AGRICULTURE
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AGRICULTURAL PROSPECTS

The best in years

If current favourable agricultural conditions continue for the remainder of the summer rainfall crop season, SA’s farmers can look forward to an 8%-10% increase on last year’s R12bn gross and R3.3bn net earnings.

Should conditions stabilise after the current heatwave, with regular follow-up rains, the sector could well contribute as much as 1% to the country’s GNP this year.

South African Agricultural Union economist Koos du Toit says excellent early summer rains have created the best countrywide farming conditions since the start of the drought in 1982.

“Even the central Great Karoo, the far northern Transvaal, western Transvaal and other drought-stricken areas have received good rains and grazing conditions are generally good. While follow-up rains are now required, prospects at the moment are very favourable,” he says.

Farmers in Natal, the Transvaal Lowveld, eastern Highveld and eastern, central and northern Free State are all looking forward to bumper crops, while western and southern Cape producers also expect excellent wheat, deciduous fruit and grape harvests.

And while good follow-up rains are needed in the “crunch months” February and March, the general outlook for maize, sunflower, sugar, subtropical, citrus and deciduous fruit, wine and export grapes, wheat, cotton, wool, red meat, milk, eggs, chicken and vegetables is excellent at this stage.

A record 2.8 Mt wheat crop is being harvested and sugar farmers also expect a good growing season. Wool prices remain high, while citrus and deciduous fruit exports seem to be weathering the sanctions storm well. Red meat prices remain at record levels, boosting earnings.

Late plantings of maize in the western Transvaal mean that the young plants are more drought- and heat-resistant and that damage from the current hot, dry conditions could be minimised.

The generally favourable situation should increase farm job opportunities and underpin rural economies which have suffered from the past five years of debilitating drought. In addition, manufacturers of major inputs like tractors, farm implements, fertiliser, chemicals and motor vehicles could also receive a boost from increased farm spending in 1988.

Lastly, long-suffering creditors, who have been buckling under the weight of the R14bn farm debt, could be in line for increased capital repayments and above the annual R1.7bn farm interest bill.

In another significant development, maize farmers have been switching progressively away from the crop. This is an apparent response to the Maize Board’s new flexible price scenario, which “rewards” lower crops with higher prices. An 8 Mt crop would attract a price of R205/t, while comparative producer prices for a 10 Mt and 6 Mt crop would be R176/t and R260/t.

Provisional planting statistics received by the co-ops show that between 800 000 and 1m ha of the traditional 4.3m ha maize croplands could have been withdrawn this year.

This major structural change could signal the beginning of the “golden years” predicted by Agriculture Minister Greyling Wenzel in his traditional Christmas and New Year message. The huge maize industry had been at the heart of the severe distortions in the marketing and pricing policies prevalent in agriculture — until government decided to embrace a more free market approach.

Uneconomical surpluses had to be exported at a loss, while the resultant high increase in local maize prices helped to slash more than 1 Mt off the 6 Mt/year local market.

The move away from maize plantings shows that farmers are finally responding to market signals — from which they had been protected by the board’s fixed-price, one-channel marketing system and huge subsidies paid by taxpayers.
Farm debts still soaring

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, painted a grim picture of the distress in the agriculture industry in his new year message to farmers.

However, he believed the downward trend has been checked during 1987, and that the new year could see an upward movement in most sectors of the industry.

Five or six years of successive drought over past areas resulted in poor crops and crop failures. Drastic deterioration of natural grazing and a decline in animal production, resulting in the extermination of some herds and flocks, he said.

This was followed by unavoidable, increasing financial pressure and emergencies for the farming community.

According to an agricultural survey released by the Directorate of Agricultural Economics Trends, agriculture's massive debt could exceed R14bn by the end of the year.

The survey says total debt in farming at the end of last year soared to R12.44bn, compared with R1.402bn in 1970.

Reasons for the rapid escalation of debt since 1981 included inflation, over-optimism of farmers, high interest rates, and the prolonged drought.

Since 1975, average rate of interest had never been less than 10.8% while the increase in the CPI during 1986 was 18.8%.

Farmers' interest payments increased from R131 million in 1975 to R1.715 million last year.

The survey shows too, the huge increase in Land Bank credit: from R296 million in 1970 to R2.649 million at the end of last year.

Since 1981 Land Bank loans have increased annually by 27.3%. The bank has a 21% share in overall farming debt.

Credit supplied by commercial banks as a percentage of total debt increased from 20.1% in 1970 to 27.6% in 1986 and amounted to R3.437 million.

Farmers' indebtedness to agricultural cooperatives at the end of 1988 totalled R3.081 million, the survey showed.

Mr Wentzel said more farming enterprises ceased to function and there was further depopulation of large areas of the countryside.

The state had introduced "the most drastic and comprehensive assistance measures in the history of agriculture." He said plans had been launched for the restructuring of the industry.

This was necessitated by the series of disaster droughts and the industry's own errors and shortcomings.

More substantial amounts and assistance schemes than ever before were involved in the effort.

Mr Wentzel added that agriculture still had to wrestle with a multitude of problems and many farmers were still not out of the woods.

Manure for the...
The number of farmers sequestrated in SA in the past four years has more than doubled from 142 in 1984 to about 412 in 1987.

A total of 1,206 farmers have been sequestrated since 1984 and a further 3,000 face possible sequestration in the next year if they cannot find new sources of credit.

The figures, provided by the National Maize Producers’ Organization (Nampo), show that 226 farmers were sequestrated in 1985, 416 in 1986 and about 412 in 1987.

Of these, about 80% were from Nampo areas — the summer grain areas of the Free State, Western Cape and Transvaal, most notably the Western Transvaal.
Deadly defoliant used in SA

DURBAN. — Agent Orange, a defoliant used by the US Army in Vietnam to kill plants, contains 50% of a weed-killer at present being widely used in Natal.

Symptoms which appeared in American soldiers exposed to Agent Orange, such as skin cancer and deformed offspring, are now occurring in Natal.

The weed-killer is 2,4-D, which made up 50% of Agent Orange. Used extensively by farmers on Natal's sugar belt, 2,4-D has replaced the old method of hoeing out weeds.

Initially blamed for an unexplained increase in fetal abnormalities,encountered in the Camperdown-Richmond area, it now stands accused of disturbing the whole ecology of the region — and more specifically of killing off a large proportion of Natal's vegetable crop.

"I guarantee, if hormonal herbicides were banned, the price of Natal's fresh produce would drop by a third," says Natal Fresh Produce Growers' Association chairman, Mr. Roger Evans.

The biggest problem confronting researchers is to find out how 2,4-D transports from the sugar-cane fields to the vegetable fields.

Although the other ingredient in Agent Orange, 245T which kills trees, is no longer produced, 2,4-D continues to be used widely as a broad-leaf weed killer.

Since the US Army evacuated its forces from South Vietnam more than a decade ago, Agent Orange has been blamed for numerous diseases experienced by Vietnam veterans and the Vietnamese.

In 1979 the United States government banned the use of Agent Orange.

Environmentalists reported a tragically high rate of miscarriages after spraying.

It is understood that Western Cape farmers have imposed a voluntary ban on 2,4-D as it was found to affect fruit crops, including grapes, and in the Eastern Transvaal use of the herbicide is kept to a minimum.
DURBAN — A weed killer used in Natal was a major constituent of Agent Orange, a defoliant used by the United States army in Vietnam to kill all living plants.

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The biggest problem confronting researchers is to find out how 2,4-D transports from the sugar-cane fields to the vegetable fields, the chief co-ordinator of the Department of Agriculture's research programme on hormone herbicide damage said.

Although the other ingredient in Agent Orange, 2,45-T — which kills trees — is no longer produced, 2,4-D is still widely used as a broad-leaf weed killer.

Since the US Army evacuated its forces from South Vietnam more than a decade ago, Agent Orange has been blamed for numerous diseases and ills experienced by the Vietnamese.

Although the veterans complained of a multitude of ills, varying from painful skin diseases and cancer to deformed offspring, researchers in the United States insisted that the only definite effect on human beings appeared to be a skin disease called chloracne, which involves painful pussy sores under the skin.

However, in 1979 the United States government banned the use of Agent Orange after a determined campaign by a group of environmentalists in the state of Oregon, an area where the chemical had been used to clear forest floors.

They reported a tragically high rate of miscarriages after the spraying. — DDC
Sugar industry begins probe into weed-killer

Staff Reporter

Research into the effects of a deadly weed-killer — one of two ingredients in “Agent Orange”, used in Vietnam to destroy tracts of jungle — has been launched by the sugar industry and the executive of the National Fresh Produce Committee.

The investigation follows reports that the hormone herbicide 2,4 D is being widely used in South Africa, particularly in Natal’s sugar plantations.

Symptoms which appeared in American soldiers exposed to “Agent Orange”, such as skin cancer and deformed offspring, are now occurring in Natal.

The South African Sugar Association (SASA) said yesterday that in the light of “conflicting claims and contradictory evidence” regarding the effects of hormone herbicides, research had been initiated to provide “a conclusive answer”.

Since the sugar industry used less than 25% of all herbicides in South Africa, an attempt will be made to involve all other agricultural sectors.

“An objective is to arrive at firm conclusions on the involvement of hormone herbicides before the start of the 1988 summer spraying season,” a SASA spokesman said yesterday.
Herbicide used widely beyond Natal's borders

THE WEED-killer blamed for extensive damage to Natal's vegetable crop is also used extensively by maize and wheat farmers in the Transvaal and Free State.

The weed-killer has also been linked to "agent orange", the controversial "kill-all" defoliant used by the USA in Vietnam. Veterans returning from the war claimed "agent orange" caused a wide range of diseases.

Natal's sugar cane growing areas, where opposition to the herbicide called 2,4-D has been concentrated, use only 25% of the country's total output of all herbicides.

Maize triangle

As a broad leaf herbicide 2,4-D is suitable for use as a weed-killer on grass crops such as sugar cane, maize and wheat.

2,4-D is used extensively by farmers in the maize triangle stretching from the Free State to the western Transvaal, said an Agriculture Department spokesman. It is also used by wheat farmers in these provinces.

He said he had no knowledge of 2,4-D being used in the eastern and western Cape.

Besides the Natal coastal strip, sugar cane is also grown in a smaller area in the eastern Transvaal, stretching from Nelspruit to Komatiepoort, where 2,4-D is also used.
PORT ALFRED — A coloured man is determined to pursue his lifelong dream of owning and living on a farm in the Albany district.

A Port Alfred businessman, Mr James Damana, is applying for a permit, for the second time, to buy a farm in the area.

His previous application — to buy a farm in Manley Flats — was turned down because of the objections of local farmers.

This time round he has put in a bid for Olive Park farm in Salem.

But while the farmers' association in the area has given its approval to Mr Damana buying the farm, neighbouring farmers apparently have lodged their objections with the East Cape Agricultural Union (ECAL).

The secretary of the ECAL, Mr Rory O'Moore, said yesterday the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA) had requested the union to canvass the opinions of farmers in the area.

Objections to Mr Damana buying the farm had been received from the owners of farms adjoining Olive Park.

A Port Elizabeth attorney said special exemptions could be granted to people who wished to buy property in areas which were demarcated for their particular race.

The process entailed applying for a permit and the department concerned — in this case the CPA — would ask other people living in the area for their objections. "The process is very demeaning," the attorney said. — BDC
PRETORIA — Farmers’ gross incomes last year reached the record figure of R12.9bn according to an Agricultural Department preliminary estimate.

However, the fact that it is less than the estimated R14bn of farmers’ accumulated debt highlights the serious plight of the industry, according to agricultural authorities here.

The 1987 earnings were R1.337bn greater than figure for 1986, a year that drought severely damaged many crops.

Farmers’ total costs during 1987 amounted to R4.918bn compared with R4.658bn the year before. Farmers’ net income, according to a preliminary survey, amounted to R3.815bn, R582m up on 1986.

The significant increase in gross income last year is due mainly to:

- a wheat crop up from R684m to R988m;
- value of cattle slaughteings, up from R1.342bn to R1.652bn, mainly because of significantly higher beef prices;
- the wool clip up from R393m to R437m;
- deciduous fruit up from R529m to R545m.

The 1986/87 maize crop was valued at R1.756bn compared with R2.071bn the year before.

The reason for the decline in gross value was the more market-related and lower maize price in the 1986/87 season.

However, according to the SA Agricultural Union, farmers’ debts continued to escalate last year, and although no accurate assessment had so far been made, the figure must have reached nearly R14bn.
Coloured farmer would be welcomed by most

Daily Dispatch Reporter
GRAHAMSTOWN
Should a coloured Port Alfred businessman, Mr James Damana, be permitted to buy the farm Olive Park on the Salem road near Grahamstown, the majority of his neighbours would welcome him.

This was revealed in a survey of landowners whose properties adjoin the farm.

But neither Mr Damana nor the owner, Mr Dick Scheepers, had, by yesterday, any information as to the decision by the Cape Provincial Administration (CPA).

The CPA's acting regional representative, Mr J. B. W. Johnson, said the administration was awaiting further comment.

There are seven pieces of land which adjoin the property.

One is the Thomas Baines Nature Reserve, property of the provincial department of nature and environmental conservation.

The reserve and its education centre are open to all races.

Mosslands is probably the second biggest property with a joint boundary.

Mr Mike Moss, said: "I know my father would not object and I am sure that goes for my uncle."

He said the family had coloured neighbours on the Southwell road.

"We deem them among our best neighbours," he added.

The owner of another adjoining farm, Aloe Ridge, Mr Rex Amm, said: "It does not worry me at all. It depends on people's neighbourliness. People are either good or bad neighbours. I will not prejudge this situation."

"I'm no racist," Mr Noel Banfield, owner of Salem Crossroads, said.

"I have no objections whatever. There are no chips on my shoulder."

"I don't mind. They are entitled to buy," Mr D. J. Hattingh, of Glen Garry, a small property to the north of Olive Park, said.

"No comment," was the response of Commissant D. P. Kraay, the seventh land-owner involved.

His homestead was about 2 kms from the homestead on Olive Park, he said.

Mr Scheepers does not know what all the fuss is about.

"An Indian (Mr Ranga Aroomiah) was permitted to buy the Stone Crescent Hotel and the 200 hectare Protea farm not far from us in Howick's Poort. I should think that set a precedent," he added.

Mr Damana's experience has not been as sweet or as easy.

A year ago he sought to buy a property at Manley's Flats. The owner was willing to sell and again the majority of adjoining landowners were willing to accept him.

"It only took one obstructor to scuttle the deal," said his daughter.
Solutions to poor farm methods in SA suggested

Daily Dispatch Reporter

GLENGARIFF — More than 180 people attended the opening of the 23rd Grassland Society of South Africa congress at Glengariff yesterday.

The director of Dohne Research Station, Dr Piet Pieterse, paid tribute to Professor Tim Bembridge, head of the faculty of agriculture at Port Elizabeth University, as a man dedicated to the science of agriculture.

Professor Bembridge, who opened the congress, said veld management achievements by farmers was disappointing.

He said that one in 10 farmers applied veld management effectively. Sixty per cent of farmers were poor veld managers.

As a result, the Karoo desert conditions were encroaching rapidly into farmland in the area, with a total loss of about 405 million tons of top soil annually throughout South Africa.

"Dams become silted up, and rivers wash this valuable asset into the sea."

"One of the main problems South African farmers have is a lack of fundamental veld management."

He said this would result in poor farm productivity, loss of soil nutrients, and erosion.

"Agricultural extension officers play an important role in helping farmers overcome problems."

"Unfortunately, extension officers generally have a poor knowledge of veld management and there is therefore a lack of confidence in advising farmers."

"It is essential that extension officers and farmers have a good background knowledge on farming methods."

He said that there was a need for greater involvement by farmers in gaining knowledge on farming methods.

The best possible action for the South African farmer would be for him to take a direct look at the problems relating to his own farm.

Thereafter, the problems should be rectified with the aid of extension officers and scientists at research stations around the country.

"All farmers should have regular contact with extension officers, and discover the latest research methods for their particular farming application," Professor Bembridge said.

The Grassland Society Congress continues today.
Farmers ask court for a return to communal grazing

Own Correspondent
CAPE TOWN — Four Namaqualand farmers, forced on to cramped “partnership farms”, are seeking the return of traditional communal grazing.

The farmers, who say their families have farmed communally in the Steinkopf area for generations, have applied to the Supreme Court to serve papers on 29 respondents by means of newspaper advertisements and give them centralised access to the full set of documents — an unusual procedure.

The respondents are Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture in the House of Representatives Mr David Curry, the Steinkopf Management Board and 27 “economic unit” farmers.

Mr Justice Lategan refused the application, but postponed the hearing until Monday, to consider alternative ways of serving the documents.

The applicants’ legal representative, Mr Hendrik Smith, said in an affidavit that the cost of making and sending copies of the 200 pages of papers to each of the respondents would be prohibitive.

It is alleged in papers that the applicants, Mr Paulus Cloete, Mr William Fysch, Mr Gert Cloete and Mr Johannes Farmer, are among many Steinkopf residents deprived of their rights to land and denied access to it by, among others, the management board.

The land had been used communally by the community for generations, but most of it is now allocated to 27 farmers for their exclusive use.

The applicants seek an order setting aside the sub-division and leasing of the land and restoring it to them.

Mr Paulus Cloete (61) said in an affidavit that since 1980, the authorities had divided the land into “economic units” without adequate publicity.

“I submit it was the board’s intention to keep the system quiet so that it could be carried out practically in secret,” he said.

“Twenty-seve farms, in an area of about 200 000 ha, were allocated and the rest of the people had to make do with the remaining 98 000 ha.”

About 300 family heads were farming on eight “partnership farms”.

“The farms are too small for us and we are not allowed to go to the allocated farms ... for grazing.”

The partnership farmers had unsuccessfully tried to have the allocations set aside, Mr Cloete said.

He said the economic farms were largely in the summer grazing area and the partnership farms in the winter grazing area, a situation which benefited neither group.
SAAU's advice to divorce acts from primary agriculture slated

Daily Dispatch
Reporter
EAST LONDON — The South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) has recommended to mem-
ber farmers' unions and associations that the Labour Relations Act, the Wage Act and the Unem-
ployment Insurance Act be made not applicable to primary agriculture.

The Basic Conditions of Employment Act would be acceptable with certain amend-
ments which are spelled out in a document, Labour Legislation and Primary Agriculture.

The document has been circulated widely throughout South Africa. Indications are that most farmer organisations will follow the lead.

Professor of Development Studies at the Institute for Social and Economic Research at Rhodes University, Professor W.J. Davies, was asked for comment on the SAAU document.

He slated the approach as "conservative and strictly within the parameters of official government policy".

The point of departure — that employer/employee relations in agriculture were somehow funda-
mentally different from those in the commercial and industrial sectors and that agriculture should therefore be treated differently and separately, was mistaken.

"The difference between large and small farmers is no less com-
plex than the difference between large and small employers in any other sector. What is required is the will and determina-
tion to actually do something constructive. "Protection of the em-
ployer (farmer) seems to be the basic intent," he said.

Conciliation Boards for settling disputes are favoured instead of Indus-
trial Courts because of problems of access to industrial courts.

An "own" Act for agriculture is seen as desir-
able and should be given attention, the SAAU recommends.

Professor Davies said: "In effect this denies farm workers access to statutory trade union
rights, strike rights and collective bargaining rights because this might lead to "mobili-
ation of the collective power of large numbers of farm workers" and constitutes a consider-
able power base and significant political platform."

Consultation could not be achieved without a representative organisa-
tion of farm workers.

Farm workers were totally dependent on their employer. There was also no doubt that many farm workers were exploited, unfairly treated and subjected to employment conditions which approached a feudal system.

The Labour Relations Act was rejected although the SAAU con-
cedes that an employer or group of employers should be able to apply for certain minimum wage and/or conditions of employment for his employees.

While the approach to the whole exercise is a clear example of the way in which white control of political and bureau-
cratic processes is used to manipulate the sys-
tem to ensure continued white domination," he said.

The preoccupation with the perceived di-
versity of the agricultural industry as an obstacle to the introduc-
tion of the Labour Relations Act and Wages Act seemed to be little more than a transparent device to deny farm workers access to basic employee rights.

"Inevitably the recommendat-
ions imply protracted bureaucratic delays and the creation of additional new bureau-
ocratic systems," Professor Davies said.
Poisonous icing to the agricultural cake

Exposure has therefore occurred through spraying chemicals at work, domestic use of old pesticide containers, accidentally consuming foods with high levels of pesticide residues, handling overalls used by workers in spraying, and contact with contaminated water supplies. Whole communities are at risk of unsafe use.

Rene Loewenson: HARARE

are at risk of unsafe use. At the Ministry of Labour, Safety, and Health at Work (Shaw) conference held in Harare last July, it was reported that of aceptees poisoning - including accidents in the range of aerial sprayers - working in hospitals were children, and a third female adults. Surveys carried out by the Ministry of Health and the University of Zimbabwe showed that in 1983 and 1986, the incidence of pesticide poisoning was 0.5 per cent of patients treated in hospitals. The Ministry of Health has recorded 50 cases of pesticide poisoning in the last two years, with 10 per cent of these cases involving children.

Zimbabwe is no exception. According to 1986 statistics, pesticide sales in Zimbabwe went up from Zd 2,721 in 1973 to Zd 7,403 in 1983. From 1980 to 1986 pesticidal inputs to agriculture in Zimbabwe increased by 1,000 tonnes, with 489 pesticides currently registered for use.

According to Mr. Graham McFarlane, the vice chairman of the Agricultural Chemical Industries Association, Chemical Industries and Ministry of Agriculture, last year also saw registered pesticides and confirmed that all were needed for specific agricultural purposes.

Included in this list of pesticides are nine on the 'hit list' of international campaigners in the Pesticide Action Network (Pan) as being of unacceptable high risk to humans and aquatic animals. These are chlorpyrifos, toxaphene, aldrin, diazinon, paraquat, parathion, and malathion.

Parathion, used on cotton and coffee, is fatal if more than 0.05 ppm is spilled on the skin. Edib used in tobacco production, has been shown to reduce fertility in men, and 2451 has been associated with cancer. Pesticides can poison if small quantities are breathed in, absorbed through the skin or swallowed.
Maize crop loss a threat to economy

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — A new agricultural disaster looms following the failure of 75 percent of the total white maize crop and the crisis may affect the implementation of the new economic dispensation.

The Minister of Agricultural Economics, Mr Greyling Wentzel, is currently on a two-day helicopter tour of most of the Transvaal and the Free State amid reports that it is already too late to save some areas scorched by the relentless sun.

He said yesterday that he was shocked at the extent of the damage.

About 75 percent of this year's crop has been ruined by a lack of rain and is feared that the total harvest in the Western Transvaal could be lost if it does not rain within a few days.

Sunflowers

South Africa, normally a maize-exporting nation, may once again have to import this staple foodstuff.

Other crops at risk include sunflowers, dried beans and groundnuts.

The yellow maize crop, used mainly as cattle feed, is apparently not at much risk as this grows primarily in the Eastern Transvaal where good rains have fallen.

The Minister is accompanied by his Deputy Minister, Mr Kraai van Niekerk. Mr Wentzel will report to the State President and the Cabinet when he returns to Cape Town.

Mr Wentzel ends in his tour in Bothaville, heart of the Maize belt, today after discussions with representatives of various agricultural unions, cooperatives and other agronomy organisations.

Last year food price rises were the major contributor to inflation, increasing by 26 percent against 33.7 percent for all prices.

Mr Wentzel said at a Press conference two weeks ago the country's 50,000 farmers had come through seven years of drought.

Setback

During that period the Government had spent R2,4 billion in special assistance to farmers.

A new setback in the agricultural sector will require further aid, putting pressure on the Government to increase its expenditure at a time when it is trying to reduce this as part of a new economic programme to boost the economy.

Drought-stricken maize farmers in the summer rainfall areas will continue to receive indirect financial aid and assistance to prevent them leaving the land. Mr Wentzel told more than 250 farmers near Ottosdal in the Western Transvaal yesterday.

He said the Government could not allow the collapse of the infrastructure in the rural areas and encouraged farmers to diversify their crops in order to survive.
VAT could pose cash-flow problems

By Tom Hood

CAPE TOWN — Farmers may experience serious cash-flow problems through the introduction of a value-added tax, says Mr Des Kruger, a former deputy director of Inland Revenue.

Unless special rules are introduced, farmers will have to pay VAT on their purchases of inputs (including feed, seed, fertiliser) and have to charge tax on their sales.

Though they will be allowed to deduct the input tax borne by them, they could face serious problems because of the lapse in time between the time of purchase of the inputs and the sale of the produce.

"Special rules are applied in some countries to meet this problem and it is conceivable the same would apply here," he said.

He said that under the invoice-type VAT, a firm charges tax on its sales (referred to as "output tax"), subtracts the tax imposed on purchases, excluding capital goods, referred to as "input tax") and pays the difference to the Government.

Any excess of tax paid on purchases over tax charged on sales may either be refunded (as is the case in Europe) or carried forward to be offset against future tax liability (as in the case with the present VAT type dispensation in the liquor industry in South Africa).

Traditionally, VAT systems covered a wider range of services than the sales tax. In New Zealand all services (including the professions) are subject to VAT with only health and educational services being exempt.

Few countries had been able to impose VAT on financial services, and then only by applying an additive method (as was proposed for the CBT).

"Although it cannot be denied that financial institutions 'add value' and should strictly fall inside the net, there are major definitional problems in trying to identify the actual considerations paid for the various services."

Asked what effect the change will have on prices, Mr Kruger said with the same base and rate of tax both GST and VAT will produce the same revenue.

"Theoretically, a 12 percent VAT (although the rate will no doubt be less if food is taxed), should not have any effect on prices. But if each firm takes his mark-up on the tax inclusive price of his purchases, this will result in some escalation in prices," he said.
Crisis talks as farm debt nears R14bn

SOUTH Africa's agricultural debt is rapidly nearing R14-billion. Banks are turning off the credit taps and several thousand more farmers face bankruptcy.

Worst hit is the Western Transvaal where between 1,000 and 2,000 farmers are expected to go under if no lifeline is thrown to them soon. The Transvaal Agricultural Union will meet on Tuesday to discuss the crisis.

The failure of Western Transvaal maize has slashed the national crop from a forecast 10.5-million tons to 7-million.

**Adjustments**

By Udo Rypstra

in the cost of red-meat to the consumer among them.

Sources say Transvaal Agricultural Union general manager Johan Hartman will call on the Government to take action to stop the flight of farmers from the Western Transvaal. They say children are being sent to relatives elsewhere and churches are putting drought-stricken farmers and their dependants on food distribution lists. Shops are closing, and the few remaining doctors and dentists are thinking of quitting, it is said.

Mr Hartman says that if no action is taken, many more farmers will be forced off the land, leaving thousands of SA's estimated 1.6-million rural black workers with 4.4-million dependants to their own devices.

Apart from being a politically sensitive issue, the plight of farmers in the Western Transvaal, North-western Transvaal, the Karoo and the North-western Cape has a direct affect on related market sectors, say economists. Among those depending on farmers are manufacturers of implements, chemicals and fertilisers.

Because of world food surpluses, high input costs and drought many small farmers have applied to the Directorate of Financial Aid of the Department of Agriculture and Water Affairs for inclusion in a scheme which helps them to switch to other crops and cattle.

Of the 650 applications received by January 31, 75% came from the Transvaal and 21% from the Free State. But the change to mixed farming will be a slow process. Many farmers are also reluctant to embark on a new way of earning a living form the land.

Economists and agricultural union officials say farmers who have kept going are becoming increasingly worried about the phasing out of subsidies, the proposed introduction of Value Added Tax (for which they will also be liable), and the looming rise in interest rates.

Farmers want to know whether they will be liable to VAT if crops fail. They also wish to know how they will be able to afford a costly switch to new crops and cattle if interest rates on loans increase.

The Minister of Agriculture, Greyling Wenzel, is expected to reply to these questions after he opens Agrocon. He and his deputy, Kees van Niekerk, visited the Western Transvaal this week.

Politics will be involved in his replies because of the House of Assembly by-election in drought-stricken Schweizer-Reneke. There is rich irony in the by-election - it was caused by the unseating of the Conservative Party MP because he was declared insolvent.

