councils.

In large cities, where metropolitan government exists, the metro authorities will handle bulk supplies of water, electricity and sewerage purification, selling these services to the sub-municipalities that comprise the metropolitan areas. The metro

councils will also co-ordinate land use, transport planning and traffic, hospitals, tourism and so on.

They will have the power to claim regional services and regional establishment levies on businesses. They will also be entitled to impose an "equitable" levy on any of their sub-municipalities, based on those

sub-municipalities' gross or rates income. In other words, a metro council will be able to "tax" its richer citizens to fund development in its poorer areas.

A central intention of the new local government system is to draw historically privileged (white) and disadvantaged (black) communities under common government, in the belief that the resources of the wealthy will uplift the poor. This is reflected in Johannesburg, for example, by the division of the metro area into four sub-municipalities, linking Roodepoort with Dobsonville, Randburg with Diepkloof, Sandton with Alexandra and most of Soweto and the southern region with the rates-rich CBD. Whether this strategy will work, or whether it will drive capital out of the metro area into less integrated neighbouring areas is a point of contention which may only be resolved in time.

Given that many local governments — whether metropolitan areas, smaller cities, towns and rural districts — already have substantial deficits, and face inadequate sources of funding to meet the demands for services, the question of finance is vital to the success of local government.

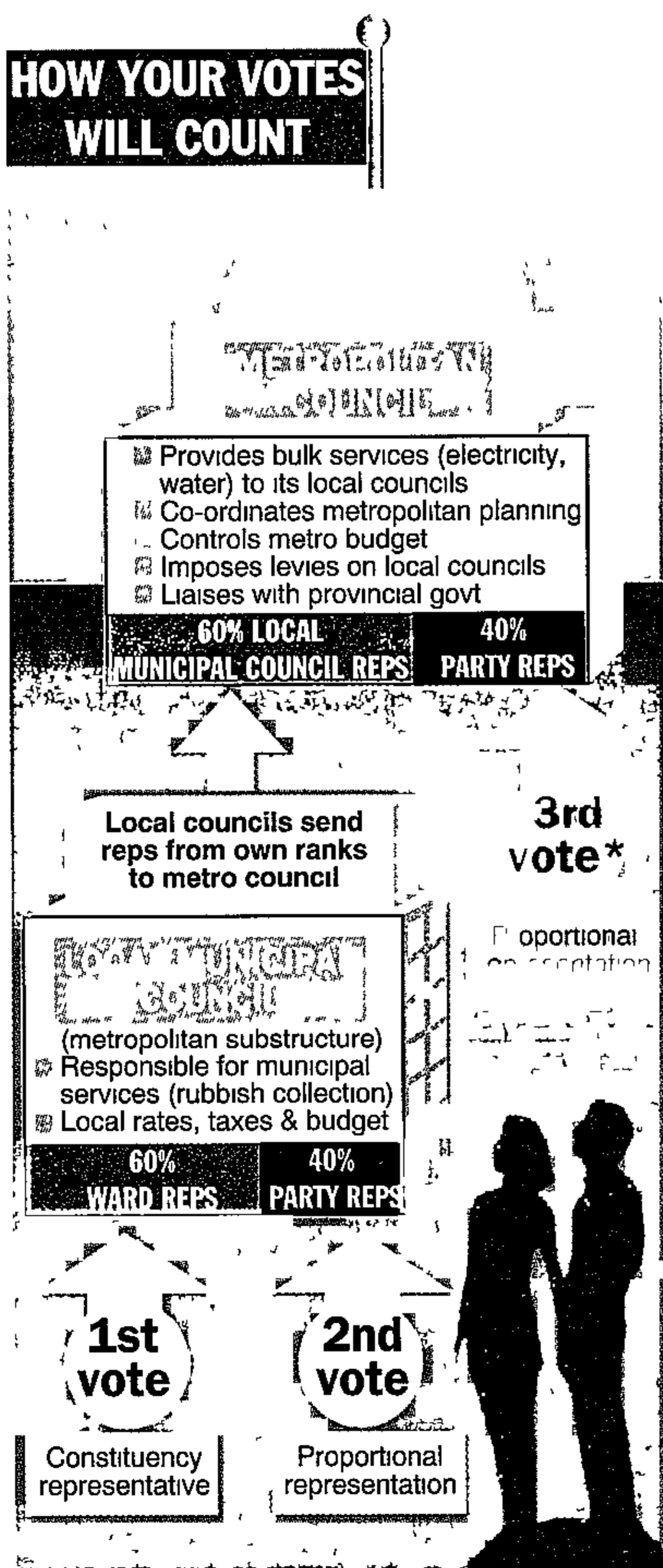
The Masakhane Campaign, designed to improve services and end the culture of nonpayment in many township areas, has not been successful (*Currents* October 6). While many township residents are willing to resume payments for services, they often cannot afford to do so. Much will depend on its ability to raise services and payments after the new councils are installed.

The sheer scale of challenges facing local government, and the fact that redistribution of wealth will be the modus operandi for years to come, place an especially heavy burden on the elected representatives of all interests in local government. Quality representation will be important to both the privileged who wish to protect their interests and the underprivileged who want to acquire more.

The voting procedure offers hope for both sides. In ordinary towns and cities which are managed by local councils, each voter will have two votes: the first for a ward representative whose name will appear with other candidates on a white ballot paper, the second for a party that will be listed among others on a yellow ballot.

The ward representatives will make up 60% of the local council, while the parties which poll enough votes will send representatives from a prepared list to make up the remaining 40% of the council.

HOW YOUR VOTES WILL COUNT



P.T.O.

'RDP Party'
the choice
for some

(262)

~~262~~ ~~262~~
KIMBERLEY Illiterate people living in isolated communities in the Northern Cape want to vote for the "RDP Party", baffled voter educators said yesterday

Northern Cape election task group worker Mr Killer Modise said many isolated communities were politically ignorant and lacked information about the voting process

Due to the province's size, he said, voter education had not reached parts of the Northern Cape

The Northern Cape constitutes 30% of South Africa's geographic area, with only two percent of the population

Many people had heard of "RDP promises" and had indicated they would support the RDP Party in the November 1 poll, Mr Modise said — Sapa

CT 27/10/95

SA will vote for safety

(262)

IN 48 HOURS the politicians' battle for the hearts and minds of South Africans will be over as they flock to the polling booths to cast their votes in South Africa's first democratic local government elections

The affluent will be casting their votes for the party they believe will guarantee greater security for their investments, exterminate car hijackings, and provide them with peace and security in their neighbourhoods

Confluent with the haunting spectre of crime is the fear stalking South Africans in their daily lives

Indeed the greatest questions of the 1995 election campaign trail centred around the crime and the accompanying fear it evokes in our communities

The various political parties contesting the election have put forward their ideas about protecting lives and property

On the other hand, the poorest of the poor will be casting their ballots with the hope that they will finally realise their expectations and escape the scourge of poverty

Failed to deliver

They will vote notwithstanding the fact that they accuse the ANC-led government of having failed to deliver on its promises during last year's virgin democratic non-racial elections

Despite an initial apathy in registering for the November 1 elections the people finally registered, and are set to give the government a second chance to prove itself

While the interests of the affluent and the "wretched of the earth" are not synonymous, a common concern affects both groups - the abhorrence of crime in our communities

Enough is enough! South Africans of every colour and hue are standing united in their condemnation of crime

Jessie Duarte, CP 29/10/95
Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security, recently noted that crime is non-racial in its South African manifestation, as police statistics prove that townships suffered 40 percent more hijackings than the Johannesburg Central Business District

This therefore calls for a united action against crime by all law-abiding citizens, she emphasised

However, while crime is everybody's concern, the party that wins the election will need to balance its onslaught on crime with the onslaught against poverty - one of the causes of crime

Otherwise the war against crime will be lost

It still, however, remains to be seen whether the victorious party will succeed in balancing its addressing of the interests of the affluent with those of the poor - for therein lies buried the spectre of crime

Chaos feared in elections

262
 29/10/95

By SEKOLA SELLO

THE LOCAL government elections which take place on Wednesday in most parts of the country are on course - but there are fears of chaos in a number of areas, especially in the Eastern Cape and the farming communities, where rightwingers may try to disrupt them.

Meanwhile, the ANC, the National Party, the Democratic Party and the Freedom Front are urging supporters to turn out in big numbers

The NP, DP and Inkatha are using rampant crime as their battle cry against the ANC - and the ANC says now is the time to deliver on its many electoral promises

The ANC - unopposed in more than 150 seats countrywide - seems headed for another landslide

A number of farmers - many of whom belong to rightwing groupings - are said to fear their voice will be swamped in the planned system of rural councils

Farmers in the Free State and the former Transvaal, who have in recent weeks been evicting blacks, are planning to boycott the elections - and it is feared they might make it difficult for their workers and tenants to vote

However, government has planned strong security to protect voters and ballot papers on election day

There will be a high police

presence backed by the army at polling stations and joint operation and communication centres at national, provincial and local levels

Adriane Enthoven, a spokesman for the Election Task Group, an independent body monitoring the elections, said the "broad picture" emerging countrywide was that the preparations were proceeding well

He said from a national perspective there were no major crisis points - but logistical difficulties in the Eastern Cape were causing concern

In North West beleaguered Premier Popo Molefe is facing mounting problems from disgruntled civil servants - and there are fears that employees of the former Bophuthatswana Broadcasting Corporation might not cover the elections.

The corporation's chief, Solly Kotane was suspended on Friday - while the MEC for broadcasting, Riani de Wet, was asked to resign

By late this week there were knots of protests against Molefe - who seems to have compounded his problems by this week's reversal of a decision to retrench 700 BBC employees.

In the Eastern Cape some observers claim "chaos is reigning supreme" There are problems regarding names of candidates or part nominations - and some opposition to the polls by traditional leaders.

Enthoven said in some areas there was no communication infrastructure, while poor roads made access to some polling stations difficult

eral problems

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Western Cape committee on local government, Hilda Ndude (ANC), on Friday asked local government MEC Peter Marais to urgently refer the Cape Town metropole boundary dispute to a special electoral court

At the heart of the dispute - which has led to the postponement of Wednesday's local government elections in the Cape Town metropole - is the issue of which metropolitan substructure should accommodate Khayelitsha

Meanwhile, the local government elections in KwaZulu/Natal are still so riddled with problems that there's no guarantee they will take place on March 27 next year, said the MEC for local government, Peter Miller

Elections

Meanwhile, the ANC supporting National Union of Mineworkers is demanding that about 90 000 of its members who have been in the country since 1986 be allowed to vote

Miners on several mines, especially in the Free State, said no miners would vote if the migrant workers could not also cast their ballots

President Nelson Mandela, Deputy President FW de Klerk and the home affairs ministry were yesterday still trying to resolve this problem.

Gauteng Premier Ikeyo Sexwale late this week asked for the postponement of elections in 13 areas where officials are still trying to sort out sev-

29/10/95

Survey puts ANC at top

(262)
Sowetan
30/10/95

By Joe Mdhlela
Political Reporter

Most Africans believe they will be empowered by local government

WHEN IT COMES to trust and respect, the African National Congress tops all the political parties due to contest the local government elections on Wednesday

A survey conducted by Marketing and Media Research and Markinor revealed that 75 percent of Africans polled trusted the ANC, with an equally high figure of Africans (71 percent) claiming they have respect for the organisation

The figures for coloureds who trust and respect the ANC are 28 and 52 percent, respectively, as compared to a 29 and 54 percent of Indians who trust and respect the organisation

Attributed to respect

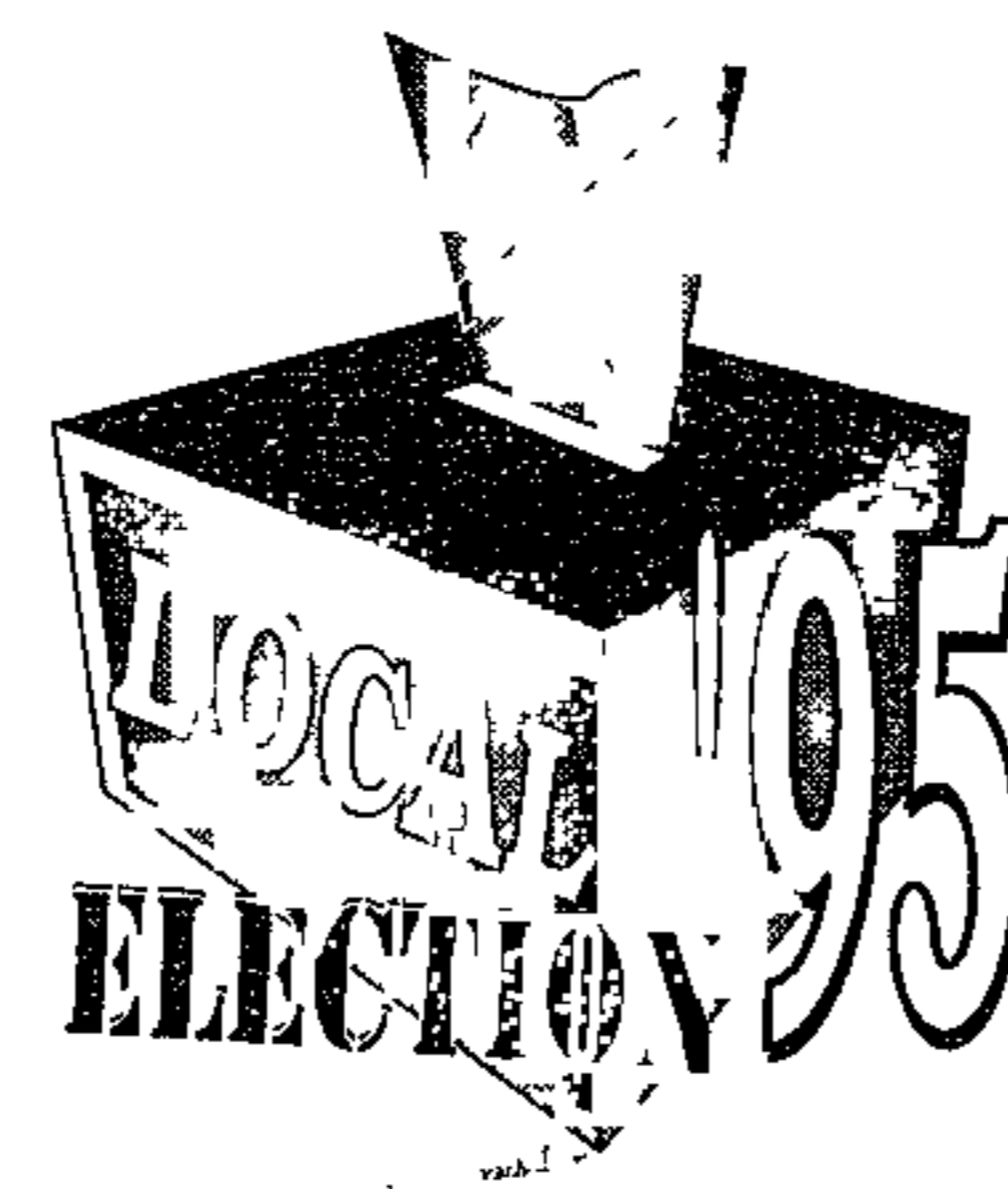
Africans who dislike and fear the ANC account for four and two percent respectively

By comparison, the figure expressing any trust by Africans for the National Party totalled a mere four percent, with a slightly high figure of 24 out of a 100 attributed to respect

The percentage of Africans who dislike and fear the NP polled at be 50 and eight percent respectively

An interesting feature revealed by the survey is that coloureds and Indians are well disposed towards the NP than Africans are

Forty six percent of coloureds trust the Nats, with 55 percent Indians



expressing a similar sentiment

For trust and respect Inkatha Freedom Party fared badly among Africans

The poll revealed that Africans who disliked the IFP totalled 64 percent

Thirty-two percent of Africans polled feared the IFP

Just as bad

Even among whites, the IFP's performance in terms of trust and respect is just as bad

Six percent of whites polled do not trust the organisation, with 32 percent of whites expressing their dislike for

the IFP Whites, coloureds and Indians, rated the Democratic Party high in terms of respect, giving it 43, 37 and 43 percent, respectively

With regard to whether the quality of life will improve, Africans (51 percent), coloureds (41) and Indians (31) are more optimistic

Whites are pessimistic, with only 12 percent saying life will get better and 26 predicting it will get worse

Only few Africans, accounting for a mere four percent, believe life will get tougher

About 56 percent of Africans believe they will be empowered by the local government elections with only 27 percent of whites sharing the same view

Most satisfied

Those intending to vote for the ANC – a figure projected at 64 percent – are far more likely to believe they will be empowered than those who are intending to vote for the IFP (42 percent), the NP (38), the DP (32) and Freedom Front (26)

The survey also revealed that whites are the most satisfied group in the country, followed by Indians and Africans

Coloureds are the least satisfied group with the quality of life in their neighbourhoods

Commonwealth election team in SA

Kevin O'Grady

(262)

20 30/10/95

MORE than 30 advisers from Commonwealth countries and the UK are in SA to assist, at national, provincial and local level, with the running of the local government elections.

Alan Wall, a member of the Commonwealth technical resources group, said seven of the 32-strong member group were assisting the national elections task group.

The remainder had been deployed to the eight provinces where elections would be taking place.

They were providing advice on voter education strategies, election logistics and voter registration techniques, among other things.

Impressions

The group's presence in SA — which had been built up gradually since November last year — had been financed by the British Overseas Development Agency, the Commonwealth and the Australian government through AusAid, Wall said.

His impressions ahead of the elections was that "things have generally been running okay ... it's the country's second election and the lessons from last year have been learnt"

Elections task group spokesman Marius Kleynhans said there were no foreign observer groups in the country for the elections "although there may be some interested elements sent here by their governments or other foreign organisations".

Unlike last year's general election, provision had been made for grievances in the local government elections to "be handled by the courts", he said.

Telkom plays down fraud

(267) Star 20/10/95

Telkom customers would not be affected by the R200-million loss the company suffered after an international fraud syndicate took it for a six-month sting, the company said yesterday.

"Telkom has a turnover of R10-billion a year and it's not as if we can't handle this sort of loss," said public relations officer Amanda Singleton.

She added that 35 people had already been arrested in connection with the fraud. Two were Telkom employees. The others were illegal aliens from Pakistan and India.

The syndicate offered international calls at discounted rates via illegally installed phone lines.

— Staff Reporter

PAC will flounder and Gauteng will go to poll in droves, predicts survey

BY PATRICK BULGER

Voter turnout levels could be the deciding factor when about 16-million South Africans vote in local government elections on Wednesday, according to a national pre-election poll released today.

The survey found that while the ANC and the NP will hang on to the majorities they won in last year's general election, there were significant differences in the turnout parties can expect from their supporters.

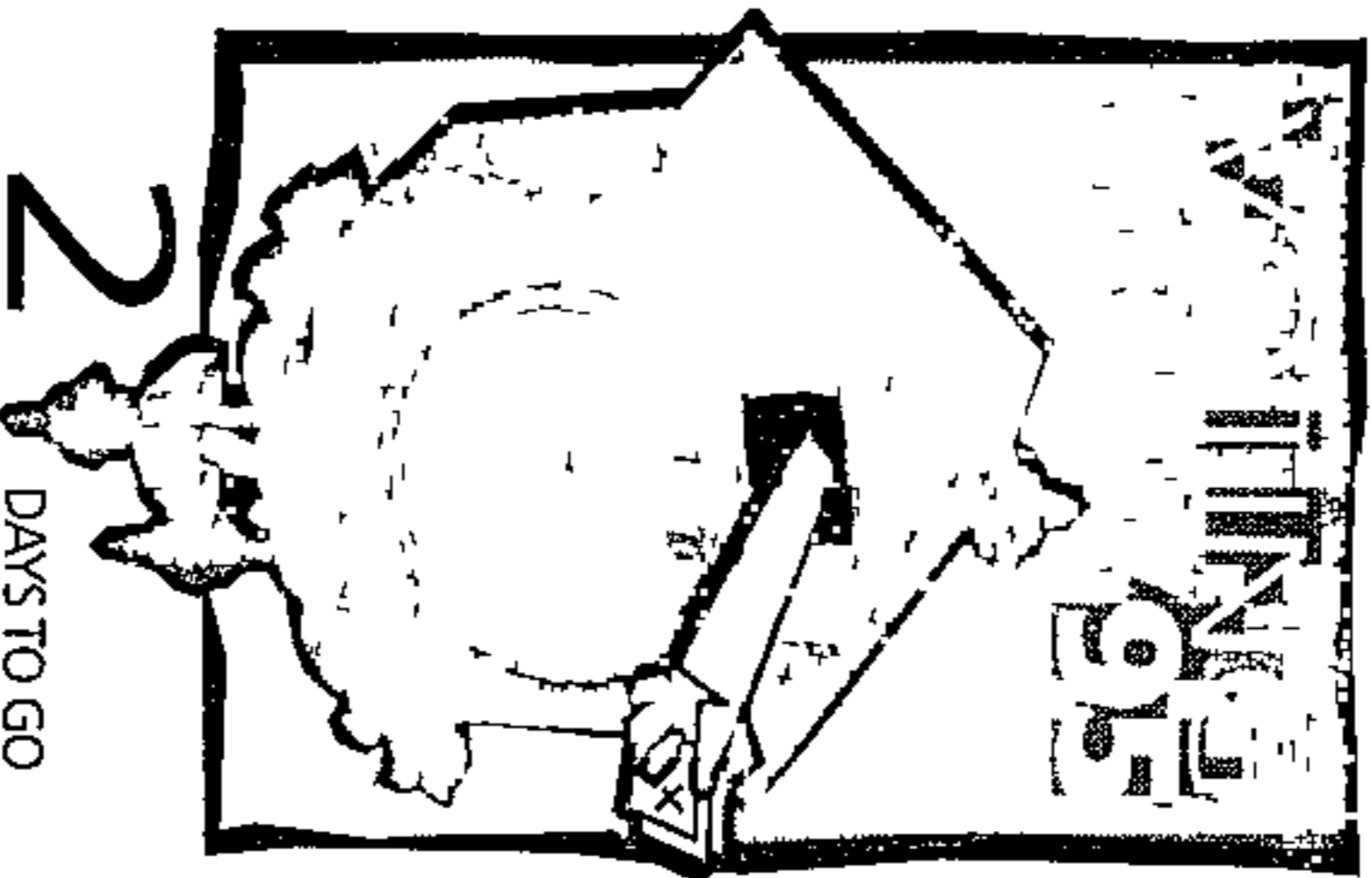
One hundred percent of registered DP voters said they would vote, as opposed to 89% of NP supporters and 88% of ANC supporters.

Different voter registration levels among the race groups will also affect the final result.

The survey, conducted among 4 001 adults by Markhor and commissioned by Media Marketing Research, shows a high awareness of the elections - 96% of those surveyed knew about them - and points to a likely 62% poll, or 15.7-million of registered voters.

A further 19% who said they were "fairly likely" to vote could have an impact at the polls beyond their numbers, especially if they include the 9% of voters who had not chosen a party or a candidate at the time the survey was conducted.

Just more than 20-million people (about 78% of adults) are registered to vote in about



700 local authority elections, excluding the Western Cape and KwaZulu Natal, where the poll has been delayed until next year.

The survey was conducted in September and October among 2 200 black respondents who included hostel dwellers and domestic workers, 1 011 whites, 546 coloureds and 244 Indians.

The sample was weighted to accurately represent the population Urban and rural areas were covered.

The survey does not show a high likelihood of a "protest" vote against the GNU parties, especially the ANC.

A factor pointing to a high

- ▶ On the comeback trail - Page 2
- ▶ Jewish woman stands for IFP - Page 2
- ▶ New stage for actor - Page 2
- ▶ How the public views premiers and other leading politicians - Page 3

Star 30/10/95

2623

voter turnout is the level of election awareness in Gauteng - 98% of the province's respondents. Eighty-three percent of these have registered to vote.

Nationally, just more than nine out of 10 adult whites - compared to just under eight in 10 blacks and coloureds, and just under seven in 10 Indians - intended to vote.

The results in Johannesburg will also be affected by a higher turnout than the national average, based on the survey's finding that 84% of metropolitan voters will vote, compared with 76% in towns and rural areas.

The survey showed 71% of whites were likely to vote compared to 62% of blacks, 58% of

coloureds and 57% of Indians.

The DP's supporters are the most likely to vote on Wednesday. 74% of respondents who supported the DP in the April election are "very likely" to vote compared to 67% each of ANC and NP supporters, 65% of the Freedom Front's and 59% of the IFP's supporters.

The ANC will win in all the provinces except the Western Cape. The DP's support is unlikely to increase nationally.

The FF will do best in the Free State but still run a poor third to the ANC and NP. And the PAC will fade with just less than 1% of votes cast, the survey predicts.

Province by province, the poll showed that the ANC would win 66% of votes cast in Gauteng with the NP getting 10%, the FF 2% and the PAC, the IFP and the DP 1% each. The ANC was expected to get 75% of the vote in the Free State (NP 8%, FF 3%, PAC 1%), 78% in North West (NP 8%, FF 2%, PAC and DP 1% each), 51% in the Northern Cape (NP 28%, FF and Azapo 1% each), 76% in Mpumalanga (NP 6%, FF 2%), 83% in the Eastern Cape (NP 5%, DP and PAC 1% each) and 81% in the Northern Province (NP, DP and FF 1% each).

Projected outcomes for the postponed KwaZulu Natal and Cape metropole elections showed the ANC getting 45% of the votes compared to the IFP's 19%.

ANC will win well except in Cape — survey

CT 30/10/95

(262) (304)

BARRY STREEK
POLITICAL STAFF

THE ANC will win handsomely in Wednesday's local government elections in all provinces, except in the Western Cape, a new public opinion survey has revealed.

The National Party, which was the only other political party to receive significant support, was neck and neck with the ANC in the Western Cape.

The poll found that the ANC and NP both had 29% support in the province, but the rate of people refusing to say who they would vote for (14%) and "don't know" (22%) was highest in the Western Cape.

President Nelson Mandela was the only politician trusted to any significant degree nationally, but Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and ANC secretary-general Mr Cyril Ramaphosa also received national support.

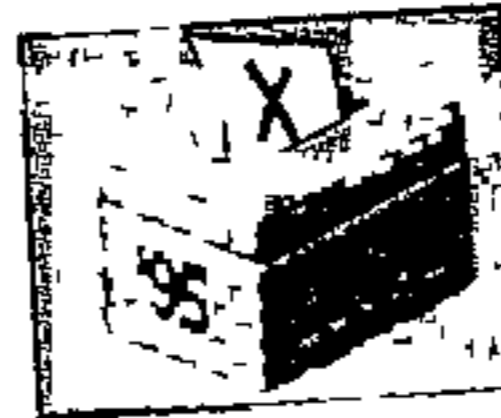
Respect for Deputy President F W de Klerk was higher among coloureds (77%) and Indians (73%) than among whites (63%) and he received far higher trust and respect in the Western and Northern Cape.

The survey's results are bad news for minority parties, particularly for the IFP which was found to have one percent support in Gauteng and only 19% support in kwaZulu/Natal, where the ANC

had 45% and the NP six percent. The IFP did not win support in the other seven provinces.

If voting patterns in Wednesday's local government elections reflect the trends found in the survey, the ANC will dominate local government in seven of the provinces and do significantly better in the Western Cape than in the April 1994 general election.

As there are no elections in kwaZulu/Natal this week, the results of the poll there are only significant in that they show that the IFP has lost support.



See Page 5

The survey was conducted among 4 001 adults nationally, both urban and rural, by Marketing and Media Research (MMR) and Markinor.

The respondents were interviewed on a random probability basis among 2 200 blacks, including hostel dwellers and domestic workers, 1 011 whites, 546 coloureds and 244 Indians between September 26 and October 19 this year.

The poll predicted that about six in 10 people were likely to vote in the local elections, compared to the nine in 10 that voted in the 1994 national elections.

In the Western Cape, the ANC and NP each received 29% of support, the DP two percent and the ACDP and PAC one percent each.

Row over 20% threshold proposal for councils

Tim Cohen

(262) BD 31/10/95

A ROW broke out yesterday over a proposal to bar political parties which get less than 20% of the vote in the local government election from being represented on the executive committees of metropolitan councils.

The row follows discussions over the past week between provincial and national authorities about the make-up of the executive committees of local government structures to resolve ambiguities in legislation.

The constitution provides only that the executive committees of local governments should be elected on a proportional basis, while the Local Government Transition Act includes no regulations on the party political make-up of executive committees.

The provincial affairs department therefore asked provincial authorities for proposals about how the system should work, setting today as the deadline for responses.

Gauteng local government deputy director-general Enos Ngutshane confirmed that his department intended to propose that the executives of the four metropolitan councils, all in Gauteng, should be determined with reference to the proportional representation elections in the areas concerned.

In addition, there should be a 20% threshold, so parties that got less than this percentage would not be eligible for positions on the executive, he said.

No proposal had been formulated yet on the executive committees of ordinary town councils, he said, noting that the provincial affairs department had suggested that they be elected by a simple two-thirds vote.

IFP MP Henmie Bekker reacted with outrage to the proposal, saying it was a "typical, behind-closed-doors deal" between the NP and the ANC which were "conniving" to arrange things so that they jointly ran the

Continued on Page 2

Threshold

Continued from Page 1

metropolitan councils

The arrangement was unconstitutional and an attempt to silence parties which had proven to be a thorn in the side of the ANC and NP in the Gauteng legislature. The IFP was not against a "full-scale democracy", but the system should be structured so there was a clear ruling party and a definite opposition. But if a proportional system was

to be used it should be applied equally to all parties. "You can't have half of the one and half of the other."

NP Gauteng local government spokesman Johan Kilian denied any "behind-closed-doors deal" between the ANC and the NP, saying IFP members were present the first time the idea was mooted.

However, the NP was not against the ANC's proposal for a 20% threshold because a cut-off level was needed to ensure parties with insignificant support did not have unwarranted representation in the executive.

272 parties fighting local council seats

■ BY MONDLI MAKHANYA
POLITICAL REPORTER

A total of 272 parties will be contesting local elections in 688 councils tomorrow.

Besides KwaZulu Natal and the Cape Town metropolitan area, several Western Cape rural areas, 12 Gauteng rural areas, one Mpumalanga town, one North West town and one Northern Cape town have been granted an extension and will be voting at a later date.

Organisers and officials have appealed for peace and tolerance during the hours the ballot booths are open across the country tomorrow.

Local Government Elections Task Group co-chairman Dr Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert said the organisers had done all they could to ensure an orderly election. Now it was up to the political parties and all voters to make it work.

► Where celebrities will vote - Page 2

► Business as usual on big day - Page 2

► Nats confident in Western MSS - Page 2

► Big challenges in N Cape - Page 19

"Barring unanticipated political turbulence, it should go off well. We wish to impress on political parties that peaceful elections are absolutely necessary," said Slabbert.

He called on parties to leave election arrangements to returning officers and other officials and not to interfere, as was happening in some parts of the Eastern Cape.

(262)

Star 31/10/95

NEARLY 13 MILLION MAY GO TO POLLS

Final round for parties in local govt poll

IN THE Western Cape only 500 000 voters in 95 towns and villages will cast their votes tomorrow when 13 million voters go to the polls in SA's first democratic local government elections, ANTHONY JOHNSON reports.

ET 31/10/95

more than 48 000 voters

Counting will in many cases only begin on Thursday morning

Opinion polls show the NP and the ANC running neck-and-neck with 29% of the popular support in the province, but well over a third of voters have not made up their minds or won't say

A special multi-party "troubleshooting" appeals tribunal will monitor the Western Cape election and crack down on breaches of the Electoral Code

Trouble is not expected in the Western Cape, but about 20 000 soldiers will help police keep the peace at polling booths around the country

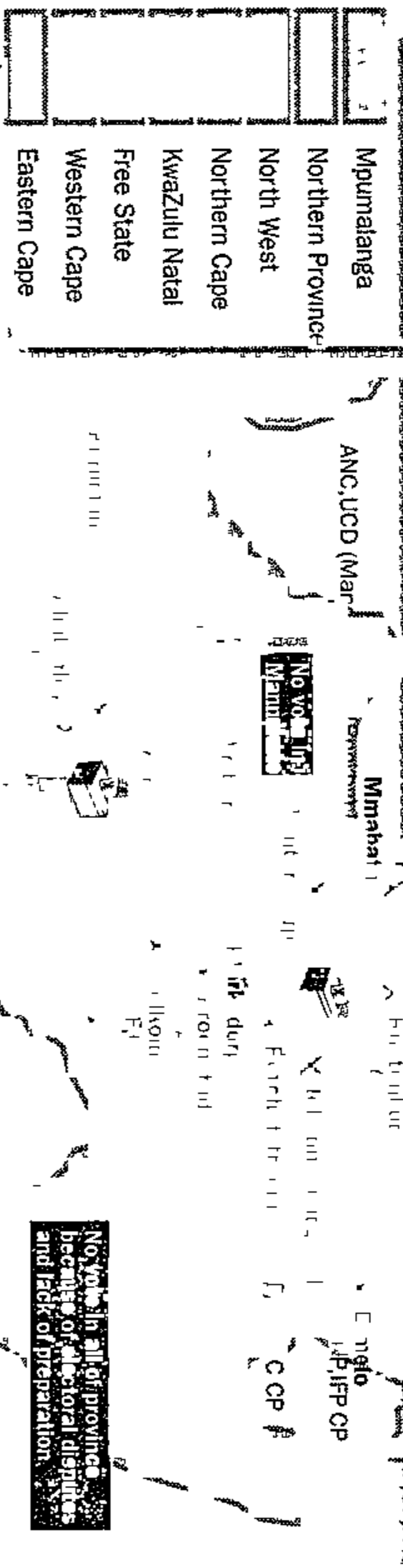
On the national level, the Local Government Elections Task Group puts the number of registered voters at 17 million, of whom 72% or 12.6 million cast their ballots. Only three-quarters of last year's voters have registered this time around. Surveys suggest that 60-70% of these will actually cast their ballots tomorrow, compared with the 90% of eligible voters in last April's general election

Last night the co-chairperson of the Local Government Election Task Force, Dr Van Zyl Stabbert, asked political parties to accept that they could not "throw their weight around" in an attempt to run the elections, as this could lead to court actions.