Economists believe that farmers in other parts of the country are doing relatively well. The accent at Agrocon will fall on making farmers more productive and market-oriented.

Koos du Toit, chief economist, and Johann Pienaar, senior economist of the SA Agricultural Union, believe Agrocon should concentrate on medium- and long-term agricultural planning to counter the effects world food surpluses and the low prices they cause.

Inflation is piling agony on farmers. Dr du Toit says: "If we don't fight inflation, there will come a time that we will be unable to export anything."

Agrocon will be held at the CSIR Conference Centre and will end on Wednesday.
World agriculture was currantly being hit by surpluses and low prices. "Over-production of crops and trade barriers have led to stringent measures by exporting countries," said Dr. Swart, deputy director of the Department of Agriculture. "Agricultural representatives at the World Trade Conference in Geneva yesterday said South Africa would have to adapt and prepare for this new situation."
Control boards say 88 bright for agriculture

PRETORIA — Most agricultural control boards are confident that 1988 will be one of the best years of the past decade, according to forecasts tabled at the agricultural outlook conference (agrocon) yesterday.

However, the average auction price of beef will soar by 15 per cent this year, according to the meat board.

The average price is likely to amount to R4.86 per kg.

The price escalation in the past two years resulted from a shortage of beef, especially for the processing sector.

During 1988 limited supplies of beef will be exported with the aim of maintaining overseas contacts.

It is forecast that 24 000 tons of beef will have to be imported to relieve the local shortage.

The wheat board reported a record 2.3-million ton crop — 0.3m more than the previous season.

The board expects wheat consumption to quicken with urbanisation and by the year 2000 it should amount to 14m tons.

The sugar industry expects production will remain stable this year despite losses caused by floods last September.

The industry is investigating the production of fuel ethanol from cane to ensure a further measure of income stability.

The broiler industry estimates the industry has reached a value of R1 billion.

It is expected that, within the next 10 years, more chicken will be consumed than beef.

The poultry meat industry is expected to expand by at least 10 per cent this year.

The Maize Board reported that maize for human consumption declined over the past three marketing seasons.

The main reason for this was the relatively high consumer price and the fact that yellow maize had to be added to white maize to meet the demand.

Although yellow maize increased by 11 per cent in the first half of the 1987-88 marketing season there is still a long road ahead to win back lost market share.

An analysis had shown international maize prices would remain under pressure until 1991. — DDC
Rabies

12. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether any cases of rabies were reported to his Department in 1987; if so, (a) how many, (b) where did these cases occur and (c) what steps were taken in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Yes.

(a) 711

(b) Transvaal Region
   Northern and Eastern Transvaal Region 36
   High Veld Region 169
   Free State Region 102
   Natal Region 78
   Eastern Cape Region 49
   Western Cape Region 47
   Lebowa 2
   KwaZulu 56
   Transkei 34

(c) All dogs in the rabies controlled areas of Natal and Northern Transvaal are annually inoculated against rabies and all dogs and cats in a radius of 16 km around an outbreak area are inoculated after each outbreak. All movements of dogs and cats to and from the rabies controlled areas are subject to permit control. During 1987, a further 465 dogs were inoculated against rabies.

Urban development: agricultural land lost

13. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What is the estimated area that was lost for agricultural purposes as a result of urban development in the 1986-87 financial year?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

8,937 hectares.

14. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE—Law and Order: Reply standing over.

15. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE—Justice: Reply standing over.

Old Crossroads Mahobe Drive: local authority

16. Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 633 on 27 October 1987, a local authority is to be established incorporating the cleared land between Old Crossroads and Mahobe Drive; if not, why not; if so, when will elections be held for this local authority?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(1) No

(2) Falls away.

Crude oil: average rand cost per barrel

18. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economics Affairs and Technology:

What was the average rand cost per barrel of crude oil imported into the Republic as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

(1) R36.8421

(2) R35.093 during January 1988.

19. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economics Affairs and Technology:

What was the balance in the Equalisation Fund as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

(1) 31 January 1988
   Less: Trust funds for BLS
   Countries
   Net
   R440.0 million
   R45.0 million
   R395.0 million

Mr D J N MALCOMESS: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, can he tell us, in the light of the hon the Speaker’s recent announcements, what the intention is with that fund and what will happen to the money in it?

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I would do so with pleasure, but I do not think I can at this stage. In my opinion that should be the subject of another question.

Crude oil: landed cost in USA dollars per barrel

20. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economics Affairs and Technology:

In respect of the latest specified date for which figures are available, what was the landed cost in South Africa of crude oil in United States dollars per barrel, if in respect of 33 octane petrol, was this cost expressed in cents per litre at the pump and what元素 comprised the marketing margin in the latest petrol price comparison?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:

(1) USA dollar 17.0684 during January 1988.

(2) The above-mentioned cost is not directly taken into account in the South African price for 33 octane petrol. The average landed cost of 33 octane petrol of 4 refineries—three in Singapore and one in Bahrain—is being used as basis to determine the South African price. The landed cost currently reflected in the price of 33 octane is 33.700 c.l. The current under-recovery experienced is accommodated in the cumulative over and under-recovery account.

White teachers at schools for Blacks

21. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

Whether any schools for Blacks in the Cape Peninsula have in their employ White teachers who were not employed at those schools in 1987; if so, (a) how many such teachers are involved, (b) why were they so employed, (c) what subjects they were taught to and (d) at which schools are they teaching;

whether there were any qualified Black teachers available to fill the posts taken by new White teachers if so, (a) how many and (b) why were they not employed?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) Yes.

(a) 41.

(b) They were the most suitable candidates selected after advertising. The posts concerned are mainly in specialis fields.

(c) Technical, commercial and academic subjects.

(d) As in (c) above.

22. Lamata Secondary School, Crossroads No 2 Secondary School, Lamata Comprehensive School, Oupaswa Comprehensive School:

23. No.

24. instituted away.
It’s not a car, not a bike... — it’s Doepie’s supertrike!

Weekend Argus Reporter

IT’S not a Kawasaki. It’s not a Beetle. It’s a “Doepie Wagen”.

For Kraaifontein motorcyle fanatic, Murray “Doepie” du Plessis, 35, his glittering red supertrike is a dream come true.

He spotted the concept in a biking magazine and decided he was going to build a similar machine.

With the help of a friend, Henry Prince, he cut up an old 1300cc Volkswagen Beetle, retaining mainly the tail section.

They cut away part of the front and back mudguards so that they overlapped. This section was welded and covered with layers of glass fibre to round it off.

Part of a 1000cc Kawasaki was used for the front frame, with special piping linking the two chassis.

When Murray is in the custom-built front seat, the specially-upholstered back section comfortably accommodates his wife Marianna and their two daughters.

It took the two men seven months to build the lean, mean machine. “We worked on it as money became available,” said Murray.

“It has amazing handling capabilities and is easy to park, but the best is being able to feel the wind in your face.”

“I don’t use her as a showpiece. I only drive her to work on occasions,” he said.

However, the trike does attract a lot of attention and many people have asked him if he wants to sell it or to build them something similar.

He has declined all propositions, however, and intends building something a little more ambitious.

His next project is a “big rig” five-wheeler, which has a motorcycle front end and four car wheels behind. It will be powered by a V6 engine.

DURBAN.—There are not nearly enough of them fall under anything like “boat people” heading, they flow of stowaways in Durban harbour has grown enough in the past five years for them to be considered a real problem.

They hail mainly from African ports to the north and mostly from Kenya, south Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania. And one couple came from Afghanistan.

They are young men, unskilled, often semi-literate even illiterate, determined avoid being consigned to low wars as cannon fodder, or being the targets of napalm, even worse.

Last year alone 97 of the stowaways sailed into Durban harbour on 45 different ships. The Protecting and Indemnity P and I Club in the city handled seven cases in a month.

Sole thought

Durban’s P and I representative, George Sibthorpe, says...
Destination Durban

Durban harbour — destination for many stowaways.

DURBAN. — There are not nearly enough of them to float under anything like a "boat people" heading, but the flow of stowaways into Durban harbour has grown enough in the past few years for them to be considered a real problem.

They hail mainly from African ports to the north and south, and are also taken from Kenya, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania. And one came from Afghanistan.

They are young men, uneducated, often semi-intoxic or even illiterate, determined to avoid being conscripted to local wars as cannon fodder, or being offered to pimps, or even worse.

Last year alone 97 of these stowaways sailed into Durban harbour on 47 different ships.

The Protecting and Indemnity P&I Club in the only has handled seven cases this year.

Solo thought

Durban's P&I representative, George Stebbels, says that stowaways are sometimes caught within hours — or days at the most — of sailing. They might be only single passengers — one or two — or they might be more than one, such as deckhands or stowaways or lotus boys. But few masters will or can do so, with world shipping in the depressed state it is.

Sometimes the stowaways meet maritime marauders, even those who are not allowed to land but have to remain at sea. They may be tough for the stowaways, tougher perhaps for sympathetic deckhands or cooks.

The occasional "old man" is sympathetic, gives them some food and a drink, a cigarette now and then, money as a reward.

Inevitably, though, the voyage must end. Then, if it is Durban, George Stebbels moves in so the future.

Straight back

Mr Stebbels says that in simple, straightforward cases, stowaways are sent straight back to their ports of origin in their homeward ships. But not all cases can be handled as easily.

"There are really tricky fellows who claim they were South Africans but are older than 16. He said his parents were from Durban, his father a doctor who had gone overseas there be mentioned a small town in West Germany, to a medical congress. The stowaway claimed to have attended a private school near Cape Town.

In such cases we must make a full investigation — particularly as the teenager said he had been left high and dry and driven in Maputo."

Folded quickly

He had had no alternative but to hitch-hike — or rather sea-hike — so that he maintained.

Of course, the story folded quickly when it was placed under the P&I club microscope. There was no such school, no such medical conference in West Germany. So back to the boy went Johannesburg.

These repatriates are sometimes put on a airliner with a police escort. Some must be provided with fresh clothes because he is as Stebbels put it, 'very often when they get to us they are terribly, to say the least. Dirty and ragged, too. And sometimes do not like upsetting their paying passengers by having ex-officio ones who do not comply when it comes to personal standards.'

"No spits da English" is a real problem when P&I and insurances seek to remove the stowaways.

Nubian language

So Mr Stebbels gets help from a former hospital man from Kenya who is fluent in Swahili.

From a professor at Durban Westville University who speaks Farsi and another local resident who is at home with Arabic.

What we badly need is a person who can translate from Sinhalese to English. We get quite a few drunks or beggars from there — the main city. Juba, is threatened from both the north and the south.

It is a serious business coping with the stowaway problem, most of whom are men. There is some light relief, though.

For instance, the only woman stowaway George Stebbels had been called on to deal with was a lady in a wedding dress.

She boarded the ship either in Cape Town or Port Elizabeth. She didn't seem sure which. And it turned out she was more at ease than a stowaway. — Saga.

Bennet set to captivate Cosi Fan Tutte audiences

by Florence Short

Andrew Catzel sings Magnificently in Billy Kennedy's adaptation of Mozart's Cosi Fan Tutte to be screened on TV tomorrow at 7pm but the star of this fascinating South African production of the famous fable of the fickleness of women is undoubtedly mezzo-soprano Marlyn Bennett.

Her superb acting and well-learned performance, the star of Mozarts Casia presentation of The Marriage of Figaro, comes out even more strongly in the many close-ups of this production.

Her singing, like that of Catzel, will be appreciated by opera lovers but it is up to...
Jukskei brought back on course as the new Gillooly's takes shape

The first stage of the Gillooly's Farm redevelopment is now complete.

Focal point of the project is a 6 ha dam for water sports and around which will be picnic areas, restaurant and golf centre.

Mr Alasdair Murray, of the project's consulting engineers, Stewart Sviridov & Oliver, says: "This is an excellent example of how dams on rivers in urban areas can improve the environment and provide outstanding recreational facilities. "A major portion of the dam has been completed. Work was then suspended during the rainy season and is expected to restart this month."

SS&O is responsible for the design of the dam embankment and flood control measures.

A feature of the design is the diversion of the Jukskei River from the present man-made course to its original course.

"Great care has been taken with this change to create an aesthetically pleasing and meandering river and many of the old trees have been retained.

"This is important, since not only will the redevelopment provide a much-needed recreational venue but it is the place where the Linksfield Ridge, Mervyn King and Jukskei River hiking trails meet."
Farmers happy with Border’s rainfall

EAST LONDON—Farmers have welcomed the good rains that have fallen over the Border.

The commodity services manager of the East Cape Agricultural Union, Mr Arthur Purchase, said the only report of flood damage to farms was the drowning of 1,000 Angora goats at Steynsburg.

Mr Purchase said there was a general feeling of optimism among farmers:

"There is good moisture content in the soil for the establishment of winter grazing and this augurs well for the months ahead.

"In areas where there has been luxuriant grass growth, especially in the sour veld regions, farmers may have to supply protein and mineral licks and supplementation for livestock earlier than normal.

"Alexandria and Paterson still need rain, but farmers generally in the Border are happy with the rainfall so far," he said.

"However, one of the biggest problems facing vegetable producers is getting their produce to market.

Mr Purchase said farmers who used large trucks to transport vegetables to market were being held up by floodwaters and by road and bridge washaways.

"This is one of the factors contributing to an increase in vegetable prices with consumer demand outstripping supply.

The officer in charge of the East London weather office, Mr Louis Vermaak, said widespread rain had fallen over the Border yesterday. Adding that further heavy falls could be expected in the next few days.

Farms to the north of Dordrecht had up to 80 mm of rain but little fell in the town.

In the 24 hours up to 8 am yesterday, Kei Mouth had 53 mm; Haga Haga 98 mm; Moolplaas 75 mm; Dordrecht 14 mm; East London 22 mm; Elliot 57 mm; Stutterheim 27 mm; Komga 23 mm; Cathcart 11 mm; Umtata 12 mm; Lady Frere 18 mm; Neora Flats 54 mm and Port St Johns 26 mm.

Mr Vermaak said the cloudy and cool conditions would continue for the next 24 hours, with occasional rain along the coast and over the southern and southwestern interior.

Over the north-eastern interior there will be further showers.

"The outlook for Saturday is for a rise in temperatures with thunder activity and rain over the interior, reaching the coast in places.

"However, on Sunday we will have cooler, cloudy conditions with rain on the coast and thunder activity with rain over the interior," Mr Vermaak said.
Shed regulations: 1989

EAST LONDON — The target date for the implementation of the new milking shed regulations has been put off until June 1989.

The National Dairy Committee has however voiced its concern over the move.

* Normal herd examinations are sufficient for the new milk parlour regulations. — DDC
Labourers’ housing lagging behind

Housing for farm labourers has, in some parts of the country, lagged behind the development pattern for people who are not employed, say Mr Chris Venter, an agricultural engineer of the Directorate of Agricultural Engineering and Water Supply in the winter rainfall region.

According to him it is, however, also true that an exceptionally high standard of housing is found on individual farms.

Moreover, building costs are relatively high at present and an expected increase of 30% was announced recently. It is therefore necessary to investigate cheaper methods of housing.

Mr Venter says South Africa is a country with extreme temperatures, making the planning and siting of houses important. The choice of building material and its use are also important for factors such as durability, capital outlay and labour costs.

PROTECTION
The farmer cannot make this capital investment every so often. Protection against heat and cold and needs such as toilet facilities, water and electricity form the basis of any housing system.

He says in the search for cheaper housing, these factors must be duly considered when evaluating different methods and materials.

Briefly, a building to be used for housing labourers must comply with the following:

- It must be sturdy, with minimum maintenance
- It must be easy to construct
- The walls and roof must be well insulated
- With normal maintenance, it must have the normal lasting expectancy for buildings
- It must create a pleasant environment for the labourer.

Mr Venter says regardless of whether the State, the farmer or the worker is to pay for the house, and regardless of what the manufacturer claims for the life expectancy of the building, houses cannot be replaced every 10 or 20 years.

At the present cost of R100 or R200 per square metre (material only) for houses that can be erected quickly, with high maintenance requirements, proper planning could ensure the construction of housing with a longer life at the same cost.

SOLUTION
The quickly erected or do-it-yourself houses are a solution for overpopulation in urban areas, but not on a farm where the farmer eventually capitalises on the houses. The erf-and-service system is designed for unemployed persons who must be quickly supplied with accommodation and hygienic conditions.

Such conditions, says Mr Venter, should not occur on farms. He says with the aid of the Department of Manpower—which trains farm labourers to build—the conventional building method is, in many instances, the simplest. Most of the unconventional methods involve techniques that are strange even to the farmers themselves.

Mr Venter says for large, urban projects, quickly erected houses or unconventional methods offer a solution. On the farm, however, where there is no need for a few thousand houses, the transport costs of specialised building material will be a problem.

PROBLEMS
Such houses are built quickly by people who build them every day. Unskilled farm workers will experience problems with these materials.

He adds that raw materials that are not protected against the elements require a lot of maintenance. For the farm labourer it is important to help with the creation of his own comforts. He has probably had some experience of conventional building and will be easier to train by means of courses of the Manpower scheme.

According to Mr Venter it therefore will probably be best to finance labourer houses on the basis of semi-conventional or conventional housing to R120 and R150 per square metre respectively.
Role of women on the farm

by Jackie Bourhill

A quarter of a million American women own their own farms, usually inherited or given to them, consequently they tend to have less debt than male farm owners. They don't have it easy however. They have difficulty obtaining credit as banks still consider them a higher risk than male farmers. Men tend to frown upon women farmers too as they consider the career unworthy. Nevertheless women are gaining recognition and have been acknowledged for their contribution to farming.

Because hired labour is expensive, farming is generally a family affair. American farm children become involved at a young age. They start working in the fields from the age of 10 and, although it is illegal, they learn to drive farm equipment. Because of this early responsibility they feel important and form a strong attachment to the farm if they are not the type who head for the city at the first opportunity.

The mutual interest in the farm generally results in a close husband-wife bond and divorce among these women is the exception. Apparently one solution in a divorce settlement is the farm house and two to three are fenced off for the wife and children while the ex-husband continues farming the land around them.

In many African countries the women play an even more important role as 80 per cent of the farm work is done by them. Generally the man is considered the consultant and the wife the manageress. In Kenya, 24 per cent of small farms are run totally by the women folk. Extension workers have been made aware of this and are concentrating their efforts to educate women.

Many American farmers are trying to improve their education themselves through Farm Management Associations and some are going back to college. Women are encouraged to attend the meetings too and many do.

New associations are being formed for women and the magazine Farm Women News has been thriving for 15 years. Fifty per cent of the farmers' wives were found to scan the farm newspapers and magazines and 'earmark' the articles their husbands would be interested in. Research found farmers' wives enjoyed seeing women in advertisements and with their increased decision-making power this would be an important consideration for farm suppliers.

If you think the woman's role is just to make marmalade and cookies it's time you came out of the closet and took your place as an equal partner in the farming operation. Keep a profile relative to your importance — you are no longer the invisible farmer.

*With acknowledgements to Effective Farming*
‘Unfair’ to subsidise farmers

By Toni Younghusband

It is unfair to expect taxpayers to subsidise farmers ruined by the floods when they have profited from farming the fertile flood plains for years, says Dr Tertius Harmse of the Rand Afrikaans University physical geography department.

He said last week that people who had lost everything in the devastating Free State and northern Cape floods would want compensation from the Government and other organisations.

“But what they should have done in the good times was to prepare for this type of thing. If they farm along the flood plains, they should expect floods,” he said.

“The flood plains alongside the rivers provide excellent soil and are very fertile. For years these farmers harvested good crops and made excellent profits. Then a flood occurs and they lose everything.”

Dr Harmse said he believed much of the enormous damage caused by the floods was because the land alongside the rivers was farmed.

“The area adjoining the river is actually the river’s property. It has been created by the river,” he said.

IDENTIFY AREAS

He added that to prevent future flood damage, all low-lying areas prone to flooding should be identified and “the people living there warned.”

The tragedy was that those who had lost their homes and farms on the flood plains would probably build there again after they had been compensated.

“They’ll build in the same place and this isn’t ecologically correct. The floods will happen again — maybe not in their lifetime, but they will occur none the less, and the damage will once again be severe.”

Dr Harmse also blamed the extent of the floods on overgrazing in the catchment areas which delivered water to the main rivers.

"These areas had drought for many years, and farmers allowed overgrazing of the natural veld. If you have no vegetation, your water run-off is far greater."

He said farmers should not be permitted to overgraze the natural veld.
The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

No.
(a) The Cabinet is considering an interim report at present and on receipt of the final report, it will be submitted for discussion and consideration.
(b) As soon as possible.

Farms in East Griqualand earmarked for acquisition by Department

*23. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:
(1) Whether certain farms situated on the slopes of the Swartberg in East Griqualand were earmarked for acquisition by his Department in or about 1981, if so, what are the reasons for the acquisition.
(2) Whether his Department intends to proceed with the acquisition of these farms; if so, when is it envisaged that payment will be made to the farmers concerned; if not, why not.

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:
(1) No, however in 1977 an area known as the Swartberg Highland Farms was identified for possible purchase as mountain catchment area.
(2) Yes, but in view of the labour dispute no indication can be given at this stage when the acquisition will take place and when payment will be made to the farmers concerned.

The remainder of the question falls away.

6 May 1987: polling stations closed

*25. Mr K M ANDREWS asked the Minister of Home Affairs:
(1) Whether any polling stations were closed for any period during polling hours on 6 May 1987 as a result of (a) bomb scares, (b) other security considerations, and (c) other specified causes; if so, (i) which polling stations, (ii) who made the decision to close these polling stations, (iii) what was the effect of the closure, and (iv) what security arrangements were made in respect of (a) ballot papers and (b) ballot boxes during such closure, in each case.
(2) Whether any bombs or other explosive devices were found; if so, at which polling stations, if not.
(3) Whether investigations revealed any other possible reasons for closing those polling stations, if so, what reasons in each case.
Rain brings relief, cheers gardeners and farmers

Staff Reporter

WIDESPREAD showers have given large parts of the Western Cape a break from the heat.

In the Peninsula, last night's brief downpour left farmers and gardeners smiling and had many people raiding their winter wardrobes today in spite of an expected maximum temperature of 25 deg C.

But the cooler conditions are expected to last only a day with temperatures in the 30s forecast for the Peninsula and Boland tomorrow.

At D F Malan Airport 23.6mm of rain was recorded up to 8am today.

Other figures included Table Bay harbour 16mm, Newlands 13, Cape Point 4, Woodhead 14, Blackheath 17, Molteno 13, De Villiers 12, Wynberg Park 13, Steenberg 9, Atlantis had 32mm and Darling 39mm.

Mr Jasper Brandt of Steenberg estate in Tokai, where the kaneoot crop is being harvested, said: "We are waiting to see what effect the rain had on the grapes."

"The ground was dry and under these conditions the vines draw juice from the grapes. After rains like these the water rushes back up the vine into the grapes and this could cause them to burst."

Mr Danie Appel of Groot Constantia where 14mm fell said he expected no damage to vineyards provided the south-easter blew the clouds away.

Mr Ernst de La Rooy, general manager of Klein Constantia Estate, welcomed the rain saying it was now possible to sow winter crops.

"Our estate is on a slope, we must have some rain to prevent erosion and this came at the right time."
Reeston farm issue: council to seek govt confirmation

Daily Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — The Divisional Council of Kaffraria has resolved to obtain government confirmation of its decision to expropriate all farms in Reeston to make way for the proposed black residential area.

The council secretary, Mr Cas Naude, reported that he had been advised telephonically that this would be the case.

Mr Bruce Bursley expressed concern that the department had showed little interest in negotiating with the council on the matter.

He said it was expected that the council would be the main negotiating party, as the area in question fell under its jurisdiction.

All inspections of dairies in the divisional council's area will in future be carried out by its own health inspectors.

In the past, by mutual agreement, the municipal health inspector conducted inspections of dairies supplying milk to East London.

The divisional council’s health committee has agreed that, as from March 1, 1988, East London municipal health inspectors would no longer carry out inspections of any dairies in the area.

The council further agreed to support a recommendation by the works committee that a portion of East London Farm 514 be subdivided and rezoned to Resort II.

The application for subdivision was received on behalf of the Cintsa Bay Holiday Resort.

The resort intends to dispose of cottages and rondavels under sectional title.

The caravan park will not be affected by the subdivision.

Fort Jackson limpet blast: responsibility not claimed

Daily Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — No one has claimed responsibility for the three limpet mines that exploded at a Fort Jackson electrical substation five days ago.

A Ciskei Police spokesman, Captain G. A. Ngaki, said it was not known who had planted the mines that destroyed a prefabricated shed and slightly damaged another building.

No one was injured during the incident, which occurred on Monday night.
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Strikes involving Blacks

18. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Manpower:

(a) How many strikes involving Black workers occurred in 1987, (b) in how many cases did the strikes arise out of wage demands and (c) what were the main causes of the remainder of the strikes?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(a) 128
(b) 461
(c) Working conditions 174
Disciplinary measures 147
Various other reasons 346

Note: The figures furnished under (a), (b) and (c) are for strikes and workstoppages for all population groups, as separate figures are not kept. In 20 instances out of a total of 1 148 strikes and workstoppages Blacks were not involved.

Trade unions: applications for registrations

28. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Manpower:

How many trade unions applied between 1 January and 31 December 1987 for registration in respect of (a) Black employees only, (b) White employees only, (c) Coloured employees only and (d) employees of more than one population group?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(a) 2
(b) 0
(c) 1
(d) 8

Subsidies: amount paid out

45. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What amount was paid out in subsidies in respect of (a) bread, (b) maize and (c) butter for consumer use in the 1986-87 financial year?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) R147 million
(b) R120 million
(c) Nil

The said payments were made under Vote 18: Programme 6: Agriculture Economics and Marketing.

Milk/Industrial milk: producer's price/price increases

73. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(a) What was the producer's price of (i) milk and (ii) industrial milk as at 1 June 1987 and (b) what price increases have come into effect in respect of each category since that date?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(i) On 1 June 1987 minimum producer's prices only were in force in the Dairy Board's controlled areas and the minimum prices which distributors had to pay for fresh milk were as follows:
- Bloemfontein area 47.43 c/litre
- Cape Peninsula area 50.85 c/litre
- Transvaal area 48.72 c/litre
- Natal area 48.54 c/litre

(ii) In respect of industrial milk minimum prices only were in force on 1 June 1987 and the minimum prices for the various classes of industrial milk were as follows:
- Class A+ - 450c ×% butterfat + 674c ×% protein per kg
- Class A - 450c ×% butterfat + 387c ×% protein per kg
- Class B - 450c ×% butterfat + 358c ×% protein per kg
- Class C - 450c ×% butterfat + 324c ×% protein per kg

(b) None

Nasella trichotoma: approximate area in RSA infested

74. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:
DURBAN — Government has hastily reconsidered its decision to introduce a controversial amendment to the fuel rebate system, it was learned at the weekend.

The amendment, introduced without any prior consultation with affected parties, effectively disqualified commercial transport operators from being able to recover a 21.1c/l rebate when transporting agricultural or forestry products.

Although it was gazetted last week, economists from the Public Carriers Association and the SA Cash Growers' Association only "stumbled" across the amendment two days ago — immediately sending shock-waves through the transport industry and sparking queries to government departments.

The PCA predicted it would result in transport costs rocketing by between 7.5% and 15% — which could in turn be passed on to consumers of agricultural and forestry products.

However, Customs and Excise Commissioner Dan Coleisky said last night the amendment would be reconsidered.

He confirmed there had not been a prior consultation with affected parties, but said this was "normally the case if duties are amended". He said the matter would now be reconsidered.

He said one of the reasons for the amendment was that the fuel rebate system was open to abuse by the transport industry.

If transporters entered into a contract which entitled them to the rebate, it was theoretically possible for them to carry agricultural goods in one direction, and then goods of a totally different category on the return trip.

Before government's decision was known, Eduardo Garcia, chief executive of Unitrans and former director of the PCA, called for a moratorium.