TOMORROW'S ELECTIONS

NUMBER OF WARDS DISPUTED BY:

	ANC	DP	FF	JFP	NP	Other	Total
Gauteng	269	269	269	269	269	269	269
Free State	591	591	591	591	591	591	591
Mpumalanga	376	376	376	376	376	376	376
East Cape	282	282	282	282	282	282	282
Northern Cape	347	347	347	347	347	347	347
Northern Province	180	180	180	180	180	180	180
Western Cape	600	600	600	600	600	600	600
North West	259	259	259	259	259	259	259



Graphic: Matthys Moss

No vote in 95 towns because of boundary dispute in Cape Metropolitan and failure to reshuffle form of rural councils

Vote still in balance in 5 Africa District towns due to disputes over candidates

No vote in all 11 provinces because of electoral disputes and lack of preparation

HOW THE PARTIES SHAPE UP IN WESTERN CAPE
 ANC: 800 Candidates in 96 TLC areas
 NP: 800 Candidates in 95 TLC areas
 FF: 87 Candidates in 30 TLC areas
 DP: 89 Candidates in 21 TLC areas
 PAC: 42 Candidates in 15 W Cape areas

Some Transitional Local Councils

Name of Local Government	No. of Seats	No. of Seats (Proposed)	Seats per Ward	Name of Local Government	No. of Seats	No. of Seats (Proposed)	Seats per Ward
Hermanus	16	06	10	Segefield	08	03	05
Botriver	10	04	02	Widderius	08	03	01
Stamford	06	02	01	Genadendal	10	04	06
Kleinmond	12	05	07	Silbalel	10	04	06
Caledon	13	05	08	Grabouw	10	04	01
Bredasdorp	16	06	10	Stellenbosch	20	08	12
Swellendam	16	06	10	Paarl	27	12	12
Barrisdale	09	02	04	Worcester	06	02	04
Oudshoorn	20	08	12	Bornivale	14	06	01
Mossel Bay	20	08	12	Robertson	14	06	06
Keysera	13	08	05	Montagu	10	04	04
Plettenberg Bay	16	10	06	Langsbaan	10	04	02
				Wederdail	10	06	04

Name of Local Government	No. of Seats	No. of Seats (Proposed)	Seats per Ward
Cories	15	05	10
Citrusdal	06	02	04
Charmwilliam	06	02	04
Malmesbury	16	06	10

Registered voters: 502 335
 Non-voters in Cape Town Metropolitan: 1.5 million
 Non-voters in farming areas: 150 000



Contralesa chief falls foul of ANC hierarchy

BARRY STREEK

(262) ET 31/10/95

THE ANC yesterday ordered an urgent disciplinary inquiry against one of its senior MPs, Chief Patekile Holomisa, who is also head of the influential traditional leaders' body, Contralesa

The call for urgent disciplinary action was made by the ANC's secretary-general, Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, after Chief Holomisa was reported to have called for a boycott of tomorrow's local government elections

"Chief Holomisa has acted in open defiance of the policy of the ANC which he purports to represent in Parliament. Therefore the ANC disciplinary committee has been asked to urgently institute proceedings against him," he said in a statement.

On Saturday Chief Holomisa, who is also chairperson of the National Assembly's Portfolio Committee on Land, Affairs, openly defied the ANC by joining IFP leader, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi in a march by traditional leaders on the Union Buildings in Pretoria

Last month, the provincial executives of the ANC in the Eastern Cape and

KwaZulu/Natal called for disciplinary action to be taken against Chief Holomisa for negotiating with IFP-aligned chiefs.

Contralesa, whose treasurer is Mrs Winnie Mandela, is technically an ally of the ANC, but a parting of ways seems inevitable

Chief Holomisa, the brother of the Deputy Minister of Environment Affairs and Tourism, Mr Bantu Holomisa, said he welcomed a disciplinary inquiry

Charge denied

He denied calling for a boycott of the elections. "I haven't used the word boycott. Contralesa's position is that traditional leaders are not voting and we are not encouraging rural citizens to vote for undemocratic structures

"We leave the choice to our people. But we've discharged our responsibility to inform them about what the government is bringing them," he said

Chief Holomisa said the local government elections system in rural areas denied those residents full democratic rights

Confusion over poll deadline

CT 1/11/95 (262)

ACCUSATIONS of improper electioneering were traded between the NP and ANC as the poll campaigning deadline approached. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

POLICE tried to cancel at least one political meeting and election officials fielded a flurry of complaints on Monday night when NP and ANC campaigners accused each other of holding meetings after the statutory campaign deadline.

Provincial election co-ordinator Mr Joppa le Roux confirmed that he had received confused calls from Mossel Bay and Still Bay, and Ladismith's station commander Lieutenant Henry Edwards confirmed that police had threatened to stop an ANC meeting in Zoar.

Midnight

However, his men then merely "monitored" the meeting after organisers clarified the position — discovering that the deadline was midnight on Monday and not Sunday, as misinterpreted from the Afrikaans regulations. Lt Edwards declined to say who had laid the complaint.

ANC regional spokesman Mr Cameron Dugmore said a former security policeman and current ANC supporter, a Mr Albertus, told the returning crowd that if the SAPS had been in direct consultation with the community, the confusion could have been avoided.

Threats

At a Still Bay ANC meeting and a Mossel Bay meeting addressed by the ANC's Mr Jannie Momberg, threats by the NP's regional office to lay a police complaint led to frantic calls to Mr Le Roux, who intervened by telephoning each municipality.

Meanwhile the ANC accused NP provincial Housing Minister Mr Gerald Morkel of breaking the campaign deadline when he visited Elands Bay yesterday to meet the Piketberg Transitional Local Council members and election candidates.

But a spokesman for Mr Morkel said his Elands Bay visit was to discuss local housing issues and had "nothing to do with elections".

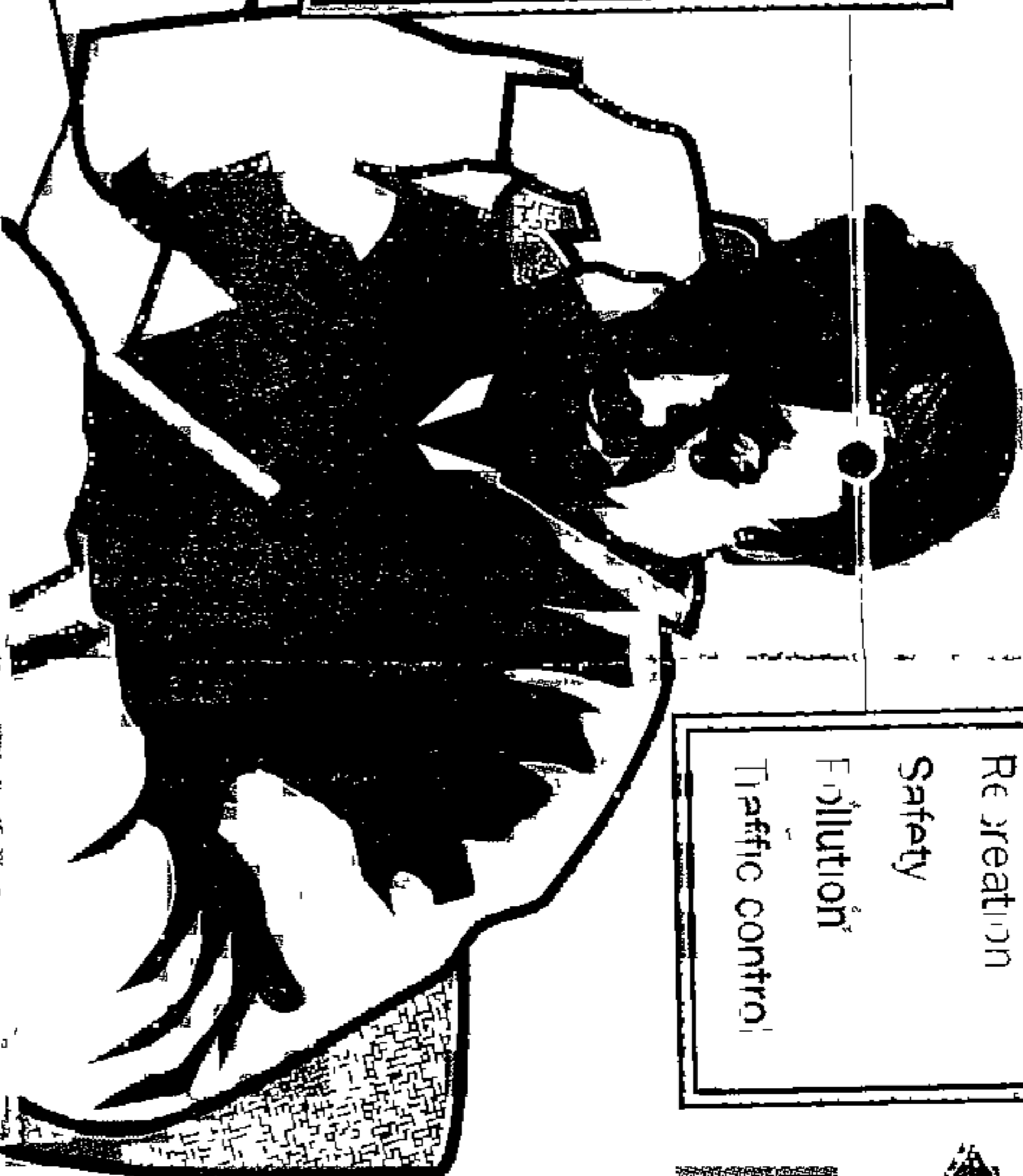
Mr Le Roux appealed to everyone to abide by strict rules which prohibit any behaviour "designed or intended to identify and/or promote any person or party between 500m and one kilometre from polling booths" — the specific distance depends on individual electoral officer's ruling.

Penalties range from R20 000 or 12 months' jail, to R100 000 or five years' jail, or both.

FUNCTIONS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

LOCAL AUTHORITY

- Water
- Electricity
- Roads
- Libraries
- Clinics
- Street cleaning
- Rubbish collection



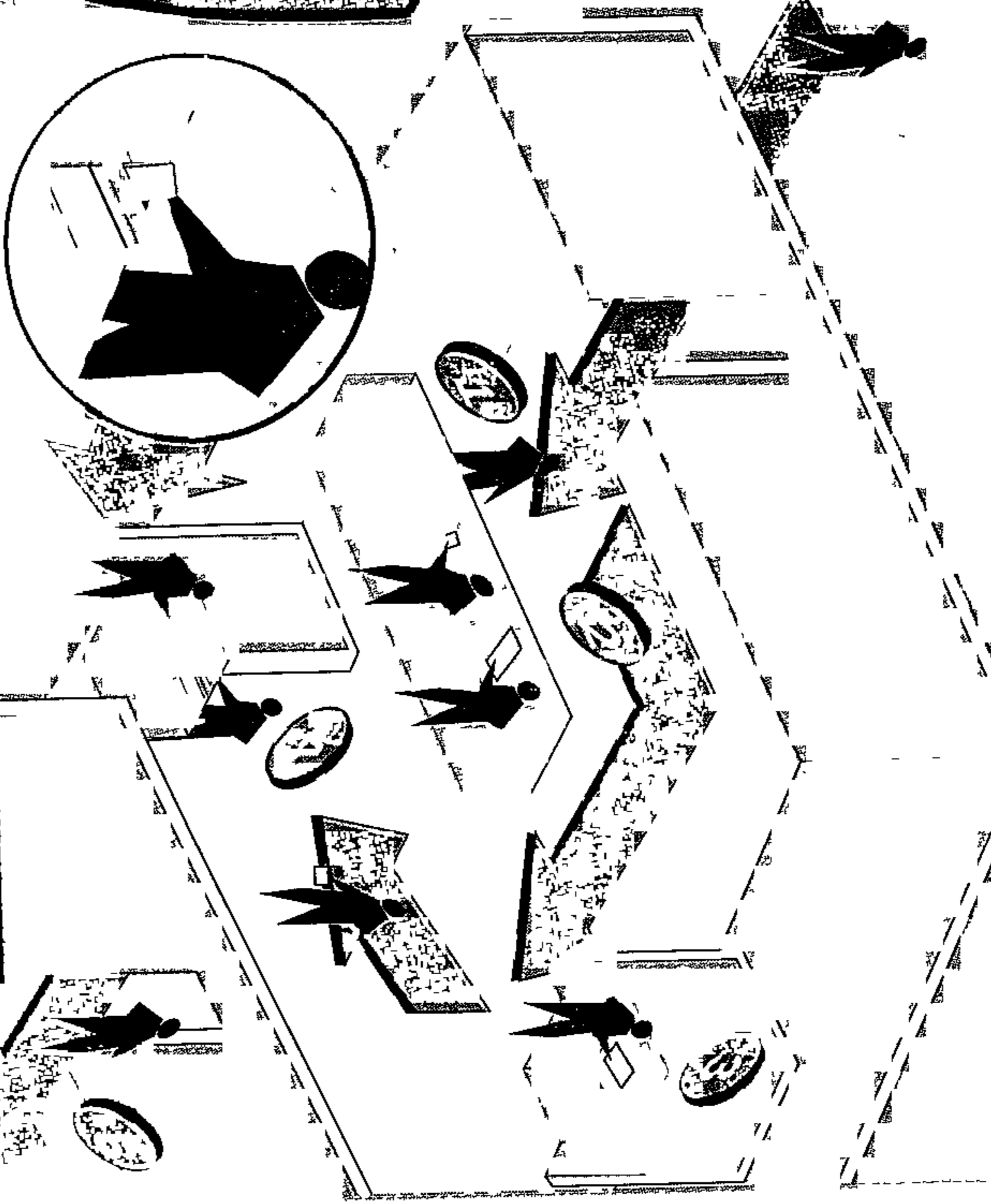
- Information
- Property rights
- Recreation
- Safety
- Pollution
- Traffic control

Local government has link with provincial and Central Government departments

- in areas such as:
- Education
 - Housing
 - Health
 - Welfare
 - Policing
- The Reconstruction and Development Programme (RDP) will most certainly be managed to a large extent by local government. Every local government structure will have to have an RDP committee through these committees projects could be identified and completed.

HOW TO VOTE

STEP - BY - STEP



- 1 ID BOOK CHECKED
- 2 VOTERS ROLL CHECKED AND WARD/TLC BALLOT ISSUED
- 3 CAST WARD/TLC VOTES
- 4 PLACE BALLOT IN WARD/TLC BALLOT BOX
- 5 EXIT

Low turnout is feared for local govt election today

Drew Forrest

BD 1/11/95

(262)

THE nine-month run-up to the local government election climaxes with polling today, amid continuing fears of a low voter turnout

About 15-million people are registered to vote for about 12 000 candidates in 688 local authorities

To ensure maximum participation — which it sees as vital to the establishment of legitimate third-tier rule — government extended the registration period on three occasions.

Although the run-up was beset with snags, largely around the demarcation of three metropolitan areas and the rural vote, the signs are that polling will suffer fewer logistical setbacks than last year.

Local government election task group co-chairman Van Zyl Slabbert last week predicted a "better" election, stressing the key organisational role played by experienced local government officials

And although government has made pre-emptive security arrangements, the threat of violent disruption of polling or intimidation of voters appears small

The campaign period was largely violence-free, and Slabbert observed that

polling was a more structured and controllable exercise

Unregistered voters turned away at polling stations are a potentially disruptive force, as are farmers in four provinces, and Eastern Cape traditional leaders who are boycotting the poll. Observers consider violent spoiling by the demoralised and fractured far right to be unlikely

The major concern is that a poor turnout will further impair the validity and inclusiveness of the elections, already affected by the exemption of KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape metropolitan area, and the failure of a quarter of eligible voters to register. In the Free State, for example, 400 000 fewer voters are registered for today's poll than voted in the general election

One commentator warned yesterday that the elections could prove "a massive anticlimax". Centre for Policy Studies researcher Graeme Gotz said the local elections lacked the potent symbolism of last year's poll, which had been "a liberation vote"

"People will not vote this time for the experience of voting," he said

Gotz said some areas were hotly contested and the turnout could be in-

Continued on Page 2

Low turnout

(262)

Continued from Page 1

BD 1/11/95

fluenced by local political dynamics. But in general, voters were less prepared and less clear about what they were voting for than in April last year.

Many voters did not know the candidates or their policy platforms, implying that where voting did happen, it was likely to be along party lines.

In rural areas, Gotz said, people were unclear about what local author-

ities had to offer which central and provincial governments could not. This had been a factor in the slow registration of rural voters

Logistical problems, including transport to polling stations, could further deter the rural electorate.

Other commentators remarked on the complexity of the poll — and in particular the ward and party list components, involving three ballots in the metropolitan areas. They said voter confusion might affect the turnout

Comment: Page 12

Fraudulent voters are in for a big surprise

KIMBERLEY — Unplaced voters today would have to cut off their hands to get rid of "super-strength" invisible ink stains, election officials said yesterday.

The new ink was introduced to foil those who managed to remove ink stains in order to cast numerous votes in last year's general election.

"Apparently people are very good at doing just about anything," said election campaign official Vic Milne.

However, fraudulent voters were in for a surprise with this year's invisible ink recipe, he said "It's under strict forensic control."

Some election officials have complained

(262) 80 7/11/98
about the cost of invisible ink relative to the number of unplaced voters

R4 800 was spent on providing invisible ink for only 206 unplaced voters in the Northern Cape, provincial election task group chairman Joos Coetzee said.

In one of the largest rural districts in the province, 10 litres of ink were distributed to numerous polling stations to combat the potential iniquities of five unplaced voters.

Coetzee said the ink had drawn criticism from various political parties which said voters would find a way to remove it. But tests were conducted with a variety of household detergents, and party representatives went home dirty-handed — Sapa

20-million expected to take part in today's local government elections

Least vote to freedom

(262) Stan 1/11/95

APPEAL to voters whose names are not on lists to accept omission with good grace

■ BY PATRICK BULGER and ANNA COX

South Africa goes back to the polls today for a second historic election to bring democracy to just about every city, town and rural village in the country.

A mere 18 months after the euphoric national and provincial election ushered in a new political era, up to 20 million voters will vote in 685 local authorities. The exceptions are KwaZulu Natal, the Cape metropole, and five Eastern Cape areas and 11 in Gauteng where elections have been postponed.

For the rest, however, a public holiday and the absence of any co-ordinated security threat to elections should ensure a huge turnout for an election that the organisers say represents a world first in the speed with which local government elections have followed national elections and an entirely new dispensation.

"Everything is in place for the elections to go ahead," Deputy Minister of Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Mohamed Valli Moosa told a media briefing yesterday.

But with poll fever expected throughout much of the country, Moosa assured voters there should be relatively few problems and that every effort had been made to ensure a smooth poll. Although polling booths are due to close at 10pm, all voters who are in a queue by then will be given a chance to cast ballot's Voting opens at 7am



Tight control . . . Lance-Sergeant Mokobanama and Constable Beetha will guard the Yeoville Recreation Centre polling station for the local government elections today.

PICTURE MYKEL NICOLAOU

ANC election co-ordinators Carl Niehaus and Saki Mazonza yesterday made a last-minute appeal to voters whose names do not appear on voters lists to accept the omission with good grace.

A record number of 272 political parties and organisations will participate in the elections. In the Eastern Cape, where traditional leaders called on their subjects to boycott the elections, the provincial govern-

ment yesterday warned that police would be on hand to arrest those chiefs who tried to prevent people from voting. According to a Media and Marketing Research-commissioned Marknor survey re-

leased this week, 74% of the country's estimated 20 million registered voters said they were "very likely" to vote today. This would yield a 62% voter turnout of the 25 million adult South Africans, although the

turnout could be "as high as 81%". In Greater Johannesburg's four metropolitan substructures - with 132 wards, 750 polling stations and 7 500 polling booths - about 1,5 ml-

lion registered voters are expected to go to the polls.

A taxi blockade is expected in the city today, but police and Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council (GJTM/C) officials say they are prepared for any eventuality.

The SAPS said that today was not a public holiday for police, and all available staff would be out at polling stations to ensure the security of voters.

The SANDF and traffic departments of the various substructures would be utilised. Fire and emergency personnel would also be on stand-by throughout the day.

Counting of the votes starts immediately after polling stations close at 10 tonight and ward results will be announced at counting stations from 1am until about 5am tomorrow morning.

After counting, the results

- ▶ 'Super-strength' ink to foil election fraudsters.
- ▶ Whites-only poll in Northern Cape
- ▶ Court reinstates ANC candidates
- ▶ Protest in KwaZulu Natal
- See Page 2

will be reconciled and balanced before they are sent to the metropolitan substructures' main control centres, which are at the civic centres.

The proportional representation results are expected from about 9.30am tomorrow and the GJTM/C vote at about noon.

Conservative strongholds fall as SA voters shift in sympathies

JOHANNESBURG — The African National Congress has claimed victory in the local government elections as interim results showed an ANC majority in most councils across the country.

"From the results and trends it is quite clear we are all set for a massive landslide victory," ANC executive member and Deputy Constitutional Development Minister Valli Moosa said.

Elections task group chairman Dr Frederik van Zyl Slabbert said the poll augured well for a spirit of democratic tolerance in South Africa.

The ANC made significant gains in the Western Cape, taking control of a number of NP strongholds.

An overall ANC win seemed likely in Gauteng, with only a few results available. The ANC won the most seats in Bronkhorstspuit, Randfontein, Alberton, Springs, Krugersdorp, Boksburg and Carltonville.

It appeared headed for victory in Johannesburg while the NP was poised to win Pretoria.

The Freedom Front and the Conservative Party, which previously held about 45 percent of Pretoria city council seats,

did not win a single seat.

Local government in North-West appeared to be firmly in the hands of the ANC by last night, although low polls in many areas detracted from the party's victory.

Former conservative strongholds such as Rustenburg, Lichtenburg and Ventersdorp fell to

the ANC, as did a number of other small towns.

In the Eastern Cape, the ANC appeared set for a sweeping election victory.

In Butterworth, the PAC suffered a humiliating defeat in its last remaining Eastern Cape stronghold, with the ANC

taking all 18 council seats.

Voters in the Free State gave overwhelming support to the ANC.

With 20 council results outstanding last night, it had won 45 urban councils, including Bloemfontein.

Results from over 80 percent of Mpumalanga councils

showed a clear ANC victory.

In Northern Cape, the ANC was also well on the way to an outright win with 48 percent against the NP's 38 percent.

An all-white rural council was elected in the Volksstaat town of Orania, with 178 votes electing three Freedom Front councillors.

262) AR & 3/11/95

Violence at polls

(262) ARG 2/11/95

AN alleged petrol-bomb thrower was shot dead, a soldier died of stab wounds, a church was burnt to the ground, youths attacked a polling station and other incidents of violence flared around the country as millions of voters turned out to vote.

● Police said a 44-year-old man was shot dead when he threw a petrol bomb at the Pathekile polling station in Bhebe in Transkei at 7 pm yesterday.

A spokesman said Ngxeku Ngaleka was confronted by police who fired two warning shots after he flung the petrol bomb.

Ngaleka ignored the warning and drew a knife. He was shot in the stomach and died on his way to hospital.

No one else was injured. ● At least four polling stations in the Northern Province were attacked by youths, who tore up completed and unused ballot papers and stole ballot boxes. Election officials said

About 300 youths attacked Lecuwfontein voting station near Potgietersrus broke the windows and assaulted election officials. They also tore up completed and uncompleted ballot papers, said polling monitor Wicus Coetzer.

● The Mpumalanga legislature is investigating the possibility of sabotage after thousands of ballot papers went missing for more than six hours, causing thousands of voters to miss the chance to cast their cross.

Some lorries carrying the valuable cargo took 14 hours to make the 100km-odd journey from Middleburg to polling stations and many frustrated voters simply went home when they grew tired of waiting.

● Violence flared between followers of competing political parties in parts of Soweto and some East Rand townships.

And a provincial government spokesman yesterday hinted at the possibility of a by-election in Jabulani Soweto. The trouble started at 7 am

when an elderly woman went to vote and realised that the ballot paper had no IFP emblem next to the candidate's name.

● In Nancefield (Ward 16) voters had to wait for hours while the IFP argued that its logo on the ballot paper was not clearly printed. They claimed it was part of a conspiracy to discourage people from voting for the party.

● In Khumalo Street, Tokozazi gunshots brought voting to a halt and one person was injured after IFP supporters closed the gate to the Ward 7 polling station. They claimed the ANC was busying in voters from other wards.

More than 500 people fled the polling station just before 4 pm as police fired teargas and buckshot in an attempt to disperse the agitated crowd.

● The mutilated body of a Defence Force soldier was found in Kaleshong today. Police confirm he was stabbed and stoned to death.

● Two IFP members injured when an army patrol opened

fire on a car in Mpumalanga last week were local government election candidates. Local government minister January Masilela confirmed after it was earlier claimed they were not candidates.

The men Simon Nkosi and Jacob Masina were shot by an army patrol near the Swaziland border in Mpumalanga. A man travelling with them was killed.

● More than 100 000 registered Transkei voters did not appear on the voters roll and this may necessitate by-elections in the Eastern Cape soon, election officials said.

A physical count of names on the voters rolls of 16 magisterial districts in rural Transkei was underway last night.

Other incidents in the Eastern Cape included the closing of a voting station in the Mqanduli area by residents who chased away voting officials.

and the razing of a church next to the voting station at Sterkspruit by arsonists. — The Argus Correspondents and Sapa-Reuter



ELECTION FEVER: President Mandela greets supporters in Atterdgville, west of Portoferra, while he visits a polling station during South Africa's first democratic local elections.

Huge coloured swing to ANC

Political Staff

WESTERN Cape local government election results showed a mass defection of coloured voters from the National Party to the African National Congress.

The swing gave the ANC control over scores of NP strongholds, including Beaufort West, Worcester, Riversdale, Saldanha Bay, Swellendam, Vredendal, Wolseley and Ashton

As counting proceeded in larger towns adjoining the Cape Town metro area — including Paarl and Stellenbosch — a close finish was being forecast

In Stellenbosch late today, the ANC had won seven wards to the NP's two, with three wards still outstanding

But it was unclear whether or not this would translate into ANC control of the town once proportional representation seats were allocated to the parties on the local council

In Grabouw, the ANC had won three seats, to one each for the NP and the Pan Africanist Congress, with votes in one ward still to be counted and proportional representation seats still to be awarded.

In Beaufort West, the ANC and its allied independent candidates won eight of the 11 seats on the local council.

By midday the ANC had won 62 of the 79 "coloured" wards in the province where counting had been completed, and with ANC-allied independent candidates it held 77 percent of the wards in the coloured community.

The results are certain to send shock waves through the National Party as it witnesses a significant erosion of the support base which last year brought it control of the provincial parliament.

An ANC landslide in the Western Cape will guarantee an unprecedented electoral battle when Cape metropolitan elections are held next year.

ARG 2/11/95 (262)

In last year's elections, the ANC won about 20 percent of coloured votes in rural areas. Initial results in the local elections show a swing of at least 30 percent to the ANC.

"Our estimate is that we are averaging between 55 to 60 percent of the votes in the coloured community," said provincial leader Chris Nissen.

He expected the trend would be repeated throughout the province as further results became known

In early results, the NP won the small towns of Yzerfontein, Koringberg, Redelinghuis and Aurora

But at the same stage of counting, the ANC had won 83, about 42 percent, of 198 seats on local councils. Counting in allied candidates, the ANC has won 46 percent of seats

In Worcester, the ANC won all three coloured wards, the five Zweekhemba wards and three from the proportional list to secure 11 seats on the 17-member council. The remaining six seats went to the NP.

In Riversdale, the ANC won six of the 10 seats on the council. In last year's election, the ANC won only 14 percent of the votes, the remaining 76 percent going to the NP.

Mr Nissen said the huge shift away from the NP showed "people's eyes have opened — they are no longer interested in division and racism, they are appreciative of President Nelson Mandela's approach to reconciliation, and see the ANC as the vehicle of effective change"

Commenting on the poor showing of other parties, Mr Nissen said: "It's like the cartoon you had in The Argus, of the tug o'war — the rope is pulling to our side and the people in the middle are falling off."

Big swing to ANC seems likely as results trickle in

ARG 2/11/95 (262)
● From page 1

expected by politicians who had denied reports of voter apathy and the ANC which had claimed there would be a poll as high as 75 percent

Election officials said there was an average 30 percent poll in greater Johannesburg.

About 700 000 of Johannesburg's 1.5 million voters were registered to vote in wards in Soweto and the outcome in the 43 wards was expected to have a decisive impact on the

Johannesburg result

By 8am today the results of only six Johannesburg wards were known. They were all western metropolitan sub-structure wards in the traditionally conservative western suburbs and were won by the NP.

By mid-morning counting had not yet started at the Civic Centre in Braamfontein as some 52 ballot boxes arrived in a municipal truck from Soweto's Ward 12

Polling stations remained open until midnight in line with a decision to allow voters who had joined a queue by the official close of voting at 10pm to cast their ballots. The last polling station to close in Gauteng

Hiccups but most local polls go well

(262)
The Argus Correspondents

SIXTY percent of proportional representation votes cast in the local government elections have gone to the African National Congress, with 18 percent going to the National Party and 11 percent to independent candidates, according to preliminary information issued by the Local Government Elections Task Group today

However, the group cautioned that "this is a preliminary figure and one should not try to identify any particular trends"

Election task group co-chairman Frederick van Zyl Slabbert said at a media briefing in Pretoria today that his group was grateful for the low level of violence which had taken place in the elections yesterday. ARG 2/11/95

"I could argue that this augurs well for the spirit of democratic tolerance and for inter-party co-operation. We have come through a steep learning curve and had to face many challenges," Dr Slabbert said

Millions of people turned out to vote, but so far only a few results have been released because in some cases counting started during the night or this morning.

The elections went smoothly, but teething problems and hiccups were experienced at some polling stations.

Provincial Affairs and Local Government Deputy Minister Mohamed Valli Moosa called the elections "a phenomenal success".

Election results for greater Johannesburg were not expected until later today, after a last-minute change in procedures delayed the start of counting in Soweto by up to 12 hours.

But the turnout was much lower than

To page 2

was at Katlehong where the station closed at 2 20am this morning

According to officials manning the control centre at the Johannesburg Metropolitan Council, confusion arose when TMC officials decided to centralise the counting process and ordered that ballot boxes be redirected to a central counting station in Soweto. When the polls closed, presiding officers and party agents were left stranded with sealed ballot boxes for several hours before police came to collect them. ARG 2/11/95

At other polling stations ballot boxes were locked inside and guarded by police throughout the night because there were not enough police vehicles to collect them



They came in all shapes, sizes and ages to cast their votes in South Africa's historic local government elections yesterday. Elderly men and women shuffled and hobbled on sticks to the polling booths from as early as 6am. Some voters even spent time in long queues with their bicycles. Even curious toddlers were there to savour the atmosphere.

PIC VELI NHLAPHO

POLL SURPRISE

(262) Sowetan 21/11/95

By Sowetan reporters

MILLIONS OF South Africans turned up at the polls throughout the country yesterday in a show of support for change that confounded the predictions of pollsters

The poll itself went smoothly with no widespread problems nationally. There were, however, a number of incidents that left some polling stations closed. Among these were 16 polling stations in Soweto, including Jabulani, where Gauteng local government and MEC for Housing Mr Dan Mofokeng blamed the Inkatha Freedom Party for the fracas.

Despite various hitches an impressive 35 percent was registered in Gauteng by 3pm yesterday - with another seven hours of polling left.

The stations around Jabulani were closed because the IFP emblem was missing next to the party's candidate

The IFP alleged this was a deliberate attempt to sabotage its campaign. Elsewhere there was fighting as in Maokeng, Parys, after disqualification of ANC candidates. And in a day of drama and patience and pain

- An elephant disrupted voting near Kruger National Park after strolling into a polling station as voters gave way and scattered.

- Deputy President FW de Klerk voted twice in one day when all black leaders of major parties could not cast their votes.

- Hundreds of voters were frustrated by officials who turned them away from polling stations for not having registered or being at the wrong stations.

- Mpumalanga premier Mathews Phosa accused an election officer in the former Kwanabele bantustan of sabotage after seven trucks carrying supplies for 50 polling stations went missing. Air force planes had to be

used to trace the trucks.

- Hundreds of people, mainly pensioners, waited for almost six hours before they could cast their votes at the Thaba Primary School (Ward 12), Winterveldt, in the North West.

The polling station only opened at 2pm due to delays in the delivery of voting material. Large numbers of elderly people said they started queuing at 6am.

Returning officer for Winterveldt Mr Andries Mamabolo confirmed that there were problems and added that he was not going to "hang our dirty linen in public", and

- Problems were also reported from the Eastern Cape and other areas of the Free State.

But on the whole, long queues characterised voting in many black areas of Johannesburg as elderly people, the young and the poor stood in long lines to cast their votes.

Many of the people did not know

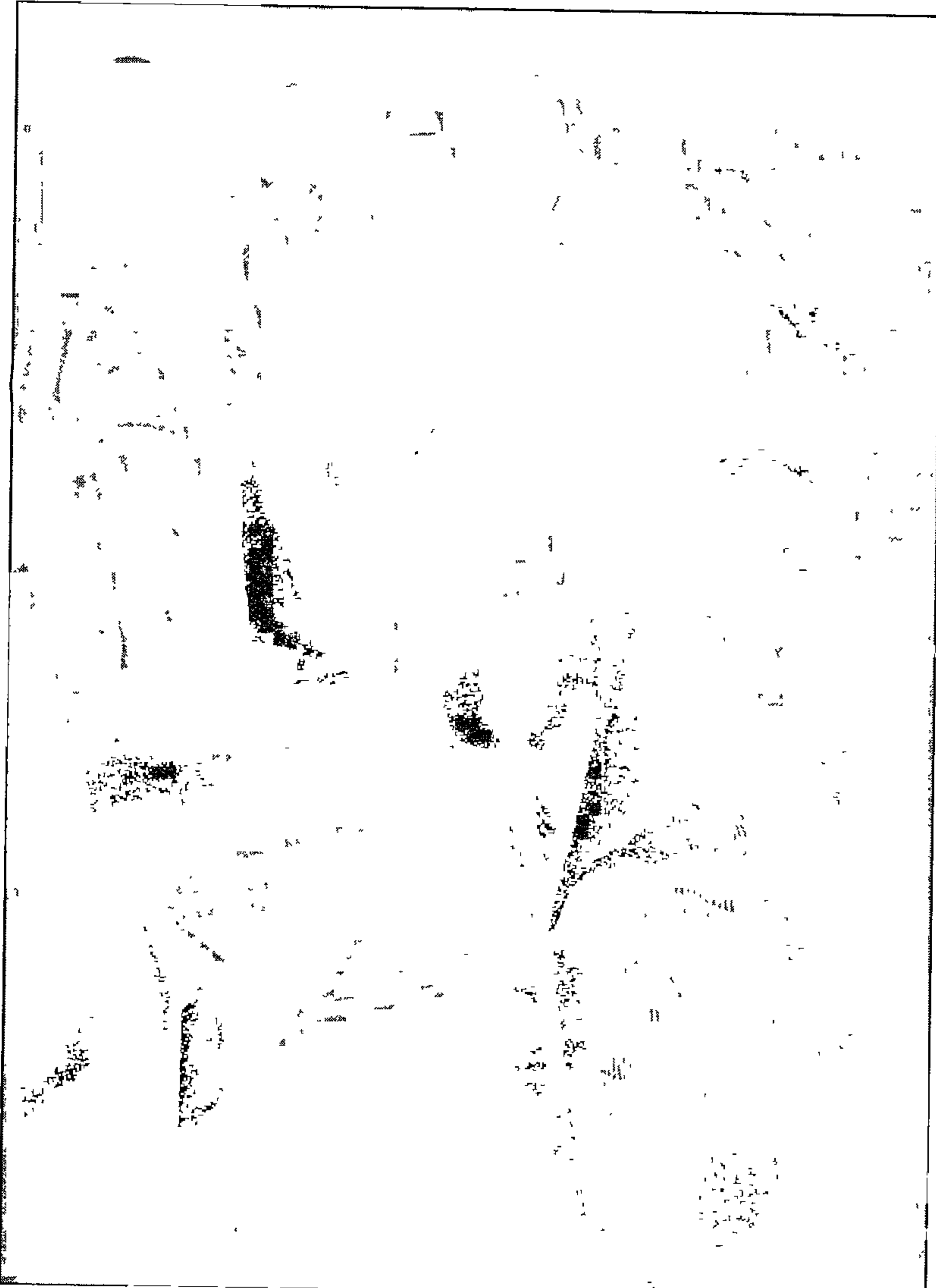
who they would be voting for, and seemed content that they would cast their votes for change.

The population movements around the city were also clearly demonstrated as previously white areas such as Hillbrow, Leondale, Dawn Park and Yeoville, saw long queues of blacks and a sprinkling of whites where it was previously only whites who stood to vote. IFP spokesman Anthony Grinker said the party was hopeful it would get Boksburg and Benoni, and would do well in Kimberley and some areas of the Free State.

The party complained of intimidation in Mpumalanga. NP spokesman Dane Du Plessis said they expected to do well in North and Western Cape, and Pretoria.

Freedom Front secretary general Flip Buys said the ANC would win 90 percent of municipalities contested. His party, however, would improve its performance on the national elections.

NEWS ELECTIONS '95



Two old ladies wait patiently in the queue outside the polling station in Soweto. Thousands turned up for the country's first democratic local elections.

PIC MBUZENI ZULU

Thousands turn out to cast votes

(262) Sowetan 2/11/95

Voters stood patiently in long, dragging queues in major parts of Gauteng

By Mokgadi Pela, Themba Molefe, Wilson Ramothata, Claire Keeton and Musa Zondi

VOTERS IN JOHANNESBURG and surrounding towns went to the polls in their thousands yesterday, with few areas experiencing logistical problems.

It was April 27 all over again as throngs of voters came out in full force to register their votes in Soweto and surrounding squatter camps.

In Kiptown, a long queue of patient voters waited as the voting got underway early yesterday. By mid-morning, most of the voters were beginning to complain at the slow pace of the queue and the sun bearing down on them, and they started becoming impatient.

Whole block

The queue snaked out from the hall and went around the whole block. On the steps of the voting station, an election officer was patiently trying to explain to those who had not registered that they could not vote but only register for next time.

At Phiri Hall in Soweto, another long queue made up mostly of old men and women waited patiently.

At Nancefield hostel there was another long queue of voters.

Voting got off to a brisk start in several parts of the East Rand yesterday. Contrary to fears of violence and voter apathy, voting went on smoothly. The

largest turn out was at the Thokoza Auditorium.

Meanwhile, madams, maids, and masters were out in force in the leafy northern suburbs of Johannesburg yesterday.

It was all smiles when Deputy President Thabo Mbeki and Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale cast their votes at Parktown promptly at 7am.

Domestic worker

The first non-celebrity to vote at that station was Mrs Linah Vundla, a domestic worker from Amersfoort in Mpumalanga.

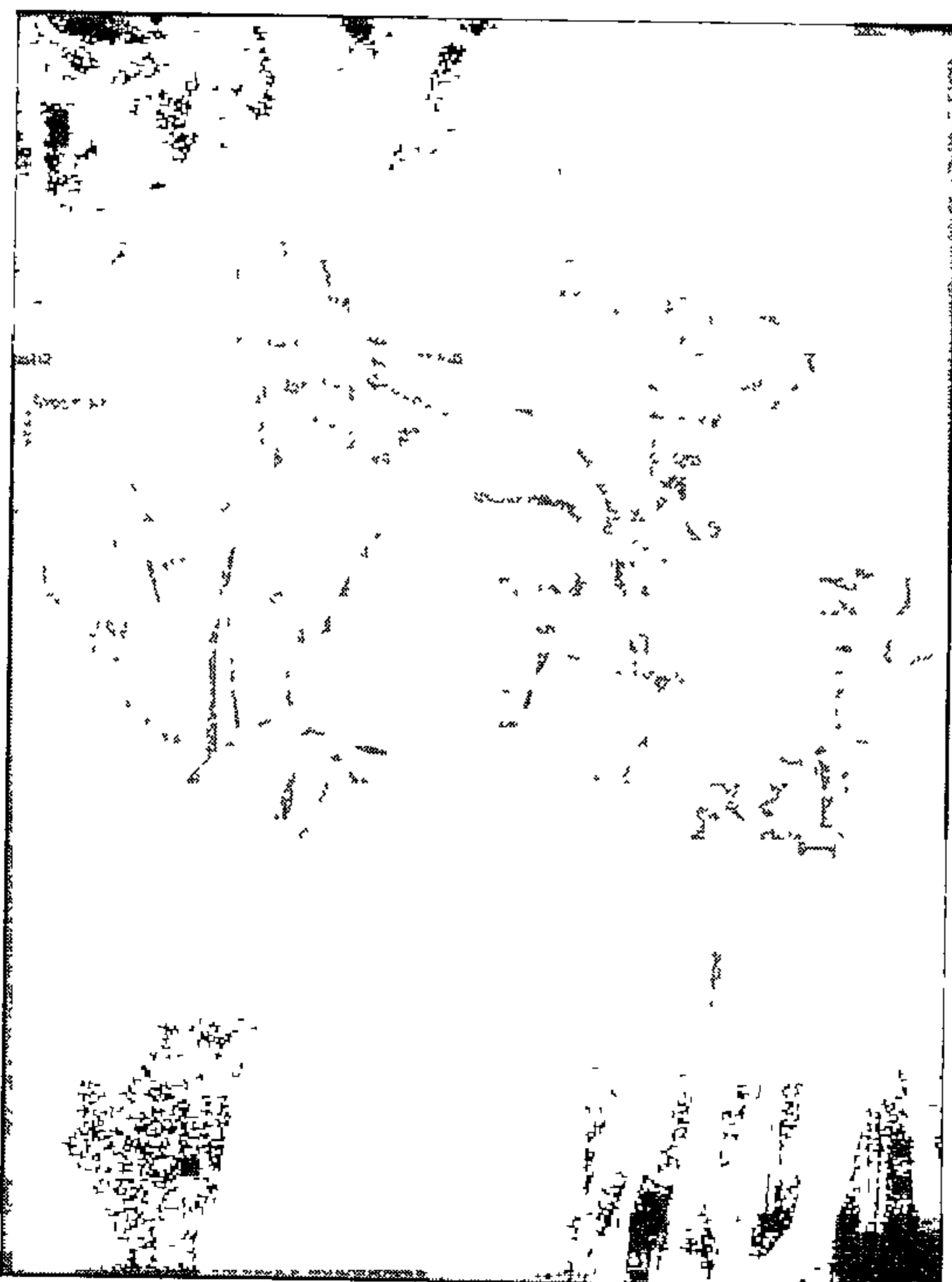
"I am excited because I was the first person to vote after these important people," she said wearing her green maid's uniform.

A young woman who declined to be named but who had voted in Fairlands said she had done so only because everybody else was voting.

Polling got off to a slow start in Melville Johannesburg, with the first in the queue waiting nearly two hours before they got to make their mark.

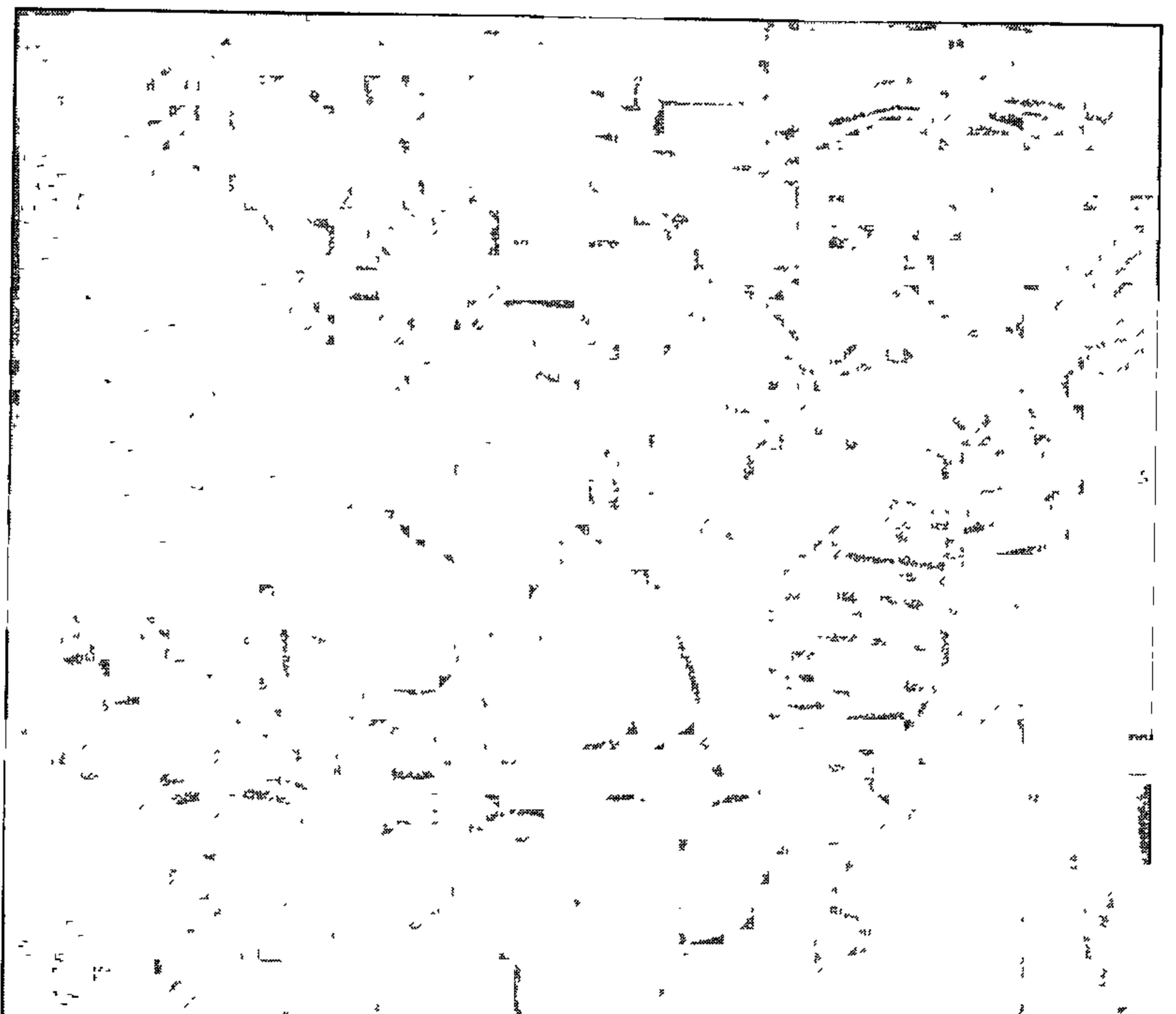
Confusion wasn't long in coming. Ms Monica Lekwakwe excited the polling station after finding she could not vote in Melville because she had registered some distance away in Randburg. "I will go there and vote," she vowed.

Gauteng MEC for education Ms Mary Metcalfe waited in line with her seven-year-old son Benjamin for an hour before she could vote.



Miss Thembi Kumalo wisely decided to take her knitting as she waited in the queue to cast her vote at Emmarentia Primary School in Johannesburg yesterday.

PIC VELI NHLAPO



Some of the voters at the Joubert Park polling station. Scores of people from the city centre and Hillbrow turned up to cast their votes.

PIC CLEMENT LEKANYANE

How the nation's leaders voted (262)

BARRY STREEK,
POLITICAL STAFF

PRESIDENT Nelson Mandela did not vote in yesterday's local government elections, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki voted once and Deputy President F W de Klerk voted twice.

Free State Premier Mr Patrick Lekota was turned away from a polling station in Bloemfontein because he did not have an identity document — but voted later.

Mr Mandela did not vote because he is registered to vote in the Cape Town metropolitan area where the elections have been postponed because of the demar-



were unable to go to the polls yesterday

cation dispute

ANC secretary-general Mr Cyril

Ramaphosa said Mr Mandela did not vote because he wanted to show solidarity with the people of Cape Town, because they

CT 2/11/95

Mr Mbeki was among the first to vote at a Parktown polling station in Johannesburg.

Mr De Klerk voted in the morning at Vermont in the Hermanus area, where he has a holiday home, and then voted again in the afternoon in Pretoria, where he has an official residence.

Election rules allow voters to cast ballots in more than one place if they own property, pay municipal rates or are resident in different towns.

He was surrounded by aides as he entered the polling booth but one voter succeeded in jumping the queue to get his autograph.

Mr De Klerk went to Bredasdorp after voting for the first time and then to Kimberley before travelling to Pretoria.

Among the others who voted early were the Minister of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Dr Dawie de Villiers, who voted in Stellenbosch, and the North-West Premier Mr Popo Molefe, who cast his ballot at the Mafikeng museum.

5... 0 rampant, endemic corruption"

Harassment: India protests

LUSAKA India said yesterday it had complained to Zambia over the treatment of Indians during rioting after rumours spread that Asian shopkeepers were involved in ritualistic killings

President may pardon maid

AL-AIN, United Arab Emirates President Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan al-Nahayan may pardon the young Filipina maid facing 100 lashes in a United Arab Emirates prison, sources close to the case said yesterday

"It is not definite but it is under serious consideration," one said

Settler rabbi hurt in ambush

KOHAV YAAKOV, West Bank A Jewish settler rabbi was seriously wounded yesterday in an ambush by two masked men, suspected to be Palestinians, police said

No Palestinian militant group claimed responsibility

Yeltsin meets

aide in hospital

MOSCOW Russian President Boris Yeltsin met his top aide, Mr Viktor Ilyushin, yesterday, his first meeting with an official since he was taken to hospital last Thursday after suffering a mild heart attack, a spokesman said

"Everything is all right," the spokesman said. He gave no details of the hospital meeting

Internet helped boy make bomb

VANCOUVER Canadian police have defused a potentially deadly bomb built by a teenager who gleaned the instructions from the Internet computer network

Human rights in Nigeria at "a very high political level"

SOUTH AFRICA prefers to use quiet persuasion in influencing Nigeria over its human rights policies, a spokesman for President Nelson Mandela said yesterday

"(President Mandela) prefers quiet persuasion of Nigeria. Up to now that has been the attitude of the President," his spokesman Mr Parks Markahana said

He was reacting to a Commonwealth warning to Nigeria that it risked retaliation over the death sentences passed on Ogoni rights leader Mr Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other activists when Commonwealth leaders meet in New Zealand from November 10 to 13

Mr Saro-Wiwa and other leaders of his Movement for the Survival of Ogoni Peoples were sentenced to death on Tuesday by a special military-appointed court in Port Harcourt for the murder in May 1994 of four moderate leaders of oil-producing Ogoniland

The sentences were widely condemned internationally with calls for sanctions against the West African country

South Africa has led attempts by African states to persuade Nigeria's military government to quicken moves towards democracy and to reconsider sentences handed down in a secret coup trial

Shell said yesterday it did not foresee a quick return to Nigeria's volatile Ogoniland after a court sentenced nine activists from the area for murder during a campaign against oil companies

"We will not go back there until there is mutual trust between us and the local community," Shell spokesman Mr Chris Folarin Williams said

"We have said this before and this is still our position," Mr Williams said. Shell, attacked by Ogoni activists for alleged oil pollution, shut down operations there just before the murders

The death sentences provoked outrage around the world, with critics saying the process behind the military-appointed tribunal

Mr Williams said Shell's production in Ogoniland at the time was between 20 000 and 30 000 barrels per day, a small fraction of its total national output of about 900 000 bpd

He said outside Shell Ogoni people outside think Ogoni is the Saudi Arabia of Nigeria. It is not, Mr Williams said

The impression that Shell is anxious to get back to create an environment of peace and stability is wrong

Yaghlante Ogoni Youth League attacked Shell property and staff in the campaign against alleged environmental damage — Reuters

Waiting for customers



take a particular stance and will abide by the Commonwealth decision," the official said

Mr Mandela earlier this month dismissed criticism by Nigerian Nobel laureate Wole Soyinka that he was not doing enough to pressure Nigeria's military leaders to introduce democracy

"We are not going to act like other countries who really have not got the responsibilities we have. What we are concerned with is not publicity, but to solve problems. As long as we have hands-on attention to the problem, that is quite sufficient," he said — Reuters

Earlier this year, Mr Mandela dispatched Deputy President Thabo Mbeki to Lagos to plead for clemency for 40 alleged coup plotters sentenced to death

"South Africa is dealing with the matter at a very high political level. Its policy has been discreet bilateral pressure," a Foreign Ministry official said

The official said it was too early to say whether South Africa would abide by actions decided on at the Commonwealth summit

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ALLWAYS IN OUR PRAYERS: An unidentified woman prays by a grave on All Saints Day in the Sestine cemetery in Zagreb yesterday. On this holiday people throughout Europe visit cemeteries bringing flowers and lit candles for their buried loved ones

I'm a scapegoat for Fred's crimes, says Rose West

WINCHESTER Mrs Rosemary West said yesterday she was being made a scapegoat for the crimes of her late husband "I'm the one now in the spotlight. Fred West is dead, and I've got to be made responsible for what he done," she said under cross-examination

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US seeks missing journalist

BOSTON As delicate Balkan peace negotiations began yesterday in Dayton, Ohio, the US State Department and the United Nations searched for information on an American journalist missing since Sunday in Bosnian Serb territory

The journalist, Mr David Rohde, 28, East European correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor, was last heard from on Saturday when he called an editor

burg at 7am

But he was not the first there. Killarney domestic worker Mrs Lina Vundla arrived at the polling station at 5am so she could start work at 8am.

Mr Mbeki, known for his impeccable manners, let her vote before him when he learnt she had been there for two hours.

Centenarian 'voted in every election'

ONE of the oldest South Africans to vote yesterday was 103-year-old great-great-grandmother Mrs Jessie Freaan, who voted at Loftus Versfeld.

Australian-born Mrs Freaan, who came to this country when she was eight, said she had voted in every election held in SA since she was 18.

"I voted for General Smuts and last year in the Mandela elections."

She said in August this year President Nelson Mandela sent her a letter and a card on her 103rd birthday.

Sapa, Own Correspondent



WE DID IT: Successful ANC candidate in Koringberg, Mrs Maggie Adams, gets a bear-hug from delighted party colleague, Western Cape Transport Minister Mr Leonard Rahmatlakana. **PICTURE: ANDREW OCTO-**

Conservative

wins toss after small-town draw

STAFF REPORTERS

THE tiny Swartland town of Koringberg, one of the first four Western Cape towns to post a result, had a nail-biting draw for one ward last night after two independents amassed a grand total of 22 votes each — giving conservative groupings a majority.

A delighted Freedom Front-aligned Mr Marcus Koen won a toss-up against fellow independent, ANC-aligned Mr Abraham Albertyn, resulting in independents securing three ward seats, the NP one proportional seat and the ANC another.

The provisional percentage poll for Koringberg, with 220 registered voters, was 90%.

In the Sandveld, the NP secured a clear victory in Redelinghuys, with five of the six council seats going to the NP and one to an independent. No percentage poll was available, but 170 registered voters turned out.

In Aurora, the region's first town to post a result, the NP swept the boards, winning all five seats with a percentage poll of 77,38% among its 249 voters.

Mrs Corinne Pienaar (NP) and Mr Hendrick Erasmus (NP) were the region's first winning candidates in the small community, some 40km from Piketberg.

'Worthwhile slog'

An overjoyed Mr Hendricks said he felt "greatly humbled". It had been a "long and hard slog, but worthwhile in the end".

At the West coast fishing village of Yzerfontein the 744 registered voters delivered another resounding victory for the NP, which secured all six council seats.

Counting started at 10pm when polls closed in 61 towns in the Western Cape and will begin again at 31 towns this morning.

Unopposed independent civic organisations took the towns of Belvedere Estate, Noetzie and Suurbraak Leeu-Gamka, Greyton, Graafwater, Gouritz and Pniel are among towns expected to complete counting today.

In Doring Bay/Strandfontein, the ANC won two of the three ward seats.

In Haarlem, the ANC topped the polls in both wards. ANC campaigner and MP Mr Willie Hofmeyr reported a 25% gain in these areas over the last election.

CT 2/11/95

262

Voter turnout (262)

Continued from Page 1

BO 2/11/95

the far right did not materialise. In Eastern Cape country areas, where a poll boycott by traditional leaders was a potential flashpoint, reports of intimidation were received from 12 of the 112 polling stations in Eastern Ponderland. Sapa reports police intervened and polling proceeded smoothly.

Predicted clashes between farmers

and their labourers in parts of Mpumalanga, notably Piet Retief and Ermelo, did not occur, although it was reported that a series of meetings was held on Tuesday after claims that candidates had pledged to bus workers from farms into urban areas to vote.

The ANC claimed farmers in rural Gauteng had prevented workers from polling. Explaining the low turnout in the Northwest, Africa said some farmers, notably in Vryburg, Rustenburg and Lichtenburg, had stopped their workers from voting.

'Success for community policing'

Strong turnout in day of long queues

BD 2/11/95 (262)

Drew Forrest

SA's first democratic local government election was marred by organisational snags, long queues and slow balloting yesterday, but a satisfactory poll in most areas dispelled fears of a massive voter stayaway.

Voters waited patiently for up to five hours in baking sun at polling stations, but the day was a largely peaceful affair, with few reported incidents of violence or intimidation.

Police commissioner George Fivaz described the election as "a major success" for community policing policy.

By-elections are on the cards in Transkei, where it was discovered that up to 100 000 registered voters were omitted from voters' rolls. A second vote is also likely in Jabulani, Soweto, where polling stations were closed for several hours because of faulty ballot papers. The election was aborted in Louis Trichardt after traditional leaders won an eleventh-hour Supreme Court order.

The poll — the second wave of political reform that began with last year's general election — will see the election of close to 700 nonracial local authorities in all provinces except KwaZulu-Natal, which is to vote next year. A relatively high ballot by the 13-million registered voters in areas where elections took place is viewed by government as vital to the new structures' legitimacy. Local Government Minister Roelf Meyer said yesterday he would be happy with a 60% poll.

Early indications yesterday were that Meyer's target would be reached in many parts of the country. Meyer's deputy, Valli Moosa, proclaimed the election a "phenomenal success", adding that a massive voter turnout had confounded the prophets of doom.

With four hours to go before the 10pm cut-off point, around 50% of registered voters had balloted in Mpumalanga, while political parties were optimistic of a 65% poll in most parts of the Free State. In the Eastern Cape — together with Gauteng the province worst affected by logistical glitches — election manager Keith Watrus ex-

**Pictures and stories:
Comment**

**Pages 2-8
Page 14**

pected a 66% poll by the time voting closed. The Northern Cape was also heading for a total vote exceeding 60%.

The major exception appeared to be Northwest, where the percentage poll at 6pm last night — excluding the key town of Klerksdorp — stood at 10,7%. Local government MEC Darky Africa said the low turnout was a matter of serious concern. He blamed problems with the subdivision of voters' rolls, incomplete rolls and the intimidation of farm workers by farmers.

In Gauteng, the turnout was estimated at 35% at 7pm.

After early logistical problems delaying the opening of some polling stations, voting proceeded smoothly in most areas. According to Moosa, 90% of stations were problem-free.

Fifty stations in Mpumalanga opened at midday after lorries delivering ballot papers and boxes lost their way and failed to arrive. This prompted charges by Mpumalanga premier Matthews Phosa that the senior electoral officer in KwaNdebele had tried to sabotage the election. In the Lusikisiki district of the Eastern Cape, only five of 112 stations opened on time.

Slow balloting, particularly in parts of Gauteng and the Eastern Cape, prompted the alphabetical splitting of rolls and calls for voting to be extended into Thursday.

Moosa said government did not favour this, although regulations allowed for it in exceptional circumstances. He said voters queuing within the precincts of voting stations at 10pm would still be able to cast their ballots.

Officials wrestled with thousands of voters who were either not registered, registered for the wrong ward or who claimed to have registered but did not appear on rolls. The DP said its computerised information centre had been inundated with requests from polling officials to identify voters.

Frustration spilled over into violence in Atteridgeville, Pretoria, after unregistered voters seized the roll and would not allow voting to proceed. At one polling station in Mamelodi, also in Pretoria, officials said close to half the 8 600 eligible voters had been turned away because they were unlisted.

However, fears of violent spoiling by

Continued on Page 2

Lost people who 'spin' for a living

Kathryn Strachan

THE young man at the polling station in the coloured area of Coronationville, western Johannesburg, had no job. Nor had the four friends with him.

"Since the elections last year and affirmative action, we can't get jobs," he says. "We have to spin. That means we have to make quick money."

"We steal and we sell Mandrax."

"'n Boer maak 'n plan, maar 'n bushie het al 'n plan," he says. "The name of the plan is 'make out for yourself, because no one else is going to do it for you'."

Another says "There are so many of us without jobs, we could fill all these halls with loafers."

And his friend adds "Us coloureds don't belong anywhere. We are lost."

"Before, they used to tell us 'Go and ask Mandela for a job'. Now they say 'Go and ask the NP for help'."

"We don't know on which side we stand now. They all call us fence-sitters. Our communities are poor — 30 people living in a house and only one person working. But no one pays any attention. We don't get all the soccer clinics and the cricket clinics like Soweto does."

The group had all voted for Inkatha, because it supported the South West Joint Civic Association which promises flat payments for services and the scrapping of arrears.

"How can we vote for Tokyo Sexwale when he is always criticising us?" says the young man.

"The blacks are given houses. Why don't they give coloureds houses too?"

Another chips in. "As coloureds we really are confused. We don't know what is going to happen to us in the future. We don't feel like citizens."

"We feel like outsiders in our own birthplace," he says.

Aubrey Fritz, a welder, looked relieved when he came out of the polling station. When he went to vote in the last election, he was informed that he had been dead for three years.

Since then he has done everything

BO 3/11/95 (335) (262)
possible to get a new, valid ID document, but to no avail.

"I take affidavits from my local police station that this is really me, but at home affairs they just tell me I was reported dead in a car accident three years ago. Now I only travel in trains in case it was a premonition," he says.

Unable to get a new document, Fritz took a chance yesterday and went along with his old ID, and no-one noticed he was dead. "So this was a dead man's vote," he says.

In nearby Claremont, about 300 people were turned away because they were not on the voters' roll, although they said they had registered.

In Bosmont, a better resourced coloured suburb in the same ward, the Rev Kelvin Harris said he felt most people in his parish would vote ANC.

"But we get a feeling of frustration when we remember the promises that were made at the last elections, and we look at what has changed."

Harris did not believe the NP would get much support because many of the older people in his parish still felt hurt about being moved from their old homes in Doornfontein and Albertsville — and they passed on those feelings to their children.

A policeman said the NP would probably not do so well in the area after the NP candidate for the ward appeared on SABC's Crimewatch in connection with fraud charges. But NP candidate Shaheem Ismail, who was greeting voters at the broken down school in Newclare, said the charges against him were withdrawn, and he did not believe the fact that he was "badly exposed" on Crimewatch would influence the vote.

In Lenasia, ANC candidates felt confident, but they were disappointed at the low turnout. A voter said the ANC candidates were well-known community leaders who had been involved in upliftment projects for years — as opposed to the NP candidates who were strangers. "The NP only come out at elections, and the rest of the time we don't see them," he said.

No plans for aged at polls

Star 2/11/95

■ BY ANNA COX

(262)

The elderly and the infirm from all walks of life were the victims of yesterday's local elections in Greater Johannesburg's eastern metropolitan substructure

In the poorest areas in Alexandra and the wealthiest suburbs in the north, the elderly and the disabled were forced to stand for hours under the hot sun waiting their turn to vote

No provision was made for them, as in previous elections when they were given a special vote or allowed to vote first

In Alexandra many of the pensioners arrived at the polling stations at 5am. Four hours later they were still in queues. Many had to sit on the pavements to await their turn

Said Dorothy Mosho "We are old but they will not let us in. We have been here since 5 o'clock this morning. We sit here on the dirty pavement waiting to go in."

Paulina Ramsey also stood for almost five hours. "Please talk to them and tell them to let us in. We are old and tired," she said

Voting started late at many polling stations in the township because of faulty locks on the ballot boxes, said acting chief execu-

tive officer Chris Schmidt

He said delays of about two to three hours happened at almost all stations because people were either at incorrect voting stations, did not have proper identity documents or were not on ward lists

This meant that officials had to telephone a central control room for confirmation and this led to the delays

By late morning in the upmarket northern suburb of Saxonwold there were long queues with voters waiting more than three hours to vote. Cellphones were the order of the day and many people were seen sitting on the grass. Most of the older residents were accompanied by manservants or domestics who were assisting and carrying umbrellas over their employers' heads

Presiding officer Patrick Murray said that being an older suburb, there were many elderly and disabled people that had to be catered for

The Sandton administration had to deal with a fire at the Sandton Art Gallery. The fire department was called and although the damage was not extensive, art works on exhibition were damaged by smoke

ANC strides ahead, NP close behind

(262) / Star 2/11/95

■ STAFF REPORTERS

Early results in the local government elections have pointed to an ANC victory, with the National Party second in most urban and rural areas - but independents making a strong showing in many areas.

In the Free State, ANC candidate Willem Mathee and NP hopeful Paul May had to spin a coin early this morning over who would win ward A in the eastern Free State town of Thaba Phatsoa after they received 33 votes each.

The ANC won but the NP took six of the 10 seats.

In the Western Cape, early results have revealed that independent candidates, who have won 29 wards so far, have taken a significant lead ahead of the NP (32% and 27 wards) and the ANC (18% and 15 wards).

Counting of votes began at 10pm last night in many urban areas but it was expected that most rural wards would begin the task only from 9am today.

The ANC won majorities in Magaliesburg local area committee, the Magaliesburg Transitional Rural Council and the Gatsrand TRC and Vaal River Rural Councils. The ANC also became the majority party in the Croco-

dile TRC.

In Pietersburg the ANC won seven seats, the NP four, the Freedom Front two, and the Conservative Party one. Proportional representation gave the ANC five seats, the NP three, and the Freedom Front and CP one.

In Bronkhorstspuit, where a 61% poll was recorded, the ANC won three of four seats, with one seat to the NP. The ANC polled 3 150 votes against 1 431 for the NP, 824 for the FF and 109 for the PAC.

The NP had won six of the available 10 seats in the small Free State town of Verwoerddam, NP southern Free State supervisor Pieter van der Merwe said early this morning. The ANC had won three seats and one would be decided after a by-election next year, he said.

In the North West, early indications showed that the ANC was on course for a clear majority of votes in the eight small towns.

Elections co-ordinator Ben Ntoane said the ANC was gaining majorities in the Mogwase, Ottosdal, Marikana, Bloemhof, Revilo, Wedela, Mothibistad and Madikwe areas.

In the Eastern Cape, MEC Max Mamase and elections commissioner Keith Wattruss estimated a 65% voter turnout.

No v
as w

Ding-dong votes battle

ELECTION ANALYSIS

HUGH ROBERTON
Political Editor

ARG 3/11/95 (262)

WITH more than two-thirds of the Western Cape local government election results known, the African National Congress is in control of all the province's larger towns, while the National Party commands a majority of overall votes in the province

But the results show that there has been a huge swing from the NP to the ANC since last year's elections when the NP secured 54 percent of the total vote to the ANC's 33 percent

Projections based on two thirds of this week's results point to the NP securing 44 percent of all votes, to the ANC's 37 percent

Nationally, and locally, it has been an election that has defied the pundits, confounded the pollsters and exploded a ballot box of political myths

The results show that there is no "crisis of expectations" in the country and no significant loss of support for the ANC because of the alleged failure of the Reconstruction and Development Programme

On the contrary, one of the parties which campaigned most vigorously on the issue of the RDP's "failure" — the Pan Africanist Congress — probably suffered a more humiliating defeat than any other party on the ballot

In its former stronghold of Butterworth in Transkei, for example, the PAC lost all 18 wards to the ANC and by early today it had failed to win a single seat in the country's industrial hinterland

But, against the predictions of all the polls, other smaller parties were not annihilated

The Freedom Front overwhelmed its far-right rivals and secured unexpected victories in many parts of the country

For the Democratic Party, the results also produced some surprises

With very few exceptions, the DP's traditional support base is in affluent suburbs, but when only 20 percent of the votes in platteland towns of the Western Cape had been counted yesterday, the party had won two wards — in Barrydale and Sedgfield — and had secured just more than one percent of the total votes cast

By late yesterday the DP had overtaken the National Party as the main opposition to the ANC in Johannesburg's large eastern local substructure

The strong showing of independent candidates — they had secured between a quarter and a third of all seats by early today — is deceptive

Most have some form of informal alliance or "working understanding" with the larger parties, even with smaller ones

● See page 2



Picture MYKEL NICOLAOU, The Argus Picture Service
BUT WILL IT LOVE ME TOMORROW? Miss South Africa Bernese Danieil befriends a camel in Dubai during the run-up to the Miss World competition to be held at the Lost City

Mandela welcomes new children's fund

Political Correspondent *ARG 3/11/95*
PRESIDENT Mandela has welcomed the establishment of a fund, to be named after him, to help gifted children from disadvantaged backgrounds get an international education

Mr Mandela was speaking in Johannesburg today at the opening of the 12th international council meeting of the United World Colleges

He has succeeded Britain's Prince of Wales as the president of the international council of the organisation

Mr Mandela also welcomed a proposal to establish a South African Rural Development and Agricultural College

"Such a project could bring to pre-university education the kind of innovation which UWC have demonstrated elsewhere, especially in addressing the desperate needs of rural communities"

Braai fires banned in parts of W Cape

Staff Reporter

OPEN-air fires in parts of the Western Cape have been banned from November 15 because of fears that they may pose a hazard, the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry announced today

From November 15 to April 15 next year open-air fires have been banned in portions of the Clanwilliam, Piketberg, Ceres, Tulbagh, Worcester, Caledon, Paarl, Stellenbosch, Strand and Somerset West magisterial districts. The ban also affects parts of Montagu and Swellendam

The ban applies to the Cape Peninsula between December 1 this year and November 30, 1996

It excludes fires made in demarcated picnic or camping areas, and caravan parks or holiday resorts

Now it's
to watch



Independents 'a major factor'

(262)

ANTHONY JOHNSON and BARRY STREEK
ET 3/11/95

THE ANC yesterday swept to impressive victories for the control of local authorities in seven of the eight provinces and most of the major cities where voting took place.