"This amendment — which has major implications — has been introduced without any prior consultation, and displays utter contempt for the interests of the public," he said.
Farming sector straining under debt

Political Staff

The farming sector, on which 5.5 million people were directly or indirectly dependent for employment, had suffered a serious setback in recent years and certain sectors were in a desperate financial position, the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said yesterday.

In 1977, income from 18 months' farming could have redeemed the sector's debt, but by 1986 it would have taken five years farming to pay off its debts.

Farming debt had increased from just below R2 billion at the end of 1975 to more than R11 billion at the end of 1986, Mr Du Plessis said in the expanded version of his budget speech.

The key role played by agriculture could not be gainsaid and it played a much greater role than was reflected by the statistics on the economy.

It was a great consumer of intermediate inputs and in 1985, R4.14 billion was involved in this.

“Furthermore, the sector generates between 10% and 15% of South Africa’s non-gold exports and is second only to gold as the largest net earner of foreign exchange.”

Unfortunately, the farming sector had been seriously set back and faced a whole series of problems.

The ratio of debt to assets had weakened from 15.4% in 1982 to 27.8% in 1987 and the short-term component of the debt burden had since 1982 comprised more than 50% of the total.

The interest payments on debt also remained the largest single cost item for agriculturists.

The increase in farming debt could not be ascribed solely to the droughts since there were, apart from high interest rates of the past few years, certain structural problems encountered in agriculture which had further undermined the financial position.

These included the deterioration in terms of trade, defined as the ratio of producer prices to those of agricultural inputs, which was estimated to have involved a loss of about R2.5 billion at the end of 1986, and the farmers' income from sale of foodstuffs, which fell from 77c to each rand in 1975 to 48c in 1985.

However, a series of positive developments appeared last year and farming income rose by 22% at current prices.

The producer prices for agricultural products rose in 1987 by 13.4% as against 9.9% in 1986.

“A backlog has, however, been built up in agriculture over the past 10 years, as will appear from the fact that the average annual increase in producer prices was 12.5% as against 14.8% for farming requisites,” Mr Du Plessis said.
### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

1. Candidates in the Moutse region do not fall under Northern Transvaal, but under KwaNdebele.

   The results of the Moutse candidates are as follows:

   - Candidates entered: 561
   - Candidates who wrote: 559
   - Matriculation exemption attained: 183
   - Senior certificate attained: 243
   - Passed: 426
   - Failed: 133

2. Matriculation exemption is normally indicated as a percentage of the candidates who have passed. In 1987, 27.8% of the successful candidates obtained matriculation exemption.

3. Refer Parliamentary question 25, answered on 9 February 1988:

   The figures used for the answer were the results of 30,418 candidates, which results were already available at the beginning of January 1988. Of these candidates, 14.39% passed with exemption and 35.89% without.

4. The figures supplied in this answer are those in the final printouts dated 17 February 1988.

### Farm schools: unrest/disruption

629. Mr K.M. Andrew asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

   (1) Whether any farm schools falling under his Department were subject to unrest or disruption in 1987; if so, how many;
   (2) how many farm schools were there in the Republic as at 31 December 1987?

   The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

   (1) Yes, 7 farm schools
   (2) 5 576 farm schools as on 3 March 1987.

### How many (a) wrote and (b) failed to write all such examinations?

630. Mr K.M. Andrew asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

   Whether any Std 10 pupils registered at schools in his Department at any time in 1987, failed to write their full year-end examinations; if so, how many (a) wrote and (b) failed to write all such examinations?

   The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

   Yes
   (a) 31 331
   (b) 1 200

### Five most junior posts: salary scales

631. Mr K.M. Andrew asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

   What are the salary scales attached to each of the five most junior posts in his Office, (b) how many of these posts are filled by Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks, respectively, and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

   The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

   (a) 
   (b) 
   (c) 1 March 1988.

### Employees: financial incentive/bonus systems

720. Mr C.J. Derby-Lewis asked the Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with Administration and Broadcasting Services:

   Whether there are any financial incentives or bonus systems for employees in his Department; if not, why not; if so, (a) how many and (b) what are the relevant details?

   The MINISTER IN THE STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE ENTRUSTED WITH ADMINISTRATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES:

   To question 720, as well as on behalf of the Ministers addressed by similarly phrased questions concerning General Affairs Nos. 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 744, 745 and 747 and concerning Own Affairs Nos. 75, 76, 77, 78, 79 and 81.

   In respect of the following departments or components of departments financial incentive or bonus systems are not in operation because the activities are not readily suited to the introduction of such systems, a need for such systems does not exist, or it cannot be justified from an economic point of view:

   - General Affairs
   - Development Planning
   - Foreign Affairs
   - National Education
   - Education and Training
   - Agricultural Economics and Marketing
   - Trade and Industry
   - Bureau for Information
   - State President's Office
   - Prison Services
   - Mineral and Energy Affairs
   - Own Affairs (Administration: House of Assembly)

   Question No.
   - 721
   - 722
   - 723
   - 724
   - 725
   - 726
   - 727
   - 728
   - 729
   - 730
   - 731
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   - 734
   - 735
   - 736
   - 737
   - 738
   - 739
   - 740
   - 75
   - 76
   - 77
   - 78

   In respect of the departments indicated hereunder, financial incentive systems are in operation:

### HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

(a) 1 in 1988.
(b) From 1 to 4 January 1988.
(c) (i) 4 days.
(ii) An increase in bus fares.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

(a) What are the salary scales referred to each of the five most junior posts in the South African Transport Services, (b) how many of these posts are filled by Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks, respectively, and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

(a) (1) R4 530 - 4 770 - 5 010 - 5 250 annually
(2) R4 530 - 4 770 - 5 010 - 5 250 - 5 490 annually
(3) R4 560 - 4 830 - 5 040 - 5 280 - 5 520 annually
(4) R4 770 - 5 010 - 5 250 - 5 490 - 5 820 annually
(5) R4 830 - 5 040 - 5 280 - 5 520 - 5 850 annually
(b) Whites Coloureds Indians Blacks
(1) 3 10 359 248 60 657
(2) Nil 291 37 1 155
(3) Nil Nil Nil Nil 16
(4) Nil 337 30 1 983
(5) Nil 18 Nil 103
(c) 1 March 1988

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

What are the functions of each of the control boards falling under his Department?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

The functions of the control boards are set out in the Proclamations and Government Notices as indicated below:


Citrus Board: Proclamation R.2 of 1979, as amended.
Deciduous Fruit Board: Proclamation R.220 of 1979, as amended.
Dried Fruit Board: Proclamation R.302 of 1963, as amended.
Egg Board: Proclamation R.64 of 1963, as amended.
Lucerne Seed Control Board: Proclamation R.30 of 1963, as amended.
Maize Board: Proclamation R.45 of 1979, as amended.
Mohair Board: Proclamation R.281 of 1971, as amended.
Tobacco Board: Proclamation R.159 of 1971, as amended.

The manner in which the powers, functions and duties vested in the control boards mentioned above are exercised, performed and carried out, is set out in the annual reports of these boards which are tabled each year in Parliament.

Booklet: The Dismantling of Apartheid

793. Mr P G SOAL asked the Deputy Minister of Information:

(1) Whether the Bureau for Information was responsible for the compilation and/or

(b) The Bureau's involvement was limited to the purchase and distribution of copies of the publication.

(c) 26 pages.

(d) (i) and (ii) 30 000 English copies were purchased.

(e) Copies were sent to contacts of the Bureau on a selective basis.

(f) The publications were purchased at a price of 94 cents per copy. Cost of distribution is difficult to determine as railway costs incurred to transport copies to Regional Offices are not available as yet and because Regional Offices supplied copies free of charge on request and also during contact visits.

(g) No.
ECAU to meet in Kei Mouth

EAST LONDON — The executive committee of the East Cape Agricultural Union (ECAU) will hold a closed meeting at Kei Mouth tomorrow. DIO 22/3/85

The manager of the ECAU, Mr Rory O'Moore said a number of important issues would be discussed but he declined to give details at this stage. (2) General

"A statement will released after the meeting," he said.— DDR
The Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Yes, details of this nature are not made public before the budget has been approved.

(2) No.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Locust control: amount spent

69. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(a) What amount was spent on locust control during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available and in respect of which areas was this amount spent?

(b) The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) R 495 000 during the 12 months ending 12 February 1988.

(b) In the magisterial districts of Colesberg, Nieuwpoort, Middelburg, Graaff-Reinet, Jansenville, De Aar, Philipstown, Hanover, Richmond, Britstown, Williamsburg, Fraserburg, Victoria-West, Carnarvon, Prieska, Kenhardt, Gordonia, Douglas, Hopetown, Barrydale, Boshoff, Jacobsdal, Petrusburg, Koffiefontein, Fauresmith, Parus, Vljoenskroon, Bothaville and Bullfontein.

Publications produced

100. Mr P G SOAL asked the Deputy Minister of Information:

(a) The total number of publications produced by the Bureau for Information in 1987 was 96.

(b) The titles of the publications were:

Magazines:

1. South African Panorama
2. Suid-Afrikaans Panorama
3. South African Digest
4. Suid-Afrikaanse Oorsig
5. Southern Africa Today

Ad hoc Publications:

6. Time of challenge and decision
7. Tyd van beslissings en uitdaging
8. This is South Africa
9. Dit is Suid-Afrika
10. Investment in people
11. Belegging in mense
12. Forward with confidence
13. Voorwaarts met vertroue
14. Tribute to SA Forces
15. Hulkeblyk aan SA Mage
16. Tynhuys (Engels)
17. Tynhuys (Afrikaans)
18. Establishment of Black farmers
19. Vestiging van Swart boere
20. Bureau for Information
21. Buro vir Inligting
22. Jaarverslag/Aanvul Report
23. Peace, prosperity and self-determination
24. Vrede, voorspoed en selfbestiking
25. South Africa: Profile
26. South Africa: Profile (reprint)
27. Group Areas Act
28. Wet op Groepsgeskiede
29. The National State of Emergency
30. Die Nasionale noodtoestand
IT was a flagrant untruth that the R400-million aid scheme for farmers had been designed to fail, said the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel.

In the second-reading debate on the own affairs budget, he said the Conservative Party spokesman on agriculture, Dr Ferdi Hartzenberg, had implied the minister was defrauding South African farmers.

He challenged Dr Hartzenberg to repeat this outside the House of Assembly.

Dr Hartzenberg had claimed the scheme failed because no adequate administrative machinery was set up to deal with applications, but the truth was that emergency measures had been taken.

National servicemen had been trained to help deal with applications, computers had been specially bought for the task, the staff complement of the directorate of agriculture had been expanded, and magistrates had been asked to give it priority.

The reason the scheme had not succeeded was that farmers had chosen instead other, better schemes available to them, he said. — Sapa.
Lukewarm reaction to Mlungisi boundaries

Daily Dispatch Reporter
QUEENSTOWN — The proposed new boundaries for Mlungisi have "reluctantly" been accepted by farmers in the area provided the provincial administration accedes to certain conditions.

This was made clear to administration officials, including the Member of the Executive Council for community development, Mr J.W. Theron, at a meeting with local authorities and farmers to discuss the matter.

A spokesman for the farmers' structure planning committee, Mr Louis van der Vyver, said the East Cape Agricultural Union originally proposed that a portion of the farm Grobelairs Grave, east of Queenstown, and the area adjacent to the industrial township, be used for expansion purposes.

It was further suggested that the remainder of the farm be sold for agricultural use, he said.

"For reasons which are unclear, provincial authorities indicated that the proposal was unacceptable. They advised that they wanted a portion of the farm, New Rathwick, south of the town, for township expansion."

Realising it had no alternative in the matter, a list of proposals was submitted to provincial authorities by the committee, which would make the situation more tenable for the affected farmers, Mr van der Vyver said.

It must also be realised that the area required for the township is high potential agricultural land, he added.

The committee told the meeting that it was unfair to expect individual farmers to carry the consequence of consolidation or expansion.

The current issue, where the state wanted a chunk from New Rathwick only, was a perfect example, said Mr van der Vyver.

"We said it should buy the whole farm, create a buffer zone between the township boundaries and neighbouring farmers, then sell the remainder."

In this way, anyone interested in the land, would be aware of the circumstances into which he was buying.

Mr Theron said further discussions would be held with the relevant organisations before recommendations would be made to the minister of Community Development. — DDC
Drought cost R1bn in exchange

CAPE TOWN — The drought cost South Africa more than R1 billion in loss of foreign exchange last year, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, said yesterday.

Mr-Wentzel, who was replying to a question by the PFP MP for Yeoville, Mr Harry Schwarz, said R374.1m was lost in foreign exchange in respect of additional imports and R69.8m through loss of exports attributable to drought conditions in South Africa. — DDB
Greyling expected to announce new deal

Relief is on way for farms under R400-m scheme

By Hess Cumming
Agricultural Correspondent

An announcement about the use of remaining funds of the controversial R400 million earmarked to save farmers from bankruptcy is expected soon.

Last year R20 million of the fund was spent — but the scheme was widely criticised as a failure because only a small percentage of farmers in financial difficulty was helped.

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, is expected to announce restructured aid measures soon, probably early next month.

Mr Wentzel earlier denied that the scheme was a failure.

Investigations showed that about 3500 farmers were on the brink of sequestration, but that 2000 of them could be saved by aid measures.

It was estimated that each farmer would need R200 000, which brought the total amount to R400 million, he said. But the expected rush did not materialise.

"The reason is simply that the R400 million was earmarked exclusively for farmers facing sequestration. Once farmers applied for aid they were in a crush-pen with no opportunity of turning back," he said.

With the good rains early in the season, many farmers opted rather to apply for extended production credit in the hope of improving their financial position, which disqualified them for aid under the R400 million scheme, Mr Wentzel said.

The matter was referred to the Jacobs Committee for Reconstruction of Agriculture and it is reliably understood that the committee this week held talks with leaders in organised agriculture about future application of the fund.

CASH FLOW

Informed sources said the new aid measures to be announced by Mr Greyling are unlikely to be a hand-out, but would probably indirectly benefit farmers' cash flow.

The measures would probably be an extension of existing aid schemes, with emphasis on long term recovery of the industry. Economic observers believe that, among others, interest on carry-over debts at co-operatives is likely to be further subsidised.

Carry-over debts are estimated at about R1 000 million. For every percentage point that the interest is subsidised, farmers would save R15 million.
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Indicates translated version
For written reply:

General Affairs:

Agricultural production not under control of boards

71. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What percentage of South Africa's total agricultural production in the 1986-87 production season was not under the control of any board established under the Marketing Act, No 59 of 1968?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

20.2 per cent.

Agricultural production/exports: value

72. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What was the value of the Republic's agricultural (a) production and (b) exports in 1987?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) R12 898 503 000

(b) The value of the Republic's agricultural exports in 1987 is not yet available. In 1986 it was R2 594 711 000.

80. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether any grain was imported into South Africa in 1987; if so, (a) how many tons, (b) what was the nationality of the ships in which the grain was transported and (c) who collected the (i) brokerage and (ii) insurance premiums in respect of each shipment?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Yes.

(a) 8 800 tons of barley
25 356 tons of oats.

(b) The nationality of the ships in which the grain was transported and the instances which collected the (i) brokerage and (ii) insurance premiums in respect of each shipment are not known since the barley was imported by the malt manufacturers and the oats by the oat millers themselves.

State veterinarians: vacancies

214. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether there are any vacancies for State veterinarians in his Department; if so, (a) how many and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Yes.

(a) 19
(b) 29 February 1988.

Veterinarians registered in Republic

215. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(a) How many (i) White, (ii) Black, (iii) Coloured and (iv) Asian veterinarians are registered in the Republic at present and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) Altogether 1 398 persons practising a veterinary profession are registered with the South African Veterinary Council. The Council no longer keeps record of the number of registered persons belonging to the different population groups.

(b) 12 February 1988.

Control of noxious plants: herbicides

219. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(a) What amount was spent on herbicides for the control of noxious plants during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available. (b) what noxious plants were involved and (c) what amount was spent on each of these plant varieties?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Yes.

(a) $8 000

(b) The noxious plants were not specified.

(c) The amount spent on each of these plant varieties is not known.
Emergency aid for drought-hit farms

Political Staff

Farmers in the country's drought-stricken summer crop areas — mainly the western Transvaal — are to receive emergency relief in the form of additional financial assistance, according to a statement by the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel.

He notes that farming communities in these areas are facing serious financial hardship, which has a ripple effect on people like shopkeepers and doctors and institutions like churches and schools.

Consequently, it has been decided to offer the following financial assistance:

- A once-only input subsidy, equivalent to a maximum of R100 a hectare to a maximum of 400 hectares under dryland crops per farmer for the 1987/8 production period. This will be available after June 1 this year.

- It will not be paid to the farmer, but to his creditors, for settling production debts.

- An interest subsidy equivalent to 10% of the Land Bank's interest rate on cash credit loans to agricultural co-operatives, in respect of the farmer's carry-over debt for the 1988/9 season.

Where repayment of production loans for the coming season are overdue, the interest will be subsidized by 5.5% on the same basis. The maximum qualifying amount per farmer will be R500 000.

- Production loans to qualifying farmers with the Agricultural Credit Board are to be increased from R75 000 to R100 000.

An area qualifies as an "emergency drought area" if its average annual yield between 1982 and 1987 was 40% or less than normal production.

Creditors were the main obstacle in saving farmers from bankruptcy with state aid, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr Kraai van Niekerk, said yesterday.

He spoke during the Own Affairs budget committee stage debate on the Own Affairs agriculture budget.

"In agriculture, what your neighbour does, affects you. Your neighbour's actions can destroy what you are trying to achieve."

- If last year's R400-million scheme to prevent farmers being sequestrated was indeed not planned by the government to fail, then it meant that Mr Wentzel was incompetent, Mr Wynand van Wyk (CP Witbank) said yesterday.
Restore farmers’ land, court asked

Supreme Court Reporter

SMALLHOLDERS of the Leliefontein community in Namaqualand who have farmed communally for “as long as the memory of man” and who found their homes occupied by others when they returned from winter grazing have asked the Supreme Court to restore their land.

In an application, residents asked for an order declaring they were wrongfully deprived of their land and ordering the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture in the House of Representatives, Mr David Curry, to restore it to them.

In an affidavit, Mr Gert Bekeur, one of four members of the community who have launched the application, said he and most of the community were descendants of Khoi families to whom the land was formally granted in 1854 by Governor of the Cape Sir George Cathcart.

The community of about 8,000 owned the land communally. Although the custom was for each family head to be assigned land, individuals had no right to dispose of their plots. Animals grazed on communal land.

Mr Bekeur said he and most of his fellow-farmers were completely dependent on the land for a living. He said he had no formal education and “no capital besides my livestock”.

Mr Bekeur said he was “astonished” when in 1984 he received a letter from the Leliefontein management board telling him to remove all structures and improvements from his garden plot and not to set foot on it again.

Mr Bekeur said the land had been divided into 47 farms of which 39 had been “allocated” to strangers to the area.

Mr I Farlam SC, for the residents, said they had an enforceable right to the land. Not only did the authorities not properly consult with the residents, but they failed to sub-divide the farming area properly according to legislation.

The hearing continues today.

Coastline is a...
Strangers took our land away — farmers

Supreme Court Reporter
STATE employees, shopkeepers, building contractors and local management board members were not bona fide farmers and were not entitled to lease farms in Leliefontein, Namakwa-land, the Supreme Court has heard.

This was argument in an application by Leliefontein farmers Mr Gert Bekeur, Mr Johannes Brandt, and Mr Andries Wildschutt for the return of land granted to their forefathers by the Governor of the Cape, Sir George Cathcart, in 1854.

Formerly, say the farmers, the Leliefontein community of about 8 000 owned the land communally.

But, according to Mr Gert Bekeur, the rights of many to own land inhabited by his ancestors "for as long as the memory of man" were taken away in 1965 when new tenants took over.

In terms of legislation, land at Leliefontein was sub-divided into 47 farms.

The authorities have leased 30 of these to "strangers" to the area and the "old" Leliefontein community has been restricted to the remaining 17.

The applicants seek to have the sub-division of the outer commonage at Leliefontein reviewed and set aside.

The application is against Mr David Curry, Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture in the House of Representatives, the Leliefontein Management Board and several of the new "owners".

In argument for the applicants, Mr I Farlam SC said the respondents had not given the applicants proper, specific notice about the impending subdivision of the land.

He said: "The mere fact that something is discussed in general at meetings doesn't constitute proper notice to people who will be directly affected."

Mr Farlam submitted that the new farmers could not be termed bona fide, as the legislation stipulated, because they had other full-time jobs.

Mr Justice Tebbutt: A surgeon who owns a wine farm could call himself a farmer.

Mr Farlam: We say the description means one should be principally a farmer.

"That 90 percent of the people have to make a living on 50 percent of the land is so grossly unreasonable that this situation could not have been contemplated by the law-giver."

Mr Farlam also argued that the legislation stipulated that the authorities could only do the sub-division after the holding of an inquiry.

(Proceeding.)

Mr Justice Howie and Mr Justice Tebbutt are on the bench. Mr Farlam is assisted by Mr J Krieger and instructed by the Legal Resources Centre. Mr C Van Schalkwyk SC, assisted by Mr W Louw and instructed by the State Attorney, appears for the respondents.

DISPOSSESSED: Leliefontein farmers, from left, Mr Johannes Brandt, Mr Gert Bekeur, Mr Jacob Bekeur and Mr Andries Wildschutt, outside the Supreme Court.

Modified diesel price structure welcomed by agricultural union

PRETORIA — The president of the South African Agricultural Union, Mr Kobus Jooste, yesterday, welcomed the modified diesel price structure announced by the minister of Economic Affairs and Technology, Mr Danie Steyn.

The discount system had been simplified and farmers would now receive the same discounts from agricultural production and agricultural transport.

He added the intimation that it would no longer be necessary to adjust net prices upwards was welcome news to the agricultural industry.

The following comparative pump prices of diesel were issued by the Department of Economic Affairs and Technology yesterday, following the announcement of the diesel price drop from April 1 (including tax and duties and excluding tax and duties):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>RSA (Reef)</th>
<th>United Kingdom</th>
<th>France</th>
<th>Germany</th>
<th>Netherlands</th>
<th>Exchange rate ratio: US $1 = R2.0462</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PUMP PRICE</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wholesale price</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLUS, Dealer margin</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>COAST REEF</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>76.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lunch levy</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLUS, Customs and Excise duty</td>
<td>64.0</td>
<td>6.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLUS, Equalisation Fund Levy</td>
<td>6.0</td>
<td>5.9</td>
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<td>76.0</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
No surface water available in Q'town says manager

The chairman of the ECAA water affairs committee and of the Regional Advisory Development Committee for Region D, Mr Johan Erasmus, who is also a member of the South African Agricultural Union water affairs committee, said there was extreme concern about the underground water levels in the Eastern Cape, especially where people draw water for domestic purposes in areas like Graaff-Reinet.

"The underground water table in this area has dropped from 45 metres to 90 metres below the ground surface. For the extensive stock farmer it is vitally important for the underground water levels to remain high."

"We have identified the Eastern Cape region as a poor water area - we have to rely mainly on imported water from the Orange River Project (ORP), which extends to Port Elizabeth, for water supplies.

"In the Queenstown area there is a major water problem for irrigation purposes, which is why underground water is being over-utilised. There are two schemes in the Klaasmiss River and the Black Kei River areas that are receiving our immediate attention.

"Once these schemes are operational, it will make water available on the surface, thereby stopping the use of underground water."

"The Klaasmiss River Scheme (KRS) is acceptable for the Queenstown area and discussions to this effect with the Queenstown municipality have proved positive. As water from the KRS can be gravity-fed to the Queenstown area without the additional cost of pumping machinery."

"The Sterkstroom area is too high for gravitational feed and thus water may have to be pumped up to the region."

"Unfortunately the imported water from the ORP is limited and thus we are addressing a new water importation scheme from Transkei, using the Umzimvubu river with a potential of 3,000 million cubic metres of water a year. "

"One of the proposed water importation routes is from the Umzimvubu river which is only a few miles from Queenstown."

"With normal rainfall the underground water level will rise, but with over-utilisation, the underground water level will be seriously affected."

"The Department of Water Affairs is conducting a survey throughout South Africa to establish exactly what level the underground water supply is in the country," Mr Erasmus said.

Staff at Home give ultimatum to trustees

Instead he wanted to 'pop in' for a brief visit on the ninth day to talk about a constructive future for the children's home and nothing else.

"Our decision now is to give Mr Cloete three days from today to arrange the meeting with the management board members who resigned two weeks ago."

The outgoing management board members are: the Reverend D. H. Odendaal, the Reverend R. Phi, the Reverend J. Pfortier, Mrs Matuyase, Mr Ham, Mr Nduna and Mrs G. H. Lorentz.

The Mfesane members are: the Reverend G. E. G. Louw, the Rev A. Cloete, Mr T. Beslidenhow; Mr L. Tshume; the Catholic Minister of Social Welfare and Agriculture, Mr N. Taps; the director-general, Mr Mie; and all the staff members at Khayalethemba Children's Home.

"The meeting can take place at any time during the next three days. If it does not take place with all these people we will take further action."

"However if anyone is missing from any of the parties involved in the discussions we are not prepared to talk."

"We want to have a reconciliation with all parties concerned and hope that we can all sit down and talk as Christians.

Mr Cloete said yesterday that he had not received any communication from the staff at Khayalethemba and, therefore, declined to comment.
Aid for farmers hurt by drought welcomed

Additional assistance for drought-hit summer crop farmers announced on Monday was welcomed by the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) as "a step that would enable farmers who face sequestration, to stay on their lands and curb the depopulation of the platteland".

Speaking in the House of Assembly during the own affairs agriculture vote debate Agricultural Minister Greyling Wentzel announced that the one-off subsidy payment to farmers in those summer crop areas that he termed "emergency drought areas" would be a maximum of R100 per hectare for up to 400 hectares under dryland crops.

INTEREST SUBSIDY

Mr Wentzel said an interest subsidy, equivalent to 10 percentage points of the Land Bank's interest rate on cash credit loans to agricultural co-operatives in respect of farmers' carry-over debts for the 1988/89 season, would be paid.

A subsidy of 5.5 percentage points would be effective on the same basis in respect of overdue production loans with the agricultural Credit Board.

The Minister also announced that production loans from the agricultural Credit Board to qualifying farmers would increase from R75 000 to R100 000.

NEW MEASURES

SAAU president, Mr Robus Jooste, said the new measures would improve the position of farmers in emergency areas and maintain the infrastructure of the platteland.

"The scheme is an effort to improve the cash flow of summer crop farmers and to finance their next yield. It would also maintain the communities on the platteland who are dependent on agriculture," Mr Jooste said.
Farm pre-schools can be run cheaply

At the end of a dusty farm road in Viljoenskroon, flanked by tin shacks, the sound of children playing rings through the air and a brightly painted school comes into view.

Out of the arid farming land, an unusual sight appears — a nursery school for farm workers' children who, because their homes in the undeveloped rural areas often do not have space for children to grow, are being offered essential pre-school stimulation.

The school is aptly named "Nataise", a South Sotho word meaning "to lead a young child by the hand". Since its inception on the farm of Mrs Jane Evans in 1980, this school has been duplicated throughout the Orange Free State, Eastern and Northern Transvaal.

It may now spread to the remaining provinces as the project has received extra money to hire trainers for the Eastern Transvaal and Western Cape.

The lack of education and the low standards that have meant that education in the rural farming areas has been a contentious issue. It is not surprising then that pre-school education on farms was, for many years, a non-starter, says Mrs Evans.

"Nataise" is a South Sotho word meaning "to lead a young child by the hand". It is an apt name for a burgeoning pre-school project to make up for the chronic shortage of education facilities for the pre-school children of farm labourers. Options reporter PAULA FRAY travelled a long and dusty road to report on an exciting educational development.

Nataise, funded by the Bernard Van Leer Foundation of Holland and the Mobi Education Trust, aims to change this.

Mrs Evans is the originator, but the concept has proved so popular in the communities that the trainers, teachers and assistants are now concerned with the day-to-day work while the co-ordinates the project.

Awareness

According to Mrs Evans, a former journalist now married to a farmer: "There is a great awareness of the need for farm schooling but not an awareness of where to get help.