But as counting continued late into the night, results showed that many of the smaller parties were being marginalised and independents and ratepayers' bodies had emerged as a major new factor in South African politics.

Although the National Party appeared to have shed some support — early figures showing that it dropped from 20% in April last year to around 17% — it clearly established itself as the country's second largest party. Support for the ANC was also down from 63% to around 58%.

Voter turnouts averaged around 60%, with the 95 towns in the Western Cape over 70%, but anger and disappointment were voiced by parties at the paltry 33% poll in Gauteng. Provincial Premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale called for an urgent probe into the voters rolls after many people who had registered were unable to cast their ballots.

Among the major cities won by the ANC were Kimberley, Bloemfontein, Klerksdorp, Boksburg, Springs, Westonaria and Mmabatho, and the ANC was confident of comfortable victories in Port Elizabeth and East London.

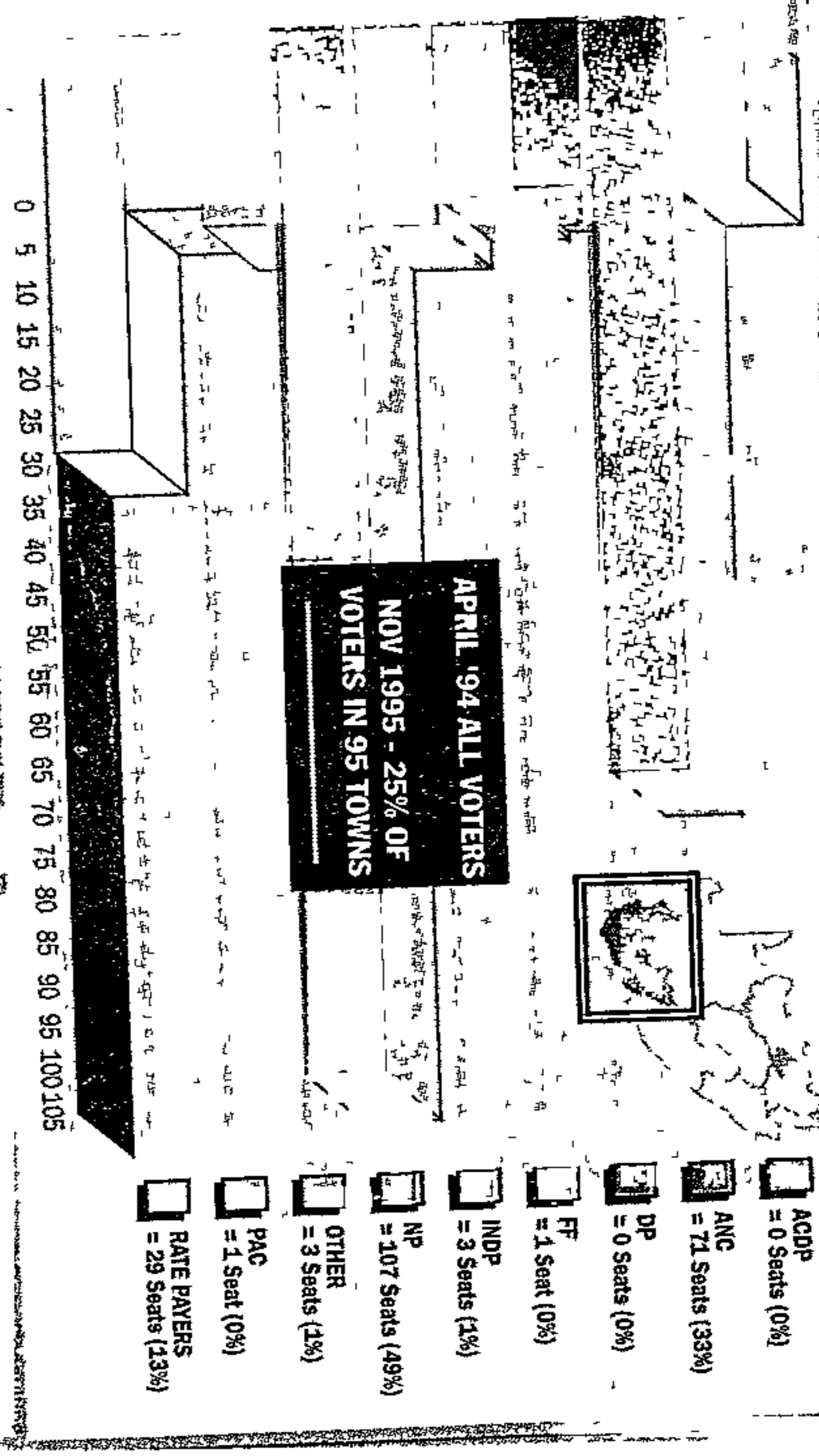
The struggle for the control of Pretoria metropolitan structures remained unresolved last night, but the ANC was sure to take control of Johannesburg once the results from areas like Soweto came through.

The ANC did surprisingly well in the Northern Cape, despite NP claims it would win control in the province. After a virtual draw in the 1994 election, the ANC was leading the NP by 48% to 38%. The ANC also dominated the North-West and Northern Province — except in Pieterburg and Alldays, where the right-wing did well.

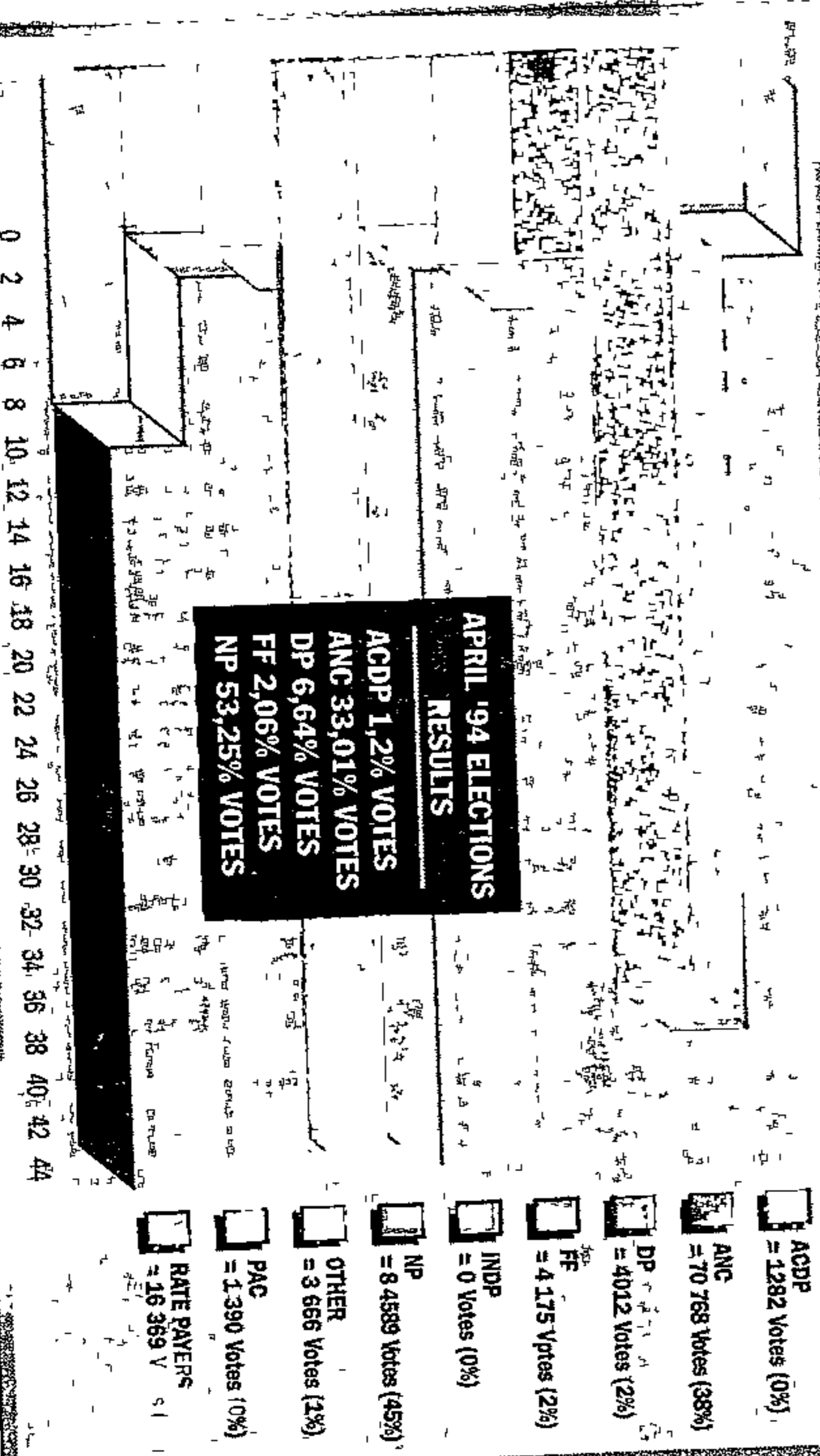
Early results in Mpumalanga indicated a strong showing by independents, but the ANC made up ground later. The ANC was also the strongest party in the Free State, although the Freedom Front won control of a rural council.

Results from the Eastern Cape were slow although some towns, such as Graaff-Reinet and Jansenville, opted for ratepayers' groups rather than for political parties. Co-chair of the Local Government Elections Task Dr Van Zyl Slabbert said last night because of delays "a more final picture" would only be available by this afternoon.

1995 PROPORTIONAL RESULTS - WESTERN CAPE SEATS WON PER PARTY



1995 PROPORTIONAL RESULTS - WESTERN CAPE VOTES WON PER PARTY



ANC surges into the lead



MEYER

80 3/11/95

(262)

Drew Forrest

EARLY local election results indicate that the ANC has maintained or consolidated its general election support, while independents and minority parties made a strong showing in racially weighted ward voting

Other apparent trends were the ANC's substantial inroads into the Western Cape coloured vote, the miserable showing of the CP relative to its far-right adversary, the Freedom Front, Inkatha's failure to make inroads in areas outside its KwaZulu-Natal stronghold, and another poll setback for the PAC

In major centres where counting was over, the ANC won Kimberley and Bloemfontein. In Gauteng, it won the previously white conservative-ruled towns of Bronkhorstspuit, Randfontein and Springs and looked set to dominate the Johannesburg eastern and northern metro substructures

It also won 12 of 17 seats in Worcester in the Western Cape, one of the biggest towns in the Boland and a former NP stronghold, as well as a range of smaller towns taken by the NP in the April 1994 election

Independents did surprisingly well in parts of the Northern Province, Mpumalanga, the North West, the Western Cape and the Free State

In the Northwest, the ANC saw off a

challenge by Lucas Mangope's United Christian Democratic Party and Rocky Malebane-Metsing's People's Progressive Party, neither of which was a factor in the elections

With results still trickling in at sunset — the Local Government Election Task Group said it had the outcome of only 500 000 of the 10-million votes cast — the ANC appeared to have outpolled other parties in the proportional representation vote by two to one

At a briefing in Pretoria, task group co-chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said

Pictures and stories
Comment

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that at 9am yesterday morning, the ANC had won 58% of the proportional representation vote, the NP 17%, the Freedom Front 5%, ratepayers' associations 4% and others 6%. By later in the day the ANC share had gone up to 66%. This is broadly comparable with party showings in the general election

Ward voting favours the minority parties and independents because, under transitional arrangements, it is artificially weighted towards "statutory" (basically non-African) areas

In the five transitional local council results available for the Northern Province, ANC majorities in the pro-

portional representation vote were consistently counterbalanced in ward voting. In Pietersburg, the ANC won five PR seats and seven wards in the township of Seshego, while the NP, Freedom Front and CP took seven ward seats in white areas. The NP's three additional proportional seats left the council split between the ANC and its opponents. Similar patterns emerged in Phalaborwa and Ellisras

In Mpumalanga by last night the ANC had taken 66% of the proportional vote — 69 000 votes — as compared with the NP's 17 000 and the front's 8 000. In ward voting in the province, independent parties outpolled the NP by 17 000 to 9 000 votes. The ANC polled 42 000 ward votes.

NP election chief in Mpumalanga, Watty Watson claimed the NP had destroyed the parties of the far right in the province. Stressing that his party had done extremely well against the far right in Pietersburg, Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer said rightist parties had fared worse than they had expected

However, Freedom Front support levels do not appear to have fallen generally. The party said the CP had destroyed itself by fighting the front in the elections — a view seemingly borne out by results finalised so far

Continued on Page 2

ANC (262)
80 3/11/95
Continued from Page 1

In the Free State, the ANC won Bloemfontein by a single seat against the combined opposition of the NP, Freedom Front, CP and Bloemfontein Ratepayers' Association

In many of the smaller towns, racial weighting of wards had a critical effect on the result

In the Northwest, the ANC won the proportional vote in 22 of the 23 towns for which results had been released last night. The ANC was also expected to hold on to its traditional support in the Eastern Cape, although few results were available last night.

The party swept the board in Butterworth, taking all 18 seats and was expected to win the 27 other towns and rural councils in Transkei. The Butterworth result was a major setback for the PAC, which had hoped to do well in the town

The ANC also took Bisho-King William's town by a good margin, although the percentage poll — 44% —

was low. Although no global figure was available for the province, the perception is that logistical glitches may mean a disappointing percentage poll.

The IFP fared poorly in the areas where it had concentrated its electoral efforts, taking only one ward in Johannesburg — surrounding the Denver hostel — by 7pm last night and polling only 855 votes in Mpumalanga's proportional election

DP leader Tony Leon said the party had recovered ground lost to the NP in the last elections, making gains in Johannesburg and other areas. In Randburg, DP candidate Freda van Rooyen had won in formerly safe NP territory, and in Cyrildene/Bezuidenhout, the party candidate had won a tight three-way race against the ANC and NP

In Johannesburg's western metropolitan substructure the NP had taken 10 of 24 ward seats by 7pm and appeared set for a majority.

No results were available for the Vaal metro, but in Pretoria, the NP trounced right-wing opposition in two of the city's substructures. The Freedom Front and CP lost every ward in central Pretoria and Centurion.

Independents maintain typical white support

Michael Moon

THE good showing of independent candidates in this week's local government election did not indicate disenchantment with mainstream political parties, analysts said yesterday.

Distinct variations in local circumstances meant one could not draw many comparisons with last year's national elections, said Centre for Policy Studies director Steven Friedman.

He said white towns had traditionally elected nominally independent candidates in local elections, and had clearly continued in this vein.

In last year's national poll, independents did not get a show in. This week's poll had shown that while the transition might have shaken old alignments, many remained much the same, said Friedman.

Centre researcher Richard Humphreys said the showing of independents was not surprising as local politics tended to predominate over national concerns in municipal polls.

However, he found it interesting that in some areas, such as in Free State, the NP had been beaten into third place by the ANC and ratepayer organisations.

The NP said before the election that many independent candidates in rural areas were NP supporters.

Humphreys said there were indications that the independent black candidates who had won seats would soon declare allegiance to the ANC.

The ANC was involved in a number of disputes with party members or supporters who stood as independents after being left off ANC election lists.

Humphreys said the CP had been "wiped out" as a political force.

The Freedom Front had done better

ED 3/11/95 (262)
than expected. One might have expected that the Magnus Malan issue would have negatively affected the party, with right-wingers turning to the more hardline CP. However, this did not appear to be the case from early results, said Humphreys.

Former Bophuthatswana president Lucas Mangope had been "consigned to the political dustbin", as had former ANC rebel Rocky Malebane-Metsing.

While the former's United Christian Democratic Party won a scant two seats in Mmabatho, Metsing's People's Progressive Party had failed to secure any representation in the town, where much of his support was expected to be.

Humphreys said the low percentage poll in Northwest indicated general disillusionment with the ANC leadership in the province, but then one might have expected Mangope or Malebane-Metsing to capitalise.

Friedman said Malebane-Metsing had made the first overt attempt to stage a breakaway from the ANC, but it had clearly failed and would send a message to other members with significant support bases that shedding the party was not an easy path.

Friedman said the national percentage poll and those in the provinces should not be interpreted as a referendum. While only about 40% of registered voters cast ballots in Gauteng in this election, it was highly unlikely that this would be the case in the national poll of 1999.

Friedman warned that ANC successes in the Western Cape did not necessarily indicate a swing away from the NP.

He said the NP had not been in favour of the 50/50 principle in ward demarcation and it had worked against the party in its stronghold.

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ANC... Election date

Early lead in the east

Tim Cohen

NELSPRUIT — Early results in Mpumalanga showed the ANC taking a substantial lead over the NP, with independent candidates making a strong showing.

Results of only 21 of the 77 local councils were available by the late afternoon

With results declared in 18 of the 77 elections, the ANC gained 140 seats against the NP's 32 and the Freedom Front's 16. Other parties performed poorly, with the CP, PAC and IFP winning only one seat each.

In the proportional representation election, the ANC was streaking ahead late yesterday with 61% of the total number of votes declared against the NP's 15% and the Front's 7%.

But independent candidates made a solid showing, as demonstrated in the ward elections where independent candidates gained almost twice as many votes as the NP.

The independent candidates were also clearly affecting the ANC, as the party's 61% share of the vote in the proportional representation election was slashed in the ward election to 48%

But the independents could not stem the ANC, which will control 13 of 21 areas declared, even though the format of the election was weighted against the party.

Narrow ANC win in Bloemfontein

BD 3/11/95

Wyndham Hartley

BLOEMFONTEIN — The election in Bloemfontein — widely seen as the litmus test for the political parties in the Free State — has been won by the ANC by the narrowest of margins.

There was only one seat in it for the ANC, with the combined opposition of NP, FF, CP and Bloemfontein Ratepayers' Association winning 24 of the 50 council seats. The ANC added one seat in Bloemfontein to the 15 from Mangaung, and with 10 proportional representation seats it ended up with 26.

The ANC had won 41 of the Free State local authorities by early yesterday evening. Results from 24 centres were still outstanding. The ANC's performance in the rural councils was poor, with just two ANC-controlled councils out of 10 announced by 7pm.

The capital city was considered a genuine electoral test between the parties because it has roughly equal numbers of people in Mangaung and traditionally white areas. This means the weighting given elsewhere to white areas by dividing the seats equally between township and town regardless of population was absent.

In many smaller towns this weighting was apparent. Either the NP, a local residents' or ratepayers' association, or a collection of independents, won all the "white" seats, while the ANC mostly took all the "black areas" in the ward elections. When the proportional representation tallies were added at the end the ANC outscored its opponents by about three to one.

Temptations to read national signif-

icance into the election in the Free State are dangerous. The large number of independents elected in various areas shows that in an election mainly run on national political issues, local people and politics still played a role.

The number of independents, particularly in townships, demonstrated ANC difficulties with civic associations and maverick members who stood against former colleagues. In many smaller towns independents have as many candidates in the wards as the main political players gained in the proportional representation election. The politics of these towns the next few days is likely to be characterised by wheeling and dealing to form alliances or coalitions for the election of mayors and senior officials.

Voter turnout was generally high for a local government election, but the ANC will be concerned at percentage polls in some of its strongholds. These low turnouts robbed it of more proportional representation seats and contributed to the two-seat majority in Bloemfontein.

Low turnouts have been ascribed to apathy and anger at RDP non-delivery. There were losses from the ANC to the NP and the PAC, but these were minimal. The NP, after a massive effort in black areas, must be disappointed.

The CP as a political force in the Free State appears to be at an end. The FF has taken over as the legitimate face of right-wing politics. However, the NP consistently polled two to three times more votes than the FF in traditional white areas. As the NP campaigned on a nonracial platform, this must be a setback to the FF Volkstaat aspirations and the CP.



Mixed fortunes for smaller parties

BD 3/11/95 (262)

Ingrid Salgado

SMALLER national political parties expressed mixed views on their performances in Wednesday's elections.

The DP declared itself back in business yesterday after winning a solid portion of wards in greater Johannesburg and what it described as a surprising number in the former NP-dominated Western Cape.

In Johannesburg's eastern metropolitan substructure, DP candidates won 11 out of 31 wards where counting was complete, while early results showed it had gained four seats in the northern MSS, DP spokesman Jack Bloom said.

Sapa reports DP leader Tony Leon saying results showed voters saw the DP not only as "effective opposition, but also the party with

the policies for effective management of local government." DP candidates in rural Western Cape had "suffered although it had won seats in fragmented areas in the province" The IFP was reluctant to speculate on the outcome of elections but spokesman Anthony Grinker said the party hoped to win seats on the East Rand and parts of Soweto in Gauteng.

Bloom said the party had won back all old support bases lost to the NP in national elections last year. It had also made extensive gains in non-traditional areas.

In the predominantly right-wing town of Germiston, DP votes trebled compared to the general elections. "This is a real breakthrough. We have displaced the Freedom Front as the second major party there."

Meanwhile, the African Christian Democratic Party said it was

disturbed by the number of drunk and disorderly voters who pitched at the polls. "There were people who couldn't stand on their own two feet, who could not think with a clear mind and had to be helped to booths," a spokesman claimed.

Early results indicated ACDP ward candidates had done poorly, though the party said it received 5,0% of the vote in Pietersburg and Tzaneen in Northern Province and 18,4% in Seaview, just outside Port Elizabeth.

Residents and Ratepayers Association spokesman Bernard Lapidus said the association was pleased with preliminary results in greater Johannesburg.

Candidates contesting two seats in the eastern MSS, three in the northern MSS and seven in the southern MSS failed to win wards but scored more than 10 000 votes.

Turning back the tide of non-payment

And now for the hard work

MG 3-9/11/95

262 (244)

Marion Edmunds

MASSIVE task of re-evaluation and restructuring lies ahead for town, city and rural councils, now that the elections have taken place in most parts of South Africa.

While local government has been in a state of flux since the April elections last year, real change in priorities and service delivery can only start to kick in now that there are legitimate elected representatives sitting on local councils.

Minister Roelf Meyer's Department of Constitutional Development will coordinate the post-election transition, from a national level, although spokespeople say that there will be wide-spread consultation with stakeholders. MG 3-9/11/95

One of the first steps will be to set up a Local Government Forum which will become the voice for organised local government in these consultations.

The Department also plans to provide training for councillors where it can, and re-open negotiations in rural areas with farmers, traditional leaders and interest groups to re-evaluate and hopefully find agreement on the form of rural local government.

Newly-elected councillors' first task will be to elect representatives to sit on Metropolitan and District Councils. Their second will be more difficult: to start a restructuring process to merge the administrations of apartheid town councils which were hitherto kept separate, but now fall under one council.

Newly-elected councillors will also have to prepare budgets reflecting the new realities of racially mixed towns. This will mean a shift in the way services are delivered, so as to settle imbalances of the past. It will demand close consultation with the RDP office through locally active RDP forums...

Gaye Davis

CHRIS NGCOBO'S past experience of local government elections was as a Soweto activist, organising people to boycott them. So it was an historic moment when he cast his vote in Diepkloof this week.

But the poll meant more to Ngcobo than making his mark on a ballot paper. As national manager of the Masakhane campaign, Ngcobo needs local government structures in place that not only function, but are seen as legitimate.

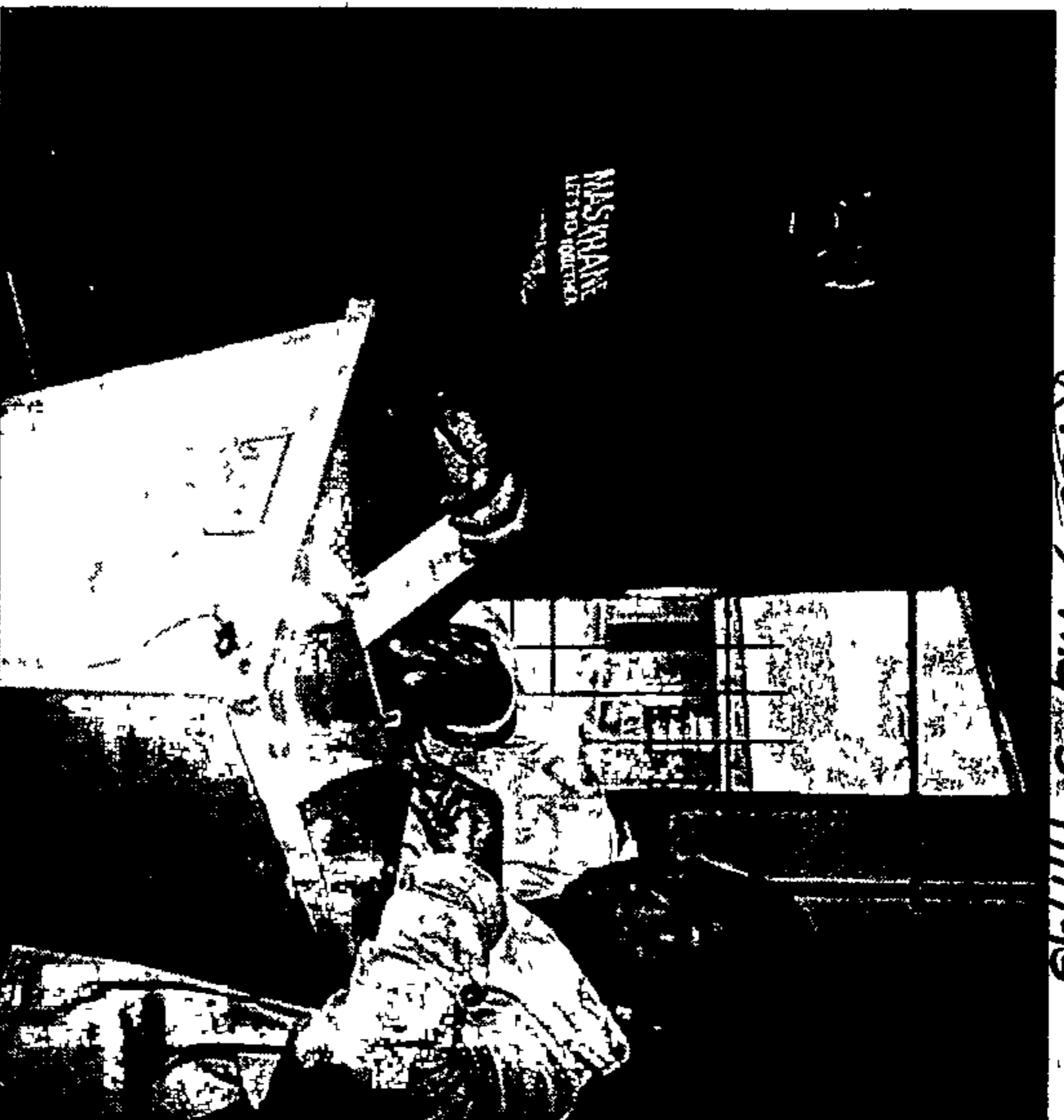
It's been a tough year for Ngcobo, crossing the country at the head of a campaign aimed at turning around the culture of non-payment of rates and services he once helped foster.

He and his team have sown the Masakhane ("Let us build together") message and seen it take root, flourish briefly and then wither. It is a general trend bucked only in the Northern Cape, where rates of payment continue to improve.

It's also a trend that, if not halted, will see some local authorities — especially those comprising small former white areas and large black townships — facing cash-flow crises as early as mid-1996, according to Andrew Boraine, deputy director-general of the Department of Constitutional Development.

A review of the campaign in September showed a key problem was that while the campaign succeeded in sparking grassroots awareness, line function departments and local authorities were left out of the loop, Boraine said.

Roused by Ngcobo's roadshows, residents would set about starting to make payments — only to have their goodwill blunted on finding paypoints no longer operating, billing systems in chaos and officials disinterested. Ngcobo is now gearing for a kind of



The power behind Masakhane: Chris Ngcobo casts his vote

PHOTOGRAPH RUTH MOTAU

Masakhane Mark II, a re-launch which will focus on gearing local authorities to power the campaign themselves and which will dovetail with a massive training programme for newly-elected councillors and council employees.

Another leg of the revitalised campaign will be mobilising community and civic organisations to support their local authorities and especially councillors, who will have the unenviable task of spelling out the bottom line to residents, no pay, no gain from the RDP.

Boraine now heads up a new team which will provide for close liaison between the Masakhane Campaign,

local authorities, provincial governments and line function departments such as housing.

The training programme for newly elected councillors and council employees would aim at equipping them to meet their new responsibilities in terms of implementing Masakhane, Boraine said.

"Looking back at Masakhane over the past year we realised it can't just be a moral or political call by people like Archbishop Desmond Tutu and President Mandela," he said "There has to be a total strategy."

While Ngcobo's campaign will still run its roadshows, Boraine's team will focus on the financial and techni-

cal aspects of breathing new life into shattered municipalities, with local authorities themselves being the dynamo.

More than R1.5-billion of RDP funds will be channelled to local authorities over the next three years in terms of the government's Municipal Infrastructure Programme. About R850-million was allocated this year and a further R700-million was coming, Boraine said.

Handing funds over to municipalities reliant on inter-governmental grants to keep functioning would be like "pouring money into a bottomless pit" according to Ngcobo. Hence, the need for training.

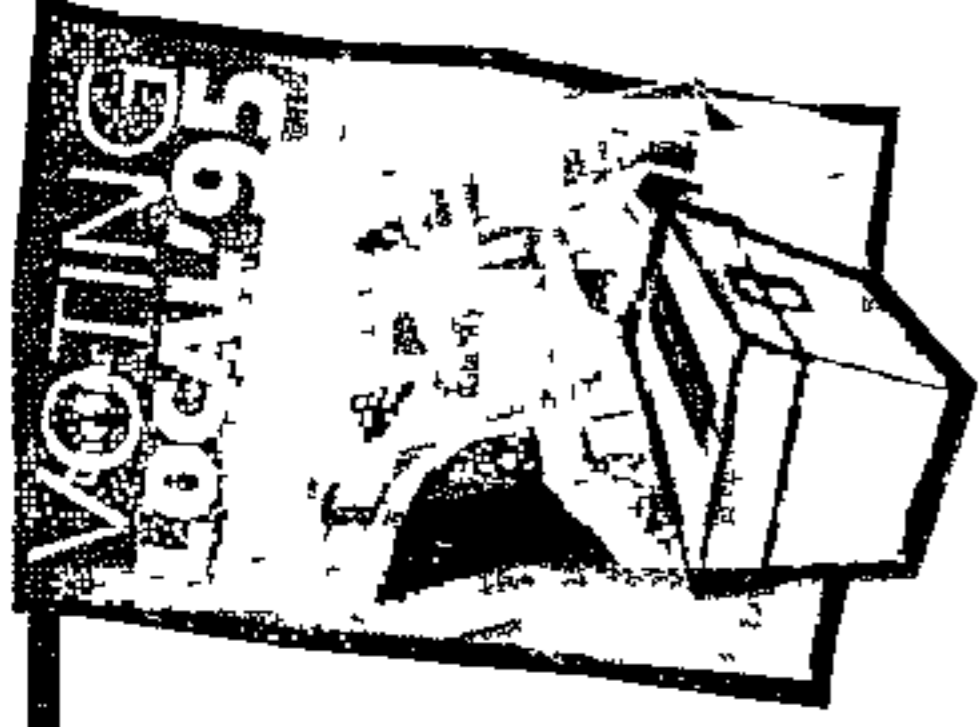
Before receiving funds, local authorities would have to have business plans vetted by provincial legislatures, and the RDP office. Funds may only be spent on providing basic services: water, sanitation, refuse removal, electricity and roads.

Former black local authorities will have to be reconstructed "We'll be asking whether they have pay points, whether their billing system is in place. Their delivery system has to be jacked up."

Boraine said he expected by December 15 to receive the first of what will be monthly reports detailing the financial status of every local authority in the country — their cash-flow situation, the amount of arrears outstanding, payment levels and tariffs levied.

"Until now we've had no accurate picture regarding payments. It's been a disaster. Most figures available relate only to Gauteng and payment levels are bad." But former townships in the old Transvaal, where boycotts began in 1983, would be the "hardest nut to crack", because of their size and the scale of the problem. Another area that would receive special attention was the Eastern Cape, where poverty levels were high.

Close shaves as two cities won by a single seat



ANC races ahead, Jo'burg count delayed

(262) Star 3/11/95

COUNTING stations in the city closed early because enumerators were exhausted

■ POLITICAL STAFF

Final results for the Greater Johannesburg area, where the ANC is in the lead, have been delayed until 6pm tonight by a shambles in the counting of votes. In Pretoria the National Party captured the city in a dramatic outcome by defeating the ANC by one seat - and the ANC had the same winning margin in Bloemfontein.

Johannesburg's counting stations closed early yesterday because enumerators were exhausted, but resumed at 2am today. Serious problems have been experienced in the Southern Metropolitan Substructure as a result of difficulties experienced in Soweto on voting day.

Latest results show the ANC winning eight of the 14 councils declared in Gauteng.

Hillbrow was won for the party by Solly Rametsi, Berea by Norman Reed, Yeoville by Siza Njikelana, and the CBD by Lennox Zembe. The ANC also won Joubert Park and Braamfontein.

The ANC won most Alexandra wards, with the Inkatha Freedom Party winning only one ward in the township. The DP was supported in the traditionally affluent northern suburbs.

Indications this morning were that the ANC was poised to win all Soweto wards, including Pimville, Orlando East and Diepkloof. The NP won two wards in Kensington and Troyeville. Bryanston went to independent Elizabeth Clogg. Former Federal Party Frances Kendall, who joined the DP, won her ward comprising Hyde Park, Craighall Park and Sandhurst.

▶ Election reports, pictures - Pages 2 and 8

Former DP members who crossed to the ANC, Martin Sweet and Clive Gilbert, lost to the DP.