This is what Nataise offers. While it is a farm pre-school, it is also a training centre for other farmers.

The team at Nataise have written a guide — in different languages — on how to start a nursery school. They also have illustrative pictures for women who cannot read or write and so are able to follow daily routines only by using pictures. A recently built dormitory and kitchen means training can take place on the property.

Their aim is to see more pre-schools being built and says Mrs Evans: "It doesn't have to be a fancy or expensive building — one can improvise.

Nataise began as one room with a mud floor in the farming district of Viljoenskroon in the Orange Free State. It now has a training room, teachers' kitchen, dormitories and dining room, and a big classroom.

Here, about 40 children between the ages of three and six attend pre-school classes where they do art, reading, puzzles, and "real life" playing. Hygiene lessons and meals are given at intervals. Since the establish-
AWARENESS
According to Mrs Evans, a former journalist now married to a farmer: “There is a great awareness of the need for farm schooling but not an awareness of where to get help.”

This is what Ntataise offers. While it is a farm pre-school, it is also a training centre for other farmers.

The team at Ntataise have written a guide — in different languages — on how to build a pre-school block. It costs R1,400.

Ntataise began in the room with a mud floor in the farming district of Vljoekroon in the Orange Free State. It now has a training room, teachers’ kitchen, dormitories and dining room, and a big classroom.

Here, about 40 children between the ages of three and six attend pre-school classes where they do art, reading, puzzles, and “real life” playing. Hygiene lessons and meals are given at intervals.

Since the establishment varies depending on the need and the parents’ working hours.

MEALS ARE SNACKS
At Ntataise, the programme is half-day; meals consist of snacks of fortified soup, biscuits, milk and fruit instead of full meals.

The nursery offers the children adult-directed and free-choice activities specially chosen because they help develop the child mentally, emotionally, and socially.

(Above) POTENTIAL PICASSO: Ms Angelina “Banny” Ntselang, who made illustrative pictures for illiterate teachers, assists these pre-schoolers with art.

(Right) WISHY WASHY: Messy water activities are the ideal way for young children to learn the qualities of water.

*All pictures by Sean Woods.*
The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

None, as the South African Development Trust does not operate in the industrial sector within the borders of the self-governing territories. The South African Development Trust Corporation (SADC) however operates in the industrial area at Botshabelo, which was incorporated into Owaqua on 2 December 1987. The figures in respect of the SADC's activities in Botshabelo as of 2 December 1987 were as follows:

(a) (i) 68,
(ii) 12 000.
(b) R102 900 000.

Self-governing territories: housing

586. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

What was the total (a) number of houses built, and (b) amount spent on providing housing for Blacks, by the (i) State and (ii) private sector in the 1987-88 financial year in each of the (aa) urban and (bb) non-urban areas of each self-governing territory?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

In the light of my answer to Question No 171 asked on 10 February 1988 the expression “State” in this Question is interpreted as meaning the Central Government in which case the answer is Nil.

Christmas cards sent out

612. Mr P S GOAL asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

(1) Whether (a) he and/or (b) his Department sent out Christmas cards in 1987; if so, (i) what total number of cards were printed, (ii) to whom were they sent, (iii) what was the total cost of producing and distributing these cards, and (iv) who was responsible for printing them, in each case:

(2) whether postage stamps were used to send out these Christmas cards; if not, how were they distributed?

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) and (b) Yes. I myself as Minister of Foreign Affairs and the six Heads of South Africa’s Missions in other countries.

(i) Minister South African Missions abroad: 16 550
Total: 17 000

(ii) Christmas cards are sent officially on the basis of reciprocity as determined by international custom. This gesture is also used to strengthen ties of friendship with other countries. Cards were sent to foreign Heads of State and Heads of Government; Ministers of Foreign Affairs; Heads of Foreign Cabinet Ministers; Heads of International Organisations; Heads of Diplomatic and Consular Missions in South Africa and in foreign states where South Africa is officially represented; Members of Parliament, Provincial, Regional and Local authorities, and judicial dignitaries in foreign states where South Africa is represented; prominent academics, bankers, businessmen, journalists and other professional persons.

(iii) Minister: R1 090 000
South African Missions abroad:
Total: R1 090 000

(iv) In South Africa: Government Printers:
Abroad: Local printers in the countries where South Africa is represented.

From South Africa: Cards were sent by diplomatic bag to South African Missions abroad for distribution; In South Africa: Cards were sent in the normal official manner.

Abroad: Cards were delivered by hand where possible; otherwise through local postal channels.

Universities: students registered

622. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(a) How many (i) White, (ii) Coloured, (iii) Asian and (iv) Black students were registered at each university falling under the control of his Department in 1987 and (b) how many of these students were first-year students, in each case?

(3) whether any representations have been received from staff associations concerning this amendment of the conditions of service for the Public Service; if so, (a) from which organizations and (b) with what result.

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

The MINISTER IN THE STATE PRESIDENT’S OFFICE ENTRUSTED WITH ADMINISTRATION AND BROADCASTING SERVICES:

(1) No; the Government’s decision in the matter was taken immediately prior to the announcement.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(2) No.

(3) Falls away — no conditions of service were amended.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(4) No.

Land acquired from State/White farmers in Natal

665. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) (a) How many hectares of land have been acquired from (i) the State, (ii) White farmers and (iii) any other specified sources to fulfil the requirements of the Development Trust and Land Act, No 18 of 1936, in Natal and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished;

(2) (a) how many hectares of land in excess of the land referred to in paragraph (1) of this question had been acquired for consolidation purposes in Natal as at the above date and (b) at what total cost?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(1) (a) (i) 66 603 hectares.
(a) (ii) and (iii) Details of land acquired from White farmers and other sources are not kept apart in a register and the information is consequently not readily available. The total amount of land acquired is 505 898 hectares.

(2) (a) and (b) As above.
Leliefontein case: Court Tests 31/3/88

Judgment reserved

Supreme Court Reporter

JUDGMENT was reserved in the Supreme Court yesterday in an application by smallholders in the Leliefontein community in Namaqualand, who found their homes occupied by others when they returned from winter grazing, to have their land returned.

In the application, residents asked for an order declaring they were wrongfully deprived of their land and ordering the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture in the House of Representatives, Mr David Curry, to restore it to them.

Mr Gert Bekeur, one of four members of the community who have launched the application, said in an affidavit that he and most of the community were descendants of Khoi families to whom the land was formally granted in 1854 by Governor of the Cape, Sir George Cathcart.

The community of about 8000 owned the land communally and most of the families were completely dependent on the land for a living, he said.

Mr Bekeur said he had received a letter from the Leliefontein management board telling him to remove all structures and improvements from his garden plot and not to set foot on it again.

The land had been divided into 47 farms of which 30 had been "allocated" to strangers to the area. Some of the "strangers" included teachers, a shopkeeper, a building contractor, a mine worker and civil servants, he said.

Mr Justice C T Howie and Mr Justice P Tebbut were on the Bench. Mr I Farlam SC, assisted by Mr J T Kriek and instructed by the legal Resources Centre, appeared for the residents. Mr G O van Schoilwyk with Mr W J Louw, instructed by the State Attorney, appeared for the minister.
Land Bank loans ‘a comment on racism’

Political Staff

The fact that almost all loans advanced by the Land Bank went to whites was a comment on the “inherent racism” in South African society, the MP for Port Elizabeth Central, Mr John Maleomess, said yesterday.

He was commenting on a written reply given by Finance Minister Mr Barend du Plessis that R448 038 500 had been lent to whites and only R217 400 to coloured people and R327 400 for Indians.

No money had been lent to blacks, the minister said.

Mr Maleomess said that in view of the latest amendments to the Land Bank Act passed by the House of Assembly on Tuesday, in which it was resolved to lend money to blacks in homelands considered no longer part of South Africa, the figures were “beyond belief.”
Many farmers face insolvency

By MAGGIE ROWLEY
Business Staff

MANY farmers in the summer crop and grazing areas are facing insolvency, according to Volkskas.

The bank said in its latest economic spotlight that farm debt in South Africa totalled more than R14 218-million at the end of last year, almost R2 000-million more than the R12 446-million recorded in 1985.

The financing load carried by agricultural co-operatives rose from 8.1 percent in 1975 to more than 25 percent last year. Co-operatives are now the major suppliers of production credit to grain farmers, the bank said.

The collective exposure of commercial banks in the provision of credit to the primary agricultural sector involved a direct exposure of R3 400-million in 1987 as well as direct financing to agricultural co-operatives and financing to the Land Bank in the form of Land Bank bills and overdraft facilities at banks.

"Indirectly and directly, commercial banks therefore probably supply approximately 70 percent of all agricultural financing," the Volkskas bulletin said.

"Representation of commercial banks on the Jacobs Committee is therefore essential as this committee deals with agricultural finance issues that directly concern commercial banks." Volkskas said about 52 percent of the total debt burden represented short-term debt.

"This implies that 47.6 percent applies to medium and long-term debt. However, much of this short-term debt has already formed a hard core and therefore assumes a long-term nature.

"This is also a symptom of the present financial problems of agriculture caused by droughts, interest rates, inflation and erroneous financial decisions during the past decade.

"Although on average it appears as if the debt burden rates of agriculture are healthy, the reality is the disproportionate distribution of this debt burden.

"Many farmers appear to be in credit (without any debt) while others, especially in certain summer crop and extensive grazing areas, are experiencing serious problems with debt burden. It would seem at present as if many of these farmers are facing insolvency," Volkskas said.

Owing to the increased debt burden in agriculture, interest costs are currently the largest single cost item in agriculture, and as the financial pressure increases, this interest can only be capitalised in a higher debt burden.

Volkskas concluded that aid granted by the Government had a positive effect on agriculture as a whole. It said such aid could make an important contribution to the revitalisation of agriculture if a number of problems could be eliminated.
Free access to sea is vital — Rear Admiral

GRAHAMSTOWN — The loss of free access to use the sea would be disastrous for South Africa and agriculture, the flag officer commanding Naval Command East, Rear Admiral Paul Wijnberg, said.

He was speaking at the official opening of the Bathurst Agricultural Show yesterday.

"The sea provides us with our only reliable means of communication with the rest of the world," he said.

"The freedom of the seas permits us to trade — more than 90 per cent of our trade comes and goes by sea."

"In 1984 the rand value of agricultural exports amounted to R1.942 million."

"The agricultural sector was directly and indirectly dependent on certain imports."

"Maritime trade is an important element, but also important are the foreign currency earn-

ings of the well-equipped harbours and port infrastructure, as are the fishing industry and the exploitation of mineral resources off the coast."

"If you have something attractive, sooner or later someone is going to consider ways of relieving you of it."

"By the same token adversaries will continue to seek chinks in the armour and exploit these weaknesses if and when it appeared worthwhile."

"This is one of the reasons we need to have a navy."

"Another is our need to protect our long coastline which would otherwise provide easy and discreet access from seaward for a variety of purposes including direct attack on coastal targets."

"A credible well-balanced naval force is the only means of protecting one’s assets and an effective deterrent to all but a vastly superior and determined enemy."

"The existence of such a force provides means for conducting surveillance."

"A wide spectrum of electronic detection and deception capabilities has meant that modern navies have had to trim the numbers and size of their ships."

"The South African Navy had the advantage of having to develop, yet keep pace with those sharing major power technology and supports."

"It had meant they had to become self-sufficient and face realities."

"The admiral said they had to seek alternative solutions to meet the needs for a balanced and strong navy."

"This same approach is as valid in farming today."

"Gone are the days when inefficient farm-

ers could hope to survive, let alone make a profit."

"For today's farmer is as much a businessman as any other and relies more and more on science, mechanisation, computerisation and modern management principles."

"There is no question of turning back the clock."

"In every walk of life one must keep pace with current developments and accept the challenges in order to survive," Rear Admiral Wijnberg said.
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Financial assistance to farmers: total value in rand

6. Mr T ABRAHAMS asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) What is the total value in rand of the financial assistance provided by the State in the 1987-88 financial year to (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Indian and (d) Black farmers in each of the four provinces of the Republic?

(2) How many hectares of agricultural land were registered in the names of (i) White, (ii) Coloured, (iii) Indian and (iv) Black farmers, and how many (i) Whites, (ii) Coloureds, (iii) Indians and (iv) Blacks were actively engaged in farming, in each of the four provinces of the Republic as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

(3) How many (a) White and (b) Coloured farmers were sequestrated during the latest specified period of 10 years for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) (a) R256,1 million (by the Administration: House of Assembly - Department of Agriculture and Water Supply)

(b) R0,49 million (by the Administration: House of Representatives)

(c) None, but Indian farmers could share in an appropriation of R10 million in respect of the Natal floods. The Administration: House of Delegates provided an amount of R10,04 million for assistance to Indian farmers during 1988/89.

(d) I have been informed that the Department of Development Aid does not keep the particulars in the form required by the question.

(Amounts totalling R943,7 million have also been appropriated under various programmes of different departments (for instance in respect of fuel subsidy, export incentive, etc) for the benefit of the agricultural industry in general. The particulars regarding financial assistance to farmers are not separately available in respect of each province.)

(2) (a) I have been informed that the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs does not keep the particulars in the form required by the question.

(b) The required information is not readily available.

(3) I have been informed that the Department of Justice does not keep particulars in the form required by the question.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Farm/domestic workers: application of provisions of Labour Relations Act

29. Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Manpower:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 2 on 27 August 1987, he will furnish information on the report of the National Manpower Commission relating to the possible application of the provisions of the Labour Relations Act, No 28 of 1956, to farm and domestic workers; if not, why not; if so, (a) what are the names of the (i) bodies and (ii) persons involved in the inquiry into this matter and (b) what were the main findings?

(2) Whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(1) No, because consultations with organized agriculture have not yet been finalized.

(a) Falls away.

(b) Falls away.

(2) No.

Applications from farmers for agricultural land in Lenasia

34. Mr J V JYMAN asked the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture:

(1) Whether, during the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available, his Department received any applications from Indian farmers or prospective Indian farmers for the allocation of agricultural land in or near Lenasia in the Transvaal; if so, (a) when and (b) what are the names of the applicants?

(2) Whether any such applications were refused; if so, (a) when, (b) why and (c) what are the names of the applicants concerned?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(a) Date of application

20 May 1987
26 July 1987
19 August 1987
30 November 1987
18 January 1988

(b) Name of applicant

Mr S P Kana
Mr M Changkeryo
Mecina
Investments
Mr P Runjithji
Mr N Papaya

Hindus appointed as cabin attendants/ clerks

35. Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

(1) How many Indians were employed by the South African Airways as (a) air and (b) ground hostesses as at the latest specified date for which figures are available;

(2) Whether these (a) air and (b) ground hostesses are members of the permanent staff; if not, why not;

(3) Whether, since his reply to Question No 28 on 17 April 1987, any further steps have been taken to employ these persons on a permanent basis; if not, why not; if so, what progress has been made in this regard;

(4) What is the longest period for which any
3 February 1988 Mr G Ramaya (a) Falls away.
3 February 1988  Mr R G Naidoo (b) Falls away.
As from 1 March 1987 to 29 February 1988. (c) Falls away.

(2) No.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY, 12 APRIL 1988

WEDNESDAY, 13 APRIL 1988

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Charges against Michael Roussos: decision by
Attorney-General

305. Mr S S Van Der Merwe asked the
Minister of Justice:

Whether, with reference to the reply of
the Minister of Law and Order to Question No 510
on 7 October 1987, the Attorney-General has
reached a decision regarding possible charges
against Michael Roussos; if not, when is it
expected that he will reach a decision; if so,
(a) when and (b) what was that decision?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The docket referred to in the reply to Written
Question No 510 of 7 October 1987 is a docket
containing the results of a broader investi-
gation without specific reference to Michael
Roussos. It has already been decided to pros-
ecute a number of people on the strength of the
contents of this docket. Roussos is not one of
these persons.

Cases of tuberculosis reported

415. Dr M S Barnard asked the Minister of
National Health and Population Development:

(1) How many cases of tuberculosis were re-
ported in each province in 1987;
(2) how many cases of tuberculosis were hos-
italized in each province in that year;
(3) how many tuberculosis patients died in
each province in that year?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH
AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Notified cases of tuberculosis in each prov-
ince in the RSA, 1987. (As at 23 February
1988)

It should be noted that “cases” of tubercu-
osus refers to notified instances of con-
tact, not patients or people. Repeat noti-
fication of individuals per-reported is thus possible.

Persons killed in Alexandra Township: Inquest

545. Mr D J Dalling asked the Minister of
Justice:

Whether, with reference to the reply of
the Minister of Law and Order to Question No 9
on 3 June 1986, the inquest into the death of
persons killed in or in the vicinity of Alexandra
Township, during the period 15 to 19 Febru-
ary 1986 has been completed; if not, why not; if so,
(a) when, (b) what was the cause of death in
each case and (c) what were the findings?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

Yes. The inquests in respect of 17 persons have
been finalized. The records of proceedings are
public documents and at the disposal of the hon-
member. In no case a finding was made that the
death was brought about by an act or omission
involving or amounting to an offence on the
part of any person. The places and dates on
which the inquests were finalized and the num-bers allocated to the inquest records respec-
tively, are as follows:
plated in each case to (a) counter the effect of such shortages and (b) avoid them in future?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes, in addition to agricultural products such as rice, tea, coffee, cocoa-beans etc., in respect of which the Republic is not self-sufficient, shortages of oilseeds, cotton, dairy products and red meat were experienced during 1987 whilst shortages of red meat are expected during 1988.

(2) (a) In all cases the shortages can be ascribed to the drought of 1987 and the preceding years.

(b) Due to low world market prices, the products concerned were imported at such relatively low prices that it did not have an increasing effect on the local consumer prices. It is expected that this situation will also continue during the rest of 1988.

(3) (a) The expected shortage of red meat will be overcome by imports.

(b) The severe drought experienced over the past years has drastically reduced livestock numbers and it is therefore not expected that the production will already meet the demand for red meat during 1988. The present high meat prices will however ultimately stimulate production.

Agricultural products: surpluses

218. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether there are any surpluses of agricultural products at present or any such surpluses are expected in 1988; if so, of which products;

(2) what in each case are the (a) reasons for such surpluses and (b) price implications;

(3) what steps have been taken or are contemplated in each case to (a) counter the effect of such surpluses and (b) avoid them in future?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes, there are at present surpluses in respect of maize, wheat and rooibos tea. During 1988 a surplus of rooibos tea is expected.

(2) (a) The surplus in respect of—

(i) maize is ascribed to the fact that reasonably favourable climatic conditions were experienced in the production areas and surpluses are produced under normal climatic conditions;

(ii) wheat is caused by the good climatic conditions in the production areas; and

(iii) rooibos tea was caused by the collapse of the export market during 1985/86.

(b) the relatively low export price of maize resulted in a decrease in the producers' price. The surplus wheat is applied for carry-over supplies. The selling prices of maize and wheat were not reduced. The surplus rooibos tea affected the producers' price detrimentally but the selling price was maintained at a reasonable level.

(3) (a) and (b) (i) The Maize Board issues price scenario's prior to the planting season as a guide to producers in respect of the expected producer prices for different crop sizes. In addition thereto a land switch-over scheme was implemented with the purpose to withdraw approximately 1 million hectares of land from cash crop production.

(ii) During normal years the production and consumption of wheat is in equilibrium. The Wheat Board informed producers of the financial implications which may result from a wheat surplus.

(iii) To combat surpluses and to prevent over-production the Rooibos Tea Control Board imposed a delivering regulating scheme in terms of which the quantities to be delivered are restricted.

(a) The total cost to the State of the purchase of the farms comprising the missile-testing range in the Southern Cape and (b) (i) what were the names of the farms and (ii) who were the owners of these farms at the time of sale?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS:

(a) R27 029 888.00

(b) (i)

1. (a) Portion 14 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm Dulla's Downs No 264;

(b) Portion 15 (Portion of Portion 2) of said farm;

(c) Portion 16 (Portion of Portion 4) of said farm, all situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

2. Farm No 324, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

3. (a) Portion 2 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm Eland Valley A No 172;

(b) Portion 2 of the farm Uys Hoek No 173;

(c) Portion 3 of the farm Buffels Vlei of the farm Buffels Fontein No 170;

(d) Portion 3 of the farm Uys Hoek No 173, all situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

4. (a) Remainder of the farm Buffels Fontein No 170;

(b) Remainder of the farm Eland Valley A, No 172, both situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

5. (a) Remainder of Portion 1 of the farm Buffels Fontein No 170;

(b) Portion 6 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm No 169;

(c) Portion 12 (Portion of Portion 3) of the farm No 169, all situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

6. (a) Remainder of Portion 2 (Rvs Punt) of the farm Buffels Fontein No 170;

(b) Portion 5 (Portion of Portion 2) of said farm, both situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

7. Farm No 352, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

8. (a) Remainder of Portion 1 of the farm Klip Fontein No 64;

(b) Portion 4 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm Buffels Fontein No 170;

(c) Remainder of Portion 11 (Schipskop) (Portion of Portion 2) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64;

(d) Remainder of Portion 2 of the farm Klip Fontein No 64;

(e) Remainder of Portion 12 (Annex Martha) (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, all situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

9. Portion 1 of the farm No 325, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

10. Remainder Portion 2 of the farm No 169, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

11. (a) Portion 13 (De Puts) (Portion of Portion 2) of the farm No 169;

(b) Portion 14 (Portion of Portion 2) of the farm No 169, both situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

12. Remainder of Portion 3 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm No 169, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

13. Remainder Portion 1 of the farm No 169, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.

14. Remainder Portion 4 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm No 169, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.
TUESDAY, 12 APRIL 1988

ing the sale of this land; if so, (a) what is this decision, (b) when will the sale be concluded and (c) by whom was the decision taken;

(3) whether this land is to be sold by public auction; if so, when, if not, (a) why not and (b)(i) to whom, (ii) for what amount and (iii) when will it be sold;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) No.
(a), (b), (c) and (d) fall away;

(2) falls away;

(3) falls away;

(4) no.

White children: compulsory education in RSA

*2. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether there is compulsory education for any White children in South Africa; if not, why not; if so, how many children of school-going age are (a) subject to and (b) not subject to compulsory education;

(2) whether any penalties for failure to comply with compulsory education requirements are applicable to (a) parents, (b) children and (c) any other specified persons; if not, why not; if so, (i) what penalties and (ii) in terms of what statutory provisions, rules or regulations;

(3) whether any persons have been (a) charged with and (b) found guilty of failing to comply with compulsory education requirements; if not, why not;

(4) whether any other action has been taken in respect of persons failing to comply with these requirements; if so, (a) why and (b) what action?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(a) (b)
Cape : 150 297 35 797
Natal : 95 258 16 545

*3. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

How many White students graduated as teachers from (a) teacher-training colleges and (b) universities at the end of 1987?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(a)* (b)*
2 457 2 224

includes all teaching students who have completed their initial studies by obtaining either a diploma or a degree.

White teacher-training colleges: qualified applicants not admitted

*4. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

Whether any qualified applicants were not admitted to White teacher-training colleges because of (a) lack of facilities and (b) other specified factors in 1988; if so, how many such prospective students were (i) admitted and (ii) refused admission to these colleges in 1988; if not, (a) what is the combined capacity of these colleges and (b) what total number of students is enrolled at present?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) No.
(b) yes, due to the application of quotas.

(a) (b)
Cape : 239 461
Natal : 163 338
OFS : 58 132
Transvaal 1 488 1 097

These statistics should be evaluated against the fact that many of the prospective students submit applications to various training institutions. Past experience has shown that, if all the applicants were allowed to enrol, the number of students that would report would be appreciably smaller than the number reflected in column (a).

(a) (b)
Cape : 2 450 1 282
Natal : 1 700 830
OFS : 600 404
Transvaal 8 130 6 088

Mr K M ANDREW: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, may I ask him with reference to the spare capacity at these teacher-training colleges and his statement earlier this year that there was no intention of further rationalisation at that stage, what he has in mind in respect of these hundreds if not thousands of empty places? Does he have any thoughts on how that excess capacity might be used?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, the whole matter is constantly being monitored and watched.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, could he indicate whether the figures he has provided apply to teacher colleges for initial training only, or whether they include those for further education?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I referred to initial training only.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Value of dairy/meat/wheat products imported

81. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What was the value of the (a) dairy, (b) meat and (c) wheat products imported by the Republic during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) During the 12 months that ended on 29 February 1988, permits for the importation of 11 313 tonnes of powdered milk, 4 664 tonnes of cheddar cheese and 976 tonnes of exotic cheese were issued whilst butter to the value of R 488 399.00 was imported;

(b) during the 12 months that ended on 31 December 1987, permits for the importation of 26 804 tonnes of beef, lamb, mutton and pork were issued;

(c) during the 12 months ending on 30 September 1987, permits for the importation of 7 607 tonnes of wheat products were issued.

It is however not known whether the quantities of agricultural products indicated on the permits were actually imported or what the values thereof were.

Agricultural products: shortages

217. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether there are any shortages of agricultural products at present or any such shortages are expected in 1988; if so, of which products;

(2) what in each case are the (a) reasons for such shortages and (b) price implications;

(3) what steps have been taken or are contem-
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Remainder Portion 8 (Portion of Portion 7) of the farm No 169;</td>
<td>(a) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>(b) Portion 9 (Portion of Portion 4) of the farm No 169;</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>(a) Portion 17 (Portion of Portion 8) of the farm No 169;</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>(b) Portion 9 (Portion of Portion 2) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, both situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(d) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Portion 7 (Portion of Portion 4) of the farm No 169, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Remainder Portion 10 (Klip Fontein) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>(a) Portion 8 (Lang Vlei) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64;</td>
<td>(a) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>(b) Portion 12 (Annex Lang Vlei) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64;</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>(c) Portion 14 (Bos Kop) (Portion of Portion 10) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, all situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>Remainder of the farm No 75, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>Remainder of the farm Reimerskraal No 323, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>(a) Remainder of the farm Ramers Dam No 77;</td>
<td>(a) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>(b) Remainder of the farm Skihaven No 377;</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>(c) Portion 1 of the farm Skihaven No 337 (now known as Skihaven Town), all situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>Remainder Portion 17 (Rosebaai) (Portion of Portion 11) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(d) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>Portion 19 (Portion of Portion 11) of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Portion 20 (Portion of Portion 17) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(a) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Portion 21 (Portion of Portion 20) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>Portion 22 (Portion of Portion 20) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Portion 28 (Portion of Portion 25) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64;</td>
<td>(d) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Portion 23 (Portion of Portion 20) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Portion 24 (Portion of Portion 20) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Portion 26 (Portion of Portion 25) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(d) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Portion 27 (Portion of Portion 25) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Portion 2 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm No 81, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>Remainder Portion 1 of the farm No 81, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Portion 9 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm Dulta's Downs No 264;</td>
<td>(a) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Portion 8 (Portion of Portion 2) of said farm;</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>(c) Portion of Remainder Portion 7 (Portion of Portion 4) of said farm, all situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Portion 29 (Portion of Portion 17) of the farm Klip Fontein No 64, situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
<td>(d) Situated in the Division of Bredasdorp.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Portion 28 (Portion of Portion 16) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td>(a) Situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Portion 27 (Portion of Portion 16) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, both situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Remainder Portion 1 (Cupidos Kral) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516;</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Portion 29 (Portion of Portion 16) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, both situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Remainder Portion 29 (Portion of Portion 16) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Portion 30 (Portion of Portion 1) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, both situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Portion 57 (Portion of Portion 29) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Portion 58 (Portion of Portion 29) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Portion 59 (Portion of Portion 29) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Portion 60 (Portion of Portion 29) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Portion 61 (Portion of Portion 29) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Portion 71 of Remainder Portion 7 (Gras Rug) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Portion 35 (Portion of Portion 31) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, both situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Portion 23 (Blou Krans) (Portion of Portion 11) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516;</td>
<td>(a) Situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Portion 33 (Portion of Portion 31) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516, both situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
<td>(b) Situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Portion 20 (Nutjie) (Portion of Portion 5) of the farm The Potteberg Estates No 516;</td>
<td>(c) Situated in the Division of Swellendam.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(b) Portion 21 (Nutsie West) (Portion of Portion 5) of said farm;
(c) Portion 22 (Nutsie East) (Portion of Portion 5) of said farm;
(d) Portion 24 (Portion of Portion 6) of said farm;
(e) Portion 25 (Portion of Portion 5) of said farm,
all situated in the Division of Swellendam.
55. Portion 25 (Portion of Portion 6) of the farm The Potteberg, Estates No 516, situated in the Division of Swellendam.

(b) (ii)

1. Estate late H B Pratt
2. Waenhuiswaard Beleggings (Pty) Ltd
3. P K A Pratt
4. H D Jackson
5. Rheeboekvlei Landgoed (Pty) Ltd
6. A V Louw
7. Kaapse Wildverspreiders (Pty) Ltd
8. hottentots Holland Estates (Pty) Ltd
9. E de Kock
10. M F Tobias
11. Pieter Pratt Boerdery (Pty) Ltd
12. P J Lourens
13. J U Swart
14. A H Muller
15. L C van Papendorp
16. D J van Papendorp
17. Estate late J W Groenewald
18. H L Schaar
19. D Uys en M van Papendorp Uys
20. A A van Blommeistein
21. Mrs D M Uys
22. Wonderwoningen (Eiendomme) Limited
23. W T Nelst (2/119th share)
   Estate late D Nelst (2/119th share)
   J Nelst (2/119th share)
   Estate late A J Wilson and surviving spouse J J Wilson (2/119th share)
   Estate late H E Groenewald

((/19th share)
E B Liebenberg (2/119th share)
G F Steyn (105/228th share)
G J Louwer (105/228th share)
Estate late P J Nelst and surviving spouse J C D Lourens (2/119th share)

24. Dutch Reformed Church Broederpoort
25. Oyster Bay Investments (Pty) Ltd
27. W J Norman
28. E J Curry
29. N J Human
30. H J Groenewald en Mrs J Vermeulen
31. G A Barnard
32. W J Be{
33. D J van Papendorp
34. L C van Papendorp
35. W P Louwer
36. Andato Beleggings (Pty) Ltd
37. Potberg Annex (Pty) Ltd
38. W J de Wet
39. Lekkerwater Holdings (Pty) Ltd
40. Twenty-Nine Potteberg (Pty) Ltd
41. Forty Seven Potteberg (Pty) Ltd
42. F C A Property Investments (Pty) Ltd
43. Potberg Beleggings (Pty) Ltd
44. Whare Mann (Pty) Ltd
45. A Hennings
46. Hamerkop Nature Reserve (Pty) Ltd
47. J P D Hamilton
48. W J de Wet
49. Mrs D E van Eeden
50. Winklip Estates (Pty) Ltd
51. R B du Preez
52. V R O L Bergh
53. F P en J Dreyer
54. P S Scott, C G Scott en W N R Scheiner
55. Overburg Enterprises (Pty) Ltd

Overseas visits

572. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) Whether he or the Deputy Minister of Defence undertook any overseas visits in 1987; if so, (a) which countries were visited and (b) what was the purpose of each visit;
(2) whether he or this Deputy Minister was accompanied by any representatives of the media on these visits; if so, (a) what were the names of the journalists involved, (b) which newspapers or radio or television networks did they represent, (c) to which countries did each of these persons accompany him or this Deputy Minister and (d) why?
(3) whether any costs were incurred by the South African Defence Force as a result; if so, what total amount in that year?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) Yes, only in respect of the Minister of Defence.
(a) Paraguay
(b) Switzerland
Austria
(b) Paraguay and Switzerland, to strengthen mutual relations.
Austria, Private
(2) No, (a), (b), (c) and (d) fall away.
(2) Falls away.

Powdered milk/cheese/butter imported

857. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What quantities of (a) powdered milk, (b) cheese and (c) butter were imported during the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

During the 12 months ending on 29 February 1988, permits for the importation of (a) 11313 tonnes of powdered milk, (b) 4644 tonnes of cheddar cheese and 976 tonnes of exotic cheese were issued, whilst (c) 16697 tonnes of butter were imported. It is however not known whether the quantities specified on the permits were actually imported.

Beef/lamb and mutton and (c) pork were imported during the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

During the 12 months ending on 31 December 1987, (a) 24495704 kg beef, (b) 825871 kg lamb and mutton and (c) 1453 000 kg pork were imported.

Foreign nationals; members of New Railways and Harbours Superannuation Fund

873. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

(a) How many foreign nationals recruited in countries abroad by the South African Transport Services are members of the New Railways and Harbours Superannuation Fund, (b) what is the cost to the Transport Services of their membership of this fund and (c) what contributions are made to the fund by (i) these and (ii) other staff members;

(2) whether the Transport Services contribute to social security funds in countries abroad on behalf of the staff members in question; if so, at what cost to the Transport Services per annum?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) 344
   (b) R 605 652.20 in respect of February 1988.
   (c) (i) None.
   (ii) 7.5 per cent of their monthly
dispensable emoluments.
(2) Yes. R 295 412 for the 1987/88 Financial year.

Strikes; man-days lost/losses

880. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Manpower:

(a) How many man-days were lost in 1985, 1986 and 1987, respectively, as a result of strikes and (b) what are the estimated losses suffered as a result of these strikes in each of these years?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(a) 1985 641 296
   1986 1 161 846
   1987 5 626 602

CAPE TOWN — South Africa is increasingly having to import certain agricultural products which previously it had obtained locally or even exported.

Shortages are now regularly occurring in respect of oil seeds, cotton, diary products, meat and wheat.

Replingy to questions put to him in parliament, the Minister of Agricultural, Mr Greyling Wentzel, noted that last year permits had to be granted for the importation of 11,313 tons of powdered milk, 4,854 tons of cheese and 976 tons of exotic cheese.

Butter to the value of R4.5m was also imported.

Permits were also issued for the importation of 28,604 tons of beef, lamb, mutton and pork; and 7,607 tons of wheat.

Mr Wentzel said he expected a similar shortfall to occur this year.

DDC
Star readers help fill farm workers’ library

Free State farmworkers and their children have welcomed a precious new facility inspired by the initiative of the farmer’s wife, Mrs Norma Rolfe, of Viljoenskroon.

"With the help of readers of The Star, she has started a library.

The Rolfe’s workers live in, perhaps, the most pleasing circumstances in the province. They have attractive homes, electricity, running water and the only licensed clubhouse for farmworkers in South Africa. Their children attend school, and everyone — both old and young — are encouraged to improve their literacy.

To make sure both youngsters and their parents have something to read, Mrs Rolfe asked readers of The Star for any books they could spare.

The response soon filled several shelves in the new library. But there are still some standing empty.

“I am so grateful to readers who were good enough to parcel books and send them to me,” she says. “I know, however, that many people haven’t the time or inclination to parcel and post books, so I have asked my sister in Johannesburg to act as a ‘depot’ for me.”

She is seeking all sorts of books for young children, high school pupils and adults. Old textbooks are useful for children to use for reference purposes. Mrs Rolfe’s sister in Johannesburg, Mrs Hazel Macmillan, of Illovo, has offered to act as a collection depot. She can be contacted on (011) 442-7936. If you are able to offer books, do telephone Mrs Rolfe at (014137) 4231.

The new library at Rolfe’s Farm in Viljoenskroon is used by adults and children alike.
The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:
The audited particulars are published in the various reports of the Auditor-General (which are tabled in Parliament) on the accounts kept in terms of the relevant provisions of the Marketing Act, 1968 (Act 59 of 1968).

Surplus agricultural foodstuffs distributed to under-privileged/welfare organisations 887. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether any surplus agricultural foodstuffs were distributed to welfare organizations during the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available:

- (i) what foodstuffs,
- (ii) what quantity of each foodstuff,
- (iii) what was the total estimated value of the foodstuffs so distributed?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:
(a) Yes
(b) Yes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Foodstuff</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bananas</td>
<td>1/7/86 - 30/6/87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potatoes</td>
<td>1/3/87 - 29/2/88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rooibos tea*</td>
<td>1/8/87 - 31/12/87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oranges</td>
<td>1/3/87 - 29/2/88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milk powder**</td>
<td>1/3/87 - 29/2/88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processed cheese**</td>
<td>1/3/87 - 29/2/88</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- In aid of the flood disaster fund.
- Made available to charity organizations at subsidised prices.
- Value of subsidy:
  - Chicken meat imported from France 951. Mr T LANGLEY asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

Whether in the period before Christmas 1987 he gave permission for chicken meat to be imported from France; if so, (a) what is the total mass of the chicken meat so imported, (b) at what price per kilogram was this meat purchased and (c) for what purposes was the meat purchased?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY:
- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes

Marketing boards: grants for bursary purposes 952. Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether any marketing boards made grants for bursary purposes in 1986; if so, (a) which marketing boards, (b) how many grants were made by each such marketing board and (c) what was the amount of the grant in each case?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:
- (a) Yes
- (b) Yes
- (c) Yes
**Lucerne at low level**

A scientific analysis of lucerne production in the East Cape indicates that production levels are still far below the potential in terms of yield a hectare and quality factors.

It is especially quality, which is a function of management skills, that shows considerable room for improvement, says the East Cape Agricultural Union.

It appears that, due to flood damage in the production areas of the Vaal and Orange rivers, a shortage of lucerne hay could occur.

Lucerne seed is fairly readily available, although the proportion of the local cultivar (S.A. Standard) is low in relation to the amount of imported seed.

Taking everything into account, the East Cape lucerne producers and prospective producers can plan for the following season(s) with reasonable confidence.

In their planning, producers are urged to make maximum use of all the information sources available to them. Particular emphasis is laid on those services furnished by the Dept. of Agriculture and water supply, such as:

- visits to and liaison with experimental stations;
- liaison with departmental extension officers and those of co-operatives and private firms;
- the use of the leaflet series of the Department of Agriculture information and the holding of farmers' days at local level at which experts can contribute information.

The establishment of lucerne is a costly procedure and good planning is essential to ensure that no weak link occurs in the chain of procedures that are necessary.

**Maize inquiry**

The chairman of the committee of enquiry into alternative marketing arrangements for maize, Dr. S.S. Brand, has appealed to interested groups and individuals to make submissions to the committee as soon as possible.

"The terms of reference to the committee include inter alia to investigate the problems experienced with the marketing arrangements for maize and to submit possible alternative marketing arrangements, in which maize and other feed grains from the national states in Southern Africa can possibly also be handled through for example a grain exchange," Dr. Brand said.

He said that interested parties must contact the secretary of the committee "as soon as possible on (012) 325 2133" to make arrangements with regard to the format of the submissions and the date of tabling."
Basters win land claim

Supreme Court Reporter

LELIEFONTEIN residents yesterday won the right to return to the Namaqualand lands which were granted to them in 1854 by Cape Town governor Sir George Cathcart, but which had been taken away.

The subdivision of the communal farming land at Leliefontein into 47 farming units and the leasing of 30 of these to "strangers to the area" was yesterday set aside in the Supreme Court.

The status quo in regard of the use of the land as it existed before the subdivision was restored and the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Mr David Curry, was ordered to pay the costs.

A written judgment handed down by Mr Justice C T Howie yesterday — with which Mr Justice C O L Howie concurred — said that in planning the development of the Leliefontein area, Mr Curry's department ignored certain statutory provisions.

The application was brought by Mr Gert Bekeur, Mr Jacob Bekeur, Mr Johannes Brandt and Mr Andries Wildschut — all Leliefontein farmers.

Evidence was that a community of about 8 000 people of Klein Namaqua or Baster heritage had farmed the land communally "for as long as the memory of man."

In 1940 when Mr Bekeur came of age he was given the right — by the Leliefontein Management Committee which controlled the area — to occupy a building site and two farming sites and to graze his stock on the communal grazing ground. The same rights were given to other farmers.

Mr Bekeur said in June and July 1965 he planted his vegetable crop and moved his cattle away for winter grazing. When he returned in September his land was occupied by a Mr Nico Schwartz.

His vegetable garden had been destroyed by Mr Schwartz's cattle and he was told that the land had been leased to Mr Schwartz.

The farms were leased to teachers, shopkeepers, civil servants and others who owned at least 200 cattle or who owned assets worth more than R20 000.

Mr I Pattana SC assisted by Mr J L Krieger and instructed by the Legal Resources Centre appeared for the residents. Mr G H van Schalkwyk with Mr W J Louw, instructed by the State Attorney, appeared for the minister.

THE RIGHT TO RETURN ... (From left) Mr Samuel Cloete, Mr Dawid Koordom, Mr Abraham Fortuin and Mr Piet Klase — among the Leliefontein farmers who had their land restored to them in a Supreme Court appeal.
Farmers face R450m loss

PRETORIA.  Efficient SA grain farmers have landed themselves with a R450-million problem.

This, according to official sources here, is what they will lose on exporting maize and wheat surpluses.

The Wheat Board estimates that about 550,000 tons of its record crop of 3.3 million tons will have to be exported at a loss of more than R120 million. And losses in selling feed wheat on the local over-supplied animal feed market could add to this figure.
Bargain prices for farmers in R160-m Langeberg deal

By TOM HOOD
Business Editor

FARMERS and other members of the giant Langeberg Co-operative will be able to pay a bargain price for their shares in a new company, Langeberg Foods, which is to be listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

And they be able to sell them back at double the subscription price through an undertaking that is valid for three months.

Tiger Oats is paying R80-million for a 50 percent stake in the company and Langeberg Co-operative will chip in at another R70-million.

25 PERCENT

But the co-op’s 1359 members, who will be asked to subscribe for R10-million of shares, will get theirs at 25 percent of the Tiger Oats price.

The number of shares involved in the deal between the two companies, commented: “It is clear that ultimately the members will get their shares at a very low price.

“Possibly the price Tiger paid is a pretty stiff price — double the subscription price.

“Ultimately, the co-op will really belong to its members if it can pay off the Land Bank.”

Mr Robbie Williams.

Mr Carel Stassen

Clearly, he said, the co-op would not encourage the members to sell if anyone wanted to sell, there would be a handsome profit.

Agricultural economists believe the development — the first of its kind in the country — could set the scene for other co-operatives in the future, especially those heavily invested in industrial interests.

Other advantages, according to Mr Carel Stassen, of the Western Cape.

If a co-op declares a bonus — which fluctuates according to the harvest and sales — members are taxed on it as income. At present, money has to be ploughed back which reduces incomes.

However, if the new company paid dividends, the members would pay tax at a more favourable rate.

Mr van der Berg, said: “We believe that this transaction will prove to be a milestone for South Africa.

“In one transaction the industrial activities of a co-op are transferred to a property capitalised public company. The tremendous depth of knowledge of the industry which is present in Langeberg will be combined in the new public company with a strong and active partner, Tiger, which has its roots in the food business.

Mr Carel Stassen, Langeberg’s managing director, said the chairman, (Mr Boet van Wyk) intended to tour the country to talk to members and seek their support.

The co-op’s current capital is only 17 percent of other funds and it clearly needed an injection of cash. All profits had to be ploughed back to expand the business and make capital investments in expensive items such as freezing plant.

A key part of the deal was that all 10,000 staff would be taken on by the new company at exactly the same terms.

The chairman of Langeberg, Mr van Wyk, described the deal as “probably the most exciting development in the agricultural arena for decades.”

“Less than 20 percent of Langeberg’s turnover comprises the purchase of fruit and vegetables from farmers which means that the co-op has effectively become an industrial concern. However Langeberg has not been financed as an industrial concern and needs a capital injection of at least R90-million.”

From its 1989 financial year, Langeberg Foods would declare an annual cash dividend of at least 25 percent of its distributable profit.

Tiger Oats chairman Robbie Williams said while Tiger’s R89-million investment in Langeberg Foods will have no material effect on Tiger’s earnings or net asset value in this financial year, he expects long-term benefits from the partnership.
Farmers' debt hits R2.6bn

Daily Dispatch correspondent

PRETORIA — Years of drought have sent farmers’ debts to the Land Bank soaring.

According to the bank’s 1987 report farmers owed the bank in long and intermediate term loans R2.6bn.

This was an increase of R134m compared with the previous year.

At the end of last year unpaid interest and capital instalments amounted to nearly R200m — R43m more than in 1986.

The bank says the increase in the amounts in arrears can mainly be ascribed to adverse climatic conditions, high input costs and interest rates, and other pressing debts, contributing to debtors inability to meet their commitments.

This was notwithstanding that government paid a portion of farmers’ interest commitments in terms of the bank’s 20 years guaranteed drought relief loans.

On forced sales of farms the bank says at the end of last year there were 33,293 long term loan accounts in operation.

The bank’s board was compelled to use its powers of sale in 93 cases.

The year before 48 were sold up.

In 43 cases the proceeds of the sales were enough to cover the amounts owed to the bank.

In 50 the mortgaged properties were bought by the bank for resale.
Agriculture shows SA's dual economy

By AN ECONOMIST

The much spoken about first-world/third world duality that exists in the South African economy is epitomised in the state of agriculture and rural development of South Africa. The inter-dependence between, rather than isolation, of the “white” first world sector and the “black” third world sector has been necessary in order to maintain the status quo in South Africa.

Agriculture

To trace the development of agriculture and rural development in South Africa, it is to examine the history of South Africa itself. The subject centres around the appropriation of land in South Africa where as early as 1652, with the arrival of Jan van Riebeeck, the Khoi were forced to leave their grazing land below Table Mountain.

In the three centuries that followed Van Riebeeck’s arrival at the Cape, the process of the relocation of blacks, such as the Khoi, San (Bushman) and Later various powerful African chieftains to the north and east of the Cape, intensified. By the late 19th century, whites had succeeded in asserting control over most of South Africa.

Thus few countries prior to the creation of the Union of South Africa in 1910, the black population of South Africa was predominantly agriculturally based. But, with the various Dutch and English colonisations of South Africa, the land area available to the black population became increasingly diminished as blacks were displaced into smaller and poorer patches of land most of which was controlled by whites.

Land

As mining and industrialisation became the central concern of the first Union Government, the main emphasis of policy was to ensure a steady supply of labour for industrialisation. This priority conflicted with the interests of the white farmers who already represented a strong support group for the Nationalist Party.

Afrikaner farmers were able to live on “white owned land” as labour tenants or wage earners. The discrepancies between white and black agricultural productivity in South Africa grew hand in hand with the establishment of the Homelands System which became institutionalised in 1948.

The increasing stress on industrialisation came at the expense of developing agriculture especially in the reserves (later to become the homelands). We witnessed the problem from at least two separate aspects today which are integraly linked.

Changes

Firstly, industrialisation may not have been to the detriment of subsistence agriculture, where self-sufficiency and mass participation prevailed around the turn of the century, it constituted a broadening of the industrial and manufacturing base thus opening up markets to mass participation.

Instead, influx control laws to keep the blacks away and displace the industrialising cities except in a temporary capacity (as was facilitated by the migrant labour system) were created. This ensured that a constant source of labour could be tapped (and sent back) when necessary.

Moreover, government’s policy of cross-subsidisation in favour of capital, over and above labour, has also encouraged the mechanisation, and automation of commercial white farming at the expense of labour. The government encourages the diversion of resources towards capital investment through tax allowances and pricing policies. The government allowed monopolies to be created with the result of prices being overpriced and unmarket related.

At the same time vast changes were taking place on the agricultural front. White farmers considering the significant economic disparity between the white dominated commercial farming sector and the subsistence sector which consists of African families and traditional communal holdings, is in itself questionable.

Programme

The large white farms and the commercial sector constitute nearly six times the land area of the subsistence sector, and the output per commercial worker is at least twenty times that of the output of a subsistence farmer.

In a country with enormous agricultural potential and that has been a net exporter of agricultural products, it becomes depressing that a survey recently concluded states that over half of rural South Africa is malnourished. The malnourishment is obviously not due to the absolute lack of food but the loss of entitlement to food that is available.

This could be caused, for example, the loss of employment, forced relocation by government’s large price hikes. Needs today in the white modernised and technologically orientated agriculture, which has been the great potential to contribute to growth in South Africa, are very different to the black subsistence sectors’ survival needs.

A rural development programme with relevant technology and aid from government is necessary for this sector as the land for subsistence agriculture may be as underyield as it is insufficient.
Try, try again

A disappointed South African Agricultural Machinery Association (Saama) is to try again to convince government that farmers' machinery should be treated like their fuel and not be subject to GST.

Chairman Aubrey Gouws says Saama has tried for years to convince government it is overtaxing the agricultural industry. But whenever Saama broaches the matter, government's short answer is for it to help farmers by reducing prices.

"But the average profit on a tractor is 9.5%, well below GST of 12%," says Gouws. "In some cases, up to 30% of the cost of a tractor is made up of duties, surcharges and GST."

The cost of agricultural equipment is high. The most commonly used tractors (58 kW) cost over R60 000 with GST.

Saama backed off for a while, hoping Finance Minister Barend du Plessis would make concessions in his Budget speech. He didn't.

"That disappointed us. We will take up the cudgels again with him and Agriculture Minister Greyling Wentzel," promises Gouws. "We can't understand why farmers must pay GST on agricultural implements which are regarded as input costs. Items such as fuel, fertiliser and seed, also regarded as input costs, are exempt because they are regarded as part of the manufacturing process."

Like farmers, the agricultural implement industry has been seriously affected by the drought. Sales dropped from R532m in 1981 to R187m in 1985 and gross profit from R40,2m in 1981 to a loss of R42,1m in 1985. Tractor sales peaked in 1981, when 24 862 units were sold, and dropped to a low of 4 736 in 1986. Saama predicts 5 200 will be sold this year.

It expects farmers will be able to afford more new implements if prices aren't bumped up by GST. Their need for implements hasn't decreased, but they satisfied it by repairing old ones or buying second-hand. Government figures show sales of used tractors have exceeded new tractor sales since 1982.
Government plan approved to help flood-hit farmers

Political Staff

THE Cabinet has approved a comprehensive plan to put flood-hit farmers in the Free State and the Northern Cape back on their feet, Deputy Minister of Agriculture Dr Kraal van Niekerk announced today.

The floods of February and March had caused extensive damage to agricultural resources and infrastructure on nearly 4,000 farms, he said.

DISASTER AREAS

Eighty-one magisterial districts were declared disaster areas.

Flood damage to agriculture in these districts was estimated at R398 million, of which R231.6 million could be attributed to damaged land, crops, roads and bridges.

Dr van Niekerk said a comprehensive assistance programme had been approved by the Cabinet to enable farmers to get land back into production as soon as possible.

The programme includes:

- A one-off cash payment to owners of land irreparably damaged.
- Loans with a 75-percent subsidy to reclaim damaged land and re-establish crops, and to repair damaged irrigation works, soil conservation works, roads and bridges.
- Compensation for stock losses, with a 75-percent subsidy to build up numbers to a maximum of one-third of the carrying capacity of a farm.

Application forms for the different types of assistance would be available from all magistrate’s offices and extension offices of the Department of Agricultural Economics.

The closing date for applications was August 1, he said.
State aid for flood-damaged farms

PRETORIA — Farmers who suffered damage in the February/March floods can claim state assistance, on a "one-off cash basis" of up to R16,000 per hectare of irreparably damaged irrigation land, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr A.I. van Nieuwenhoven, announced here yesterday.

The minister also said loans with a 75 per cent subsidy would be granted for reclamation of damaged land, irrigation equipment and replacement of livestock.

Loans with no subsidy will be available at eight per cent for the replacement of vehicles and equipment damaged in the floods.

The closing date for applications is August 1.

Dr Van Nieuwenhoven said in a statement that 3000 Free State and Northern Cape farms were damaged by the February floods and 1000 in the March floods, while 81 magisterial districts in the region had been declared disaster areas.

Agricultural damage was estimated at R358 million, with R231 million attributed to damaged land, crops, roads and bridges, the minister said.

On April 27 the cabinet approved a comprehensive assistance programme to include:

- Compensation for irreparably damaged land — A one-off cash payment will be made to the registered owner of cultivated land that has been damaged beyond repair. This payment varies between R8,000 and R16,000 per hectare depending on the crop that was cultivated. The compensation for irreparably damaged land is R1,000 per hectare. Such lands may never again qualify for any form of flood assistance.

- Reclamation of damaged land and the re-establishment of crops — Loans with 75 per cent subsidy are available for the reclamation and re-establishment of crops on damaged cultivated land. Maximum amounts vary between R1,000 per hectare for drylands to R12,000 per hectare for irrigation land under trellised vines. Maximum loan limits apply for the different reclamation and re-establishment actions. The amounts concerned will be controlled by the agricultural credit committee and the proven expenditure will be considered.

- Irrigation, soil conservation, roads and bridges — Loans with a 75 per cent subsidy are available for irrigation equipment (such as dams, pumps, canals and irrigation systems) and also for boundary and intercamp fences, stock watering systems, reservoirs, erosion structures, roads and bridges.

- Stock losses — Compensation is available but will be limited to the purchase of livestock at fixed tariffs with a subsidy of 75 per cent to build up numbers to a maximum of one-third of the carrying capacity of the farm.

- Loss of or damage to tractors, lorries, agricultural implements and equipment — Loans at eight per cent (with no subsidy) are available to farmers who qualify for such a loan. Application must be made to the local agricultural credit committee.

- Carry-debt at cooperatives in flood disaster areas — Proposals to solve the problem on the same basis as the schemes for the summer cropping areas are being finalized with the South African Agricultural Union and the Jacobs Committee.

Dr Van Nieuwenhoven said more members had been appointed to agricultural credit committees to cope with applications and these would undergo intensive training in early May.

Application forms would be available from magistrates' offices and extension offices of the department.

"Farmers are urgently requested to return these application forms as soon as possible with the exception of orchard farmers who are to receive an extended deadline," Dr Van Nieuwenhoven said.

"Payment of loans and subsidies will only be made against proved expenses after the agricultural credit committee has satisfied that the land has been reclaimed satisfactorily and the crops have been established properly." — Sapa.
Damage stands at R358m

Cabinet accepts plan to help flood-hit farms

By David Braun
Political Correspondent

The Cabinet has approved a comprehensive plan to put flood-hit farmers in the Free State and northern Cape back on their feet, Deputy Minister of Agriculture Dr Kraai van Niekerk announced yesterday.

He said in a statement that the floods of February 20 and 21 had caused extensive damage to agricultural resources and infrastructure on nearly 3 000 farms.

DISASTER AREAS

The second flood on March 7 and 8 has severely affected a further 1 000 farms.

A total of 81 magisterial districts had been declared disaster areas.

Flood damage to agriculture in these districts was estimated at R358 million, of which R231,5 million could be attributed to damaged land, crops, roads and bridges.

Dr van Niekerk said a comprehensive assistance programme had been approved by the Cabinet last week to repair the damage and to enable farmers to get the tillable land back into production as soon as possible.

The programme includes:

● A one-off cash payment to owners of land irreparably damaged.

● Loans with a 75 percent subsidy to reclaim damaged land, re-establish crops, and repair damaged irrigation works, soil conservation works, roads and bridges.

● Compensation for stock losses, with a subsidy of 75 percent to build up numbers to a maximum of one-third of a farm’s carrying capacity.

Dr van Niekerk said application forms for the different types of assistance would be available from all magistrate’s offices and extension offices of the Department of Agricultural Economics. Closing date for applications was August 1.
The number of farms in South Africa had decreased by 34,400 from 92,909 in 1967 to 58,509 in 1986, the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing, has reported.

"During the same period, the total investment in agriculture increased by R36,370 million from R8,176 million to R44,546 million," a spokesman said.

The investment per farm unit had therefore increased from R88,000 to R752,000.

Because sound management in farming was critical for success, the financial risk associated with mismanagement was considerable.

Between 1967 and 1986, the rate of inflation increased at an average of 12.4 percent a year.

Farmers' profitability and purchasing power declined sharply during this period.

In addition, the total debt position of South African farmers had increased from R1,402 million in 1970 to R12,385 million in 1985.

Gross farm income increased from R1,281,3 million in 1967 to R11,490,1 million in 1986, while the respective net income figures rose from R821,5 million to R3,014,3 million.

"This means that to earn an income of R1 in 1967 a farmer had to spend 51c. This figure has now risen to 74c," the spokesman said.
Full dams a good omen — Wentzel

The droughts of past years had been a cancer and the recent floods a heart attack, but the fact that rain had filled dams was a good omen for farmers, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

"I predict the worst is over," he said in reply to debate on his budget vote.