In Johannesburg West the National Party won 11 of the 12 seats, with one seat going to the ANC. The picture was reversed in northern Johannesburg where the ANC won 18 of the 28 seats, the NP managed eight seats and the DP three.

In Johannesburg East the ANC again won 16 seats, the DP ten and the IFP one. The IFP also won ward 34 in Johannesburg South, which incorporates Denver, City Deep and the Moffat Park Squatter Camp.

In Alberton the ANC took 10 of the 20 seats, the NP eight, and the Freedom Front and United Ratepayers one each.

The ANC was the majority party in the Western Services Council, winning 26 of the 50 seats in six local area committees and rural councils.

In Randfontein the ANC won four of six ward seats on the transitional council. The remaining two seats were taken by the FF.

Although elections went smoothly in much of the country, they were dogged by problems and controversies in Greater Johannesburg.

At a news briefing yesterday, ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa described the estimated 30% turnout in the city as "not very impressive" and said voters had been turned away in numbers because their names did not appear on the voters roll.

Officials expect a "more final picture" of the results this afternoon.

Countrywide, available results showed that the ANC had

▶ To Page 3

ANC storms ahead in Gauteng

Star 3/11/95 Mpumalanga and Northern provinces.

◀ From Page 1

In the Western Cape the NP lost some ground, with the ANC gaining on the so-called "coloured votes". By late yesterday the ANC had won at least 15 major towns which included Stellenbosch, Saldanha Bay and Worcester.

The balance of power remained the same in the Northern Cape, where the ANC won overall (47%) but lost to the NP in rural areas.

won close to 60% of the votes cast overall, followed by the National Party with around 17%, the Freedom Front (FF) with 5% and independent candidates with 10%, organisers said.

The ANC won Bloemfontein by a narrow margin and was poised to do well in the Free State, where it had already won some former right-wing towns. The party almost walked away with victories in the North West,

Municipal elections surprise

ANC first so far, with NP a poor second

Star 3/11/95 (262)

■ STAFF REPORTERS

Early countrywide municipal election results yesterday showed that the ANC had won close to 60% of the votes cast overall, followed by the NP with around 17%, the Freedom Front with 5%, the DP with 2% and independent candidates with 10%, organisers said.

Ratepayers and other community organisations received between 4% and 6%.

In a dramatic swing away from the NP, the provinces voted for a new order of political control.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said the results indicated a swing from the NP to the ANC in the Western Cape.

The Freedom Front's publicity secretary Flip Buys said the party had improved its standing nationwide.

Results from Mpumalanga and the Free State have indicated that the ANC won by far the majority of the ward and proportional representation seats.

The ANC captured Bloemfontein. As results began to come in to local election headquarters in Pretoria, it became clear that Free State urban areas such as Brandfort, Ventersburg, Hoopstad, Warden, Edenburg, Wepener, Edenville and Heilbron had voted overwhelmingly in favour of the ANC.

But "hung" municipalities in which no party has a clear-cut majority are likely to be the order of the day in many Free State towns and districts.

In Mpumalanga, the ANC won former conservative towns of

Ermelo, Piet Retief, Machadodorp and Secunda.

Seven Mpumalanga towns will have to hold by-elections.

Local government in the North West appeared to be firmly in the hands of the ANC by mid-afternoon.

Former conservative strongholds such as Rustenburg, Lichtenburg and Ventersdorp fell to the ANC, as did Ottosdal, Reivilo, Vryburg, Bloemhof, Coligny, Leeudoringstad, Koster, Schweizer-Reneke and Sannieshof.

The PAC, former Bophuthatswana leader Lucas Mangope's United Christian Democratic Party and former agriculture MEC Rocky Malebane-Metsing's People's Progressive Party all failed to make serious inroads into the ANC's support base.

In the Western Cape, the NP was in the lead after initial results were made known yesterday afternoon.

In the Northern Province, a 62% poll was recorded, with the ANC taking the lead in all the areas from which results were received by yesterday evening, except Messina.

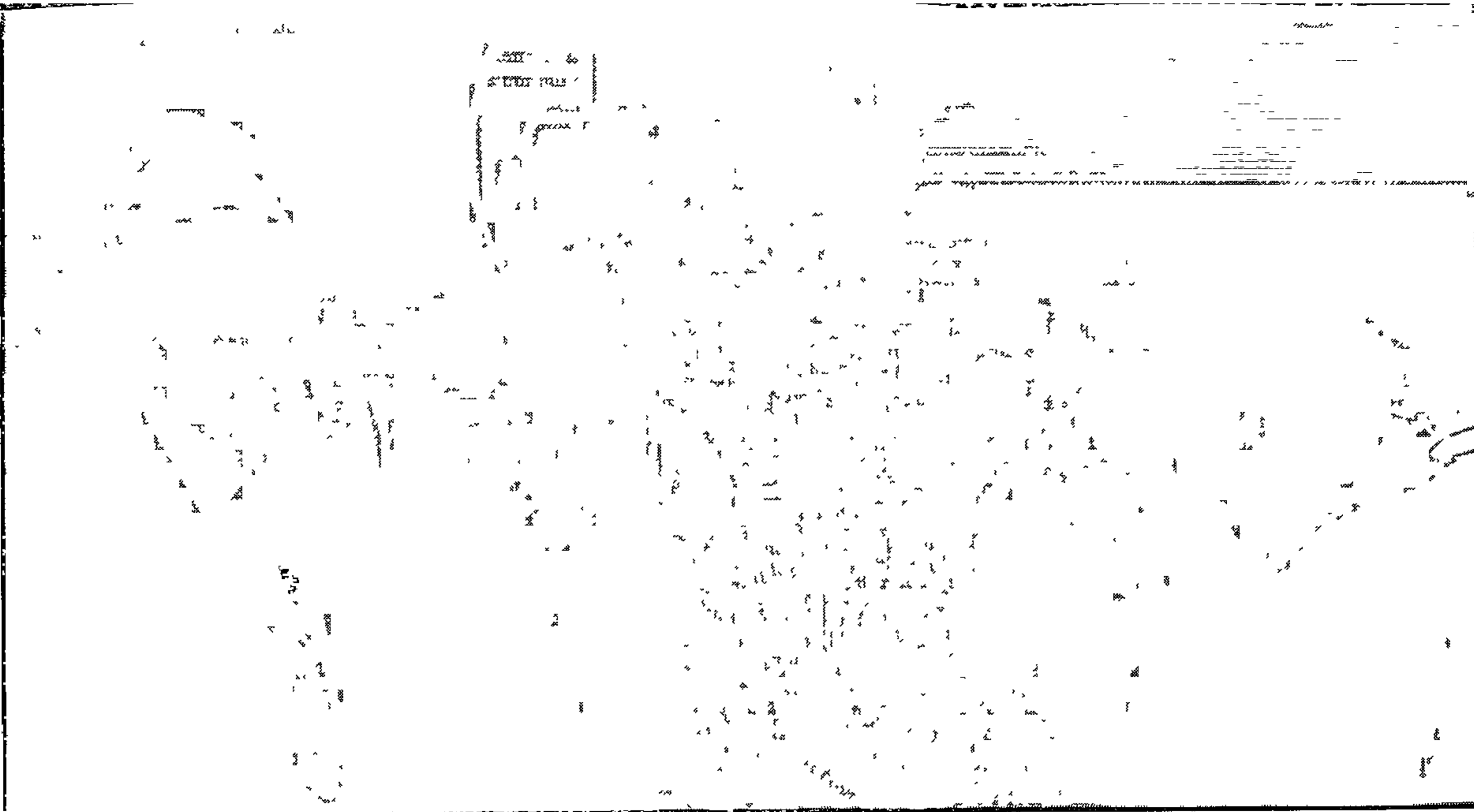
In the Northern Cape, where results from the Kimberley TLC were still awaited, the ANC was ahead on 48%, followed by the NP at 38% and the FF at 6%.

The NP was, however, on course to winning more TRCs in the province. Last night, the party had won 43% to the ANC's 34%.

The Local Government Task Group traced one of the biggest problems to the Eastern Cape, where traditional leaders had declined to allow their supporters to vote.

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□ TOAST TO THE FUTURE: President Mandela and election organisers at the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg toast the African National Congress

NP 'relatively satisfied' with results, says F W

(262) ARG 4/11/95

PRETORIA — National Party leader and Deputy President F W de Klerk said the African National Congress had lost support in the municipal poll from the 1994 general elections

"Until now, it (the ANC) sank at least eight percent and the NP rose by nine percent," Mr De Klerk told reporters at a post-poll briefing in Pretoria

Mr De Klerk said the only reliable basis for comparison was the results for seven provinces on proportional representation, in which the ANC had gained 75 percent of the local vote and the NP 15,9 percent

"At this stage, before all the results have been calculated, the ANC has roughly 67 percent and the NP 24 percent," he said

"A sombre analysis does not support the conclusion that the ANC has fared better in the local elections than in last

year's general election The ANC is, in fact, worse off"

The NP, which he said was "relatively satisfied" with the results, was intent on achieving far better results in 1999's local elections

"The fight is on," warned Mr De Klerk "The National Party is not only going to give a good account of itself in 1999, we are going to shock the ANC right down to its foundations"

Mr De Klerk also accused the ANC of misrepresentation in its claim that there had been a major shift of support away from the NP in the Western Cape

"What South Africa needs is a strong, dynamic party like the NP to achieve a strong power balance between the ANC and the more conservative mainstream," said Mr De Klerk — Sapa and Reuter

The people of South Africa have spoken, says president

(262) ARG 4/11/95

JOHANNESBURG — "Our country is today a democracy in the complete sense of the word The people of South Africa have spoken," President Mandela said of the local government elections

Speaking at the ANC local government victory celebrations at a Johannesburg hotel, Mr Mandela said "They have shown their resolve to unite the nation and build a better life for all"

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa said according to the party's election commission, it had won an outright victory in 60 percent of the 400 councils for which results had been received

Major towns in the Western and Northern Cape had voted for the ANC, leaving the National Party behind, ANC supporters were told

"This is indeed a major swing to the ANC in big towns in the Western and Northern Cape," said Mr Ramaphosa

These included towns such as Paarl, George, Upington and Worcester, where the ANC polled less than 50 percent in the April 1994 general election While the NP took small rural councils and those in farming communities, the ANC won the big cities, he said

"We have spread our tentacles, our plan, our programme, our everything throughout the country," said Mr Ramaphosa

Mr Mandela expressed his sympathy to the thousands of voters who had registered, but whose names did not appear on the voters' rolls — a widespread problem in South Africa's first nonracial local government elections

The president promised that electoral authorities would ensure this problem was minimised in future

He congratulated the country's newly-elected councillors, saying "A great responsibility now rests on your shoulders to ensure that you reciprocate the trust of the people by immediately establishing efficient and accountable government

"Now is the time to roll up your sleeves and work with the communities to build a better life"

As ANC veteran Walter Sisulu opened a bottle of champagne, celebrations started, but the president soon had to leave However, several cabinet members and senior ANC officials continued to party — Sapa

Thanks, says Mandela as ANC celebrates poll win

(262)

AR 4/11/95

■ The ANC is celebrating its powerful showing in the local elections.

Political Staff

THE African National Congress has celebrated a convincing local government election performance, calling the results an emphatic renewal of its mandate to govern

"The people of South Africa have spoken," President Mandela told supporters at an ANC victory party at the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg yesterday

"I am deeply humbled and grateful for the way in which the government, and specifically the ANC as the majority party, has been strengthened to carry out our task to make our country a better place for all its people"

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa told the gathering the ANC had achieved outright victory in 60 percent of the 400 councils for which results were known late yesterday

In a further 13 percent of the councils, the party had won half of the wards

Results late yesterday, based on just over 51 percent of the overall votes cast, indicated the NP had won over about 18 percent of the electorate while the Freedom Front had secured two percent of the poll

Independent candidates had achieved a surprising 12 percent of the vote at the last count

Freedom Front leaders said the results proved the party had completely replaced the Conservative Party as the representative of the Afrikaner

The towns of Paarl, Worcester, Saldanha, George, Stellenbosch and Upington and Springbok in the Northern Cape had all elected ANC-led councils in contrast to the strong National Party support shown by the provinces during last year's general election

But, National Party leader F W de Klerk said the party had done better than it was being given credit for

He said that in the seven provinces in which elections had taken place on Wednesday, the ANC had lost eight percent of its support, whereas the NP had gained nine percent, Sapa reported

The Democratic Party said it had shown significant growth in the poll, "doubling the number of votes obtained for the national parliament last year and improving on the provincial vote"

Election organisers said that in the vast majority of the country's almost 700 wards, the poll had gone smoothly.

Independents' rise to power leaves victory in the balance

(262)

ARG 4/11/95

MICHAEL MORRIS

Political Staff

THE biggest unanswered question about the Western Cape's local government election is what role the more than 261 independent and ratepayer candidates will forge in the power-play between the big rivals, the ANC and National Party

Both the ANC and NP have claimed allies in this bloc, but while there are formal agreements with some, the position is murky and will differ from town to town

Political analysts say the independents could produce "fascinating" permutations in local government politics, but this element of the election is being regarded with caution

Wilmot James, director of the Institute for Democracy in South Africa (Idasa), said while each town would have to be analysed "to see how it plays out", the independent phenomenon "raises the question about whether we have a stable two-party system or not".

"The position of third parties is just getting worse and worse, and the question now is What kind of force do the independents represent? They could be a counterweight to the two big parties, or a new, different force, or simply a consolidation of the two-party set-up"

However, he said the ANC had clearly succeeded in converting voters.

"I think the ANC has become a lot more familiar to people. The leadership has been less pretentious and less grand and, in a sense, closer to the people, and it has proved able to convert a section of the voting population who were uncertain about how the ANC would behave in power. I'm sure that has a lot to do with the presence and stature of Nelson Mandela"

Dr James was cautious about the overall picture, in part because of the exclusion of the 1.5 million metropolitan voters, the high turn-out of independents and the difficulty of comparing Wednesday's results with the figures from last year's general election

proportionately better and the NP did proportionately worse"

Despite the absence of comparative figures, he noted that "the impression certainly is that the Boland towns have indicated a shift"

"Parties tend to interpret this in a self-interested way — the ANC exaggerating the change and the NP downplaying it — but it does seem things have changed," Dr James said

ANC strategist Willie Hofmeyr was convinced about a swing, having isolated figures for "coloured" wards

He said these showed the ANC gleaning 49 percent of coloured votes against the NP's 35 percent, and the ANC winning about 60 percent of wards in coloured areas with another 10 percent of them going to its allies

He was convinced the NP's "scare tactics" of the past year had "backfired", attributing the ANC's success mostly to the reconciliatory leadership style of President Mandela

Dr James saw Wednesday's results as having the potential of "working against the NP" in next year's metro poll

"That demonstration effect (the ANC's significantly improved position) will have quite a powerful influence on voting behaviour of people in Cape Town. It is ironic I do not think the NP premeditated this in a devious way, but the fact that the election was not held here will work against the NP"

Democratic Party leader Hennie Bester saw the metropolitan election as the key for his party — the metropolises in Wednesday's election proved to be the source of most DP seats — particularly in view of shifts in allegiance in the coloured community

"There were undoubtedly significant shifts away from the NP. The most important issue for the Western Cape is that the coloured community is not necessarily the preserve of the NP"

And, like Dr James and Mr Hofmeyr, Mr Bester saw this as likely to have a significant impact on the metropole ballot

"We can look forward to the mother of all elections here. I think the metro is in for a rough ride. It will be very intense and one may expect that certain parties will use drastic measures to improve their shares"

"Obviously the largest concentration of voters is in the Cape metropole and until that's decided, one cannot draw any real general conclusions

In view of this, he cautioned against "over-excitement" at the result, although he acknowledged the ANC "did pro-

Party heads off threats of disruptions

Star 4/11/95
(262)
By TEFO MOTHIBELI

ANC leaders in the Vaal Triangle moved swiftly to block disruption of elections in the area planned by about 200 disgruntled demobilised members of the South African National Defence Force.

The MK-Apla group - former members of the ANC's Umkhonto we Sizwe and the PAC's Azanian People's Liberation Army - told the Government to respond by last Saturday to its demand for reinstatement into the national army or face election disruptions.

A local transitional metropolitan council source said the group had been tearing down election posters in Sebokeng's Zone 7 to drive their message home. Council members had also been threatened by the group.

Some of the former soldiers also threatened to go on a crime spree if they were not reinstated.

The group abandoned plans to disrupt the elections after an eleventh-hour meeting with ANC leaders last weekend. It was agreed that the ANC would look into their matter.

ANC MP Janet Love said the group had raised concerns about demobilisation last year. "They claim they were not awarded their retrenchment packages and feel they were demobilised because they were black," she said.

Most had difficulty making ends meet.

Death threats as polls take their toll on local election candidates

By KURT SWART

Death threats were allegedly levelled at the Southern Metropolitan Substructure returning officer and his staff as politicians and their party agents caused chaos during vote counting in Johannesburg on Thursday night. Counting was transferred from Soweto to Braamfontein after problems in Soweto.

Danny Moodley, returning officer for the Southern MSS, refused to divulge the names of the politicians and the political parties involved in the fracas at the Civic Centre in Braamfontein.

Nor would he reveal the party or parties involved in the alleged death threats on him and his staff. "I don't want to make any comment on which political parties were involved because we want to calm the situation. The reports were hearsay and it would be irresponsible for me to name the people involved."

The Southern MSS, which includes the Johannesburg CBD, the south and south-eastern suburbs, and most of Soweto, is the largest local authority transitional area in the country.

During vote counting, politicians had become "unruly", Moodley said, and election officials had to be evacuated from the building for their safety. Yesterday, Moodley contacted Gauteng Safety and Security MEC

Stan 4/11/95
Jessie Duarte to secure the Civic Centre so that staff could concentrate on counting votes.

In Soweto, an aggrieved candidate said his party's symbol was not on the ballot sheets. Voting was disrupted by a group of people in support of this candidate. Reports indicated the man was an IFP candidate who had registered either deliberately or by mistake as an independent, Moodley said.

Station stormed

At a press conference at the Gauteng legislature late yesterday afternoon, Local Government MEC Dan Mofokeng accused the IFP of being responsible for the disruption at the Civic Centre, saying IFP officials had tried to block the counting process. He added that voting materials had been removed, resulting in the closure of the polling station in Ward 18 (Jabulani).

Greater Johannesburg Transitional Metropolitan Council chief executive officer Nicky Padayachee said earlier that IFP supporters had allegedly stormed the Jabulani polling station. "The IFP claims that the ballot did not have an IFP insignia on it, but we don't agree, because that specific candidate registered as an independent," Padayachee said.

People associated wards with suburbs, and many went to their nearest polling station only to be

turned away. In many instances staff were threatened, Moodley said yesterday.

"Because multitudes of voters were inside the inner perimeter at many polling stations at 10pm on Wednesday, counting at these stations could not commence that night. Big queues were building up, tensions increased and people became agitated. We had to contact the safety and security MEC to deploy the army and police as a calming effect," he added.

It was decided to transport staff and material, ballot boxes, tables and chairs to Braamfontein. "It was a mammoth operation at short notice involving 70 trucks and police protection of ballot officers and their ballot boxes. Staff were without food and sleep, and had been working without rest for a week before the elections."

The council arranged a meeting with political parties at 5pm on Thursday, when Moodley attempted to get consensus. "The proposal was rejected by some parties. The meeting became out of order and they threw unfounded accusations at each other, electoral officials and me. Then, at the counting area downstairs, politicians became very unruly. I received a report that violence was threatened and threats had been made on my life. Security advised election staff to evacuate the building."

Mandela: Now repay people's trust

BY ADRIAN HADLAND

The ANC yesterday celebrated a convincing local government election performance, calling the results an emphatic renewal of its mandate to govern.

"The people of South Africa have spoken," President Nelson Mandela told supporters at an ANC victory party at the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg.

"I am deeply humbled and grateful for the way in which the Government, and specifically the ANC as the majority party, has been strengthened to carry out our task to make our country a better place for all its people," he said.

Mandela congratulated every local government representative who had been elected.

"A great responsibility now rests on your shoulders to ensure that you reciprocate the trust of the people by immediately establishing efficient and accountable structures of governance. Now is the time to roll up your sleeves," he said.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa told the gathering the ANC had achieved outright victory in 60% of the 400 councils for which results were known late yesterday.

In a further 13% of the councils, the party had won half of the wards.

Health Minister Nkosazana Zuma, who attended the celebration, said the results showed "our people believe in us and in our policies."

Results late yesterday, based on just over 51% of the overall votes cast, indicated the NP had been supported by more than 18% of the electorate while the Freedom Front had secured 2%

of the vote.

A surprising feature of the election was the showing of independent candidates who had achieved 12% of the vote at the last count.

Freedom Front MP Corne Mulder said the results proved the party had completely replaced the Conservative Party as the representative of the Afrikaner.

ANC leaders were particularly pleased with the party's showing in the Western Cape.

The towns of Paarl, Worcester, Saldanha, George, Stellenbosch and Uitenhage as well as Springbok in the Northern Cape had all elected ANC-led councils in contrast to the strong National Party support shown by the provinces during last year's general election.

National Party leader FW de Klerk told a press conference in Pretoria, however, that the NP had done better than it was being given credit for.

He said that in the seven provinces in which elections had taken place on Wednesday, the ANC had lost 8% of its support, whereas the NP had gained 9%, Sapa reported.

"A sombre analysis does not support the conclusion that the ANC has fared better in the local elections than in last year's general election. The ANC is, in fact, worse off."

The Democratic Party said, meanwhile, it had shown significant growth in the poll "doubling the number of votes obtained for the national Parliament last year, and improving on the provincial vote", according to a DP spokesman.

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PARTY TIME: ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa in festive mood at news of the ANC's successes

PHOTOGRAPH BY TONY WILSON

◆ Elections

(262) Star 4/11/95

"The DP succeeded in winning back previous supporters, as evidenced strongly in the eastern and northern areas of Johannesburg, and had reasonable success in Afrikaner areas such as Pretoria, Centurion, Kempton Park and Germiston."

The DP claimed it had done better than any of the other small parties including the Freedom Front, the Conservative Party, the Inkatha Freedom Party, the Pan Africanist Congress and the African Christian Democratic Party.

Election organisers expressed satisfaction yesterday that in the vast majority of the country's almost 700 wards, the poll had gone off without a hitch.

Elections Task Group co-chairman Dr Van Zyl Slabbert said the poll augured well for the spirit of democratic tolerance in the country.

Constitutional Development and Provincial Affairs Deputy Minister Mohamed Valli Moosa said yesterday an independent electoral mechanism would be in place by the time the next round of national and local elections took place to prevent the recurrence of the administrative and other hitches that had occurred in the past few days.

According to Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale, problems experienced during voting on Wednesday included the appearance at polling stations of unregistered voters, incomplete voters rolls, equipment shortages, incidents of intimidation, long queues, the late opening of some polling stations and, particularly for the elderly, "the beating sun".

PHOTOGRAPH BY TONY WILSON

GLORY!

CP 5/11/95 - (262)



It's the picnic!
 Party of the Ennerdale SOS Children's
 and clown Abel Stoffe. Ennerdale is
 iron - and with the support of Radio
 ds. About 350 children from the home
 rity L... former Miss...
 James, Correctional Services Minister
 Abe Williams, Labour Minister Theo

By **SEKOLA SELLO**
 and **Sapa**

THE LOCAL government elections have dealt a mortal blow to the national aspirations of the Pan Africanist Congress, the Democratic Party, the Freedom Front and the Conservative Party.

The Inkatha Freedom Party's dreams of being a party with a national base is also in ruins, while the National Party runs a very poor second to the African National Congress' massive ship of conquest. The PAC and IFP were routed in all the eight provinces, while the DP performed relatively better in Johannesburg. DP leader Tony Leon said that he was delighted with the election results and said that they had recovered political territory and made major inroads in other areas.

However, the ANC is assured of control of Greater Johannesburg, the country's biggest and richest local authority. In terms of election results finalised by Friday night, the ANC had won 57,74 percent of the countrywide party vote, compared to the NP's 21,18 percent. Inkatha had won 0,62 percent, DP 1,24 percent, FF 5,11 percent, CP 1,65 percent, PAC 1,04 percent, the ACDP 0,38 percent, rate-payer groups 5,05 percent, and smaller parties 4,36 percent.

However, ANC spokesman Carl Niehaus said

the party had won 68 percent and this could possibly rise to 70.

The NP's better performance over the combined FF and CP could put paid to the right-wingers' demands for an autonomous volkstaat.

The FF was using these elections to show the government that they had the support of the majority of the Afrikaners. President Mandela had indicated that he would be willing to consider the right-wingers' demands for a volkstaat if they could prove that they had the support of the Afrikaners.

PAC deputy president Motsoko Pheko said this was not the end of the road for the party.

In one surprise outcome of these polls, Western Cape results showed a big swing to the ANC in the NP-governed province. However, three-quarters of the Western Cape's voters have still to go to the polls next year.

In North West, neither the PAC, former Bophuthatswana leader Lucas Mangope's United Christian Democratic Party or former agriculture MEC Rocky Malebane-Metsing's People's Progressive Party managed to capitalise on perceived dissatisfaction with the ANC-led provincial government.

Former conservative strongholds such as Rustenburg, Mafikeng and Ventersdorp fell to the ANC.

About 60 percent of urban voters took part in the local government elections, provincial affairs and constitutional development minister Roelf Meyer told a Press brief-

ing in Pretoria, and the average in rural areas was slightly lower.

The ANC had gained outright majorities on 16,5 percent of local government councils, with 1,7 percent going to the NP, 0,6 percent to rate-payer groups, 1,1 percent to smaller parties and 1,4 percent to independent candidates.

Final results from the Western Cape showed that the ANC had won 306 council seats to the NP's 292, with independent candidates and non-party political groups winning 271. And in proportional representation results from the Western Cape, the NP retained a majority, but by a markedly smaller margin compared to last year's general election. The NP got 44 percent of the vote and the ANC 36.

ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa told reporters at an election celebration in Johannesburg, that the party had won major towns in the Western and Northern Cape - such as Paarl, George, Stellenbosch, Upington and Worcester, where the ANC polled below 50 percent in the 1994 election.

Deputy President Thabo Mbeki yesterday said this victory proved once and for all that the poor, ordinary and disadvantaged people want change in this country.

Northern Cape MEC for local government Pakee Dikgetsi said he was concerned by the unacceptably high level of election ignorance during the polling.

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Disaster beckoned at every turn

By ANDREW TRENCH

ON THURSDAY night Danny Moodley crept home and slept. It was the first time he had put head to pillow in nearly two days and he hoped to shake off the nightmare he had just endured.

The 33-year-old returning officer for Johannesburg's Southern Metropolitan Substructure had just spent the last week battling to help keep the wheels from falling off the election in South Africa's biggest local government structure. An election disaster was avoided in the area, which includes most of Soweto and 660 000 registered voters, only after a touch-and-go rescue operation.

In the past few days Mr Moodley dealt with sit-ins at polling stations, angry voters, irate politicians, had his life threatened, and had to co-ordinate the evacuation by 70 large trucks of thousands of ballot boxes to the Johannesburg Metropolitan Centre where they could be counted in safety.

The trouble began on voting day when tempers rose in Soweto.

Some people found they were not registered and insisted on voting. Others insisted on voting in the wrong ward. Tempers also rose among those who were tired of standing in the hot sun.

Amid this chaos two people were killed in Soweto, although it is not clear if the murders were related to the election, and polling station staff were threatened and intimidated, says Mr Moodley.

"The problems in Soweto did not make it ideal for staff to count there. We were concerned about the safety of the ballot boxes."

The only option was to evacuate tons of ballot papers to the safety of the Metropolitan Centre in Braamfontein.

In hundreds of polling stations across Soweto presiding officers spent the night guarding ballot boxes as they would their children until the cavalry of policemen and municipal trucks arrived. "They remained with the material through the night. They had no food, no sleep. They were very hungry," Mr Moodley says.

"We were very demoralised, depressed and disgruntled," he recalls.

Throughout Thursday trucks ferried the ballot boxes to the centre where two parking basements had been set aside for them and the vote counters.

But the problems were not over. A fight broke out

between election officials and political parties over whether the exhausted election staff could take time off to sleep and eat. Some parties — Mr Moodley will not say which — insisted the counting continue.

"Politicians downstairs became very unruly. We received reports of violence

being threatened and I believed my life was personally threatened. The security staff advised the elections staff to evacuate the building," he says.

By midnight on Thursday counting had begun.

"Then certain groups of people objected," says Mr Moodley. "Acrimony was

the order of the day." The situation was resolved and counting continued.

"It has been an extreme sacrifice to make," says Mr Moodley. "If I had known it wouldn't have been like this I wouldn't have taken the responsibility because of the impact it has had on my loved ones," he says.

(262)

ST 5/11/95

Corks pop, folks bop as the winners celebrate

ST 5/11/95 (262)
By LINDA RULASHE

THE champagne flowed and African National Congress members danced well into the night as they celebrated the organisation's victory in the local government elections on Friday at a Johannesburg hotel.

The minister in charge of the reconstruction and development programme, Jay Naidoo, MP Carl Niehaus, presidential adviser Essop Pahad, secretary general Cyril Ramaphosa, and deputy secretary general Cheryl Carolus put their fellow revellers to shame as they stomped and danced nonstop to the live music of Blondie Makhele and his band.

Ms Carolus said "I feel exhausted, but very happy I plan to dance all night."

ANC stalwart Albertina Sisulu grabbed Ms Carolus' hand and shook it excitedly, saying "We have made it!"

President Nelson Mandela left early after dancing with colourfully dressed ANC members, including Health Minister Dr Nkosazana Zuma, Sports Minister Steve Tshwete, Deputy Constitutional Affairs

Minister Vuli Moosa; Post, Telecommunications and Broadcasting Minister Pallo Jordan, Gauteng Premier Tokyo Sexwale, and Gauteng MEC for Safety and Security Jessie Duarte.

Mr Moosa said he felt "ecstatic and humbled" by the support for the ANC Mr Niehaus was "absolutely elated".

Before the festivities began, President Mandela said "The people of South Africa have spoken."

He said the large turnout for the elections and the overwhelming support for the ANC was a victory for South Africa.

Congratulating every local government representative who had had been elected, President Mandela said they had to reciprocate the trust of the people by immediately establishing efficient and accountable structures of governance.

"Roll up your sleeves and work with your communities to ensure that we build a better life where we live."

Mr Ramaphosa said that the ANC had won an outright victory in 60 percent of the 400 councils for which results had been received.



JIVE FEVER . . . Cyril Ramaphosa and Rica Dougson

Pictures: JON HRUSA



CELEBRATION TIME . . . Carl Niehaus and Cheryl Carolus

Councillors get set for new jobs

By Themba Molefe, Khathu Mamalla and Own Correspondent

(262) Sowetan 6/11/95
A buoyant ANC briefed its 600 Gauteng officials at the weekend

THE AFRICAN NATIONAL Congress continued to count its good fortune yesterday as councillors countrywide prepared for swearing in ceremonies between today and Wednesday

The ANC's 600 new councillors in Gauteng yesterday received their first briefing from the party on their coming responsibilities. The law requires that all councillors be sworn into office within seven days of the elections

The ANC councillors were in a festive mood at the Braamfontein recreation centre prior to the briefing. They danced and sang praises to ANC president Mr Nelson Mandela. A moment of silence was observed for those who died "in the struggle for liberation"

To the ANC, "the struggle" is over. During the celebration the new councillors changed the age-old slogan of "Mayibuye i Africa" to "Ibuyile i Africa"

When they sang the melancholy "Hamba Kahle Mkhonto" for fallen MK heroes an ANC provincial executive member stopped them, saying "Comrades we no longer kill the boers, we live with them." The lyrics included, "We are prepared to kill the boers"

While the ANC is in a buoyant mood after its victory in all the 17 councils in the Northern Province, the Pan Africanist Congress is considering going to court to challenge the results of at least two areas

PAC secretary general Mr Maxwell Nema-zivhanani said this yesterday as he conceded the ANC's superiority. He said his organisation "does not have a way to fight the Mandela factor"

"There were many people who did not even know the candidates they wanted to vote for but insisted on voting for candidates who were under, Mandela," said Nema-zivhanani

He said he had received complaints of irregularities in Giyani and Haenertsburg. He said PAC candidates in those areas were considering going to court to have elections results declared null and void as their names were not on ballot papers

ANC spokesman in the province Mr Ian Madikoto said his organisation was satisfied with the results of the elections despite the low voter turn out in Seshego

He said the ANC would organise training for the elected officials as

many of them "do not know what goes on in the councils" Madikoto said the ANC provincial executive council would rectify the allocation of important positions in the councils

"We have realised that it does not help to leave everything to democracy," said Madikoto

ANC leader in Messina Mr Abram Luruli said the council would meet tomorrow to allocate positions. He is tipped to become mayor

The ANC's national leadership was particularly excited with the party's advances in the Western Cape

"The voters of the rural areas in the Western Cape have set a shining example for all of us," President Nelson Mandela said at the party's victory celebration in Johannesburg on Friday

Fortunes were mixed for the other parties with the NP slightly increasing its support level over last year, the DP experiencing a solid boost, the Freedom Front picking up supporters and the PAC, African Christian Democratic Party and Conservative Party falling away or staying in the margins

DP regained lost ground'

(262) CT 6/11/95

JOHANNESBURG: Democratic Party leader Mr Tony Leon said over the weekend the support the DP lost to the National Party last year had been regained twofold in local government elections

The "good results" for his party in the Johannesburg Eastern municipal sub-structure confirmed "significant gains for the DP", he said

Mr Leon said the DP was pleased with the overall 6,6% won in the elections — Sapa

Party vows major drive in city poll

JOHANNESBURG: Thousands of African National Congress supporters would be bused in from Gauteng to assist in the local government polls in Cape Town and kwaZulu/Natal next year, Gauteng Premier Mr Tokyo Sexwale said yesterday

The kwaZulu/Natal election would be an ANC priority where the party would contest "every ward, every council and metropolitan area"

"I will be in the forefront of the task forces from Gauteng," Mr Sexwale said at a news conference

The party's first job was to help ANC candidates in Gauteng rural areas where elections were postponed or where by-elections were to be held

The next was the Cape Town metropolitan poll which he said would be a nightmare for the National Party after their poor election showing in Western Cape rural areas

"kwaZulu/Natal will be our priority, the cherry on the cake," he said — Sapa

CT 6/11/95

NP OUTSTRIPPED IN WESTERN CAPE

ANC has bagged almost 70% of vote

WITH ALMOST 80% of the results in last week's local government elections known, the ANC has won nearly 70% of the vote. ANTHONY JOHNSON reports.