Latest figures showed farmers' income was up by about 22 percent which, although still not satisfactory, was good compared with 1983/84.

The total agricultural debt at the end of 1987 was R13.3 billion, which represented an increase of 8.6 percent over 1986, but it was slowing down.

The immediate future of agriculture looked good, but measures had to be taken to ensure agriculture was able to deal with future disasters.

Turning to labour relations, the Minister said the importance of this in agriculture should not be overlooked, as the five to six million agricultural workers and their dependants made up almost a quarter of the population of South Africa. — Sapa
LIKE other developing countries, South Africa has seen its agricultural sector decline as the mining and manufacturing sectors have grown.

In 1911, one year after the establishment of the Union of South Africa in 1910, agriculture's share of goods and services was around 22 percent and its share of employment was about 64 percent.

In 1986, agriculture contributed only 5.7 percent to the gross domestic product of South Africa. Almost the entire contribution comes from the white dominated commercial farming sector.

Commercial farming has grown dramatically in the past 60 years. Whereas in 1920 South Africa was forced to import food, we are not significant food exporters. Agriculture accounts for a significant portion of South Africa's foreign exchange earnings excluding gold.

The trend in commercial farming has been towards increasing automation and mechanisation thus slashing the manpower requirements. Government, by way of its pricing and tax policies has encouraged the development of agricultural control boards which essentially constitute monopolies and create upmarket related prices which are invariably over-priced.

The control boards offer protection to farmers which encourages a certain amount of inefficiency. This also raises costs for the consumer.

A result of all the regulations surrounding agriculture in South Africa has been the growth of informal sector agriculture where agricultural products find their way through to the market by passing one of the 20 agricultural control boards. The transactions are unrecorded and are therefore not taxed.

Government policy has favoured capital intensification by way of substantial tax allowances for investments in capital goods.

The fact that farmers pay relatively little tax is no coincidence as tax values on livestock are substantially lower than their market price. In addition the production or income earning season of farmers runs contrary to the financial year.

This may make it easier for farmers to say buy a few thousand head of cattle prior to the year-end in order to show a tax loss and then sell them at the beginning of the following financial year at a profit.

The policy of favouring capital intensification at the expense of labour is to an extent backfiring as the cost of agricultural equipment, most of which is imported, is rising astronomically due to the relative depreciation of the rand.

Most of South Africa's agricultural imports come from the United States, Germany and the United Kingdom.

The rand has depreciated heavily against these currencies.

We are presently running at around R4 to one pound and R2.15 to one dollar.

Agricultural debt is currently running at R13.5 billion rand. The debt is financed by the Land and Agricultural Bank, commercial banks, agricultural co-operatives, agricultural credit and land tenure and private persons.

While South Africa's foreign debt of over R20 billion is treated as a potential national current account crisis, the agricultural debt in South Africa is hardly mentioned with the same degree of gravity.

Ever since the creation of the Union of South...
Govt in bid to slow down consumer demand
for the purposes of fringe benefits.
A third thrust to the less permissive policy appears to be the depreciation of the rand against the dollar which has accelerated in the past two days. Yesterday, the rand closed at R2.2013 compared with Tuesday's R2.1722 and Monday's R2.1642.
De Kock said real gross domestic expenditure increased by more than 10% in the first quarter of 1988, compared with the same period last year.
While this upsurge in demand im-
parted further momentum to the up-swing in real output and income, it showed signs of exerting undue pressure on domestic resources and imports, at a time when exports were declining.
He said if not curbed timely, the rise in spending might result in new demand inflation, balance of payments difficulties and downward pressure on the exchange rate of the rand.

Debtors' allowances change causes alarm
than the sudden abolition of the debtors allowance.
In terms of the 1988 Income Tax Amend- ment Bill to be submitted to Parliament later this month, the allowance in respect of any tax period beginning before July 1 is reduced by 5% and thereafter by a further 5% at the beginning of every month until April 1989.
Accountants add that the withdrawal of the allowance is a necessary pre-requisite to the introduction of VAT, where such an allowance would not be appropriate given that VAT is payable right through the produc-
duction chain.
Deloitte partner Willem Cronje said its abolition was likely to result in companies selling on hire purchase requiring larger deposits in order to help carry the tax charge.
Aiken & Peat national partner Glynn Herbert said it was an obvious attempt by government to restrict credit. However, instead of discouraging the consumer from credit spending, the onus was being placed on the firms which rely heavily on credit sales.
Herbert said another measure to curb consumer credit was inherent in the Minister's intention to raise the scale of fringe benefit taxation on company cars.
Motor financiers said the increase of about 15% in this fringe benefit tax was reasonable given the dramatic increase in car prices.
Interdict
states
man may
remain
on farm

EAST LONDON — A Cove Ridge man who was evicted from his home and had chicken manure spread over his belongings was granted a magistrate’s court interdict yesterday stating that he can remain in the house until June 9.

On Wednesday afternoon, Mr Bruce Mitchell had his front door broken and manure spread “all over” his house and his belongings piled into a small room.

Through his attorney, Mr Joe Yazbek, Mr Mitchell got a court interdict yesterday morning saying he could remain on the farm until June 9.

Mr Mitchell was recently fired from the Triplestream Farm and was told to get out of the house by the farm’s general manager, Mr Leon Swart.

“I made an agreement with the company (the Ryan Group) that I would be given 30 day’s notice before being asked to leave the house. This was not done, so I took it to court,” Mr Mitchell said.

He said he had laid a charge of assault against an employee of the company. He had also laid a charge of malicious damage to property.
Presentations of lesson at certain school in Transvaal: presence of Black traffic constable

Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

1. Whether a Black traffic constable was present during the presentation of a lesson in or about August 1987 at a certain school in the Transvaal, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (a) at which school, (b) why, (c) why or because of which of the circumstances surrounding the incident, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (a) at which school, (b) why, (c) why or because of which of the circumstances surrounding the incident.

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER (for the Minister of Justice):

1. The Magistrate of Wymbone informs that in view of the fact that an audience of approximately 500 attended the proceedings and that seating was only available for 60 persons, discussions were held with the presiding officer, the public prosecutor, the South African Police and legal representatives of the accused persons. It was agreed that three family members of each of the eleven accused persons were to be allowed to attend. The said family members were thereafter admitted to the court. When the proceedings started the court was jam-packed. Some members of the audience also stood against the side walls of the court room. It is not possible to give an indication of which persons were unable to obtain seating. I would, however, like to add that the prosecutor personally saw to it that the hon member obtained seating in court.

Mr J VAN ECK, Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask him what the name of the official was who gave instructions that 50 policemen were to fill the court so that the family and friends had no room to sit down.

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I am not able to give an indication of which persons were unable to obtain seating as I have not been informed of their names. However, the prosecutor made sure that the hon member obtained seating. The family and friends of the accused persons were also made sure to have seating in court.

2. Whether certain statistical information contained in the report of the Department of Education in respect of each province has been excluded from the annual report of the Department for 1987, if so.

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the annual report of the Department of Education for 1987 was not available for review and could not be included in the annual report of the House. The statistical information contained in the report was not excluded from the annual report.

3. Whether any other areas of statistical information have been excluded from the annual report for 1987, if so, (a) what areas, (b) why and (c) who made the decision in this regard.

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I am not aware of any areas of statistical information that have been excluded from the annual report for 1987. The annual report was compiled by the Department of Education and Culture and I am not aware of any decision to exclude any specific information.

4. Whether his Department makes available an annual statistical supplement to its departmental report, if not, why not.

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, the annual statistical supplement is not available to the Department. The statistical information is contained in the annual report of the Department and is available to the public.

5. The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Yes, with the annual report for 1987 there was a change to statistical information in accordance with the SAPSE-information system which is now the only official source of educational statistics for the College/School sector.
The MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PRIVATISATION

(1) No.
(a), (b) and (c) Fall away.
(2) Falls away.
(3) No.
(a), (b), (i) and (ii) Fall away.
(4) Amounts spent on printed matter as a result of contracts allocated to companies by the Government Printer, are as follows:
(a) R36 922.80.
(b) R130 283.09 — in respect of services rendered by CTP Bookprinters, Pricktonia Printers and Promedia.

Family planning clinics available

882. Mr J DALLING asked the Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with Administration and Broadcasting Services:

(1) Whether his Department awarded any printing contracts in 1987 to two companies, the names of which have been furnished to the Commission for Administration for the purpose of the Minister's reply, or to their associated companies and printing operations; if so, (a) in respect of what publications or printed matter, (b) how many copies of each publication or item were ordered from each company and (c) what are the names of the companies concerned;

(2) whether these contracts were put out to tender; if not, (a) why not and (b) what was the total amount paid by his Department in respect of each of these contracts; if so, (a) the tender price originally accepted and (ii) total amount paid out, in respect of each contract;

(3) whether his Department subsidizes any publications published by the above companies; if so, (a) which publications and (b)(i) why, and (ii) the amount of the subsidy, in each case;

(4) what total amount was spent by his Department in 1987 on printing and publishing involving (a) the above companies and (b) any other specified companies?

The MINISTER FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PRIVATISATION:

(a) How many farm schools were subsidized by his Department, (b) what was the average subsidy paid per farm school, (c) what total number of pupils were registered at these schools, and (d) what was the total cost to his Department of the subsidization of these farm schools, in 1987?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(a) 5 576
(b) R24 999.49 (preliminary amount for the 1987/88 financial year).
(c) 486 991.
(d) R136 664 928.93 (preliminary amount for the 1987/88 financial year).

Printing contracts awarded to two companies

836. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with Administration and Broadcasting Services:

(1) Whether his Department awarded any printing contracts in 1987 to two companies, the names of which have been furnished to the Commission for Administration for the purpose of the Minister's reply, or to their associated companies and printing operations; if so, (a) in respect of what publications or printed matter, (b) how many copies of each publication or item were ordered from each company and (c) what are the names of the companies concerned;

(2) whether these contracts were put out to tender; if not, (a) why not and (b) what was the total amount paid by his Department in respect of each of these contracts; if so, (a) the tender price originally accepted and (ii) total amount paid out, in respect of each contract;

(3) whether his Department subsidizes any publications published by the above companies; if so, (a) which publications and (b)(i) why, and (ii) the amount of the subsidy, in each case;

(4) what total amount was spent by his Department in 1987 on printing and publishing involving (a) the above companies and (b) any other specified companies?

Family planning clinics available

882. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) How many family planning clinics were available to (i) Whites, (ii) Coloureds, (iii) Indians and (iv) Blacks in South Africa as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) how many women in each race group were using these facilities in the (i) (aa) 1980-81 and (bb) 1984-85 financial years and (ii) the latest specified financial year for which information is available;

(2) whether his Department has drawn up any educational programmes aimed at encouraging males and/or females in the Republic to practice birth control; if so, what are the relevant particulars?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) Family planning clinics are identified as clinic points. These clinic points either form part of a primary health care service rendered by local authorities, or single purpose family planning services and Section 30 services (Health Act) rendered by the Department of National Health and Population Development. Where possible clinic points are multicultural. The present number of clinic points are 5'659. The clinic points per race are not available. Information is furnished as on 31 December 1987.

(i) Falls away.
(ii) Falls away.
(iii) Falls away.
(iv) Falls away.

(b)(i) White Asian Coloured Black
(aa) 1980 81 316 020 133 356 623 900 2 097 276
(bb) 1984 85 346 116 135 648 690 756 2 573 112
(ii) 1987 88 539 268 186 480 949 380 3 860 644

(2) Educational services for women have been presented as an integral part of the Family Planning Programme since its inception in 1974.

This service is especially directed at women in their fertile years. Housewives as well as working women are involved. The educational message includes aspects of both family planning (what family planning measures, its advantages, information on contraceptive methods, services and the availability thereof) and related health education.

An education programme specifically directed at men was initiated in 1977. An important aim of this action is to increase the knowledge and involvement among men in the decision making that relates to fertility and the acceptance of family planning. It is important that men support the use of a contraceptive method by women. The promotion of contraceptives for men (especially the condom and vasectomy) is similarly important. Joint decision-making by the man and woman regarding the planning of their family is stressed in both the female and male educational actions.

Potential family planning clients are involved in groups in townships and receive information and education in order to ensure the social acceptability of family planning. Working men and women are also motivated in groups. Extensive liaison work is done amongst employers in order to launch education programmes at places of employment. Presently 18 612 employers are involved.

Another very important task of the Family Planning Advisers is to raise with formal and informal leaders and to convince them of the important contribution of family planning to the improvement of the quality of life. This task is undertaken with the guidance of the Community Liaison Officers. Community organizations and groups are also involved. Satisfied family planning clients are recruited as supporters who voluntarily spread the family planning message to others.

Education is provided by female and male Family Planning Advisers. Whenever possible advisers are recruited from the same population groups as the people who receive educational services. Thus the Family Planning Adviser is a grass roots worker from the community who he or she serves. After appointment Family Planning Advisers receive intensive training to ensure the effective rendering of educational services.

Presently 158 departmental Community Liaison Officers posts, 962 departmental female Advisers' posts and 378 departmental male Advisers, posts are deployed countrywide in the RSA.

Men and women are also reached by means of advertisements in the press, on radio and television, as part of the advertising campaigns of the Family Planning Programmes.

Population growth control programmes: co-operation

883. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) Whether there is any form of co-operation between the four independent Black states, the self-governing territories and the Republic of South Africa regarding population growth control programmes; if so, what are the relevant details; if not;

(2) whether he intends to take steps to bring about co-operation in this sphere; if not, why not; if so, (a) what steps and (b) when?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Yes, South Africa is presently negotiating with the TEC states and the Self-Governing Areas to implement Population...
Positive results in rural areas — De Beer

CAPE TOWN — Many of the 125 recommendations of last year’s report on black education in rural areas had been implemented with positive results, the Deputy Minister of Education, Mr Sam de Beer, said.

In the debate on the education and training vote, he said a national plan for the development of rural education was continuously being revised to meet changing needs.

The plan included the siting of schools to ensure that no child would be further than 5 km from one.

To alleviate the lack of secondary school facilities standards, six and seven had been introduced to 400 farm schools while standard 10 would be considered.

Training programmes had been introduced for teachers who had to deal with problems such as teaching two or more standards simultaneously.

Farm schools were being converted, where possible, from state-aided to public schools.

The land and buildings being rented from the farmer while subsidies had been revised.

In 1993 the department had only two technical colleges with 401 students. By last year this had increased to 20 colleges with more than 9,000 students.

The Minister of Education and Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Viljoen, said a total of 5,576 farm schools for blacks were subsidised the tune of R136.7 million by the government for the 1997/98 financial year.

A total of 436,9931 pupils were registered at the farm schools, he said.
Daily Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — A temporary interdict restraining a poultry company from evicting a man from his house on the company’s farm was overturned in the magistrate’s court here yesterday.

The interdict had been granted to Mr Bruce Mitchell who said he had been fired by Triplestreams Farm, which is owned by the Ryan Group, and ordered to vacate the house by the farm’s general manager, Mr Leon Swart.

Mr Mitchell alleged last week the front door of the house had been broken down, manure had been spread “all over” the house and his belongings had been piled into a small room.

Through his attorney, Mr Joe Yazbek, Mr Mitchell got a court interdict allowing him to remain in the house until June 9.

This interdict was overturned yesterday and the magistrate, Mr Peter Manley, said the Ryan Group had had “just cause” to evict Mr Mitchell.

Mr Mitchell had earlier stated that the company had not adhered to an agreement he had made with it that he would be given 30 days’ notice before being asked to leave the house.

Mr M.G. Pringle of Bax partnership represented the Ryan Group, while Mr A. Goosen of Yazbek and Company represented Mr Mitchell.
THE HEAT'S ON FOR FARMERS AS CROPS WILT

By SUE LUPTON
Weekend Argus Reporter

WHILE city-dwellers dash to the sea to revel in the delightful combination of long weekends and Indian summer, Boland farmers are tearing their hair out over the warm, dry weather.

If winter fails to make an appearance in the next fortnight, wheat and fruit crops will be in grave jeopardy, according to agriculturalists.

This month no rain has been recorded at the D F Malan weather office. The normal average May rainfall is 76.4mm.

Temperatures are also way above average — the normal average maximum temperature is about 20 deg C but this month is about five degrees higher.

**Flowering**

Wellington-based agricultural officer Mr Willem Ferreira said farmers in the Wellington, Paarl and Franschoek areas — one of the country’s major deciduous fruit-growing areas — feared that if temperatures continued to soar, the flowering and fruit-bearing of vines and fruit trees later in the year would be severely affected.

Vines and fruit trees were in the dormant stage and cold weather was needed.

Farmers were “very worried” that if temperatures did not drop significantly by the end of the month they could lose up to 25 percent of their normal harvest, said Mr Ferreira.

The effects of an abnormally warm winter could carry over to the following season, reducing the 1969 harvest as well, he said.

**Seedlings**

Ceres agriculturalist Mr Pieter Immelman said the dryness was threatening the wheat crops in his area.

"Some farmers sowed wheat after the April rains. It has already come up and if we don't get follow-up rains soon, the seedlings will wilt. If this happens, there will be a smaller harvest," he said.

In the Ceres-Karoo area, good rain in early March and at Easter had brought good grazing conditions, but farmers should take care to avoid overgrazing, Mr Immelman said.

In the Stellenbosch area, wine farmers were waiting eagerly for the arrival of the rainy season, said Mr Faan Jonhert, regional agricultural extension officer at Elsenburg Agricultural College.

"The dams are almost empty and we are looking forward to the rains."

"So far there is no crisis, but things could get critical if the dry season lasts more than another week or so.

"We have had an abnormally dry season."
Learner telephone electricians: applications for employment

939. Mr J B de R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

(a) How many applications for employment as learner telephone electricians were received from (i) Whites, (ii) Coloureds, (iii) Indians and (iv) Blacks during the latest specified 12-month period for which figures are available and (b) (i) how many such applications were refused by the Post Office, and (ii) what were the reasons for refusing them, in respect of each of these race groups?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

For the 12-month period 1 March 1987 to 29 February 1988:

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<td>(a)</td>
<td>128</td>
<td>484</td>
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<td>(b)</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>68</td>
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(ii) in each population group on account of either

- not having aptitude for the work
- not complying with the required educational qualifications
- the oversupply of applicants.

Land Bank Board: educational/professional qualifications of members

979. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Finance:

(1) What are the (a) educational and (b) professional qualifications of each of the members of the Land Bank Board?

(2) Whether persons appointed as members of this board are required to have any special qualifications; if so, what special qualifications?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE:

(1) (a) The chairman and the other eight members all have a B.Com. degree and a diploma in accountancy, one member a B.Sc. Agric. degree and two further members have agricultural diplomas;

(b) practical farmers except the chairman who is also the Managing Director of the Land Bank.

(2) Yes — members of the Land Bank Board are acquainted with the various farming regions and farming industries. Due to his comprehensive farming experience as successful practical farmer, each member of the Land Bank Board has specialized knowledge of such farming region and industry as well as farming in general and has played a leading role in the agricultural field.

Members of the Land Bank Board are appointed by the State President in terms of the provisions of the Land Bank Act, 1944, and the name of each appointed member is Tabled in Parliament.

Krugersdorp/Witpoortjie stations: first/third-class passengers handled

1005. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

(1) What is the daily number of (a) first and (b) third-class passengers handled by the Krugersdorp and Witpoortjie stations, respectively?

(2) Whether there are shelters available on the platforms of these stations; if not, why not; if so, what is the capacity of these shelters in respect of each class of passengers at each of these stations?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) Krugersdorp 2 173 3 943
       (b) Witpoortjie 1 923 1 176

(2) Yes First Class Third Class
     Krugersdorp 399 sq. m 246 sq. m
     Witpoortjie 54 sq. m 63 sq. m
Produce markets’ turnover up 35%  

COMPARATIVE statistics on mass and turnover at the 14 national fresh produce markets show a huge increase in March compared with the same month last year.

A report by the Commission for Fresh Produce Markets said a total turnover of R72m on a mass of 170 777 tons was recorded in March last year, while the turnover was R57m on a mass of 195 786 tons in March this year. This represented an increase in turnover of 32% on a mass increase of 15%.

Nine of the 14 centres showed mass increases in excess of 10%, six of them in the order of 20%. The biggest was at Durban (23%), while only Uitenhage showed a decrease (-3%).

A spokesman for the Agricultural Economics and Marketing Department said the reasons for the huge increase were complex, and cautioned against comparing statistics for the same month in different years.

He said there were seasonal variations in the supply of fresh produce that could mean the greatest mass of a particular product would not arrive at the markets in exactly the same period.

He said it was better to compare statistics on an annual basis.

He said, however, the higher figures might be ascribed to increased production from better agricultural conditions and increased demand from a revival in the economy, higher meat prices, resulting in consumers substituting vegetables, and population growth.
Shack dwellers tear-gassed

Staff Reporters
Confusion reigned yesterday at Weiler's Farm emergency camp, 30 km south of Johannesburg, when police fired teargas to disperse a group of shack dwellers on their way to a court case in De Deur.

Members of the Weiler's Farm community said a crowd of about 600 was waiting for transport at about 8.15 am when police arrived and warned them to disperse.

They had not done so when the time limit expired and teargas was fired into the crowd, members of the community said.

After they regrouped, teargas was again fired, and sjamboks were used on a section of the crowd, witnesses said.

Two police dogs were used and a youth was reported to be badly bitten during the chaos.

Community leaders insisted that members of the crowd had not been violent.

The crowd was eventually given an extended period to disperse, and did so.

"A lot of people were prepared to go (to the court hearing) and listen to what their colleagues were arrested for. They felt the rent was too high," a member of the Weiler's Farm Committee said.

A woman from the community stressed that the rent of R35 imposed since March had confused people.

A police spokesman confirmed that police had used tear smoke during an incident of unrest at Weiler's Farm yesterday morning.

Squatters in court for failing to pay rent

Three members of the Weiler's Farm Committee were released on bail of R50 each after appearing briefly in the De Deur Magistrate's Court yesterday morning on charges of failing to pay their rent at the squatter camp last month.

Mr Joseph Mofokeng and Mr Jacob Khumalo pleaded not guilty before Mr S P Nolte, and Mr George Polisi pleaded guilty to the charge.

No evidence was led.

The case has been referred to the Vereeniging Magistrate's Court and was postponed to June 1.

Mr Geoff Budlender of the Legal Resources Centre will be appearing for the defence.

About 100 squatter camp residents turned out at the court in support of the accused.
The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) to (3)

The person concerned was questioned by members of the Force in connection with a complaint of housebreaking with the intent to steal and theft involving jewelry to the value of R8,000.00. As a result of this interrogation two of the person’s friends were arrested and charged. However, he alleged that he had been assaulted during the interrogation and a charge of assault is being investigated. It is anticipated that this case docket will shortly be submitted to the Attorney-General for his decision.

Mr K CHETTY: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon. the Minister’s reply, may I ask him whether steps have been taken in the meantime as far as the prosecution of the policemen are concerned?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, as I have indicated, a charge of assault is being investigated. As soon as this has been completed it will be put to the Attorney-General to decide whether to prosecute or not. After his decision is known further steps will be taken.

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes — the Transvaal Farmers’ Union made representations on 18 January 1988 on behalf of 2 persons and on 18 February 1988 on behalf of 10 persons.

(2) No. No written representations were made by the said Union for the granting of financial assistance to farmers.

(3) Yes.

(a) To obtain an insight into and to familiarise ourselves with the problems confronting the Indian farming community in the Transvaal.

(b) There are complex problems facing Indian farmers in the Transvaal and these are as a result of the following:

— Group Areas Legislation.
— Non-availability of farming land.
— The present lease agreements in respect of land being used for farming purposes in Lenasia are of short duration and do accordingly not offer sufficient security to the farmers.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am not aware of any verbal applications.

Mr P I DEVAN: Mr Chairman, further arising in this matter, may I ask him whether applications were submitted to him for grants since he emphasised that no written applications were made?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, an in-depth survey is being carried out in the Transvaal and I am happy to report that the farmers’ union which has been established is playing an important role, together with our department, in the identification of land, just as we are doing in Natal.

Mr J V IYMAN: Mr Chairman, arising out of the answer of the hon. the Minister, can he tell us whether the Housing Development Board which he mentioned in his reply owns any agricultural land?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, all the land that belongs to the House of Delegates, belongs to the Housing Development Board. We have no agricultural land.

Mr J V IYMAN: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon. the Minister’s reply, how does he propose solving the problem of the agricultural land if the Housing Development Board does not own any agricultural land?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, an exercise is being carried out at the moment with regard to all the land that falls under the Housing Development Board. Land that will not be used in the short term can be considered, and negotiations are now at the moment.

Mr J V IYMAN: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon. the Minister’s reply, I want to say that I am not satisfied because that implies that this farm land which was allocated to these applicants will merely be on a temporary basis and will not provide a permanent solution to the problem.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, my reply to the hon. member did not relate to land of an agricultural nature. However, exercises other than the ones I have mentioned are being carried out for the security of land tenure for agriculture as such.

Mr P I DEVAN: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon. the Minister’s reply to paragraph (2) of this question, may I ask him whether verbal applications were made for grants since he emphasised that no written applications were made?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am not aware of any verbal applications.

Mr P I DEVAN: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon. the Minister’s reply, may I ask him whether, in order to do justice to paragraph (4), he has conducted a census into agriculture in the Transvaal, or whether he is contemplating conducting such a census in order to motivate the need for more land, etc.?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, an in-depth survey is being carried out in the Transvaal and I am happy to report that the farmers’ union which has been established is playing an important role, together with our department, in the identification of land, just as we are doing in Natal.

Chatsworth: sale of site

Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing:

(1) Whether his Department has reached an agreement with a certain company, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister of the Department for the purpose of his reply, or its subsidiary in regard to the sale of a site in Chatsworth: if so, (a) when, (b) what is the (i) agreed purchase price and (ii) name of the company concerned and (c) on what conditions was the site sold or is it to be sold.

(2) Whether any commission was paid or is to be paid in connection with this sale: if so, to whom.

(3) Whether his Department originally purchased this site from the Durban City Council: if not, from whom was it purchased: if so, (a) when, (b) at what price and (c) on what conditions?
Farmer concerned at socialist path of SA agriculture

Daily Dispatch Reporter
GRAHAMSTOWN — A Tarkastad farmer and executive member of the East Cape Agricultural Union, Mr R.L. Bryant, has expressed concern about the socialist path which South African agriculture is following.

Mr Bryant was addressing members of the Bathurst West Farmers' Association.

"Organised agriculture urges us to keep politics out of farming but we can't. "Everything hinges on politics," Mr Bryant said.

All agricultural subsidies, notably the "excessive R17 million aid and subsidy package", stemmed from the government trying to keep farmers on the land, he said.

Losing farmers to the Conservative Party "terrified" the government, he said.

"I have the deepest sympathy with farmers who are burdened with excessive debt, drought and flood damage, but the vicious cycle of debt could have catastrophic results."

Farming debt has risen to R3,000 million, leaving the farmer with R1,700 million interest to pay annually at low current rates.

"Imagine the chaos if interest rates were to rise beyond 20 per cent." Mr Bryant said.

The logical step in handling increasing agricultural debt was to try to reduce the amount owed, he said.

Increasing aid and subsidies would ease the plight of the farmer in the short term, but the long-term effect would be to increase farming debt and would result in a hike in the interest burden.

This would require further subsidies on product prices in a good season, so that farmers could meet their interest payments, and more loans in drought seasons so that farmers could cover input costs, he said.

"Either way the taxpayer must foot the bill."

However, Mr Bryant added that an immediate and complete withdrawal of aid would be equally catastrophic.
Farmers form vigilante group

Farmers in the Greylingstad district near Heidelberg have formed a vigilante group following the murder of 69-year-old Mr. Leonardus Johannes Labuschagne. Mr. Pieter Strydom, told The Star last night.

"We're going to start patrolling the area tonight. We can't allow this to happen again," Mr. Strydom said.

Mr. Labuschagne burnt to death after his farmhouse in Witpoort which had been set alight by attackers.