CT 6/11/95

(262)

THE final outcome of last week's municipal elections will be known early this week, the Local Government Elections Task Group announced at the weekend

But with official results reported in 521 of the 661 local council elections, the ANC had won just over 69% of the vote — a significant improvement on its showing in last year's national and provincial poll.

The ANC also performed well in the small town elections in the Western Cape, winning control of more councils than the National Party, which comfortably beat the ANC in last year's provincial elections

Significantly, the ANC has

made major inroads into the coloured community, who make up more than half the voters in the province

Senior Nationalists, many of them shaken by the poor performance of their party in the Western Cape, said the results were not a good omen for poll in the Cape Town Metropole next year. No date has been set for the election, but it is clear the central government will not accept the date of May 22 proposed by Western Cape Local Government Minister Mr Peter Marais

Nationally, the NP held on to the 20% share of the vote it won in April 1994, but the IFP has managed less than one percent of the total vote — mainly because

kwaZulu/Natal's three million registered voters will only go to the polls in March next year

The Freedom Front has raked in just over five percent of the vote, while the once powerful Conservative Party (1,6%) has virtually disappeared as a force in electoral politics. Both parties performed poorly in towns designated for inclusion in the proposed Afrikaner Volkstaat

The election has seen the emergence of ratepayer groups (five percent) as an important new dimension in South Africa politics

Other parties in Parliament battled in the local poll and showed that their influence was limited to small pockets of support

Support for the Democratic Party and the PAC is hovering around one percent and the African Christian Democratic Party has managed less than half of one percent.

ANC's showing 'a trend towards one-party rule'

BD 6/11/95

(262)

Farouk Chothia

DURBAN — The ANC's strong showing in last week's local government elections was of concern and was "a trend towards (the) one-party rule" characteristic of Africa, IFP secretary-general Ziba Jiyane said yesterday.

Jiyane said the IFP was not happy with its performance.

He said the IFP had to continue with the process of "deepening" party structures outside KwaZulu-Natal.

Analysts said the IFP would have to shed its Zulu nationalist image. The fact that clamours for a Zulu kingdom to be installed in KwaZulu-Natal reached a crescendo in the final weeks of the election campaign counted against the par-

ty, analysts said.

Jiyane said the lack of freedom of movement and expression had been a big problem for the IFP in its bid for black support in other provinces.

Nevertheless, he believed that the IFP had to concentrate on winning this constituency. The ANC had captured the centre-left electorate, and the IFP should regard the centre-right as its "main niche". Once the IFP won the support of this section of the black electorate, it would automatically draw other race groups to the party.

Analysts said ANC gains in the Western Cape would be of concern to the IFP. Like the IFP, the NP Western Cape leadership had projected itself as a bulwark against the ANC.

ONE of the many virtues of elections is that they are often an antidote to political mythology. It is too early to read all the entrails of the local elections — by the time this column was written, all the results had not been declared. But it had already become clear that the ballot was a disaster for the populist wing of our politics, and those who have created a mythology around it.

For much of these past 18 months we have been told by some commentators that black voters are disillusioned with the ANC. The populists, whether in the ANC or to its "left", had therefore tapped into a groundswell of public anger. Blacks, we were told, felt betrayed by an ANC which cosied up to whites, ignoring majority concerns. Researchers whose work contradicted these claims were dismissed as propagandists or as white eggheads who knew nothing of "what we blacks feel".

Fortunately, democracies offer a surer test of public sentiment than newspaper columns or opinion polls — namely, elections. Last Wednesday therefore offered the "enraged" a chance to send the majority party a clear message. And it seemed likely before the polling that the results would allow the populists to claim that voters had done just that.

This because local elections, as this column has pointed out, are un-sure guides to national trends. Fewer people vote in them, whatever they think of the government (or of the parties in general). Local circumstances can produce a result which looks important but is not (voters might support popular local figures, even if they don't plan to vote for their parties next time). And since voters know the national government won't change in a local poll, they are ideal occasions for a protest vote. The political extremes hence often do better in local ballots. It seemed likely, therefore, that

Election shatters the myth of black and white populism

STEVEN FRIEDMAN

B0 6/11/95

the populists would have more than enough evidence to "show" that voters had rejected conciliatory ANC policies. For the reasons mentioned here, the "evidence" would be spurious. But, since our politicians and commentators know less about life at the grassroots than they pretend, it seemed likely that the claims would be accepted — and that they might prompt the majority party to make some gestures to "win back" the "angry masses".

But the populists — and the inevitable pack of foreign journalists who arrived to record the "popular backlash" — came away with nothing for their comfort.

Many people did not vote. And the polls may have been lower than claimed. Percentage polls are worked out as a proportion of registered voters and only about 75% of eligible voters registered, according to official figures. (We don't even know whether those are right, since no one is sure how many eligible voters we have.)

If the national percentage poll is 60%, therefore, around 45% of eligible voters cast ballots — far less in areas such as Johannesburg.

But even this would be normal to high for local elections — and it is also not clear how many people did not vote because logistical problems prevented them from doing so.

More importantly, there is no sign of a protest against the ANC, since its voters do not seem to have been more inclined to stay away than other parties' supporters.

Comparisons between the vote which major parties drew in this election and those they won last year are dicey. The fact that there was no election in KwaZulu-Natal or Cape Town is one reason. The other is doubt about the reliability of the official 1994 result. Nevertheless, the ANC clearly won easily.

Black voters also had some alternatives to whom they could have turned if they wanted to express anger — but they did not.

The PAC made no progress. Signs of how poor its showing really was are its failure to make headway in parts of the Vaal which have been seen as its "strongholds", despite disenchantment with local ANC

candidates — or to capitalise on the troubles of the provincial government in the Eastern Cape, where the PAC is said to enjoy support.

In Northwest, voters had a chance to support a populist who had broken away from the ANC, Rocky Malebane-Metsing. They ignored him — his People's Progressive Party fared far worse than former Bophuthatswana president Lucas Mangope and his party.

If all this is not evidence that the angry electorate crying out for populism is the creation of a small intellectual elite and headline-hunting scribes, it is hard to know what is.

Much the same happened on the other political extreme. The CP emerged from the wilderness convinced that democracy would have so enraged whites they would restore to it the local vote it won in the apartheid days.

But while the CP once fared well in white local elections, it was humiliated in this ballot. In "white" Pretoria, where it once held half the seats, it won none. In former strongholds such as Randfontein and Springs, it fared little better.

Most former right-wing bastions either turned to the more pragmatic Freedom Front, or the NP.

So the white populists who mutter darkly about the coming backlash whenever their definition of "Africaner interests" is ignored, are on equally shaky ground. To the extent that local polls do tell us about national trends, the message of this election is that our new politics are no more fluid than white electoral politics in the heyday of NP rule.

The much-predicted demise of the NP was shown to be greatly exaggerated — it held on to most of its white supporters, if only because they have nowhere else to go, and may well carry on doing so.

Whether it can feel that safe about its new "coloured" base is another matter — but it would be wise not to pontificate on the strength of local results in Western Cape towns and villages. The DP's resurgence is little more than an ability to consolidate or win back traditional support in the suburbs and the Freedom Front has emerged as the champion of a small white right.

As for the ANC, Malebane-Metsing's fate may deter anyone considering a breakaway.

None of this is cheering for those who believe fluidity helps democracy work. But the results are good news for those who see pragmatism and compromise as the key to the new order's success, for they show that neither are likely to lose votes.

The local elections have confirmed that we have political parties with firm bases in the electorate and that support for the extremes is weak. And that is a strong foundation for more of the pragmatism which has driven our transition thus far. All that is required to cement it is politicians who listen less to fashionable commentary and more to messages from voters.

□ Friedman is director of the Centre for Policy Studies.

ONE of the many virtues of elections is that they are often an antidote to political mythology. It is too early to read all the entrails of the local elections — by the time this column was written, all the results had not been declared. But it had already become clear that the ballot was a disaster for the populist wing of our politics, and those who have created a mythology around it.

For much of these past 18 months we have been told by some commentators that black voters are disillusioned with the ANC. The populists, whether in the ANC or to its "left", had therefore tapped into a groundswell of public anger. Blacks, we were told, felt betrayed by an ANC which cosied up to whites, ignoring majority concerns. Researchers whose work contradicted these claims were dismissed as propagandists or as white eggheads who knew nothing of "what we blacks feel".

Fortunately, democracies offer a surer test of public sentiment than newspaper columns or opinion polls — namely, elections. Last Wednesday therefore offered the "enraged" a chance to send the majority party a clear message. And it seemed likely before the polling that the results would allow the populists to claim that voters had done just that.

This because local elections, as this column has pointed out, are un-sure guides to national trends. Fewer people vote in them, whatever they think of the government (or of the parties in general). Local circumstances can produce a result which looks important but is not (voters might support popular local figures, even if they don't plan to vote for their parties next time). And since voters know the national government won't change in a local poll, they are ideal occasions for a protest vote. The political extremes hence often do better in local ballots. It seemed likely, therefore, that

Election shatters the myth of black and white populism

STEVEN FRIEDMAN

B0 6/11/95

the populists would have more than enough evidence to "show" that voters had rejected conciliatory ANC policies. For the reasons mentioned here, the "evidence" would be spurious. But, since our politicians and commentators know less about life at the grassroots than they pretend, it seemed likely that the claims would be accepted — and that they might prompt the majority party to make some gestures to "win back" the "angry masses".

But the populists — and the inevitable pack of foreign journalists who arrived to record the "popular backlash" — came away with nothing for their comfort.

Many people did not vote. And the polls may have been lower than claimed. Percentage polls are worked out as a proportion of registered voters and only about 75% of eligible voters registered, according to official figures. (We don't even know whether those are right, since no one is sure how many eligible voters we have.)

If the national percentage poll is 60%, therefore, around 45% of eligible voters cast ballots — far less in areas such as Johannesburg.

But even this would be normal to high for local elections — and it is also not clear how many people did not vote because logistical problems prevented them from doing so.

More importantly, there is no sign of a protest against the ANC, since its voters do not seem to have been more inclined to stay away than other parties' supporters.

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ANC leads at 72% as final tallies trickle in

The Inkatha Freedom Party scored less than 1% nationally but has wasted no time in preparing for local government elections in KwaZulu Natal in March

By JOVIAL RANTAO,
MONDLI MIAKHANYA AND
SHIRLEY WOODGATE

Cruising at a cool 72% and still counting its election victories, the ANC was today expected to extend its lead over all parties, as the final tally of votes from 105 councils resumed and was expected to be completed by tomorrow

The NP has won 18,3% of the votes, with the Freedom Front at 4,3%, the Democratic Party 2,2% and the Pan-Africanist Congress 1,8%

The latest available results indicated that the ANC had won majority seats in the northern, eastern, western and southern sub-structures. In Greater Johannesburg, the ANC won 12 seats, the second-placed NP four seats, the DP three and the IFP one

Star 6/11/95
As opposition parties licked their wounds and prepared for the 1999 general election, most claimed to have increased their tallies from last year's elections and therefore strengthened their mandates

The IFP, which scored less than 1% nationally, did not waste time in getting ready for what will be a tough contest when local government elections are held in KwaZulu Natal in March

Taking to the hustings, IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi told an election rally in northern KwaZulu Natal his party would "trounce the opposition" in the March elections. He said the party would use the March 28 elections to prove that its support in the province was way above the 50% it received in last year's general election

He said while his party did not

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want a snap provincial election, it would be ready to win this convincingly if such an election emerged as the only path out of the province's constitutional impasse

"We know without a shadow of doubt that if you vote, we will win every single regional council in the kingdom," Buthelezi told his supporters

The DP, also convincingly beaten in all but a few Johannesburg and Eastern Cape councils, boasted it had made inroads in areas which had traditionally voted NP

DP leader Tony Leon said the party had held on to its traditional English-speaking areas and had registered slight gains in black areas

With results of most major cities collated, Pretoria offers a nail-biting finish to a race dominated so far by the ANC

ANC: Indian and coloured gains 'destroy an NP myth'

(262)
ARG 7/11/95

The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN — ANC electoral gains in Indian and coloured areas in the local government elections had destroyed the "myth" that these communities' interests were best served by the National Party, the ANC has said

The ANC said after its KwaZulu-Natal provincial general council meeting that the election results had shown a trend by whites towards the ANC. This had enabled the party "to capture some of the large cities and towns that were previously the strongholds of the NP and other rightwing groupings."

Voters' choice of the ANC to govern them at the local level also laid to rest claims

by federalist parties that the ANC wanted to centralise power, the party said in a statement

"The people of this country are also sending a clear message that the ANC's vision of co-operative governance between all levels of government is the only workable arrangement to ensure democracy"

Bracing itself for next year's KwaZulu-Natal poll, the organisation decided to embark immediately on preparations for the March 27 elections in the province "to ensure the ANC achieves a landslide victory" To this end it will begin a voter education and registration blitz aimed at achieving an 80 per-

cent registration level in KwaZulu-Natal

The ANC will meet Local Government and MEC Peter Miller to pressure him to speed up the resolution of outstanding demarcation disputes which are holding up the election process It also called on the national government to step up security to ensure peaceful campaigning in the run-up to March

A meeting has also been scheduled between the organisation's leadership and Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini to discuss the ANC's constitutional proposals for the province. The November 21 meeting will deal with the role of the Zulu monarchy and traditional leadership

Small hitches all that marred the elections

Mduduzi ka Harvey

PROJECT Vote, a national elections monitoring group, reported that overall, the local government elections were conducted in a peaceful and orderly fashion, but problems and confusion did arise.

Project Vote elections observers visited more than 200 polling sites in six provinces on polling day.

In Eastern Cape the largest problem on the day was with people not being allowed to vote because they were not registered.

The group said urban polling stations had been overcrowded, with voters waiting in queues for hours.

Many of the younger voters were disgruntled and angry. Others decided to go home, but observers said the problem had not compromised the outcome of the elections.

At some voting stations in Grahamstown and Port Elizabeth electricity had gone off and voters were forced to cast their ballots by candlelight.

Voting material had also arrived late in some areas.

In Mdantsane near East London, a shortage of ballot papers caused delays. Some Port Elizabeth polling stations opened late because voting material arrived three hours late.

No problems were reported in the Free State, apart from some polling stations opening slightly late.

In the Johannesburg and Pretoria metropolitan areas observers reported

problems with unregistered voters.

In Soweto about 100 voters who were mistakenly placed in the wrong ward protested. The dispute was resolved when elections officials allowed them to fill in forms to vote in the ward.

IFP voters complained that their candidate was on the ballot paper without the party emblem.

The dispute was resolved when it was discovered that the candidate had registered as an independent.

In Pretoria, there were problems in two wards when ballot boxes arrived at the polling stations with their lids open and some ballot boxes missing.

The city was investigating the matter and was seeking legal opinion on whether a by-election would have to be held.

In Northwest a smooth, orderly process was reported, although people not on the registration rolls appeared at the polling stations.

Voters who appeared in other polling stations were transported to the correct stations.

In Northern Cape, a candidate had transported voters to the polls, an action other candidates said would have an undue influence over voters.

To resolve the dispute, agents from all parties contesting the area were allowed to fetch voters.

In Western Cape there were reports of partisan political activity at polling stations and of voters being allowed into voting stations without identity documents.

BO 8/11/95 (262)

Farmers urged to not pay levies

Louise Cook

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BO 9/11/95
THE Eastern Cape Agriculture Union, representing 3 000 farmers; called on its members yesterday to stop levy payments to local authorities in a bid to force government's hand on a better deal in local government.

Transvaal farmers have refused to support the move at this stage, which non-governmental organisations have slammed as an exercise by farmers to hold the country to ransom.

Farmers have been locked in talks with government for months to lobby for 50% instead of 10% local government representation.

The Eastern Cape Agriculture Union yesterday urged farmers in the region to suspend all levy payments until February 1996.

The union said the "drastic decision was taken because the union was extremely... disgusted

that the MEC for local government... totally ignored the co-operation of the farming community

"The farming community wants to make a success of local government, but political manoeuvring has made it impossible to be constructively involved."

Transvaal Agriculture Union GM Johan Hartman said his union would wait for a decision from the SAAU.

The SAAU said it could come to an arrangement with government by March next year when parts of the Western Cape and KwaZulu-Natal would be going to the polls.

But non-governmental groups including the national land committee and the Land and Agriculture Policy Centre slammed government for talking to farmers about a possible deal. They said the public would not be blackmailed by these farmers, who "feared democracy".

Govt unveils its plan to strengthen newly elected local authorities

Drew Forrest

(262)

BD 9/11/95

GOVERNMENT has unveiled a 10-point plan to establish and strengthen newly elected local authorities

It includes stabilising local government finances, sweeping legislative reform, and a R20m training programme for councillors

Local government deputy director-general Andrew Boraine stressed the need to get to grips with municipal tariff boycotts, saying unless 95% of consumers were billed and paid their ac-

counts, the councils would go under.

"The message to communities must be: You have elected us and can expect things from us, but in return support us."

Government would encourage "local social compacts" between councils and residents, civic and ratepayer associations and political leaders, providing for a co-ordinated improvement in services and payments

The changes would be launched next year. Many would take two or three years to implement. A priority was to complete the electoral process

by staging elections in the 100-odd councils exempted from last week's poll or where by-elections were needed.

To get the new bodies up and running, they would have to meet within 30 days of the elections to choose executive committees and mayors. Metropolitan substructures would have to elect representatives to metro councils, and transitional local council delegates to district councils

Boraine said government had budgeted R20m for training councillors next year. Training would be reviewed

because SA was 25 years behind world trends, and to cover such issues as the reconstruction and development programme, rural local government and the Masakhane campaign

The stabilisation of local government finances was the biggest issue facing the new order, Boraine said. Each council would have to prepare a budget for July 1996 reflecting the new nonracial constituency. "They will have to move away from costly capital projects to basic service delivery." As well as restoring 27 payments

Govt plan

BD 9/11/95

Continued from Page 1

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istence of the councils would be called into question. Different approaches would be needed for the larger local authorities and the 80% of councils with very small financial bases.

Other features of the plan were:

- The enactment of a statute in the next parliamentary session to replace the Local Government Transition Act and regulate the "interim" phase of local government reform. Between 15 and 20 other laws would be reviewed;

- The final integration and rationalisation of formerly separate administrations. A "difficult and delicate" task, this would involve setting uniform employment conditions, allocating posts and deciding which were redundant;
- A new and "more legitimate" municipal labour relations system. Employer bodies were fragmented and unrepresentative of the new authorities;
- Building capacity in the 200 new councils in rural areas with no history of local government; and
- Creating a single national body to represent organised local government in dealings with the provinces and central government.

regime, councils would have to move towards economic tariffs to ensure service delivery was sustained

Differential tariffs could, however, be introduced to ensure lifeline services for the poor. The department's view was that intergovernmental grants — amounting to R800m this year — should be used to subsidise services for the indigent

Boraine said unless service provision was accelerated, the continued ex-

Continued on Page 2

Chiefs declare polls invalid

Own Correspondent

UMTATA — The Congress of Traditional Leaders of SA (Contralesa) has declared last week's local government elections in rural areas null and void and vowed to oppose newly elected councillors in rural villages, claiming people do not know them

At an Umtata meeting called by Contralesa yesterday, some of the province's chiefs discussed the fate of rural elected structures likely in areas under their jurisdiction

Contralesa regional spokesman Chief Mwelo Nonkonyana said holding local government elections in rural areas was a waste of time as chiefs and paramount chiefs would not co-operate with the councillors

He acknowledged attempts by the ANC and its ally, the SA National Civic

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Organisation (Sanco), to divide Contralesa, but denied there was a rift between its members who voted and those who boycotted the elections.

Nonkonyana urged his organisation's members not to allow chiefs who had aligned themselves with the ANC and Sanco to govern their areas. He accused the two allies of undermining the role of Contralesa.

A former president of Transkei, Paramount Chief Tutor Nyangilizwe Ndamase, accused the Eastern Cape government of using delaying tactics in establishing the House of Traditional Leaders

Ndamase said he had personally made a number of objections to Eastern Cape premier Raymond Mhlaba over issues affecting traditional leaders, but none of his complaints had been attended to

Task team toils around the clock to deliver poll results

(262) Khar 9/11/95

BY KAREN SCHINKE
Gauteng Reporter

A week after the local government elections, the national task team was still working long hours yesterday to finalise the results.

A return of only 62,97% was reported by task team secretariat national co-ordinator Vic Milne, but he hoped all the results would be available today.

"It has been extremely difficult to get all the results, complete down to the last detail, from all the councils around the country.

"You can imagine the size of this task involving the results of 686 councils," he said.

Milne and his two right-hand men, Adrian Enthoven and Nicholas Haupt, have been working almost around the clock with four inputters to consolidate the information.

So far, only the Western Cape and the Free State's results are 100% correct, checked and formatted. Apart from the "problem" wards in Gauteng, particularly in the south of Johannesburg and in parts of Pretoria, most results have been fed through to the task team's headquarters in Pretoria.

The Eastern and Northern Cape results have been slowest in filtering through, with only 41 out of 182 wards in the former and 23 of the 105 in the latter having been received by yesterday.

"But we have been promised by both areas that the results are ready and that we will have them no later than Thursday (today)," said Milne.

The outstanding information on most of the wards in Mpumalanga, North West province and Northern province is already at the task force's headquarters.

Local authorities grading system now under review

(262) Star 9/11/95
Johannesburg complication
sparks intensive review

By **KAREN SCHMIDT**
Gauteng Reporter

The elections have not affected the grading of local authorities, but the system is being reviewed to bring it into line with new democratic structures.

The present grading system, which places all local authorities on a scale of one to 15, falls under the Remuneration of Town Clerks Act of 1984 and was set up to determine salaries.

For instance, the average councillor in a grade 15 local authority like Johannesburg's TMCR receives an allowance of about R2 800 a month. In a grade 1 local authority - Ratanang in the Free State, for example - the figure is R154 a month.

Andrew Boraine, deputy director-general for local government in the Department of Constitutional Development, said yesterday new structures incorporating traditionally black authorities with historically white authorities meant borders around gradings had become vague.

However, this had been anticipated in meetings of Constitutional Development, Provincial Affairs and Local Government Minister Roelf Meyer with the nine provincial local government MECs earlier this year.

It was decided that wherever an overlap of gradings occurred, the grading of the highest body would be retained. This means a local authority like

Alexandra, previously graded nine, would now be graded the same as Sandton, previously graded 11.

But complications arise in Johannesburg where the TMC is graded 15 and the question is whether all the metropolitan sub-structures (MSS) should not also automatically be given this grade. Boraine said it was for this, and other reasons, that the grading system was under investigation.

"We are going to have to revise the grading policy and perhaps review legislation, but this is being done in consultation and it will take some time before we can give the ministry proposals to put forward in Parliament next year," he said.

Provinces and organised local government, the interim committee, the Institutes of Town Clerks and of Municipal Treasurers and Accountants, trade unions and the major urban areas associations were among those being consulted.

"Until now the main implication of grading has been to give salary scales, and there are arguments that this has an inflationary impact on the budget.

"The criteria for grading local authorities have also been questioned and may have to be adjusted," said Boraine.

"It is difficult at this stage to say what will happen with grading but it is clear the status quo as it is will not be able to remain indefinitely," Boraine said.

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LOCAL ELECTIONS

Comparisons are odious

In their eagerness to pick out winners and losers in the local elections and extrapolate deeper significance, many politicians and pundits seem to have lost track of what actually happened on November 1

It was not one election, but 687 separate elections for metropolitan, town, district and rural councils around the country — with the exception of KwaZulu-Natal and the Cape Town metropolis

As individual polls with local peculiarities and different organisational strengths and weaknesses, they cannot simply be packaged as a single event, their results added up and compared willy-nilly with the 1994 general elections. Nor can they be used as a pointer to the polls in 1999

The only certainty to flow from this final step in the transition to democracy is the raising of rates and service charges as the new councils realise just how deep a financial hole they have inherited from years of nonpayment for under-serviced and unserved townships. Nor will the provincial authorities be prepared to bail them out

Just how the councils deal with these and other local issues will be of far greater importance to future local party standings than were the issues of 1994, such as the "Mandela factor" and the historical divides of race and class

The ANC reinforced and in some cases strengthened its position in most of the country. Smaller parties like the PAC, Inkatha, the CP and to some extent the DP took a knock nationally. However, it is specious to conclude, as ANC secretary-general Cyril Ramaphosa has done, that the community elections amounted to a massive endorsement of ANC policy

Even if one does compare the local polls with the general election, the ANC's showing is not as high as its spin doctors like to make out. Its claim of having done better than last year with a 70%-plus vote is inflated by the exclusion of KwaZulu-Natal, the IFP's stronghold, and NP-held Cape Town (see table)

Centre for Policy Studies researcher Ivor Chipkin points out, for example, that all six wards in Vosloorus on the East Rand were taken by civic leaders running as independents against ANC candidates. This confirms pre-election indications that some communities were unhappy with the ANC. Yet in nearby Phola Park the opposite occurred — an ANC candidate from outside the community beat a local ANC man and a supposedly popular local civic leader

The disparity suggests a divergence of

interests among communities. Chipkin concludes that the more settled Vosloorus residents were primarily concerned with local issues, while poorer Phola Park sought security in the broader party's interests

Results from many parts of the country bear this out. In Eastern Cape's Western District Council, for example, seven of Graaff-Reinet's 13 wards went to the ANC and the rest to ratepayer and other groups, while nearby Pearston split its eight wards five to three between the ANC and NP

The structure and format of the local polls were also quite different from last year's one-man, one-vote party list ballot. To compare the national and local elections with any validity one needs to extract the party votes from the local polls and compare them with the 1994 party polls — complete details of which were not available at time of going to press

But even such a comparison is bound to be distorted as these polls used voters' rolls and the other did not. This time voters were area-bound, and last year's blood-rush of first-time democracy has begun to subside

The local elections were also skewed by the racial splitting of wards between black (African) and nonblack areas to enable 50-50 ward candidature of 60% of the council

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(The remaining 40% was contested on the basis of proportional representation.) This provision — an apartheid-style compromise — was negotiated by the NP's Tertius Delport in the negotiations phase and, ironically, worked against the NP in the Western Cape. It also boosted ANC strength against the DP and NP in Johannesburg's northern suburbs

DP leader Tony Leon says the good results for his party in the Eastern Substructure of Johannesburg confirms significant gains for it in these elections. With 19 seats, the DP, he says, is by far the largest opponent of the ANC in this substructure, which was narrowly won by the ANC with 31 seats out of 60

Leon says it's significant that the ANC scored only 43% of the proportional vote here, benefiting from a higher poll in Alexandra township and from Alexandra seats which were only a third the size of the suburban seats. The DP did well in winning Ward 13 (Bez Valley/Observatory), and polled 510 votes (20%) for Linda Ramutla in Ward 22, which covers the East Bank of Alexandra. DP candidates scored 3 000 votes in the whole of Soweto

In the Northern Substructure of Johannesburg, DP candidates did extremely well,

HOW THE PARTIES FARED*

Local elections Nov 1, 1995

Province (votes cast)	ANC	NP	FF	DP	PAC	IFP	CP	Rate	Other
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Eastern Cape (160 000)	83	5,6	0,2	1,2	1,3	0,0	0,2	3,3	1,1
Western Cape (320 000)	37	45,0	2,8	2,8	0,8	0,0	0,1	4,5	2,6
Gauteng (500 000)	53	22,0	7,9	5,4	1,2	1,4	0,8	1,5	3,6
Mpumalanga (207 000)	68	15,0	4,9	0,5	1,2	0,9	0,8	3,0	1,9
Northern Cape (37 300)	50	30,0	3,9	0,0	0,5	0,0	0,7	2,5	11,0
North/West (218 000)	66	8,2	4,1	0,2	1,1	0,1	2,4	4,0	8,6
Northern Province (594 000)	88	4,3	1,7	0,3	2,2	0,0	0,7	0,5	1,6
OFS (365 000)	65	14,0	3,6	0,5	1,7	0,1	2,0	5,2	5,5
Total (2 400 000)	66	17,0	3,8	1,8	1,5	0,4	1,0	2,7	3,6

Results as at 6 Nov

* Excludes KwaZulu-Natal and Cape Town metropolitan

SOURCE: ELECTION TASK GROUP

FM

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

says Leon, winning 30 000 votes and eight seats. In the Western Substructure, the DP outpolled the Freedom Front with 6 700 votes and obtained one seat on the proportional list. It had a similar result in the Southern Substructure. In Greater Johannesburg, the DP received 14,5% of the vote, "almost double the result last year".

Leon claims that unlike the other small parties, "the DP has emerged strengthened in this election, and is clearly the third largest party in Gauteng with sound growth potential".

The Western Cape — where the NP now clings to a reduced majority, having yielded significant gains to the ANC in the NP heartland of the Boland — delivered perhaps the most interesting results.

The ANC won control of 16 towns — including Stellenbosch, Paarl, Worcester, George and Mossel Bay — while the NP obtained 11. The NP won 44% of the proportional votes compared to 53% in the general election. The ANC closed the gap slightly, obtaining 36% compared to 33% last year.

The ANC won 306 seats in Western Cape, the NP 292, independent candidates and nonparty political groups 271, the DP six, PAC four and the Freedom Front two.

However, Institute for Democracy in SA (Idasa) election expert Robert Mattes points out that Worcester is practically the only town the ANC won "legitimately" — without the artificial leg-up of the 50-50 agreement (The coloured vote was counted with nonblack votes). In Stellenbosch — as in other Boland towns where black voters were vastly outnumbered by whites — the agreement worked against the NP by guaranteeing the ANC at least 30% of the seats.

Mattes says "The ANC has done well, but just because it had lots of candidates elected doesn't mean there has been a huge swing in coloured support. They haven't done nearly as well as they think they have".

But the Worcester example should forewarn the NP and those who believe the coloured vote is fixed along racial lines rather than performance-driven.

In Worcester the ANC obtained a two-thirds majority by snapping up 12 seats to the NP's five — a 30% swing away from the NP compared to the general election. The ANC attributes this success to having fielded candidates with credibility among coloured voters, and to a campaign firmly rooted in community aspirations, promising to upgrade specific amenities neglected by the previous council.

Because of the multiple messages that can be read from the poll it is dangerous to assume a bottom-line position, especially as only 25% of the province has voted.

Both the NP and ANC are using statistics to claim victory, but the outright winner will depend on the affiliation of the inde-

pendents who won 164 seats, control over 26 towns and the balance of power in a further 42.

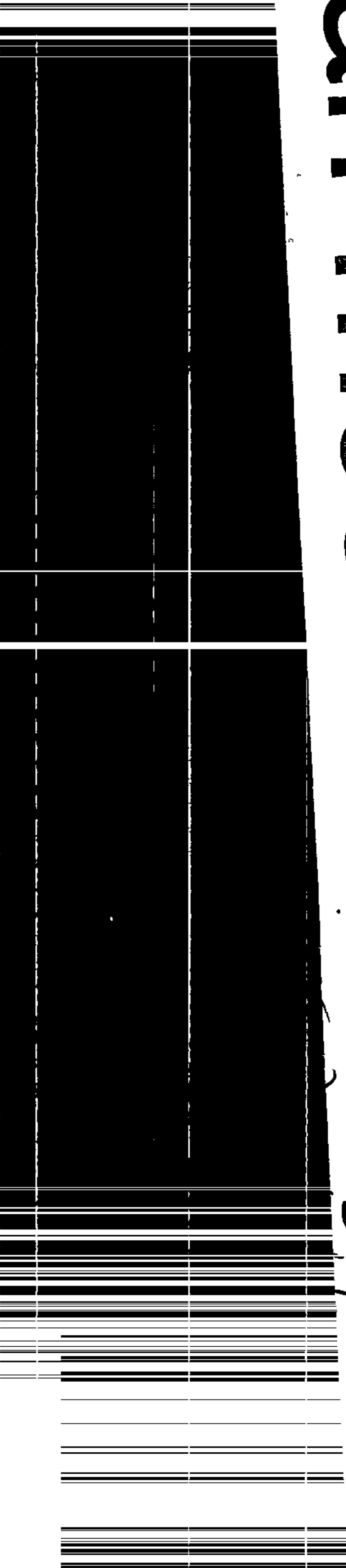
The battle is now on for the crucial coloured vote in metropolitan Cape Town, which will shape the future of local government in the NP-dominated province. ■

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SATURDAY focus 2

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More to poll results than meets the eye



ON the surface, the first democratic local elections might seem to have had predictable results. After all, most major parties ended up with more or less the same amount of popular support. A closer inspection, however, shows important trends that all players should take note of.

In its quest to extend its domination of the national political sphere to the local, the African National Congress largely succeeded. An impressive showing in all provinces clearly places the party as the pre-eminent political organisation operational within the country. Not only did the ANC succeed in increasing its share of the vote despite questions of its ability to deliver on RDP promises, the party effectively annihilated the PAC as an alternative political home for blacks.

However, the election of ward candidates across the country largely reflected old racial boundaries in residential areas. This has enabled ANC-dominated town councils to include healthy quantities of opposition members, be they National Party, Democratic Party or Independents. In this way, ANC control may still be tempered by some considerable opposition. Should newly-elected non-ANC ward councillors perform well and develop a following among their constituents, real opposition might get a much needed fillip — as would South Africa's new democracy.

Western Cape results do show a swing to the ANC among coloured voters, although the figures might be less dramatic than the ANC would have us believe. Coloureds have still clung to the NP as their political home and, while NP support is down in percentage terms, it nevertheless remains solid.

The swing to the ANC in ward elections within the region is definitely as a result of the 50-50 deal allowing underpopulated black areas in the Western Cape a 50-50 share of wards.

NP voting figures are also somewhat obscured by the success of so-called independent candidates. In many towns — notably Stellenbosch and Paarl — NP candidates clearly preferred to stand as Independents. Given their success, the true extent of the NP's result will only become clear once these new councillors nail themselves to a political mast. It is highly likely that many Independents are simply NP candidates in disguise and their true colours are only likely to be known once councils meet and alliances are formed.