A bachelor, Mr. Labuschagne had staved off four attacks on his farm over the past two months.

Mr. Strydom, who was one of the first people on the scene — he had been awakened by some of Mr. Labuschagne's farmworkers — said he had spoken to the other farmers about forming a vigilante squad 10 days ago.

"In the light of the trouble Mr. Labuschagne was having, I told my fellow farmers that it was time we took a stand to protect ourselves and our belongings. But, they didn't think it was necessary until the weekend, that is," he said.

Another neighbour and a childhood friend of Mr. Labuschagne, Mr. Frikkie van Jaarsveld, said he couldn't understand the motive for the killing.

"Leonardus was a gentle man and as far as I knew, he didn't have an enemy in the world," he said.

"But Leonardus had lived in fear of his life for the past two months after some men tied up his servant and said they wanted to kill him.

"After that he barricaded his house."

"Forming a vigilante force to patrol the area may be the only answer to try and prevent a recurrence of this senseless killing."

"We formed a vigilante squad a couple of years ago when we had some trouble and that seemed to do the trick."

"There are about 20 of us to call on. We can't rely solely on the police to protect us. I can't remember when I last saw them patrolling the area."

Mr. Andre Labuschagne, a nephew of the murdered farmer, said the family had helped the old man barricade his house by substituting waterpipes for burglar bars.

A CID spokesman said a full investigation was underway.
Drought aid to livestock farmers to be terminated

Daily Dispatch Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — Aid to livestock farmers is to be terminated at the end of this month, the deputy Minister of Agriculture, Mr Kraai van Niekerk announced yesterday.

This decision was as a result of the good rains that have occurred over most of the grazing and crop areas where disaster drought assistance schemes for stock farmers still applied, Mr Van Niekerk said in a statement released in Cape Town.

He said this decision did not mean that all aid to farmers in these areas will be terminated immediately.

Through the drought assistance schemes the full benefits will remain in force for an additional two months after the unlisting of the grazing areas under the livestock grazing scheme, after which the payment of an incentive on reduced stock numbers could provide cash benefits to farmers optionally for another four months.

Mr VanNiekerk said that districts or areas where rainfall has been inadequate, or where follow-up rains did not occur and where drought conditions still prevail, have two months to be identified as such by the District Drought Committees (DDC), for the continuation of the original relief scheme.

During this period DDCs must make the necessary inspections to identify areas where the disaster drought assistance schemes are still justified. If they do not react, it will be assumed they are in agreement with the termination of the schemes.

Over and above the two months' grace, participants may also apply for a further four months financial assistance in the form of the incentive for reduced stock.

The proviso for this aid is that they do not increase their livestock numbers through purchase or rent during the six months period.

To ensure that participants comply with the conditions of the scheme and continue to do so, even after unlisting on June 1, the department of agriculture and water supply will arrange for inspections by helicopter.

Any participants identified as not complying with the conditions of the disaster drought scheme will have to repay all financial assistance paid out, including interest on the amount.
Neighbours stop coloured man from buying Cape farm

GRAHAMSTOWN. — Objections by three white Salem farmers have shattered the hopes of a coloured Port Alfred businessman, Mr James Damana, of buying a farm — for the second time.

The proposed sale of Olive Park by Mr and Mrs Dick Scheepers to Mr Damana has fallen through. Mr Damana was told this week by the Administrator’s representative in the Eastern Cape that he “did not see his way clear” to granting a permit to Mr Damana to buy the farm.

In an accompanying note from Mr Jannie van der Vyver, MP for Albany, it was disclosed three neighbouring farmers had objected to the sale.

Last year Mr Damana tried to buy a property at Manley’s Flats. The owner was willing to sell and the majority of neighbouring farmers were happy, but it took only one objector to scuttle the deal.

Now Mr Damana is looking at ground in Aliedale. No objections were lodged by members of the Belton-Salem and Central Albany (Seven Fountains) farmers’ association when they were approached.

Mr van der Vyver expressed his disappointment today, saying he had supported Mr Damana and recommended the sale. — Sapa.
Areas off the list

ALL drought listed grazing areas would be taken off the list on June 1, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture in the House of Assembly, Dr. Kraai van Niekerk said in a statement yesterday.

This did not mean that all aid to farmers in these areas was being terminated immediately.

Through the drought assistance schemes the full benefits would remain in force for an additional two months after unlisting, after which the payment of an incentive on reduced stock numbers could provide cash benefits to farmers for up to four months.
Drought areas 'unlisted' — aid to farmers goes on

The Argus Correspondent

PRETORIA. — Recent good rains have meant that all drought-listed areas are to be "unlisted" on June 1 this year — although aid to farmers is to continue for a further two months.

In a statement issued by the Department of Agriculture and Water Supply, the director of agricultural information says that "through the drought assistance schemes, the full benefits will remain in force for an additional two months under the livestock grazing scheme, after which the payment of an incentive on reduced stock numbers could provide cash benefits to farmers optionally for another four months."

The good rains of the last few months have resulted in a "general recovery of the veld" in drought-stricken areas, the director said. The availability of water has also improved, and the condition of stock is better.

However, farmers are to be encouraged to keep their stock numbers low, to allow the natural pastures to recover from the drought.

A condition of the livestock grazing scheme is that participants undertook to follow the same livestock grazing practices for two months after the areas were unlisted. Participants also have to maintain the same stocking rate that applied immediately before the area was "unlisted."

Farmers may also apply for a further four months of grazing assistance in the form of an incentive for reduced stock numbers.

The department will be "patrolling" the land of all participants by helicopter to ensure that stock numbers are being kept low, and any farmer found with excess stock will have to repay all the financial aid — including interest — given to them.
Divided land handed back to residents

CAPE TOWN — Steinkopf residents in Namaqualand won the right in the Cape Town Supreme Court yesterday to return to communal land taken from them and subdivided into farms leased to individual farmers.

The court restored the status quo in respect of the use of the land before the division and also ordered Mr David Curry, Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, to pay costs.

Mr Paulus Cloete said in an affidavit he was born in Steinkopf in 1926. It had been settled for centuries by the "Khoi-Khoi", the Bushman and the Basters.

In 1874 Cape Governor Sir Henry Barkly ordered that the land be kept in trust for the people there.
STANBIC (Standard Bank Investment Corporation) broke through the R200m barrier to earn a net R214.5m for the year to December 1986, an increase of 13% on the previous year's R187.6m.

The income attributable to ordinary and preferred ordinary shares was R209m (R188.6m), equivalent to a fully diluted earnings of 215c (227c) a share, from which dividends totalling 78c (71c) a share are being paid on the ordinaries and 108c a share on the preferreds.

Cover, however, has been reduced from 3.1 times to 2.5 times and yesterday MD Conrad Strauss was at pains to emphasise the reduction in cover was not a switch in policy but a result of an 18.7% increase in the average number of shares in issue.

These shotes were used to pay for the balance of Unicsec Group and Hesperus Holdings which became wholly-owned subsidiaries. The inclusion of the earnings of these two companies made a big difference to the Stanbic results, and confirmed the wisdom of broadening the Stanbic portfolio beyond banking.

With the exception of the Standard Merchant Bank (SMB), the group's banking subsidiaries did not match up to their

Stanbic breaks R200m barrier

performances of the previous year. Standard Bank's contribution to Stanbic's profit dropped from R128.4m to R112.9m, Stannic's from R16.5m to R12.8m, and Stanswa from R2.6m to R1.5m. SMB's contribution rose to R16.9m from R13.9m.

The inclusion of Unicsec and Hesperus added R27.7m to net earnings and "other subsidiaries and investments" another R20m.

Strauss said banking profits declined because of the reduction in interest rates and the lag effect of higher priced assets, the slowdown in earnings from foreign exchange dealing, particularly as global forex trading was restricted after the debt standstill and bad debts - which he hoped would start to decline when the economy turned up. Profits were hit by an increase of R25.5m in bad debt provisions of R187.6m for the year, taking total provisions from R311.7m to R337.7m.

Strauss said the bad debt provisions, however, had a slight benefit. They would contribute to capital requirements in terms of the new Banks Act. All the banks in the group were now adequately capitalised and could meet the legislation's full requirements without any phasing-in period. Total shareholders' funds stood at R1,444bn, nearly double the 1984 figure.

Because of the increase, the return on shareholders' funds dropped from 14.0% in 1986 to 14.6% and the return on average assets, too, was lower at 1.08 against the previous year's 1.09.

The slack conditions in banking are reflected in the relative small growth in advances, from R16bn to R17bn, well below the inflation rates. Deposits, too, rose by only R1bn to R18.9bn.
Coloured people restored to historic trust land leased out to farmers

CAPE TOWN — Steinkopf residents in Namaqualand have won the right in the Cape Town Supreme Court to return to communal land taken from them and subdivided into farms leased to individual farmers.

The court order — made with consent between the parties — set aside the sub-division, restored the status quo in respect of the use of the land before the division and also ordered Mr David Curry, Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, to pay costs.

Mr Pauhs Cloete said in an affidavit he was born in 1926 in the Steinkopf area, which had been settled for centuries by the "Khoi-Khoi", the Bushman and later the Basters.

In 1974 Cape Governor Sir Henry Bartky awarded the Steinkopf area to the Civil Commissioner to keep in trust for the coloured people of Steinkopf.

Until recently the Steinkopf area was used and farmed by descendents of these coloureds. The land was divided into several small plots and communal grazing land. No family was entitled to dispose of the land, he said.

Mr Cloete submitted that the right of the community to live in the area and farm had been confirmed and strengthened by a letter of allocation and through a tax imposed by the Steinkopf Management Board.

He first heard of economic farming units in 1979, but he and the other residents had no part in decisions taken.

During 1979 and 1980 the board and the department continued with the implementation of economic units and at a meeting said the farms had to be leased to individual farmers with an option to buy.

The allocation was done in secret and six of the then board members were given farms, he said.

The system of economic units and individual land ownership prejudiced the majority of the Steinkopf residents and farmers and the small group of individuals who were given farms had an unfair advantage.

At no stage, before the decision was taken to dispossess him of his rights in the Steinkopf area, had he been given proper notice by the Minister or any person authorised by him, Mr Cloete said. — Sepa.
D F Malan Airport
Successful tenderers:
L P and A J van den Berg (Pty) Ltd 28 July 1965
Spyskor (Cape) (Pty) Ltd 1 February 1961
J B M Hertzog Airport
Successful tenderers:
L P and A J van den Berg (Pty) Ltd 1 June 1967
Spyskor (Pty) Ltd 1 February 1981
H F Verwoerd Airport
Successful tenderers:
L P and A J van den Berg (Pty) Ltd 28 July 1965
Spyskor (Pty) Ltd 1 February 1981
B J Vorster Airport
Successful tenderers:
Messers W L Land A Dyason 1 August 1977
Mr A W Dyason 1 August 1987
Ben Schoeman Airport
Successful tenderers:
Ben Schoeman Restaurant (Pty) Ltd 1 May 1967
Mr F Ferucci 1 February 1981
P W Botha Airport
Successful tenderers:
Mr L Dyason 1 August 1977
Mr L Dyason 1 August 1987

Airports: book-shops
1173. Mr C J Derby-Lewis asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:
(1) Whether the book-shops operating at State airports are administered by his Department; if not, by whom are they administered;
(2) whether book-shops are called for in this regard; if so, whether they are book-shops owned by the State or by taxi operators;

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:
(1) and (2) Bookshops are called for in this regard, but none have been granted so far.

Jan Smuts Airport
Successful tenderers:
Jan Smuts Duty Free Shop (Pty) Ltd 1 October 1969

For the separate duty-free liquor shop:
Successful tenderers:
Jan Smuts Duty Free Shop (Pty) Ltd 12 June 1981
Mount Argus (Pty) Ltd 1 January 1984
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Proclamation of group areas

4. Mr W J DIETRICH asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether (a) Salisbury Park, (b) Fairview, (c) Willowdale, (d) Walmer Location in the district of Port Elizabeth, (e) South End, (f) Central Hill, (g) North End, (h) Sidwell, (i) Village Board, (j) The Pearl Road area, (k) Dowerville and (l) Veenplaats have been proclaimed as group areas for a specific race group; if so,

(2) (a) (i) for which race group, and (ii) when, in each case, (b) how many (i) residential properties, (ii) churches, (iii) schools and (iv) shops were involved in respect of each of these areas and (c) (i) how many persons from each race group were property owners, and (ii) what was the total valuation of all properties in each such area per race group, as at the date of these areas being so proclaimed;

(3) whether, at the time, the State made alternative arrangements for affected persons who wished to (a) rent, and (b) build their own homes; if not, why not; if so,

(4) (a) what arrangements were made in respect of (i) (aa) alternative land and (bb) subsidies for those wishing to build their own homes and (ii) alternative accommodation for those wishing to rent housing units and (b) how many persons in each race group were affected by these alternative arrangements?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(1) Yes, except Village Board and Pearl Road, which are controlled areas and Walmer Location and Veenplaats which, in terms of Act 4 of 1984 as amended, are deemed to be set aside as development areas for the Black group.

(2) (a) Salisbury Park — White (1965)
Fairview — White (1961)
Willowdale — White (1965)
South End — White (1961)
Central Hill — White (1961)
North End — White (1961)
Sidwell — White (1961)
Dowerville — White (1961)

(b) and (c) This information is not available.

(3) and (4).

The Department does not have access to this information as it is not responsible for moving people.

Eastern Cape: proclamation of land for race groups

10. Mr P A C HENDRICKSE asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(a) How many hectares of land in the Eastern Cape have been proclaimed for residential purposes for Whites, Coloureds, Indians and Blacks, respectively, (b) how many hectares of the land so proclaimed for each of these race groups are (i) undeveloped and (ii) owned by private individuals and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(a) (i) White: 79 451 hectares
(ii) Coloured: 23 225 hectares
(iii) Indian: 622 hectares
(iv) Black: 14 076 hectares have been set aside as development areas
(b) Of the land set aside for Blacks, 6 750 hectares were undeveloped and 23 hectares were privately owned. Corresponding information is not available in respect of the other groups.

(c) 4 May 1988.
The squatter problem involves about 25,000 shocks in the Walkerville area. Mr. Wessels gave the meeting the assurance the issue was receiving urgent attention. Several senior government officials and members of Parliament were present to answer questions on the situation.

Making the appearance at an emotional meeting in Walkerville last night Mr. Claus van Zyl, MEC, said the amendment to the Squatters Act is at present and would be processed through Parliament without delay to help alleviate the squatter problem. He said squatters who illegally occupy land will be removed.

Several senior government officials including Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr. Leon Wessels, were also present to answer questions on the situation. Residents and concerned parties were also present at the meeting.
Weiler's squatters removal date fixed

SQUATTERS OUT: The 1910 families of squatters in the Weiler's Farm and Doornkruil area, south of Johannesburg, are to be removed with effect from October 1, it was reaffirmed at a mass meeting held at the Aloe Ridge School in Eikenhof (right).

The meeting, organised by the Walkerville Areas Committee and members of the co-ordinating committee for squatters in the Vaal Triangle, was attended by more than 800 people, including senior members of the SA Police and Defence Force as well as MEC Olaus van Zyl, the Deputy Minister of Law and Order, Mr Leon Wessels and Professor Panie Jacobs, Conservative Party MP for Losberg.

Mr Vic Milne, far right, regional director in the Department of Community Service of the TPA, outlined the strategy for the removal of the squatters.

The Weiler's Farm/Walkerville area is to revert to agricultural usage in terms of the proposals for the PWV area released last week.

The Saturday Star indicated in April that political analysts see Weiler's Farm as an example of how squatting is to be dealt with in the Transvaal. It is the first instance of a group of local squatters getting Government recognition.

* Picture: Karen Fletcher.
SA border children's game reflects danger they face

From RICH MKHONDO of Reuters in Messina

FARMERS' children living along South Africa's border with Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Botswana play a game that reflects the dangers they have to face every day.

They don't play hide-and-seek or cops and robbers; they play farmers and terrorists.

The border farmers, not more than a few hundred families, are the new frontiermen who toll on the 350km strip of northern bushveld stretching from Pontdrif near Botswana along the Limpopo River to the Kruger National Park in the east.

The region has become a launching pad for attacks by the African National Congress. ANC leaders at their headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia, have acknowledged attacking farms in the border zone.

Killed and crippled

Eleven men, women and children have been killed in the past 16 months in 18 landmine blasts along the northern border. Others have been crippled by explosions.

During a recent government-sponsored trip to the frontier, journalists were told by the farmers how the community was bound together by fear and a determination to keep their land free of insurgents.

Many said they had taught their wives and children to use pistols and semi-automatic rifles.

They insisted they were able to carry on normal lives despite driving in landmine-proof vehicles, spending most of their leisure time behind barricades of razor wire and sleeping with high-powered automatic rifles close at hand.

"We teach our children why it is happening. They know that the ANC wants our land," says cotton farmer Willie Esterhuysen, who always sports a holstered revolver on his hip. "The ANC wants us to move away from the border so that they can come into the country to kill innocent people."

Like children on other border farms, his son and two daughters are boarders at a school in Messina near the Zimbabwean border. They are collected each Monday in an open-topped mine-proof army truck and return home on Fridays.

"My children accept the situation," says Piet Esterhuysen, Willie's brother, also a cotton farmer. "We have drilled them on exactly what to do in the event of an attack and they react automatically."

Preto, seeking to prevent an exodus from the thinly populated border regions, offers farmers incentives to remain there. They are given an 80 percent subsidy on the R70 000 price of a mine-proof vehicle and are helped with the cost of high-security fences topped with coils of barbed wire.

Armed and trained by the army, the farmers have formed their own civilian defence commando. Each homestead is in 24-hour radio contact with other farmers and an army base.

"We have put our lives into this. We will never give it up," says Piet's wife Arinze. "I was nervous at first, but now I don't think I could live anywhere but here."

Hostile territory

The hostile territory is partly protected by a 2 800-yard electric fence which also serves to deter refugees from neighbouring states from fleeing into South Africa.

"Instead of frightening them off to safer interior regions, the terror attacks have united the farmers, their wives, families and black labourers and have resulted in the emergence of one of the most fortified security-conscious farming communities in the country," said local army commander Hein Visser.

The farmers, their labourers and soldiers sweep rural roads for landmines every morning. Nobody moves a vehicle until it has been cleared.

"The ANC strategy is to plunge the region into chaos so that when the farmers leave the area, it can be turned into another military front," said the army officer.

So far not one farmer had quit the region in search of a safer life, he added.
A bumper crop from the farming sector could earn R5.5 billion in exports this year, thereby compensating to some extent for lower foreign exchange earnings from gold.

Exact annual figures are difficult to establish because of seasonal variations of crops and a statistical lack of clarity over what constitutes primary agricultural commodities and refined farming goods.

But last season farming's contribution to total exports increased to over 10 percent and the figure could rise substantially this year as the lower gold price is likely to reduce the metal's share of forex earnings from 40 percent to 36 percent.

Higher farm production and exports should also add about one percent to the gross domestic product this year.

A number of factors are contributing to the optimistic outlook for the agricultural sector. Foremost is the decline of the rand against the dollar, which is improving the competitiveness of South Africa's products abroad because 80 percent of its commodities are traded in dollars.

Bruce Donald, economist at the South African Foreign Trade Association (Safito) says: "Combined with the favourable effect of rising international commodity prices, the impact of the falling rand is helping South African exporters to keep ahead of rising production costs."

A detailed analysis of agricultural prospects by Mr Donald, published in the latest edition of Safito Exporter, shows that most sectors can look forward to record crops in the 1989/90 season.

WHEAT: A record crop of more than 3 million tons is now being harvested and while excessive rains have reduced crop quality, exports of 650,000 tons should earn an additional R400 million in foreign income by the end of June 1990, with half of this due this year.

MAIZE: Excellent ongoing late summer rains have virtually assured a bumper crop of 11 million tons, which could reap a record R3.3 billion, with farmers' earnings bountiful and the industry is gearing up for another record year, which this season should yield R750 million in exports alone.

CITRUS FRUIT: Producers have had a bumper season, earning about R700 million from exports. The outlook for the current season is good, with demand and the low rand adding to potential earnings.

SUGAR: Prospects for increased forex earnings in the year ending March this year look extremely good since world sugar prices have risen by up to 25 percent over the year.

In the previous year, total industry earnings were R1.4 billion and a substantial increase can be expected in the 1989 season, as well as in the current season.

WOOL: Producers are heading for earnings of R1 billion from wool sales this year, of which R900 million is expected to be in foreign exchange. Local production is increasing and, with no end in sight to the international wool boom, earnings could increase even further over the next season.

Mr Donald says other crops like mohair, karakul, wine, groundnuts and tropical fruits should add to this year's total export proceeds from agriculture.
Banking on farmers

Pending changes in the liquid asset status of Land Bank bills and overdraft facilities with commercial banks could set the stage for increased competition between SA's R14bn a year co-operative movement and the banking sector.

Co-ops, the Land Bank, the South African Agricultural Union and commercial banks are preparing themselves for the new dispensation effective from August 1 — but are unsure of how this will affect future crop financing.

"Market-related rates will apply to R2,7bn in annual short-term Land Bank cash credit financing, which is channelled via the co-ops to farmers. This could mean an increase of about 1.5% in farmers' annual interest bill," says Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Japie Jacobs.

While the higher costs will hurt, the principle is more important. For the first time since the Seventies, when co-ops were allowed to act as a subsidised crop financing channel to farmers, they will be forced to compete for funds on an equal footing with commercial banks, at market rates.

In the decade that co-ops served as subsidised financing channels (and "supermarkets" for farming requisites), their debt exposure to farmers increased dramatically — aggravated by the six-year drought. This may change as farmers exercise their option of obtaining finance directly from the banking sector.

Ironically, the banks have always been the major source of both co-op and Land Bank finance to farmers, as a result of the liquid asset status of Land Bank paper. But while debentures lost their status in 1985, only now are bills and Land Bank overdrafts following suit.

While Land Bank debt exposure to farmers grew from R295.8m in 1975 to R3bn in 1987, the co-ops' stake jumped from R113.4m (8.1% of total farm debt) in 1975 to R3.6bn (25.3%) in 1987. At the same time, commercial bank farm debt grew from R282m (20.1%) in 1975 to R3,85bn (27.1%).

The huge increase in the co-ops' direct financing role created severe distortions in agricultural financing, with commercial banks and farmers the main victims. Banks were also disadvantaged as co-ops have an automatic lien on farmers' crop proceeds.

Farmers were locked into a system where they had to go deeper into hock with the co-ops — or face the prospect of foreclosure.

"Co-operative members often need tractors or equipment not supplied by the co-op. But, after the deal is signed and sealed with a private supplier and the co-op comes to hear about it, the member is often coerced into buying the co-op's product, or face having his other credit facilities withdrawn. This is not fair play — especially when we have to compete against the soft loans given to co-ops," says Malcomes MD Jonathan Meck.

Co-ops have benefited from the fact that they could act as both bankers and suppliers to the farmer. And the effective hold they have over many farmers also made for good profits. Oos-Transvaalse Ko-operasie declared a R41,6bn operating income in the year to end-February 1987, while Sentraalwees made a R27,3bn profit on a R1,5bn turnover in the past financial year.

Another factor in the new arrangement is that loans to the manufacturing and processing arms of co-ops — milling, meat processing, dairy products, tractor and implement manufacture, which have placed many co-ops in direct competition with the private sector — will also become market-related from August 1.

This could affect co-op manufacturing giants like Vetsak (manufacturer of Fiat tractors) and Vleisentraal (a meat processor). But, says a Land Bank source, the bank is already devising ways to "phase in" the new rules. Most likely the bank's reserves will be used to cushion the shocks.
Law cracks down on squatters

By Joanne Collins

The new Prevention of Illegal Squatting Bill

The new legislation - makes provision for criminal prosecution of squatters for summary demolition of dwellings by officials and for administrative eviction by a magistrate.

So what's new? Much harsher penalties for squatters and landowners who permit squatting and a number of legal aids which put the squatter at a severe disadvantage.

For purposes of criminal prosecution, a squatter commits an offence if he enters or stays on land unlawfully or without permission.

The legal machinery, it was held in the Bill is that the court shall presume an accused is guilty of doing the above, unless he or she proves his innocence.

Under the Bill, once a court convicts a squatter, it will be forced to order the demolition of his home and removal. Previously, the court could merely order the squatter to vacate.

Under the old law, summary eviction of squatters was provided for, but it was possible for a shanty-dweller threatened by such action to apply to the courts for a restraining order or a suspension order if he could prove he had some right to the land where he lived. The Bill expressly prohibits such recourse to the courts and

stipulates that the only grounds on which appeal to the courts may be made are that of bad faith on the part of the authorities.

It was possible in the past for a magistrate to order eviction and demolition of shacks if they posed a health or safety hazard. A similar procedure appears in the Bill and it applies to a wider group of squatters than those who can be convicted at a criminal court of squatting.

Although there is a procedure for squatters to object to their pending removal, the Bill does not specify what criteria the magistrate must employ in deciding to pursue a shanty demolition.

DRAMATIC INCREASE IN PENALTIES

Human rights lawyers feel the Bill is aimed largely at negating the legal provisions by which squatters have successfully pleaded in the past of removals squatters.

The penalties for those who transgress the Bill have increased dramatically. Persons convicted of squatting face penalties of up to R2,000 and up to 5 months in jail. This penalty is twice as severe as the old one.

Anyone convicted of running a "squatter farm" that is of collecting rents from squatters faces a maximum fine of R10,000 and up to five years in jail. The maximum penalty have been increased five-fold.

Waller's Farm south of Johannesburg... Will the harsh provisions of the Bill head off the development of similar shanty settlements?

Squatters will be even worse off...
Illegal Squatting Bill vicious, says committee

By Jo-Anne Collins

If you smelled into one of the pass laws, the removal by decree clause of the Black Administration Act and the accommodation restrictions which exist to apply to farm labourers, you would still not achieve a result as vicious as those in the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Bill.

This is the essence of what the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac), a project of the Black Sash, has to say about the proposed legislation which is currently before Parliament.

On what grounds does Trac figure that this legislation of the “reform” era take South African blacks beyond the age of slavery apartheid, when millions of people were governed by the same laws?

In an analysis of the Bill, Trac says: “It seems that in terms of the pass laws and the act of the law, there are already black people who manage to qualify in terms of Section 10 of the Black Urban Areas Act to evict themselves from their own homes by the removal of people vulnerable to a process of unchallengable evictions and demolitions.”

Turning to the area of forced removals, Trac says: “The only thing that has been added recently is that the Act will be amended if the Squatting Amendment Act is passed.”

“The most famous removal provisions were Section 5 of the Black Administration Act which gave the State President the power to move any group, tribe or black person from any area to any other area.”

To demonstrate how sweeping this provision is, Trac proposes the improbable scenario that “all tenants in state housing in Soweto could be removed after just three days notice.”

Section 10 urban residence rights were conferred on the basis of confinement employment. The Government, in sections of the Bill applicable to urban areas, shifts the criteria for residing in the town and city from employment to housing. Trac says: “This provision, which was used to effect the Mogopa removal in 1950, was repealed in 1956.”

“Now it has been replaced by Section 5 of the Squatting Bill which gives the State President the power to make a decision to remove anyone, regardless of whether or not they have consented to be there.”

“Section 5(c) of the Squatting Bill introduces controls that go beyond the worst aspects of the old law,” argues Trac.

“It applies to the rural areas where it empowers local authorities to decide that certain people are squatters and to order the eviction of those people.”

The criteria for defining candidates for farm removals is work status — those employed by the farmer on whose land they live are not deemed squatters.

“This means that the families of farm workers can be evicted whereas, in terms of the old law, they were allowed to live on the farms. The farmer concerned may make representations to protect the people living on his farm, but a committee (appointed by the administrator) can over-rule this and order them to evict the people,” says Trac.

Any farm worker who loses a job will be vulnerable to eviction and prosecution while looking for new employment. Trac states that the law permits the evictions to be non-racial, but that it is most unlikely that a committee would order the eviction of white employees who live in the rural areas.

“After all, white peasants, farmers, contractors and unemployed people all have the vote and must be treated with respect.”