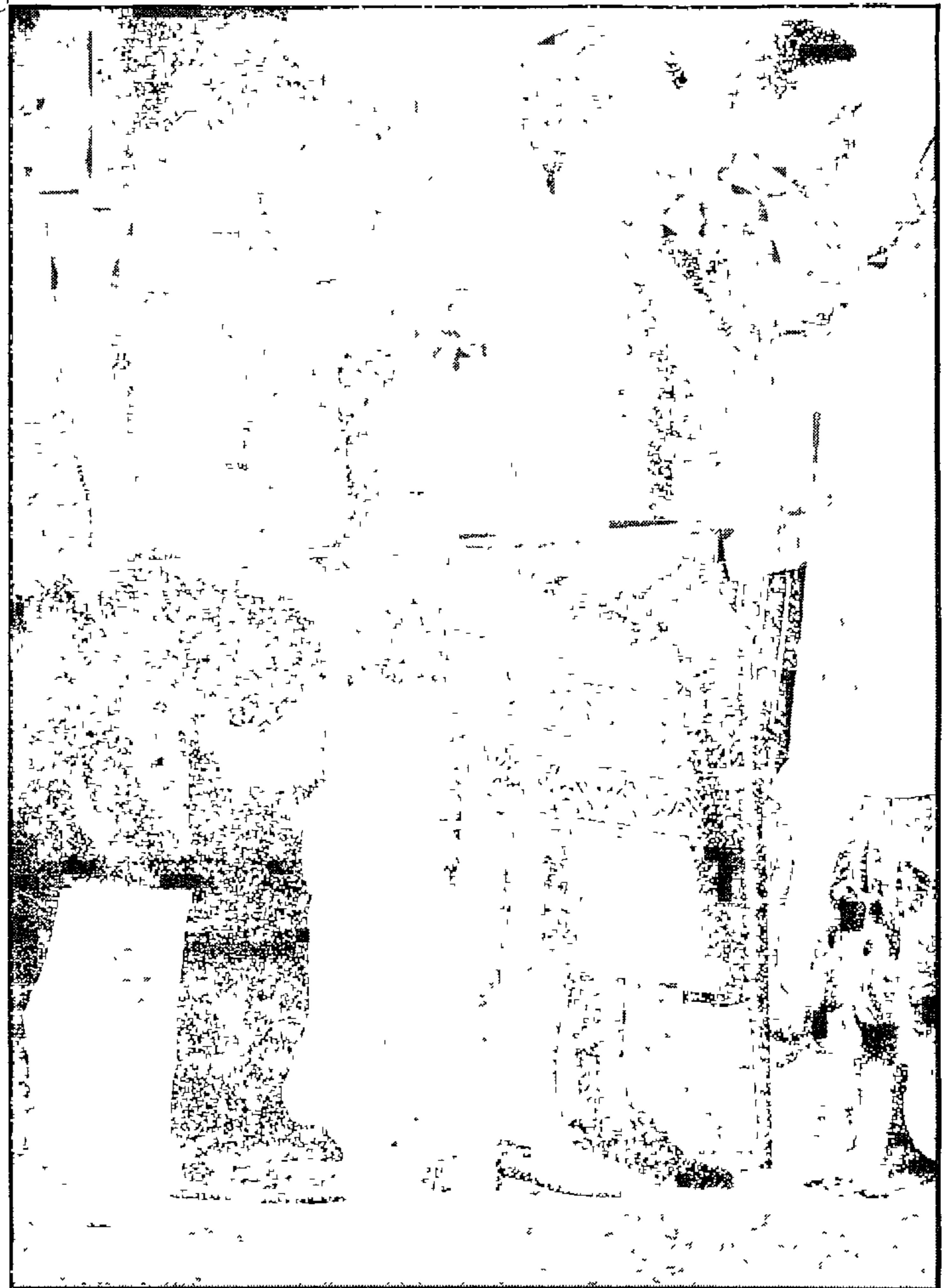
However, for the NP, a dual electoral strategy of party-backed candidates and Independents poses some interesting opportunities. While it is unclear whether the NP was able to strategise a dual campaign from the outset, the party has patently managed to get a healthy representation countrywide despite its poor showing in opposition within the Government of National Unity.

Indeed, the use of Independents with NP backing is clearly the master-stroke of the election. It has enabled the NP to get a foothold in many communities and also encourages fresh blood within a party that was looking somewhat lost and jaded only a few months ago.

How the NP-aligned Independent councillors interact with their parent political party will be one of the most interesting by-product of this election.

However, the swing to non-party candidates

While in many cases, the results of last week's local council elections show little change in the voting allegiances of the electorate, there are some important indicators that suggest the formation of new cleavages and interest groups within South Africa's party political structure. **DANIEL SILKE** reports.



□ **VOTING ON THEIR FEET:** Voters stand patiently in line to cast their ballot at Mbekweni near Paarl in last week's local elections.

is significant. Within the Western Cape, there continues to be a suspicion of party political involvement at a local level. Independents have encouraged voters to look at some real local issues rather than be blinded by the somewhat tedious national arguments of RDP delivery promises and rampant crime. Voters have found the Independent message attractive within the ward component of the vote but have still followed national issues and national voting trends with voting on the PR ballot.

However, most ward seats were still won

by the large national parties who succeeded in "nationalising" their respective campaigns. The results may be viewed as disappointing in that it cements a two-party political system in South Africa without allowing for meaningful growth among smaller players.

There is a convergence away from smaller parties to the ANC and NP which should be of some concern to these smaller groups. Only the Independents were able to capture a local vote on local issues and buck the national trend. The success of this body was also to the detriment of the smaller parties.

This trend was particularly evident in the Cape where voters preferred a local popular figure without apparent party allegiances to smaller, more established parties. This resulted in poor showings for the ACDP, FF and DP in the Western Cape. Voters also turned their back on extremist parties (PAC, FF and CP) in favour of the majors (ANC and NP).

The Independent successes and poor performance among smaller, established parties might point to a dissatisfaction among voters with the available choice of political party. Voters may well be looking for a new political home and their readiness to move away from the bigger names (specifically in the Western Cape) could signify the beginnings of a political shake-up in South Africa. There remains room for a new movement to cut across racial and economic lines and promote itself accordingly.

Essentially, the big losers in the election were the smaller parties. Most parties, with the exception of the DP, proved they had neither enough concentrated support in a ward or in terms of national appeal to win a significant number of seats. The PAC, FF and ACDP all fared exceedingly poorly and dispelled the notion that smaller parties do better on a local level. While some of these players did marginally increase the percentage of their vote, there was no clear power base for any one and their continued operation will be severely hampered in future.

By way of contrast, the DP had a better result. Although weak in the Western Cape, the party's Gauteng results were little short of impressive. Massive gains in Johannesburg's Eastern Substructure showed Tony Leon had managed to recover many of the DP's traditional voters that had deserted it for the NP in last year's national election. And gains were not just limited to the Houghtons of this world. Advances were evident in Pretoria, Centurion and Germiston, indicating the tide that brought the DP successes in 1989 is potentially back with the party.

However, the DP will have to prove in the Cape Town Metropole that it is not just an island party of support within the greater Johannesburg area.

What lessons can Cape Town learn from these results?

It is clear the success of independents at a ward level will frighten many a prospective councillor who may be tied to a political party. NP successes using the quasi-independent option may be copied by all parties and Cape Town is likely to see a plethora of independents and ratepayers' candidates enter the fray. This poses problems for all participating parties in that they will need to decide how they conduct their ward campaigns — on a party ticket or independently.

It can be expected that, with the ANC smelling new gains, the NP intent on shoring up its own support and the DP encouraged by urban victories in Gauteng, Cape Town will become a battleground.

On the other hand, Independent candidates might confuse the electorate and voters would be well advised to confront candidates with questions surrounding their party allegiances. In most cases, genuine Independents will be hard to find.

■ Daniel Silke is a research assistant at Professor Robert Schrire's Institute for the Study of Public Policy at UCT and also acts as an independent political analyst.

ANC wins local polls with 66,37%

JOHANNESBURG. — The Elections Task Group has released election results for 664 of the 686 councils for which polling took place on November 1.

An average of 51,37 percent of those registered to vote — 5 301 354 people in total — had voted, task group co-chairman Khehla Shubane told a media briefing in Johannesburg.

The African National Congress were clear winners, getting 66,37 percent of votes cast in proportional representation elections. And, it won 4 360 (63,78 percent) of ward and proportional representation seats.

The National Party fared next best, taking 16,22 percent of the votes and winning 1 123 (16,43 percent) of the seats, said Mr Shubane.

The Freedom Front won 132 seats, the Democratic Party 51 and the Conservative Party 48.

The Pan Africanist Congress won 24 seats, the Inkatha Freedom Party 10 and the African Christian Democratic Party two.

Collectively, ratepayers' bodies won 293 seats and independents 583. Other parties jointly won 420 seats.

Mr Shubane said he was happy with the low number of spoilt or rejected ballot papers (1,97 percent of votes cast). —

Sapa *ARLT 11/11/95*

Voter turnout was 32 percent

(262) Star 11/11/95
By ADRIAN HADLAND

Less than a third of South Africa's potential voters participated in the country's first democratic local government elections on November 1, according to poll organisers.

Election Task Group co-chairman Khehla Shubane told a news conference in Johannesburg that while this was in line with international standards, poor turnout levels - particularly in the rural parts of the Free State, Northern Province and North West - had an impact on the overall figures.

Shubane said that 12,68 million, or 77,99%, of the 16,26 million people eligible to vote on November 1 had registered for the poll.

◆ Low turnout

(262)
Star 11/11/95
This excluded the voters from KwaZulu Natal, the Western Cape metropole and a number of other rural areas where elections will be held later this year or early next year.

Of those that had registered, 51,37%, or 5,3 million people, actually turned out at polling stations. This meant that of the estimated 16,2 million people in South Africa eligible to vote, only 32,6% had done so.

While 51% of registered voters had cast their votes, the equivalent figures were 46% in the United Kingdom and 45% in the United States, task group member Vic Milne said. This was encouraging, he said.

With only a handful of results still outstanding, the ANC's dominant showing in the poll was confirmed.

Shubane said the ANC had secured 66,37% of the votes compared to the National Party's 16,22%, the Inkatha Freedom Party's 0,71%, the Democratic Party's 3,15%, the Freedom Front's 4,03%, the Conservative Party's 1,15%, the Pan Africanist Congress' 1,42%, the African Christian Democratic Party's 0,59%, ratepayer associations' 2,16% and other, including independent candidates' 3,18%.

Lion among kittens!

The ANC proved itself to be boss - but can it reorganise the jungle alone?
(262) CP 12/11/95



WAITING DUTIFULLY ... Johanna Tshobosa is one of many who voted on November 1.

AFTER the mauling by the African National Congress of most of the country's mainstream parties during the local government elections, South African politics is now entering a state of flux.

In one fell swoop, the ANC delivered a mortal blow to parties to its left like the PAC, the centre right Democratic Party, the right wing Freedom Front and the ultra right Conservative Party.

Inkatha Freedom Party's pretensions to being a party with a national base have been exposed as a figment of the imagination of the party leadership. Only the National Party survived complete annihilation.

Demolition

Such was the demolition job of most of these parties that it is no longer far-fetched to claim, as some people have been doing in the wake of these elections, that the country is now to a very large extent a de facto one party state.

Some political analysts have even gone to the extent of saying that the ANC's complete dominance of the country's political landscape may be unhealthy for our fledgling democracy.

The ANC victory was not unexpected. But, it is the many challenges it was faced with - that has surprised many sea-

soned political analysts.

The party's failure to deliver on most of its national election promises was expected to harm it throughout the country. The problems facing Premiers Popo Molefe and Raymond Mhlaba in the North West and the Eastern Cape were also expected to further undermine it.

Widespread apathy, which was acknowledged by the ANC leadership and forced the government to extend voter registration deadlines twice, was also expected to have a generally negative effect on the polls. The ANC was expected to be the major victim of this.

The high crime rate which some parties are trying to blame on the ANC led government was another controversial election issue. The so-called "white parties", like the NP and DP, tried much to make capital out of this.

The PAC made a great song and dance (on the few occasions they held any rallies) about the ANC's failure to deliver.

In the end, all these factors, which were expected to impact negatively on the ANC, did not harm it.

The voter turnout was impressive and the party did far better than its opponents. Instead, it is the ANC's political rivals which are now worried about the future.

The DP claims it is happy with its performance and that

THE LOCAL government elections left the country in no doubt about who commands the loyalty of the South African majority. SEKOLA SELLO comments on the ANC's victory and looks forward to the next round.

It has regained some of the support it lost to the NP in last year's elections. The FF also claims that these elections show that they represent the majority of Afrikaners.

For parties which obtained anything from one to five percent to still consider themselves serious is a bit of a joke.

Little

The DP has little to crow about, while the FF is less than honest when it claims it represents the Afrikaners. The NP can lay a better claim to representing the Afrikaner.

PAC deputy president Mosisoko Pheko acknowledges that their main rallying point - the question of the land and the dispossession of Africans - does not seem to be striking the right chord with the masses.

Pheko maintains this question of the land is as relevant today as it was when the party was founded three decades ago.

He argues that what may need to be changed is not the message per se, but to show its potential supporters the relevance of land to issues like lack of economic power.

"Our people need to understand that the question of land is intrinsically linked to the creation of wealth. When we talk of land, we are not merely talking about land to build houses, but about the mineral resources as well.

"How can we have control of the diamonds, the gold, the platinum mines of this country if we do not own the land where those mines are located?" The question of land must also be seen in this context," he said.

PAC critics argue that by harping on the land question, the party is still caught in a time warp. The land issue, it is argued, might have made sense to the majority of the people when they still depended on land for survival.

Adding to the problems of parties such as the DP is that they are still perceived as white, English speaking middle class and their electoral support will always come from this dwindling narrow base.

By remaining exclusively all white parties, the FF and CP are assuring that they are going the same route as the dinosaurs.

With the PAC, FF, DP and CP now out of the way, the ANC is now training its big guns to rout Inkatha in the KwaZulu/Natal local government elections which are scheduled for next March.

A bruising battle is also looming between the ANC and the NP for the Western Cape Metropolitan next March.

The ANC is making serious inroads into the Coloured communities in this region. Inkatha, which controls the provincial legislature, is believed to be deploying all its resources to maximise its chances in the coming polls. A poor performance by Inkatha could have serious consequences for the region.

Identical

An almost identical scenario is playing itself out in the NP controlled Western Cape provincial government. With the ANC making inroads into the Coloured communities, the NP, is also fighting a rear-guard battle to keep control of local government structures.

Whether or not the ANC's domination of all structures of governance from local government to provincial to central government bodes ill for democracy is debatable.

Some schools of thought argue that this gives them the opportunity to initiate needed social and economic programmes without being inhibited by the opposition which at times opposes merely for the sake of opposing.

Final results: ANC

won 64% of vote

CT 13/11/95 (262)

JOHANNESBURG: Final results for South Africa's first democratic local government poll give the ANC close to two-thirds of the seats contested on November 1, according to the Local Government Elections Task Group.

"The ANC has won 63,78% of the total seats and the National Party has won 15,85%," task group co-chairman Mr Khehla Shubane told reporters

Independent candidates registered the next highest score of 8,53% by taking 583 seats, he said

Ratepayers' and residents' associations won 293 seats, ahead of the Freedom Front with 132 seats.

"The Democratic Party won 51 seats, the Conservative Party 48, Pan Africanist Congress 24, Inkatha Freedom Party 10 and the African Christian Democratic Party two," Mr Shubane said, adding that a number of smaller parties took 420 seats

Mr Shubane said these results excluded 18 of the total 7 286 seats contested, as by-elections would be held in these seats within 90 days

The Eastern Cape result also did not include 21 of the 173 areas where votes were counted, he said

Blaming communication problems and lack of infrastructure for contributing to the lack of results in those areas, he said he believed the overall results were fair, nonetheless

"They are a very fair reflection of the overall situation in the Eastern Cape," he said

The poll was 51,37% of registered voters in the eight provinces in which polling took place, he said. The percentage of rejected ballots was 1,97

But Mr Shubane said voter turnout was poor in some rural areas.

"The turnout in certain rural areas was disappointing, particularly in the Free State, with 39,86% and the Northern Province and North West, both with about 43%. The national average for urban areas was 57,62%.

The task group would hold its final meeting on November 21 but would monitor areas where by-elections were held, Mr Shubane said. — Reuter

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Final election results confirm a substantial ANC victory

BD 13/11/95 (262)

Kevin O'Grady

A TOTAL of 51,37% of 12,68-million registered voters voted in the local government elections, and the ANC won 66,3% of the votes cast, final election results released on Friday show

The results in 664 of the 686 local authorities where voting took place on November 1 — 21 Eastern Cape and two Gauteng councils are still unaccounted for — were released after a nine-day counting and reconciliation process fraught with problems

Announcing the results, election task group co-chairman Khehla Shubane said many of the problems in counting the votes and consolidating the results should have been foreseen.

These included confusion over result forms, an absence of information from returning officers on the party affiliations of victorious candidates, exhausted counting officers and, in the Eastern Cape, physical and infrastructural problems

In the majority of the 173 Eastern Cape areas where elections took place there were no established administrations and "inexperienced persons had to be recruited to do the job under very difficult circumstances", Shubane said

"Communication was also a major problem, with many places having no telephones or faxes, and the topography presented problems even for vehicular access," he said

In Gauteng results from two Benoni wards, where voting was completed on

Friday, were still outstanding.

The elections produced an encouragingly low number of spoilt ballot papers — 1,97% — an indication "that the so-called complicated system of ward and proportional representation was well within the capacity of the South African electorate", Shubane said.

In the proportional representation elections, the ANC won the highest number of votes in every province where there were elections except the Western Cape where elections in the Cape metropole are still to be held. The NP won 44,1% of the PR vote in the province and the ANC 36,4%.

Nationally, the ANC won 66,37% of the PR vote, the NP 16,22%, the Freedom Front 4,03%, the DP 3,15%, the PAC 1,42%, the CP 1,15%, the IFP 0,71%, the ACDP 0,59%, ratepayer associations 2,16% and others 3,18%

The NP's strongest showing was in Gauteng, where it won 22,7% of the proportional representation vote. Other parties which also performed best in Gauteng were the DP (8,1%), the Front (6,5%) and the ACDP (1,1%).

The CP and PAC won their highest percentage of votes in the Free State (1,7% and 1,9% respectively) and the ANC in the Eastern Cape (80,4%).

Combining ward and proportional representation results, the ANC won 63,78% of seats, the NP 16,43%, the Front 1,93%, the DP 0,75%, the PAC 0,35%, the ACDP 0,03%, ratepayer associations 4,29%, other parties 6,14% and independent candidates 8,53%.

PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz

ANC edges a little closer to two-thirds majority

Star 14/11/95 (262)

Election results show that the ruling party is gaining support while the others have dipped slightly

BY MONDLI MAKHANYA
Political Reporter

With most results from the local government elections now out, the ANC edged a little closer to the two-thirds majority which eluded it in last year's election by improving its showing by nearly 2%.

Results released by the Local Government Elections Task Group at the weekend showed the ANC fell a fraction short of the 66,6% it needed last year to have total control of the national Parliament and the constitution writing process.

The results also roughly mirrored a trend picked up by the Marknor survey shortly before the

elections, which showed the ANC gaining support and other parties dipping slightly.

The party got 66,37%, way ahead of its closest rival, the NIP whose tally in these elections was reduced from 20% to 16,22%.

Also down was the Inkatha Freedom Party, which was the only major party to score less than a percentage point - although results from next March's KwaZulu Natal elections will certainly alter this. The Pan Africanist Congress dipped slightly from 1,6% last year to 1,42% this year. The Democratic Party improved slightly at 3,15%.

The Freedom Front got 4,03%, while the African Christian Democratic party dropped a percentage

point to 0,59%.

Making a mark this year were the ratepayers' parties who got 2,16% of the vote and independent candidates who took 3,18%.

Although some of the results roughly match the prediction made by Marknor a month ago others are way out.

In Gauteng the ANC got 53,4%, far short of the 66% predicted by Marknor, while the NP got 16,22% compared with the 10% in the predictions. The DP got 8%, which was much higher than the 1% in the survey and the IFP got 2,1% as compared with the predicted 1%.

In the Eastern Cape Marknor gave the ANC 83% instead of the 80% and the PAC 1% instead of

1,3%. The NP got 9% as opposed to Marknor's predicted 5%.

In the Western Cape, Marknor had the ANC and the NP tie at 29% but the results show the NP ahead of the ANC with 44,1% against the ANC's 36,4%. Marknor did not give predictions for the FF which took 3,3% of the vote and ratepayers' associations which got 5,9%.

Marknor was nearly on target in the Northern Province, predicting an ANC landslide of 81% which turned out to be 88,2% and had the NP at 1% as opposed to the eventual 3,9%.

In Mpumalanga Marknor had the ANC at 76%, the NP at 6% and the FF at 2%. The ANC got 77%, the NP 10,9% and the FF 3,3%.

In the Free State the ANC, the NP and FF respectively got 67,1%, the NP 12,6% and the FF 2,8%. This compared with Marknor's prediction of 75% support for the ANC, 8% for the NP and 2% for the FF.

According to Marknor the ANC should have taken the Northwest with 78%, followed by the NP with 8% and the FF with 2% and the PAC 1%. Results showed the ANC getting 74,2%, the NP 7,6%, the FF 4,5% and the PAC 1,7%.

Marknor had given the Northern Cape to the ANC, with a majority of 51%, followed by the NP with 28% and the FF with 1%. On November 1 the ANC got 48,9%, the NP went up to 32,7% and the FF got 5%.

ANC flexes its majority in council

Star 16/11/95

(262)

The overwhelming majority by which the ANC won the local government elections has enabled the party to steam ahead and pre-elect ANC officials in most top posts at the expense of other parties.

The ANC announced earlier this month that former transitional mayor of Johannesburg Isaac Mogase would retain his position, with Colin Matjula remaining the chair-

man of the council's executive committee. Yet the inaugural Transitional Metropolitan Council meeting, at which officials are to be democratically elected to their positions, is only scheduled for Monday.

Said NP National caucus acting leader Yakoob Makda yesterday "It's not exactly a democracy when this happens, but they're new at the game and I imagine they will learn

the ropes in time"

When the ANC executive council met on November 9, they nominated Kenny Fihla as deputy executive committee chairman and Reginald Dubazane as chief whip.

Makda said the NP national caucus would meet on Saturday to decide its strategy and nominations for the TMC meeting on Monday - City Reporter

Disputed Jabulani election results to go to tribunal

Voting stations were briefly closed after IFP supporters questioned the exclusion of the party emblem next to their candidate's name on the ballot paper

By Helen Gausson

Graphic accounts of what unfolded at polling stations on local election day in Sowerby's Jabulani township -- where several polling stations were temporarily closed due to alleged disruption by IFP supporters -- are to be submitted to an electoral tribunal this week.

Presiding officers, returning officers and their deputies' written statements in The Star's possession have been collected by the returning officer for the Southern Metropolitan sub-structure, Danny Moodley, since the incidents were reported.

The voting stations closed briefly after IFP party agents and supporters protested over the exclusion of the party emblem next to their candidate's name on the ballot paper.

But the Gauteng government has maintained it has proof, written and on video, that the candidate, John Mbalakwa, registered as an independent.

Moodley said yesterday that he

Intimidation of electoral agents claimed

had received a number of complaints about threats and intimidation of electoral officials by IFP supporters on the day. The electoral tribunal would decide whether to forward the evidence to the Attorney-General for possible prosecutions, he said.

In one of the statements, a presiding officer says: "Four men pretending to be observers came into the station and started arguing and making noise. They asked why the emblem didn't appear. They started intimidating us, saying if I don't stop (the voting), blood will be spilled and they won't hesitate to shoot me because I was promoting unfair castings."

One of the deputy returning officers comments: "IFP members demanded that the polling stations be

closed or they will (sic) go and fetch hostel dwellers to come and shoot everybody who was in the polling stations.

"At Mxolisi school, they went to the extent of tearing ballot papers in the ballot boxes as well as taking some ballot papers away with them the situation got worse when about 2 000 IFP supporters were marching to some polling stations armed with traditional weapons.

"At Etnahaheni school, minibuses transported IFP supporters to vote. Some were drunk and they brought children aged 13 to vote. My presiding officers were forced to let people vote even if they were not in possession of identification or not on the voter's roll."

IFP executive officer Angelina Dhlomo said yesterday that the IFP had not intimidated electoral officers but had simply wanted "our rights to be upheld. We asked that the situation be rectified, because voters were asking why the party emblem didn't appear," she said.

MADAM & EVE

THANK GOODNESS IT'S THE

THIS IS UNIT ZIK WERE INVESTIGATING AND ATTEMPTED HIJACK

THEY'RE MAKING A BREAK FOR THEM

NOT NOW, MA/AM OFFICER... WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF A

By S FRANCIS, H DUGMORE & RICO

Examination of the local elections

ET 20/11/95 (262)

JEREMY SEEKINGS

THIS month's local-government elections have been interpreted widely as a triumph for the ANC. The Cape Times (November 11) itself described the ANC's performance nationally as "a significant improvement on its showing in last year's national and provincial poll". Similarly, the ANC's successes in the non-metropolitan towns of the Western Cape has been attributed to the inroads it has made among formerly NP-supporting coloured voters.

A careful examination of the election results shows that these interpretations of both the national and the Western Cape results are flawed. The ANC's performance nationally does not show significant improvement on last year's results, nor are the Western Cape results primarily the result of a "swing" from the NP to the ANC. The results are a triumph for the ANC, but are not based on any significant 'swing' to it at national or provincial levels.

Widely misinterpreted

In last year's elections the ANC won 62,6% of the national vote. Not all of the results in this year's local government elections have been announced. Initially it seemed the ANC was going to win about 70% of the total vote (that is in the proportional representation ballot). On Friday, November 10, with results outstanding from just 22 of the 686 councils involved, the ANC was said to have won 66,4% of the vote. Even the latter figure is higher than the ANC's 1994 share - hence interpretations of ANC "gains".

This national-level data has been widely misinterpreted because like is not being compared with like. This year there were no local government elections in two areas where the ANC performed relatively poorly last year - metropolitan Cape Town and KwaZulu-Natal. If we exclude voters in these two

areas from the 1994 election results, then the ANC's share of the total 1994 vote rises from 62,6% to 73,1%. The ANC's share of the vote has, in fact, declined slightly, rather than increased. The NP's estimated 16,2% of the 1995 vote is also very slightly lower than the 18,6% of the vote it won in 1994 in these same areas. Similarly, the IFP's share in 1995 is only slightly lower than the meagre 1,6% of the vote it won in 1994.

Here in the non-metropolitan Western Cape, in contrast to the overall national picture, there have been significant changes in the parties' shares of the vote. In last year's general election, the NP won about 60% of the vote in the Western Cape towns where local government elections were held on November 1. The ANC's share of last year's vote was about 32%. This year the NP won just 45% of the proportional representation vote in these towns, while the ANC's share crept up to 37%.

Viewed in terms of the parties' shares of the vote in April 1994 and November 1995 respectively, the big "shift" is not from the NP to the ANC but rather from the NP to civic and ratepayers' associations - that is to local organisations which did not, of course, compete in the 1994 elections. These organisations won 10% of the proportional representation vote. Their share of the vote was thus twice as large as the increase in the ANC's share.

It is important to clarify that the civic organisations referred to here are those which won votes on the proportional representation ballot. Many ind-

Here in the non-metropolitan Western Cape, in contrast to the overall national picture, there have been significant changes in the parties' shares of the vote.

vidual wards were won by candidates running under the auspices of a civic or ratepayers' organisation - often with the blessing of one or other of the major parties, which would not put up rival candidates itself. But a vote for a civic or ratepayers group in the proportional representation ballot meant rejecting the major parties in favour of the civic or ratepayers' group.

Focusing on the parties' shares of the vote gives a distorted picture, however, as it ignores the absolute numbers of voters involved. Nationally, excluding the areas where there were no elections, only slightly more than one in three of last year's voters voted in the local elections this year.

A total of 331 000 votes were cast in the local-government elections in the Western Cape. This compares to an estimated 644 000 votes in these same towns in last year's election (this figure excludes people on the farms who were ineligible to vote on November

1). The number of votes cast this year was only just more than half of the number cast last year! The dramatic drop in turnout has been obscured because official figures this year have presented turnout in terms of registered voters, not in terms of the total number of eligible voters.

The ANC won 123 000 votes on the proportional representation ballot in the Western Cape this year. Last year it won about 200 000 votes in the same towns. In other words, the ANC received about 60% as many votes this year as last year. The NP won more votes than the ANC - 150 000 but thus

figure corresponds to just more than 40% of its 1994 votes. The story of the local government elections is therefore, above all, the story of the NP's greater failure to mobilise its former supporters in this year's local elections.

None of this should detract from the success of the ANC's local campaigns. The ANC ensured that the elections were defined in terms of its strengths rather than its weaknesses (its predominantly African character) or the NP's strengths (De Klerk). Above all, the ANC's local campaigns persuaded many former NP voters that they did not need to turn out to vote against the ANC.

But the ANC should not be complacent. Even this year it won fewer votes than the NP.

Its control of many councils has depended on the 50/50 ward allocation, by which half of the wards were allocated to black areas even though black voters rarely comprised more than a quarter of the electorate.

This means the ANC won control of Paarl, for example, although it won fewer votes than the NP. The reallocation of wards before the next elections will remove this advantage. Secondly, the ANC itself failed to mobilise all of its 1994 supporters. Their active support must be regained. Furthermore, the ANC cannot assume that voters who defected from the NP to civic and ratepayers groups on November 1 will not return to the NP in future national and provincial government elections.

Finally, the ANC is favoured by the politics of many small towns where there is a sharp division between white and coloured residents. In Cape Town, divisions are perhaps sharper between coloured and black residents. The ANC will need to work hard if it is to challenge the NP in the Mother City next year.

Dr Seekings teaches Sociology at the University of Cape Town.

CT 20/11/95

Ward quota system to go

(262)

THE provision for black areas and white/coloured areas to each have 50% of the ward seats in local governments would be scrapped in the Western Cape as soon as possible after March, Minister of Local Government Mr Peter Marais said. However, the election of local councillors by proportional representation would be kept — Staff Reporter

COMMITTEES TO CONTROL COMMUNAL PROPERTY

New land law will erode power of chiefs

CONTROL of communal land may in future be held by elected committees which in turn will be accountable to the communities they represent if a new law before Parliament is passed. **BARRY STREEK** reports.

NEW legislation which puts communal property in the hands of elected committees, and which will significantly remove the power of chiefs and traditional leaders over communal land, has been tabled in Parliament.

The Communal Property Associations Bill would create a new juristic person, a committee, which could acquire property on behalf of disadvantaged communities.

A memorandum attached to the bill says it was "designed to provide a relatively simple and

accessible mechanism through which group ownership systems may be recognised"

However, to qualify for these benefits, communal property associations will have to "conform to certain basic public standards of fair process, democratic accountability and equality"

The bill provides that the interim committees of the associations have to be democratically elected and once established they will have to have "fair and inclusive decision-making processes" and equality of membership among

ET 21/11/95 (B) (262) (2045)
 members of the communities. Their democratic processes will have to ensure that all members of the communities concerned receive adequate notice of meetings, are able to participate in any general meetings, receive copies of minutes and inspect financial statements

Audited

The committees of the associations will have to be accountable to its members and financial records will have to be audited annually

The bill also provides for the monitoring and inspection of the communal property associations by the director-general of Land Affairs

Battle over local authorities begins

Wyndham Hartley

CAPE TOWN — The first skirmish in the battle over whether the national government or provincial governments control the nation's newly elected local authorities was played out in Parliament yesterday.

Parliament's joint portfolio committee convened to hear submissions and opinions from a wide range of interested parties on new local government legislation which would replace the controversial Local Government in Transition Act which governed the recent third-tier elections.

The Act will cease to exist after outstanding elections, notably in KwaZulu-Natal and Cape Town, have been held. New "bridging" legislation will have to be enacted to replace it.

On the one hand ANC speakers spoke strongly in support of overriding national norms and standards to be controlled from the centre while others from the NP in KwaZulu-Natal's legislature argued that national control would leave local government hamstrung and would lead to future political

problems
Committee chairman Pravin Gordhan (ANC) said in response to a query about the absence of KwaZulu-Natal from meetings discussing new local government legislation that there were two ways of proceeding — with all role-players participating in a constructive way to establish the boundaries or for both the provinces and the national Parliament to legislate control of local government and then fight it out in the Constitutional Court.

KwaZulu-Natal has already tabled provincial legislation to govern local government in the province.

NP KwaZulu-Natal local government spokesman Gordon Haygarth told the committee they should take care in deciding what was good for local government because the answer varied according to who asked the question.

The committee also discussed a memorandum agreed on that suggests the newly elected councils should remain in place for a minimum of three years and no more than five. It also says that the "competencies" of local government should be further debated.

Three to five year terms planned for new councils

(262) ARG 23/11/95

CLIVE SAWYER, Political Correspondent

CITY and town councils elected this month should stay in office for about three to five years, a meeting of central and provincial ministers of local government has agreed

But this does not mean no restructuring of councils, (including rationalisation) of staff and assets, will be allowed during that time

These were among recommendations, by a local government legislation task team drawn from central and provincial governments, adopted at a meeting of Minmec this week

Minmec is a liaison body of central and provincial ministers of constitutional development and local government

Absent from this week's meeting was KwaZulu-Natal Minister of Local Government Peter Miller

Other recommendations adopted by Minmec included one that the office of provincial committees of local government should be ended when elections have been completed in a province.

This could spell the end for these bodies in all but two provinces, KwaZulu-Natal and the Western Cape

Restructuring of councils and the system of local government, in terms of the final constitution, should be done in the next three to five years by an appropriate legislature.

This restructuring should allow normal internal administrative changes to be done in terms of existing ordinances and by-laws

Minmec agreed that future legislation on local government should emphasise the need for social and economic development

A report by the task team was presented yesterday to the parliamentary committee on constitutional and provincial affairs

The committee is meeting this week to hear evidence on revised legislation for local government

Chairperson Pravin Gordhan said attention had to be given to what would happen legislatively when the Local Government Transition Act ceased to be in effect, which at present was scheduled to happen at the end of March. A problem was that elections had not yet been held in the Cape Town metropole and in KwaZulu-Natal

Minister for Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Roelf Meyer said his ministry had a great deal of work to do after the November 1 elections.

A framework for future local government was to be established by a white paper and by the new constitution

Another aspect which would have to be dealt with was local government finance, to ensure that new councils were financially viable.

Andrew Boraine of the Department of Constitutional Development told the committee that a full review of all local government legislation was being done

Provinces too were reviewing the municipal ordinances they had inherited from the four former provincial administrations, by which the daily running of councils was still governed.

The review included legislation like the Remuneration of Town Clerks Act and Profession of Town Clerks Act, and laws on local government training.

Some laws had become outmoded and would have to be repealed, Mr Boraine said.

Legislation would have to be examined in the light of new laws like the Labour Relations Act, Development Facilitation Act and Police Act, which were expected to have far-reaching effects on local government

Mr Boraine said that local governments had tended to operate in isolation from other arms of government

A goal of the legislation task team was to enable co-ordination between local government and other bodies involved with housing, land allocation, finance, water and the RDP.

The emphasis in bridging legislation would be on an inter-governmental approach

The chief consideration would be what was good for local government, as opposed to central or provincial government

The consensus in the task team had been that both the national parliament and provincial legislatures would have legislative power over local government

Mr Gordhan called on everyone involved in making local government laws to adopt a co-operative approach

It was preferable to sit in the same room and work out a standard approach, rather than for national and provincial governments to pass laws simultaneously and leave clashes to the Constitutional Court to decide

The task team said bridging legislation should be passed to cover status and functions of local government to prevent encroachment by provincial legislatures or the national parliament.

Laws should be passed to allow for differentiation between the number of powers and functions allocated to councils

Certain councils were experienced and skilled while others lacked capacity, and legislation should allow for this, the task team said

Plan to boost central govt control over funds for wayward provinces

Greta Steyn

CENTRAL government will be able to stop allocating funds to provincial governments found guilty of serious or persistent maladministration, says the working draft of the new constitution.

Any action to stop the transfer of funds to a province has to be ratified by Parliament within 30 days, it says. The provision forms part of a new section on treasury control — an addition to the chapter on finance which was not in the interim constitution. The section

on treasury control and the expansion of the one on budgeting enhance the principles of fiscal prudence and transparency in financial management at all levels of government.

There is much greater emphasis on transparency than in the interim constitution — which could lead to more information being made available on government's finances.

In addition, the draft finally lays to rest fears that the Reserve Bank's independence might be constrained. The wording in the draft places even

greater emphasis on the Bank's autonomy than the interim constitution. It says the Bank must perform its functions independently "and without fear, favour or prejudice."

The section on treasury control provides for legislation to ensure transparency and consistency in the application of expenditure control, treasury norms and standards at all levels of government. Generally accepted accounting practices must be used. The draft says the legislation also has to prescribe the framework within which

provincial treasuries must act.

The section on budgets provides for an Act prescribing the format of national and provincial budgets and the procedure to be followed when drawing them up.

"The budgets must promote transparency, accountability and effective financial management of the public sector as a whole."

The section retains the requirement that capital and current expenditure be reflected for the fiscal year.

While the draft tightens up fiscal

control, it also ensures that government keeps its part of the bargain with the lower tiers. It says a province's share of revenue must be transferred "expeditiously and without deduction", except when its transgressions mean financing has to end.

Additional revenue raised by provinces may not be deducted from their share of allocations from central government, but there is also no obligation on central government to compensate provinces that do not raise revenue if they have the capacity to do so.

LITANY OF MALPRACTICE

Rural bodies warned to watch out for fraud

ET 24/11/95 (262)

A PROVINCIAL COMMITTEE is alarmed at malpractices in rural local authorities. **CHRIS BATEMAN** reports.

RURAL local authorities with limited financial expertise should approach the Western Cape government for help to avoid exposing themselves to serious internal abuse and fraud, which ratepayers inevitably had to shoulder

This warning was issued by Mr Arnold de Jager, chairman of the province's Standing Committee on Public Accounts after a week-long hearing in which a litany of malpractice, improper land transactions and fraudulent cash transfers emerged

The committee yesterday made several recommendations, ranging

from commissions of inquiry to calling in police and informing the present employers of one former town clerk of his highly suspect record

Expressing its "utter dismay" at the way in which Clanwilliam bungled inquiries into massive suspect transactions by its former town clerk, Mr J J "Boet" Viljoen, the committee recommended a probe of possible fraud, malpractice, or "improper favouring"

Current town clerk Mr Valdor Dudley should report all instances of suspected fraud to the SAPS and inform the Free State town council of Petrus Steyn, where Mr Viljoen

is now town clerk, of what the auditor-general had uncovered

Revelations included an allegedly improper land deal two years ago that left the council R218 000 in debt for legal fees, hiring land in the Clanwilliam recreation resort to a developer at R100 a year for a 99-year period with an option for a further 99 years, and improperly transferring two pieces of council land to a developer without asking any purchase price

The committee's dismay had to do with the failure of Clanwilliam's city fathers to report these allegations to police for at least two years

The committee also noted that Kapa town council was in a chaotic state

High voter turnout not a guarantee of legitimacy

Wyndham Hartley

(262)

BD 24/11/95

CAPE TOWN — It was dangerous to use only voter registration or voter turnout to assess the legitimacy of the local elections, the head of the elections task group, Van Zyl Slabbert, said yesterday

Addressing the parliamentary constitutional affairs committee during a session to debate and hear submissions on future local government legislation, he said the question of legitimacy was a complex one and could not be decided by an academic study

"There is a tendency to say legitimacy is a function of high registration or of voter turnout. I would say these may be necessary but not sufficient conditions for testing legitimacy

"It is possible to have a low voter turnout where one party predominates. It would be accepted by the community because they say 'We knew our party would win anyway'. But you could have extremely high voter turnout with fierce party competition where the losers refuse to accept the result. This would be a crisis of legitimacy"

It was a mistake to use national averages to judge legitimacy in a local government election

An encouraging sign of legitimacy in local elections was the absence of any large-scale public protest or significant court action, Slabbert said

Another problem was that it still was not clear how many voters there were in SA. The only way to solve this was to continue registering "until we have the most comprehensive voters' roll possible"

Finance logjam broken for local authorities

Adrienne Giliomee

(262)

BD 24/11/95

THE logjam in finance to local authorities has been broken following the Development Bank of SA announcement that new commitments amounting to R428m had been made to local authorities, regional service councils, joint services boards and public utilities.

In its interim financial report published today the bank reported an increase of 7% in net income to R90,9m for the six months to September while development loans jumped 45% to R650m. Total new commitments — including amounts lent to local authorities — amounted to R576m (R415m).

In the past provinces had been unable to borrow from the bank as legislation had not been passed. Current projections were that the R1,3bn budget for investment flows during the 1995/96 year would be exceeded by as much as 10%, said acting CE Nick Christodoulou.

"We are embarking on a new concentrated effort to involve the private sector in funding infrastructure. The bank is looking at structured finance and specific mechanisms in which we would try to assume developmental risk for the period of time necessary to give private sector the comfort to invest in these projects."

It looked as if projects being negotiated with the private sector could amount to investment of R1bn in infrastructure in the coming year, he said. Interest earnings from development loans rose 17% to R217,6m.

Christodoulou said the upward trend in interest income resulted primarily from accelerated growth in the development loan book during the past 18 months. Operating expenditure increased 12% to R61,1m.

He said most bank clients had honoured the terms of debt repayments.

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262

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"It is possible to have a low voter turnout where one party predominates. It would be accepted by the community because they say 'We knew our party would win anyway'. But you could have extremely high voter turnout with fierce party competition where the losers refuse to accept the result. This would be a crisis of legitimacy."

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Local authorities must tighten belts after Cabinet decision to cut grants

(262) Star 25/11/95
Cape Town - The election of 300 new rural councils, coupled with a Cabinet decision to cut 1996 intergovernmental grants by R80-million, would force local authorities to tighten their belts next year, Department of Constitutional Development deputy director-general Andrew Boraine said yesterday.

The Cabinet's treasury committee had decided to reduce intergovernmental grants from central government to local authorities to R800-million from next year, Boraine told a parliamentary public hearing on new transitional local government legislation.

"This amount (the R800-million) must not only cover existing local

authorities but also the 300 new rural authorities that have been elected. This means there will be less money to distribute among more authorities."

This was the message being sent out by the Cabinet and the Department of Finance and State Expenditure, he said.

One short-term solution was for local authorities to improve their collection of payments for municipal services.

"Local authorities also need to look at all sorts of savings through the rationalisation process," he said.

Boraine added that some local authorities spent more than half their budget on administrative overheads, which was unacceptable - Sapa

Are we really (yawn) so bored?

(262) M/G 27/10 - 2/11/95

Voter apathy has become an election issue — in the absence of substantive new issues to inspire South Africans, reports **Marion Edmunds**

AFRICAN National Congress and National Party leaders are doing their utmost to dispel the impression that South Africans are not interested in Wednesday's local government elections

The ANC went so far as to arrange a special news conference this week to try to assure the nation that voter apathy is not widespread. ANC secretary general Cyril Ramaphosa said "We have found, in the areas where we have held meetings, that there is a great deal of enthusiasm about local government being brought to the people"

More revealing was Ramaphosa's remark that he would be satisfied with a 50 percent turn-out at the poll — far lower than the 86 percent percentage poll of the national elections

What is worrying the ANC — and perhaps even the second largest party, the National Party — is the fact that voter apathy will weaken their hold on political leadership across the country

But the NP was able to use the issue to take a swipe at its biggest opponent this week. Said NP representative Jaco Maree "The National Party has been able to register its supporters 100 per cent — there is no apathy among our supporters and we expect a very high percentage to vote. We do believe, however, that other parties — especially the ANC — are finding it difficult to create enthusiasm"

It is, perhaps, ironic that parties have come to use voter apathy as a vehicle for party politicking. Even the smaller parties are using it as a demonstration of their potential success

Gauteng DP spokesperson Jack Bloom said this week that people were feeling their vote would not make a difference. Disillusionment in the Government of National Unity's performance would help boost the vote of parties outside of the GNU — the smaller political parties and the many independent candidates and the representatives of ratepayers' associations and local forums

What is becoming clear is that



But what about crime? A worried resident of Johannesburg's northern suburbs questions Justice Minister Dullah Omar about the ANC's ability and willingness to fight crime at an election meeting addressed by Omar and Gauteng safety and security MEC Jessie Duarte on Wednesday night

PHOTOGRAPH NAASHON ZALK

there is a lack of clarity about all the elements needed to make the elections a meaningful exercise. Many people don't know or care who their candidates are, they do not know the boundaries of their wards; they are not sure what the different ballot papers are for, and what voting will achieve for them

What could also be making the elections unpalatable for normal folk is the boredom of it all. It seems that the larger parties — the ANC and the NP — are stuck in their national politicking rut, while voters have become tired of national politics and the personalities that project the

major parties. They want to move on. Granted, it is important for the nationally based parties to advertise themselves rather than just their individual candidates, given that 40 percent of the vote will go directly to the parties through the proportional representation system. However, there has been very little fresh or out of the ordinary in the election campaign this year. The only issues that have really penetrated the hearts of South Africans are crime and violence, and because all parties latched onto them with such tenacity, it has been all but played out.

The media has battled to generate its own enthusiasm and the qualified

interest on the part of the media has not helped politicians reach voters

Even the security forces are comparatively relaxed. Although every member of the police will be on duty on Wednesday, with the SANDF standing by, there is no serious threat of violence

Given the rivalries between political parties which have persisted beyond last year's elections, the stability at the time of this election can also be interpreted as voter apathy

So it appears that, maybe, the majority of South Africans are looking forward to Wednesday, not because it is election day, but rather because it's a national public holiday

'I don't know why I was shot' — IFP candidate

Justin Pearce

TWO days after being blasted with shotgun fire that left a hole the size of a ping-pong ball in his back, local election candidate Simon Nkosi still doesn't know why he was shot. Nkosi was one of the six Inkatha Freedom Party candidates who this week suffered an attack which left one dead and the rest peppered with buck-shot wounds.

The shooting — for which six South African National Defence Force soldiers and one taxi operator were arrested on Wednesday — happened near Lochiel, close to the Swaziland border in Mpumalanga, two days earlier.

While the IFP was quick to make political mileage out of the incident, Nkosi, who is a candidate in the Fernie district near Lochiel, was more cautious than his party leaders in apportioning blame.

"I have no idea who shot at us, or of the reason why they shot at us," he said while in hospital in Bethal this week. Nkosi and four other candidates were injured in the shooting, while another candidate, Luke Madonsela, was shot dead.

IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi has described the incident as "a premeditated act of terror" and of "political cleansing".

"It appears the ANC is adopting the same attitude of casual indifference to the deaths of hundreds of our leaders, as did the previous government," Buthelezi told an election rally in Witbank the day after the shooting.

The ANC has hit back with equal vehemence, insisting that Buthelezi apologise for implicating the ANC in the incident.

"It is becoming a facet of this election that charges of intimidation and intolerance are levelled against the ANC without any substantial evidence," the party retorted on Wednesday.



IFP supporters state their preference

The ANC statement emphasised that soldiers appeared to be responsible for the shooting, a view which has been given credibility by the arrest late on Wednesday of six members of an army patrol from the nearby Sonstraal SANDF base.

A taxi operator, who was arrested at the same time, apparently told the soldiers that there was a Toyota Cressida carrying illegal firearms in the area, and gave them a lift to where the six candidates were waiting in a similar vehicle.

Nkosi told how a minibus stopped on the other side of the road, and its occupants without warning began shooting at the car. The minibus drove off almost immediately, with its occupants still firing at the car as they went, Nkosi said.

Mpumalanga police representative Lieutenant Isak van Zyl said police were investigating a charge of murder, four charges of attempted murder, and charges of malicious damage to property.

The SANDF is doing its own investigation into the matter. The IFP men have admitted that there was at least one gun in the car, but police accept that it was legally licensed and was not fired during the incident.

Maid vs madam in Morgan Bay

Bronwen Roberts

A POPULAR comic strip has come to life as the quiet Eastern Cape hamlet of Morgan Bay gears itself up for the elections

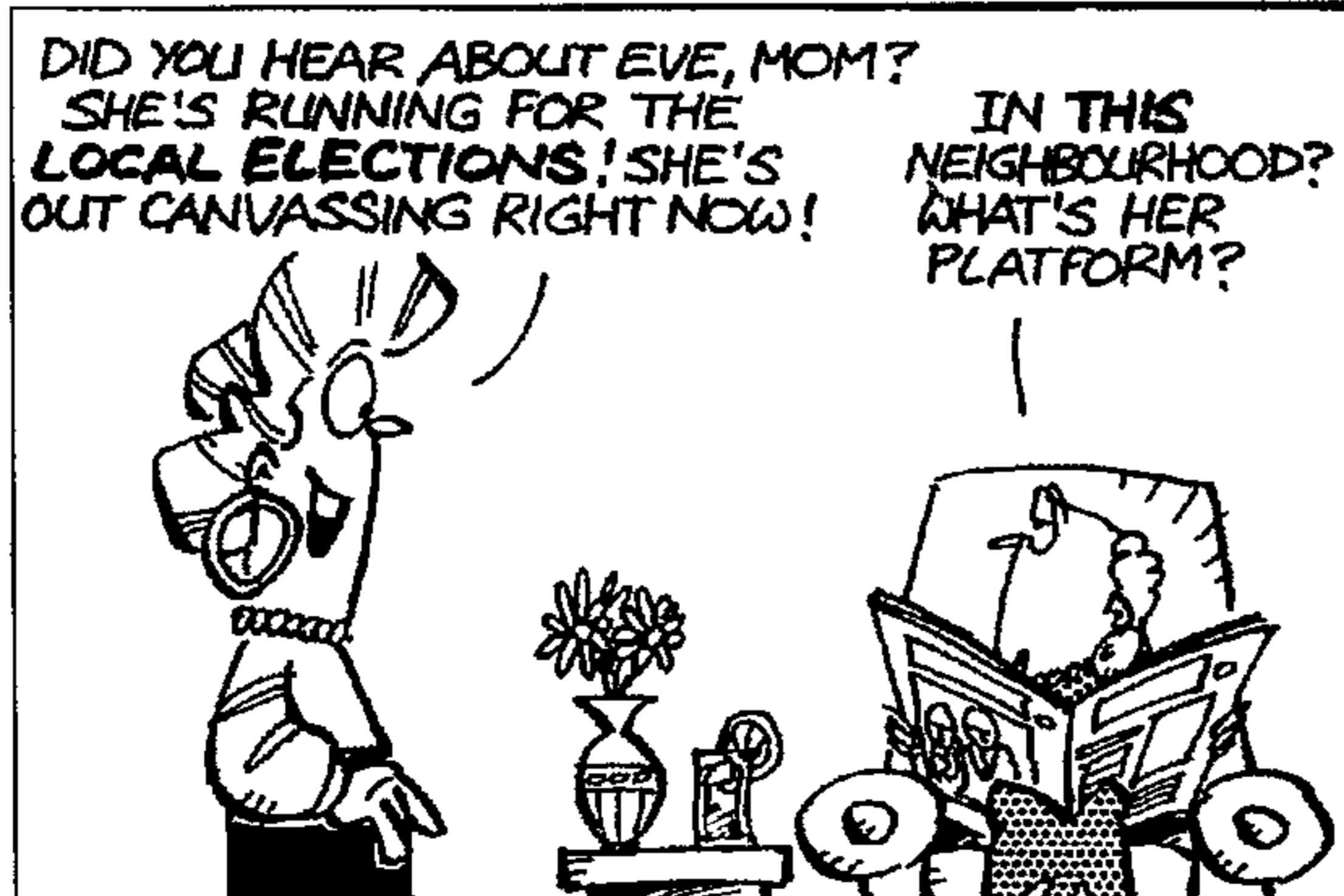
The only two women standing for the local government elections, Pebs Saunders and Ntombizodwa Nonqayi, know one another well — Saunders employs Nonqayi as a domestic worker

And, in a scenario that seems straight out of the *Madam and Eve* cartoon series, Nonqayi is standing for election against her employer

"It is a bit of a giggle," smiles Saunders, who is from the independent Kei Mouth/Morgan Bay Ratepayers' Association

She seems to feel a bit uncomfortable about the situation, but says Ivy — as she calls Nonqayi — "has every democratic right to stand for elections"

"I think it is the ANC she is standing for," she says, later adding, "I don't



want to make too much of the whole thing"

About 500 metres down the road from Saunders' luxury home, which doubles as her estate agency office, is Nonqayi's rondavel, one of about ten

rondavels and shacks in a village that climbs an uneven and rocky slope

Nonqayi says the village is called "Lokohlo", which means "the place you can't find" and it does seem hidden away. Away from the large homes

and view of the sea and the Ntshala River lagoon that visitors associate with Morgan Bay

The village is very traditional and so is Nonqayi, standing among half-naked children and wearing a doek and German print dress, her face lightly whitened

One of her election hopes is to get a better location for her village, where people can build enough homes so that several families do not have to live together.

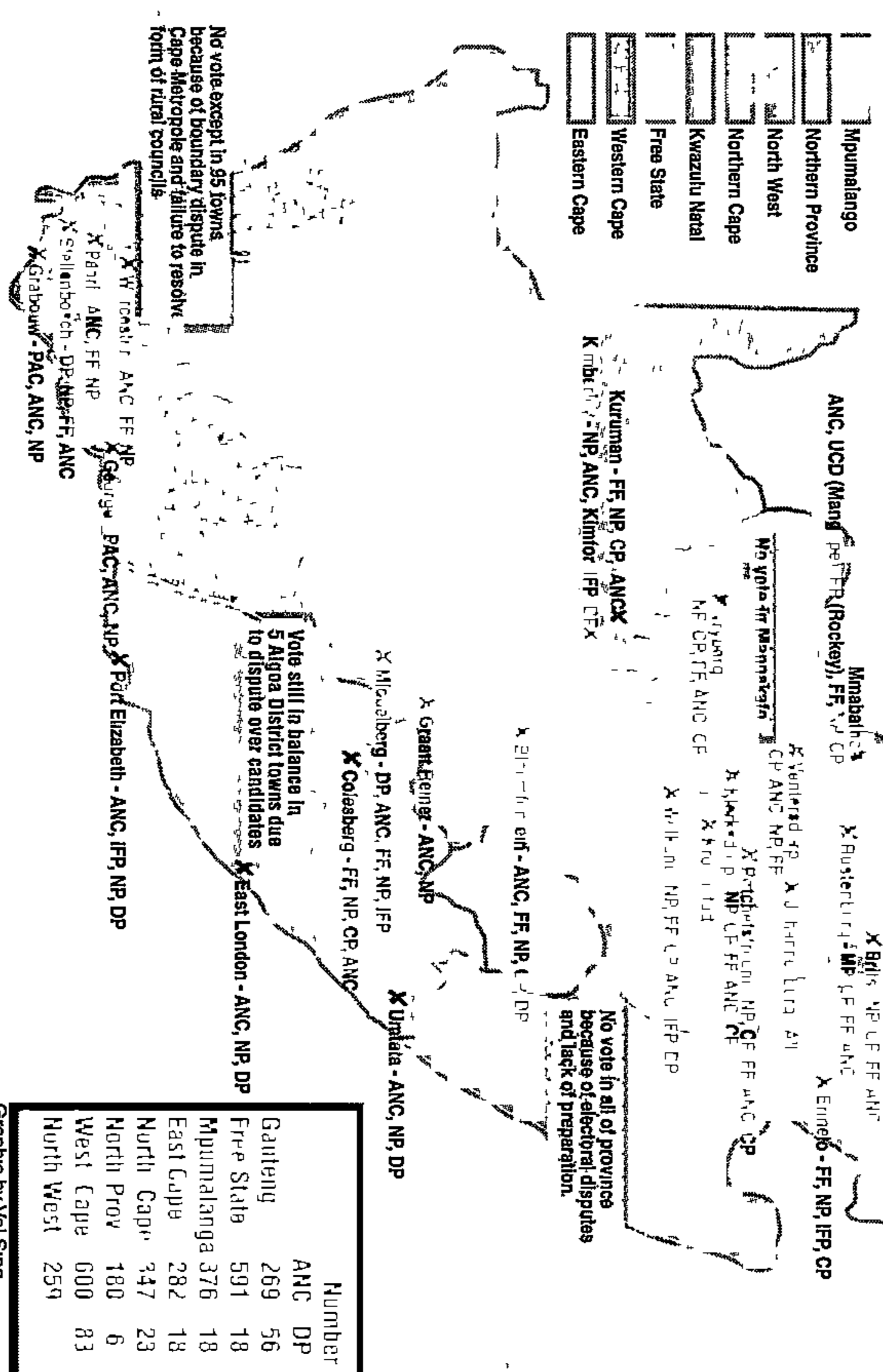
Other promises include those the ANC clings to — water, electricity, a sewerage system

Nonqayi is excited about the elections, Saunders, an experienced councillor, is a bit more fierce "Morgan Bay is my baby," she says

The two don't discuss the election much. Nonqayi arrives at work and starts her morning's chores, while Saunders takes off in her bakkie to do some errands

"Madam and Eve" — or is that Ivy? — will meet again, at the polls — *Ecna*

Percentage of eligible voters registered by province			
	Total	Urban	Rural
Eastern Cape	75.65	69.79	80.66%
Free State	77.04	78.47	82.46%
Gauteng	76.21	75.52	98.42%
Kwazulu Natal	69.49	78.60	51.10
Mpumalanga	69.46	74.87	57.82
North West	80.49	107.20	69.18
Western Cape	87.83	88.84	77.68
North Province	85.67	77.72	87.00
Northern Cape	86.00	85.67	87.40%



	ANC	DP	FF	IFP	NP	Other	Total
Gauteng	269	56	99	51	234	245	348
Free State	591	18	45	14	257	606	594
Mpumalanga	376	18	60	23	309	267	238
Eastern Cape	282	18	12	9	67	114	591
North West	347	23	65	11	387	191	291
North Prov	180	6	36	0	58	164	277
Western Cape	600	83	87	0	800		
North West	259		200	2	134	10	276

Graphic by Val Sing

A bird's eye view of the election battlefield

262 MT 27/10-2/11/95

Marion Edmunds

NOT even the Pretoria-based Local Government Elections Task Group has a bird's eye view of the battlefield for November 1. Sources in the administration confirm logistical information has been so difficult to extract from provincial governments that it has been impossible to compile a map which details election activities from a national perspective.

Yet we have given it our best shot, showing how the major parties — the African National Congress (ANC), the National Party (NP), the Freedom Front (FF), the Democratic Party (DP) and the Inkatha Freedom Party (IFP) — have deployed their forces around the country. On the map, the symbol X denotes hotly-contested areas, and the main parties involved in each such contest are listed.

The box on the top left will give an indication of voter interest. It shows the percentages of potential voters who have registered in each province, with percentage breakdowns for metropolitan, urban and rural areas. The box below shows the total number of wards per province against the number contested by each party, to give an idea of parties' relative confidence and organisational strength.

The figures are not necessarily accurate — but such is the confusion that approximation is the only solution. Neither provincial government departments, nor the election task group, nor the political parties have all the information to give an accurate picture of who is standing where, at what strength and with what prospects.

A rash of disqualifications of candidates from a number of parties, but from the ANC particularly, has snarled up statistics even more. Political leaders from the "big five" parties — as well as from the PAC, which has been unable to give figures on her national strength — have been touring the country, throwing down gauntlets with bold words and accusations, using very local platforms for national gestures. But while it is tempting to compare the local elections with last April's national elections, the country's future is not in the balance, the stakes are lower, and the potential for disruption is less.

Court rules on State's powers over provinces

ARG 29/11/95

(262)

JOHANNESBURG — The Constitutional Court today rejected an attempt by Kwa-Zulu-Natal Premier Frank Mdlalose to challenge powers of the central government over provinces.

Dr Mdlalose, who is also Inkatha's chairman, had asked the court to rule against President Mandela over changes to the law which gave him the authority to decide the pay of premiers and MECs.

"(None) of the amendments to the constitution placed in issue by the applicants in the present case can conceivably fall within a category of amendments so basic to the constitution as to effectively abrogate or destroy it," said Judge Ismail Mahomed.

The other 10 judges concurred.

Dr Mdlalose's lawyers had accused Mr Mandela, the central government and Provincial Affairs and Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer of trying to undermine the powers of provincial governments in the changes to the law.

But Mr Meyer, defending the case, had argued in documents before the court

that parliament had the right to override the provinces so long as uniformity was called for and its legislation applied to all parts of the country.

In another decision today the Constitutional Court eased the drug laws, overturning legislation which said people guilty of marijuana (dagga) possession could be convicted of dealing in the drug simply because they had more than 115 grams of it, reports Reuter.

Judge Kate O'Regan found that in terms of the old laws, suspects could be convicted of dealing because they had more than a certain amount — even if there was reasonable doubt.

"If there is indeed doubt that the accused is a dealer, he or she is entitled, according to our law, to the benefit of that doubt."

● Copies of yesterday's Argus which include *Constitutional Talk*, the 32-page special section containing full details of the draft constitution for South Africa, can be ordered from the foyer counter in Newspaper House, 122 St George's Mall.

Newly-elected local governments face financial crunch

(262) M+G (BM) 1-7/12/95

Lynda Loxton

LOCAL government is facing "an affordability crunch" that could have long-term consequences for the delivery of services by newly-elected local governments

Development Bank of Southern Africa policy co-ordination manager Chris Heymans last week told a parliamentary select committee hearing on local government that a great deal of innovative thinking would be needed on the part of central, provincial and local governments as well as the private sector to ensure that local governments were financially viable

Several speakers criticised the fact that the Department of Finance, hell-bent on keeping the budget deficit under control, had cut inter-governmental grants to local authorities by R80-million to R800-million in the 1996/1997 budget now being finalised

This, they said, overlooked the fact that all local governments were going through a transition phase "and that usually costs more rather than less, especially in the short to medium term"

"Local governments across the country will face different economic realities and we should not pretend that in the new order they are going to end up with bustling economies," Heymans said

"Some will continue to struggle, either because they have no economic base or because they manage their economic base poorly"

This highlighted the need to help local authorities build up their ability to mobilise resources and Heymans said the government should consider temporarily waiving the restriction on local government borrowing for recurrent expenditure such as training and other capacity building

He admitted this could be risky, but also very necessary

For example, one of the major prob-

lems facing many local authorities is their lack of capacity to collect revenues. This is exacerbated by the unwillingness, rather than the inability, of many people to pay bills, especially when they have a state label on them

Local authority revenue has traditionally come from property taxes and service charges, especially for electricity. Heymans said it was too soon to tell whether the new demarcation of local authorities left them with a viable property tax base while several parastatals seemed set to take over the provision of services.

This indicated a need to identify additional sources of revenue and Heymans said local governments would have to "think on their feet" if they were to raise the funds for the huge developmental needs of their areas.

For example, he said, the present system of vehicle licenses being collected by local authorities for provincial authorities could be reviewed so that local authorities received a share.

"Another option could be surcharges on personal and company tax," Heymans said, adding that he had received differing

options of how easy or difficult this would be to administer

Given the fact that the capital market is increasingly wary of providing loans to local authorities, and even large metropolises such as Johannesburg, Hey-

mans said greater attention should be paid to involving the private sector in the provision of services and infrastructure development

"I am not making a case for privatisation, but we must look at creative ways of engaging the private sector," he said, adding that the DBSA could assist by "taking that portion of the risk that the private sector is not prepared to take"

All of this points to the need for a financial framework (for local governments) to facilitate consistency.

"We have had too much chaos, too much collapse. We need to create a framework within which the transitional and the more structural long-term constraint on the borrowing capacity of local authorities is resolved. It will also make it easier to attract private sector financing for local government and possibly the development of private sector service delivery

"It will also support predictable grants and ensure accessibility in a relatively uniform system of financial reporting

One of the major problems facing many local authorities is their lack of capacity to collect revenues

Local governments would have to 'think on their feet' if they were to raise the funds for the huge developmental needs of their areas

Councils to keep surpluses

MUNICIPALITIES countrywide need not worry any more about losing the R1,7-billion annual income they get from surpluses on their electricity undertakings

In what amounts to a local tax on electricity, most municipalities have traditionally set their tariffs at slightly higher than they need to cover electricity costs. The surpluses are then paid into the rates account to ease the burden on ratepayers. (262) (52)

For the past 18 months, local government groups have been worried that the surpluses will be taken from them.

But at the Cape Metropolitan Council meeting yesterday, councillor Mr Frank Van der Velde said a working group set up by the ministries of energy affairs, constitutional affairs and public enterprises had recommended that local government should get its R1,7bn a year from electricity.

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Municipal Reporter

Local government laws to be revamped

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(253)

(262)

CLIVE SAWYER
Political Correspondent

A THOROUGH revamp of local government laws is in the pipeline but is not expected to reach the cabinet before March

Lawyers and officials of the Department of Constitutional Development are drafting a Local Government Bill which will replace the controversial Local Government Transition Act

The new bill will cover a range of topics from traditional leaders to financing local government

Informal talks will be held with parliamentary committees on constitutional affairs before the bill is put to the cabinet for approval

The provisional time-frame means that the new laws are unlikely to be formally debated in parliament before the Easter recess

Constitutional Development official Anton Meyer said the new law would be "hopefully something better than the present act"

That central government was drafting a new bill did not preclude provinces from passing their own local government laws

In terms of the interim constitution, provincial governments are entitled to make laws on local government.

Mr Meyer said the new bill would be framework legislation, allowing provinces to continue making laws on the day-to-day running of local government

Also in the pipeline is an "omnibus" Local Government Laws Amendment Bill

This will amend or repeal 20 laws, governing activities from the payment of town clerks to pension benefits for councillors to disaster man-

agement and fire brigade services

The terms of reference of the Browde Commission, which is investigating allegedly irregular promotions and payments to public servants in the former homelands, will have to be changed

The commission was due to report by the end of this month but is still busy with its probe. In addition, Mr Justice Browde has resigned

A second constitutional amendment will provide for the staggering of local government elections, to allow polls in the Western Cape and Kwa-zulu-Natal to go ahead as planned on May 29.

The council has been unable to get underway because not all the provincial Houses of Traditional Leaders have been set up. The amendment will allow it to be constituted without all the provincial bodies having been established

Poor statistics a 'problem'

(262) BD 19/12/95

CAPE TOWN — A lack of reliable SA social statistics could be a large stumbling block for the Financial and Fiscal Commission as it tries to allocate funds to the provinces, a local economist said.

"The issue of reliable information is going to be a major headache," said the University of the Witwatersrand's economics department head Charles Simkins.

Writing in the latest issue of Budget Watch, he said "social statistics" had been neglected for the past 50 years, resulting in inadequate information about the needs of the black population in terms of labour, education and housing.

Therefore the commission would have to rely on "the best estimates possible" to ensure an equitable distribution of state revenue to the nine provinces.

The estimates would have to be officially recognised to prevent disputes and delays, Simkins said. — Reuter

Call to change draft constitution

Dispute over tax powers for provinces

BD 20/12/95

(262)

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Greta Steyn

THE financial and fiscal commission and the writers of the final constitution are at odds over the powers that provinces should have to raise revenue by charging a surcharge on personal income tax.

Commission chairman Murphy Morobe said yesterday the commission would call for a change to the draft final constitution to enable the provinces to raise the surcharge.

The ability to raise a surcharge on personal taxes was crucial for the effective functioning of provincial government. "The fact that provinces are not allowed to raise the surcharge is a fairly drastic constraint. We shall be taking the matter up with the Constitutional Assembly early next year."

He feared there was a danger that fiscal arrangements made possible under the interim constitution would be nullified in the final constitution.

The commission believed the interim constitution, with its ambiguous wording, would allow provinces to raise a surcharge on personal income tax. But the draft final constitution explicitly prohibited provinces from raising surcharges and levies on a range of taxes, including personal income tax.

Morobe said without the ability to raise taxes, provinces would simply be spending agencies of central govern-

ment. Traditional revenue instruments such as gambling taxes and licensing were not enough. A surcharge on personal tax was the easiest way to enable provinces to raise their own revenue, as other important revenue sources such as VAT created administrative difficulties.

Allowing the provinces to raise personal income taxes would depend on central government reducing taxes, so that the burden on individuals would remain unchanged. The final decision would rest with politicians and would depend on the extent to which central government wanted to devolve financial power to the provinces.

"We can only recommend what we believe to be the most efficient system," Morobe said, predicting there would be a lot of debate on the issue next year.

The commission recommended in its framework for intergovernmental fiscal relations that a surcharge be levied at a flat rate, and that it be limited to only a few percentage points.

If the national tax rate was lowered too much, giving the provinces more room to raise tax, the poorer provinces would suffer.

There would be less finance for them from central government, and disparities in the tax rates of the different provinces would be aggravated.

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Levy

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Morobe said the earliest that such a radical change could begin would be in the 1997/98 Budget. The commission took part in next year's Budget only as an observer, but its role would change once the entire Budget process had been reformed.

The commission had hoped its recommendations on revenue sharing would be implemented from next year, but that had proved impossible. The formula for dividing up revenue, which was based on each province's popula-

tion and economic growth, could change radically once next year's census had given a better picture of the population distribution.

The commission had used the work of independent demographers to arrive at its initial recommendations, and after discussions with the Central Statistical Service had decided that that source remained the best until next year's census data. The census information would not be processed in time for the 1997/98 Budget.

The commission had "by and large" had a positive response from the provinces to the formula. They had discussed it with all the provinces except KwaZulu-Natal.