The organisation points out that there are hundreds of thousands of black people potentially affected. Some live in the forest areas and earn a living by private contracting, some are tenant farmers, many have children attending school and not working and many have aged parents living with them as dependents.

“We fear that the Bill would be used selectively to evict these people and it heralds a return to the old Nationalist dream that only those blacks who are economically active should be allowed in the ‘white’ areas.”

The old law provided that the availability of alternative accommodation be investigated before a family could be evicted. The Bill makes no such stipulation.

Law cracks down on squatters.
Drought relief deadline for farmers

Staff Reporter

Farmers who have experienced five years of critical drought conditions in parts of the summer rainfall crop-growing areas have until August 15 to apply for the additional assistance announced at the end of March by the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel.

Details released

Details of how farmers could apply for the assistance were announced last night in a joint statement by Mr Wentzel, the president of the South African Agricultural Union, Mr J A Jooste, and the chairman of the National Maize Producers’ Organisation (Nampo), Mr J H Viljoen.

In terms of the scheme, farmers’ input costs for the 1987/88 production season, during which the crops were again damaged by drought in many areas, will be subsidised and the interest load on carry-over debt will be further alleviated “in order to maintain the rural infrastructure on a community basis and enable disaster-stricken farmers to meet their commitments to their families and their farm labourers”.

The statement said delimitation committees consisting of representatives of the Department of Agriculture and the SA Agricultural Union had delineated districts within which farmers could apply for additional assistance.

DISTRICTS

Maps showing the delineated districts were obtainable from co-operatives, magistrates’ offices and extension offices. These offices would also have application forms from tomorrow.

Completed forms had to be handed in before August 15. Late applications would not be accepted.
new schools, administered by his Department were built in 1987 and (b) how many classrooms in each of these categories were built for (i) pre-primary, (ii) primary and (iii) secondary pupils;

(2) whether there is a shortage of classrooms for Black pupils at present; if so, (a) what was the shortage in respect of classrooms for (i) pre-primary, (ii) primary and (iii) secondary pupils as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) what is the estimated cost of providing these classrooms?

1203. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:
(a) How many bursaries were granted by his Department to Black student teachers in 1988 and (b) what was the total amount granted in that year?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:
(a) 12 087
(b) R17 058 000

1204. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:
(a) How many Black teachers were employed by his Department in State (i) primary, (ii) secondary and (iii) high schools in the Republic as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) what was the increase or decrease in numbers for each type of school compared to those as at a date one year earlier;

(2) what percentage of such teachers is in possession of a (a) university degree, (b) teaching diploma, (c) matriculation certificate and (d) junior certificate?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:
(a) (i) 38 133
(ii) 11 371
(iii) Teachers included in secondary schools.
(b) The increase from 1986 to 1987 was:
(i) 1 196
(ii) 991
(iii) Numbers included in secondary schools.

(2) (a) 3.01%
(b) 83.75%
(c) 50.55% (includes the 3.01% graduates)
(d) 49.45% (Junior certificate or lower)

Information as on the first Tuesday of March 1987.

Farm schools for Blacks established/closed
1205. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:
(a) How many farm schools for Blacks were (a) established and (b) closed in each specified departmental region during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:
(a) (b)
Region Established Closed
Northern Transvaal 54 9
Highveld 18 3
Johannesburg 0 0
Orange-Vaal 57 13
Orange Free State 26 10
Natal 34 9
Cape 20 8
TOTAL 209 49

Information as on 31 December 1987.

Western Cape: Black housing schemes
1209. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:
(a) 6

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

Western Cape: Black housing schemes

(2) (a) (i) 2 (a) (ii) 2 (b)
   (c) Town 2
   (d) C4 (site+service) Village 3
   (e) Erf 258, 259+264
   (f) Erf 151
   (g) Erf 408
   (h) Erf 304
   (i) Erf 305
   (j) Erf 306
   (k) Erf 307
   (l) Erf 308
   (m) Erf 309
   (n) Erf 310
   (o) Erf 311
   (p) Erf 312
   (q) Erf 313
   (r) Erf 314
   (s) Erf 315
   (t) Erf 316
   (u) Erf 317
   (v) Erf 318
   (w) Erf 319
   (x) Erf 320
   (y) Erf 321
   (z) Erf 322

   2 (a) (i) May 1988 May 1989 857
   2 (a) (ii) June 1988 Dec. 1988 1 590
   2 (a) (ii) July 1986 July 1989 4 450
   2 (a) (ii) June 1988 Dec. 1989 619
   2 (a) (ii) June 1988 July 1989 246
   2 (a) (ii) June 1987 Sept. 1988 75
   2 (a) (ii) Feb. 1987 Dec. 1989 54
   2 (a) (ii) Sept. 1986 June 1989 1 116
   2 (a) (ii) Sept. 1986 June 1989 90
   2 (a) (ii) June 1988 Sept. 1989 228
   2 (a) (ii) April 1988 July 1989 245
   2 (a) (ii) June 1988 July 1989 235
   2 (a) (ii) June 1988 June 1989 40
   2 (a) (ii) May 1987 Unknown 495

(3) Yes
   (a) (i) 5
   (a) (ii) 7 451
   + 3 (Self-built) 790 (Self-built)
   — 8 241
   (b) 16 May 1988
whether it is the intention of the Government to release Nelson Mandela on this basis: if so, when, if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:
(2) and (3)
The release policy which applies with regard to prisoners in general is also applicable to prisoners who were sentenced for offences against the security of the State. This release policy has a scientific basis in which criminological and penological principles were duly taken into account. Considering factors such as inter alia the aims with which the sentence was imposed, interests of the community and the State, the nature of the crime and the motive underlying it, the length of the sentence and time served, previous criminal record if any, the prisoner's reaction to the sentence imposed and the overall personality and predisposition of the prisoner himself, it follows that the remission of sentence could, like any other single positive factor, contribute to a positive prognosis, but cannot be the determining factor in its own right.

In considering each individual case, the State has to be guided by the relevant advisory bodies instituted by law.

It is not possible to speculate upon the possible release of individual prisoners. The honourable member is also referred to the State President's speech in this House on 13 August 1987 as published in the Hansard, column 3760.

Loss of teachers
1079. Mr RP BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:
How many (a) permanent and (b) temporary teachers did his Department lose in each region in 1986 and 1987, respectively: (i) on account of (aa) marriage, (bb) retirement, (cc) ill health, (dd) termination of service, (ee) death, (ff) the acceptance of non-teaching posts and (gg) further study and (ii) for other reasons?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:
This Department does not function according to provincial borders, but is divided into seven regions. Information required is not kept according to regions, but is given in total for the Department.

1086. Mr D J MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Law and Order:
How many cases of (a) murder, (b) culpable homicide, (c) assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm, (d) common assault, (e) rape, (f) robbery, (g) theft of vehicles and cycles, (h) malicious damage to property, (i) housebreaking with intent to steal and theft and (j) possession of drugs were reported at each specified police station in Uitenhage police district?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

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<th>Culpable Homicide</th>
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Offences by squatters' shacks demolished
1094. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:
How many squatters' shacks were demolished by the Stellenbosch staff of the Western Cape Regional Services Board in each month of 1987?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:
None.

Offences against security of State
1095. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Justice:
Whether he will furnish the names of persons currently serving sentences for offences against the security of the State, if not: why not; if so: (a) what are their names, (b) if when was each such person sentenced and (ii) for how long in each case and (c) in respect of what date is the information furnished?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:
The prisoners are serving sentences of imprisonment after having been tried, convicted and sentenced in courts of law. The details of each trial, including the names of the accused are matters of public record. I am not prepared...
1124. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) Whether any schools under his control are visited by medical inspectors for the routine medical inspection of pupils; if not, why not; if so, in respect of each region in 1987, (a) how many schools were visited, (b) what total number of pupils was examined and (c) what was the percentage of pupils examined in comparison with the total pupil population;

(2) whether any pupils requiring medical treatment were referred for such treatment; if not, why not; if so, in respect of each region in 1987, (a) what was the total number of pupils so referred and (b) what number of pupils was referred for nutritional and related reasons?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(1) Yes

(a) Statistics in this regard are kept by the Department of National Health and Population Development since this service was rendered by that Department.

(b) 118 834 (Annual report, Department of National Health and Population Development, p. 15)

(c) 6,3%

(2) Yes

(a) 72 730 (Annual report, Department of National Health and Population Development, p. 15) This information can not be supplied per region because of regional divisions of the two departments involved are not the same.

(b) See 1(a)

Time spent on subjects

1125. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

How much time is spent each week in each standard from Std 2 to Std 10 in (a) English and (b) Afrikaans medium schools on (i) English, (ii) Afrikaans, (iii) the pupil’s mother tongue, (iv) Mathematics, (v) Geography and (vi) Physical Science?
Flood-hit towns, farms mopping up

Devastated areas get back to normal

By Helen Grange and Sue Olswang

Towns in the Free State, western Transvaal and northern Cape which were flooded this year have almost completed repairs. And farmers of land hit by the floods are preparing for the next season's crops.

Some homeowners in the worst-hit areas in the Free State and western Transvaal are waiting for the summer season to complete repairs, according to municipal spokesmen. However, with the assistance of government's flood relief programme, roads, dam walls, bridges, sewage pipes, electricity and water supply in most affected towns and villages had been repaired.

About R$55 million was budgeted by the Government in March for repairs, and a special job creation project in the flood regions was instituted. Labourers were paid R4 a day for helping local authorities clear up initial damage from the February floods.

Farmers in the northern Cape in and around Upington and Prieska are hard at work re-installing water pumps from the Orange river for irrigation. "It will take another six months before everything is as it was in Upington. The Upington municipality has already spent R$ million on damages to municipal buildings. Private property owners have relied on government subsides and insurance for repairs, and most homes are re-occupied," the town clerk, Mr Kollevan Wyk, said.

In Prieska, Jacobdal and surrounding areas many owners of homes in low-lying areas have lived in rented homes for the duration of winter and are expected to start returning to their homes from next week.

"Some of these homes are still quite wet from recent rainfalls," Mr Dick Viljoen, the Prieska town clerk, said.

Douglas, one of the worse-hit towns, launched a road repair programme last week to complete repairs already started.

"We have fixed almost everything else in a remarkably short time," Mr Louis De Jager, Douglas town clerk said.

Schweizer-Reneke, also badly damaged by floods, now has only a few roads needing attention.

The town clerk at Brandfort, in the Free State, Mr Christian Ventler, said the town was extremely lucky to suffer little damage.

Insurance awaited

Mr Pieter Grobler, the Dewetsdorp, Free State, town clerk, he added that some residential homes were still in need of repair but most residents were waiting for insurance claims to be processed.

A spokesman for the Edenburg municipality, Mr Nick Coetzee, said the town was still busy with repairs but had already fixed a small bridge as well as sewage and water pipes and electrical damage.

Mr Brinley Frichard for the Philippolis municipality in the Free State reported: "About 19 houses in a nearby black township were evacuated and those people are staying in tents until their homes are re-built. They have been reimbursed through the government flood relief programme but will have to wait about 18 months for new homes because we are having difficulties getting building supplies in over unmanageable roads and we've experienced a shortage of bricks."

The Reddersburg town clerk, Mr Dieplof Pieterse, municipality said the town had completed about 80 percent of its repairs.

"We've spent about R$5 000 so far on municipal repairs and repaired 15 homes in a nearby black township."

A Kimberley spokesman, Mr Riaan Niemar, said: "Some roads need resurfacing but the bulk of work has already been done. Two pleasure resorts on the Vaal River need about R$500 000 worth of repairs and we are in the process of repainting and rebuilding at the two sites."

The assistant town clerk at De Aar, also in the northern Cape, Mr Gerhard Engelbrecht, reported: "Our roads were covered in mud but everything was quickly back to normal."
R100 000 for probe on controversial herbicides

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Nearly R100,000 has been provided towards government research into hormone herbicides, including the controversial 2,4-D, which some reports alleged was the cause of birth defects in Natal babies last year.

Mr Gerry Maritz, executive director of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals Association of South Africa, said his body had donated R50,000 towards research.

The aim was to establish the threshold levels of 2,4-D or hormone herbicides in rain water and in the Natal atmosphere.

This would be conducted by senior researchers at selected government institutions.

"This contribution will help to establish the necessary scientific facts concerning the allegations that hormone herbicides, especially 2,4-D, are a hazard."

He said allegations that 2,4-D resulted in the birth of deformed babies in Natal were "unfounded".

Mr Maritz said it was totally untrue that 2,4-D or 2,5-T could have the same effect as the "Agent Orange", a notorious Vietnam defoliant used by the American forces.

Research had also shown that 2,4-D could not be classified as a carcinogen (substance causing cancer).

"As far as the allegation that 2,4-D was the cause of millions of rands of damage to vegetable crops in the Tala Valley, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, said an inter-departmental working group had concluded that many other factors were responsible for crop losses," he said.
Underberg struggles to make contact

By Janet Heard

Farmers and residents in the Underberg district, Southern Drakensberg, Natal, are still struggling to regain contact with the outside world after the heavy snowfall in the area.

The roofs of Underberg houses were white and farm roads were hidden in heavy but melting snow yesterday.

A spokesman from Underberg telephone exchange said last night that only two or three of their 20 lines were operating.

People were prevented from visiting Underberg until yesterday, as the Maritzburg-Underberg road was closed.
Mountain people hard hit

There is great concern about the plight of people who live on the Lesotho side of the Drakensberg.

Remote areas have been cut off and it is feared that people may run out of food.

Heavy snowfalls have blanketed the Lesotho side of the mountains and some outlying towns have been without electricity for three days.

About 10 000 Basotho in the mountainous and remote Mokhatlong area in Lesotho were faced with hunger and stock losses following Sunday's snowstorm, said Major Thamae of the Lesotho police.

He said that snow was still lying more than a metre deep yesterday and he feared that losses would be high.

Sheep and goats are the animals mostly farmed at Mokhatlong.

Major Thamae said reserves of mealie meal were running out fast. Stockfeed was already almost non-existent in the area where, at the best of times, there was almost no natural grazing.

“It will be at least a few days before relief helicopters can get in here. The roads will be impassable for quite a while, perhaps another few weeks.”

On the Maluti snow fell heavily on Saturday with the temperature dropping to minus 9 deg C.

The towns on the South African side of the mountains most affected by the snow were Matatiele, Swartberg, Franklin, Underberg, Impendle, Inzinga, Loteni, Kamberg, Nottingham Road, Mooi River, Bergville, Ladysmith and Van Reenen.

The Amajuba Pass north of Newcastle was closed at 1.30 am yesterday because it was covered by 5 cm of ice and was extremely dangerous.

The Sani, Kwacha's Nek and Bushmen's Nek passes from Natal to Lesotho were still closed yesterday.

— Staff Reporters and Sapa.
Union chief castigates local materials manufacturers

Own Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The president of the Western Cape Agricultural Union, Mr F J Malan, lashed out at local manufacturers of raw materials whom he claimed were pushing up the inflation rate.

Addressing the annual congress of the union in Bellville yesterday, he said these included the manufacturers of paper pulp, plastic raw materials, steel, cement and bricks.

"These products influence the production costs of practically everything in South Africa from packaged foods to housing."

"Some of these manufacturers are protected by tariff walls against foreign competition."

"However, when world prices increase, they expect the domestic market to pay equivalent prices to those of the export market."

To my mind, this is an unbearable situation."

He said the SA Agricultural Union monitored price fluctuations and said it had taken note of the corrugated carton manufacturing project of four co-operatives.

"Although this project is in its infancy, it can serve as an example of how our co-operatives can stand together to counter increasing production costs in farming," he said.

Negotiating had reduced the price on 80 different tractor parts by an average of 44 percent.
We need to create 1 300 new jobs every day, says professor

By Melanie Gosling

If there was going to be sufficient employment in South Africa by the year 2000, 1 300 jobs would have to be created every day, Professor Nic Swart, head of the financial and planning department at the University of Potchefstroom, said yesterday.

Speaking at the ROEP (Rescue Our Endangered Platteland) Congress in Potchefstroom, Professor Swart said small business development formed an important part of the country's development process, of job creation and was a cornerstone of the free market system.

To help small business develop in the rural areas, there should be deregulation of strict rules and regulations.

The potential of small businesses in regional areas should be analysed and projects initiated. "South Africa will also have to think afresh and think big about entrepreneur training which should be coupled with technical training," Professor Swart said.

He said small businesses in declared drought-stricken areas should also qualify for loans in the same way that farmers do, as they were to a large extent dependent on agriculture.

"It makes no sense to allow old, established small businesses to go under because of special circumstances like drought, and at the same time to try to establish new businesses."

He said he knew of 50 whites and 160 blacks in the western Transvaal who were jobless as a direct result of the drought.

"With those sorts of figures, we won't have success with small businesses in the platten land."

Platteland decline accelerating as black workers drift to towns

The decline of socio-economic activities in the Platteland was "snowballing" and rural communities were feeling the effects acutely, Professor Willem Vrey, director of the Institute for Socio-economic Research at the University of the Orange Free State, said at the ROEP congress yesterday.

Professor Vrey said de-population of the Platteland was obvious from the number of empty farmhouses, empty school boarding houses and railway lines that had been closed.

He said blacks had begun to move from farms to small towns.

There was now a shortage of farm labour and a high percentage of unemployment and poverty among black communities in small towns.

The next phase would be mass migration to the cities.

South Africa's economic growth would be unable to provide additional work or housing to meet this migration from rural areas.

"The result will be poverty and unemployment in the cities while there is a labour shortage on farms and the infrastructures in small towns stand unused," he said.

The basic responsibility for development in the Platteland rested with the rural communities themselves. It was their job to ensure that natural resources and people were developed so that advancement could take place to their benefit.
We are not people who are passing through. We were born here. Another place we have not been. We were born right here on this farm."

These words, said by farmworker Mr Aaron Zwane, are recorded in a publication of the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) entitled A Time to Hold on the Land, May 1988.

Mr Zwane, not his real name because he still works on the farm, is one of the millions of blacks directly affected by the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill, the Slaus Bill and the Group Areas Amendment Bill presently before Parliament.

The Bills deal with housing and the resettlement of people in the rural areas and in the cities.

In its publication Trac quotes a farmworker who is part of a generation that has lived on the farm and who does not want to leave for the cities.

"The blacks were on the farm first. The Boers came later. They get the land by fighting through the wars."

"They arrived and found our housesteads and made the law that we should work under them. The men must plough and the women must work in the kitchen."

"The law that you now come and load the trucks. Yet you don't get a cent for this and you must wake up every morning and sleep fast."

The Black Sash Urbanisation Group in its analysis of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Amendment Bill concludes that families of farmworkers are now threatened with even greater insecurity than they have experienced before. The group says that at the moment it is an offence to construct a building without lawful reason and to remain there without the permission of the lawful owner.

If a person is charged with such an offence the State must prove he did not have a lawful reason or the necessary permission. The amendment completely changes this. The accused will have to prove he did have a lawful reason or the necessary permission. This is an absolute denial of the principle of benefit of the doubt.

State must prove case against an accused,” says Black Sash.

It says that the penalties for conviction will be doubled in a possible fine of R2000 or 12 months imprisonment or both plus R30 or 14 days for every day on which the offence is committed after conviction.

Farmworkers and their children fall outside the jurisdiction of local authorities. In such cases special committees may be established and if they believe that people who are not employees of the owner of the land are living there they must appoint an official to investigate.

Such people may be ordered to leave the land within 30 days. An owner who fails to evict such people is liable to a fine of up to R1000 or five years imprisonment or both in terms of the proposed legislation.

"This threatens the families of farmworkers who are not employees of the farm owner," says the Black Sash Ubani Urbanisation Group.

Trac comments further: "We fear that the Bill will be used selectively to evict people and that it heralds a return to the Nationalist dream that only those blacks who are economically active should be allowed to live in the white areas."

The Black Sash says more than 1.2 million people in the country are homeless. More than one million families do not have proper shelter.

"Homelessness is arguably the most serious problem in South Africa at this time and in Africa at this time and what is the Government doing about it?"

It is proposing to deal with the problem by:
- Breaking down houses;
- Removing people from areas where they are without providing another place for them to be; and
- "Re-introducing influx control with increased severity."

The Black Sash quotes the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Hani, as saying in Parliament in June that there was a shortage of 702,750 houses for blacks outside the homelands.

"That means that 702,750 black families have no adequate shelter. Other authorities have estimated that the shortage would be over 860,000," says the Black Sash.

It says this means one out of every six South Africans is without shelter or is living "illegally somewhere where he or she is not supposed to be."
Farmers fear crop loss after dry winter

By ANDREA WEISS
Staff Reporter

SOME farmers in the Western Cape will lose crops as a result of the unusually dry winter and others fear losses if rain does not fall in the next month.

The drop in harvest expectations for cash crops such as wheat was as high as 30 or 70 percent in the Swellendam to Mossel Bay area and less critical in other regions, said Dr Johan Burger, director of agriculture for the winter rainfall area.

Harvest expectations north of Clanwilliam are down by 40 or 50 percent and 20 to 30 percent in the Caledon to Swellendam area.

SWARTLAND

The Swartland could still deliver a good wheat harvest if rain fell in the next two weeks, Dr Burger said.

A Darling wheat farmer said rainfall in his area varied and not all farmers were in the same position.

"Some of us are going to have a very hard time," he said.

In the Boland, deciduous fruit and wine farmers are particularly dependent on irrigation and, according to Dr Burger, dams are only 20 to 30 percent full.

Normally Boland farmers start irrigating vineyards and orchards in October.

BERG RIVER

Mr Sidney Back of Backsberg wine estate near Paarl said some farmers were able to fill their irrigation dams from the Berg River but others did not have access to river water.

"It certainly is abnormally dry and everybody is walking around looking worried," he said.
More bad news for farmers

PRETORIA — The country’s debt-ridden agricultural industry would be further crippled by the combined impact of higher interest rates, fuel price and licence-fee hikes, National Maize Producers Organisation GM Piet Gous said.

He said it was no longer possible for the average Highveld farmer to farm himself out of his problems in a climate where the production sector was being crushed by taxation and bled white by interest rates.

The result would be that, irrespective of government aid, the crisis on many farms would worsen. Many were using capital to survive.

DURBAN — Durban police, who initiated the nationwide campaign on child sex against the man and more charges expected soon.
Dickman warns on interest rates

Direct controls will ‘not make economy grow’

SA should resist the “siren of calls” for direct controls to solve the country’s economic dilemma, Anglo American economic consultant Aubrey Dickman said yesterday.

He told a seminar on growth and employment at the University of the Transkei: “People are under the misapprehension that controls on interest rates, credit supply and imports will buy more growth in some mysteriously costless way”.

Controls on interest rates meant higher rates for less-privileged borrowers and inordinate use of capital by those able to obtain it relatively cheaply, Dickman added.

The long-run effect of controls on imports would lead to more inflation and an eventual rise in the import bill. Restrictions on wages would hit productivity and impair industrial relations and interfere with price formation.

Controls had caused cyclical and structural distortions which had made rising inflation and persistent balance of payments pressures now a regular feature of the SA economy, he said.

“Sustained demand for SA’s exports has to some extent masked the realities of a rigid system that has impeded the wealth-creating forces within the economy.”

The solution to the dilemma was a march towards flexibility via an inward-industrial policy that cultivated domestic growth by making the best possible use of resources which included export expansion and, if necessary, import substitution, said Dickman.

Inward industrialisation did not exclude the judicious development of the latent potential of people and regions. National and regional development were complementary but, Dickman added: “No region should be forced to accept more people than its resource base, seen in a comparative national context, justifies”.

ARI JACOBSON

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Farmers told: move forward

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Deputy Minister of Agriculture Kraai van Niekerk yesterday warned farmers against declining into a survival mentality.

Speaking at an SA Institute of Agricultural Engineers symposium he said the industry had to move forward out of the survival phase to help build a healthier agricultural industry.

Van Niekerk said SA was not a country rich in natural resources such as water and agricultural land. Rainfall was limited and unreliable and there was little scope for further horizontal expansion.

Costs

Stressing the importance if stubble mulching Van Niekerk said compared with uncovered land a stubble mulch of as little as 20% could reduce the loss of topsoil by as much as 50%.

In some areas where stubble mulching was applied on a large scale devastating sand storms were no longer the general phenomenon that they had been 10 years ago.

On production costs Van Niekerk said the financial position of crop producers in the summer rainfall cropping areas had been under severe pressure in the past few years.

The price of production inputs had risen out of all proportion to the price of outputs, he said.
of all, it would offer, for the first time, certainty.”

On countless occasions, the JSE’s Tony Norton has pleaded for the capital gains/income issue to be clarified. The reason is that shareholders invariably will not sell shares because they’re not sure how Inland Revenue will treat the receipt. And Revenue refuses to advance rulings.

Some JSE share prices lack integrity because of the illiquidity associated with shareholders procrastinating over share sales.

Moreover, Margo offered nothing to clarify the distinction between a capital gain and revenue, though he did did recommend against a CGT — and that was accepted by government.

It is true that restricted entry into insurance and banking, exchange controls and the shortage of scrip on the JSE have led to a state where life offices appear to have control of many large companies. Tax anomalies were undoubtedly aggravated this trend, but are by no means the only cause.

Badenhorst has in the past argued for a level playing field for all financial institutions. Deregulation, freedom of entry and the abolition of tax on savings would go a long way to bringing that about. Nor is it a position with which we believe the life offices would find much fault.

The problem lies with government. For as Deputy Finance Minister Org Marais said this week, government spending is the most important factor deciding the pace of tax reform. It shouldn’t be, but it is.

AGRICULTURE

Facing up to reality

Farmers and their lobbies are at last accepting the signals of the market

The drought is over, but the memory lingers on. Overflowing dams, good crops, recovering grazing lands and replenished underground water reserves all spell out the message of renewed good times. But the financial recovery of SA’s huge farming sector will be a far slower process, subject to painful structural adjustments.

The drought did one service: it exposed the faulty managerial workings of the agricultural bureaucracies which SA has inherited. It also compelled officials, producer lobbies, taxpayers, politicians and farmers to concentrate their minds on what should be the most effective solutions.

However, “There are no simple or instant solutions to the deep-seated problems currently experienced in agriculture,” says Volkskas agricultural economist André Louw. One major problem is that short-term debt now constitutes 52.4% of all farm debt — and therefore it is increasingly assuming a long-term nature.

Louw adds: “This is also a symptom of the present financial problems of agriculture caused by droughts, interest rates, inflation and erroneous financial decisions during the past decade. Although on average it appears as if the debt burden ratio of agriculture is healthy, the reality is the disproportionate distribution of this debt burden.”

He also warns that although net farm income and total farm profit have significantly increased since 1985, “this does not give any indication of the farmers’ discretionary income.” Rising production prices continue to eat into profits — from 1980 to 1985 they comprised 46.8% of the farmer’s increased debt burden, compared with 31.4% for interest costs and 21.8% for the drought.

So all is far from well down on the farm. The rains have not washed away the accumulated debt of over R14bn; nor the collapse of the maize export market (though this may be rescued by the worst US drought in 50 years); bad farming practices; over-capitalised support structures; consumer resistance to high prices; or the international swing from coarse grains to protein.

Survival is what matters now. This was demonstrated at a recent co-operative congress of the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) in Durban, where:

- Deputy Agriculture Minister Kraai van Niekerk said future State aid would be given on an individual basis, according to merit. This is a clear departure from the old response of pumping millions into sectors with lobby strength pleading financial problems; and

- Deputy Minister of Finance Org Marais asked whether co-ops did not “often use the advantage they have of financing to also oblige the farmer indirectly to buy from it?” He noted that attempts to raise farm income through State aid had failed, while “sheltering” farmers from market signals succeeded only in imposing rising costs on consumers and taxpayers.

The sheltering is to stop. From August 1 the Land Bank has to pay market rates for its short-term production credit finance to the co-ops. Maize Board GM Henkie Davel comments: “It is quite clear that subsidies on sectoral and commodity levels are also being done away with. In future, State aid will be targeted on the individual farmer or the consumer — and not on the farming sector as a whole. Consumers could be assisted by means of food stamps, but it is clear that government will no longer countenance financial aid that distorts the market mechanism.”

Take the bread subsidy, which encourages consumers to buy more bread and producers to produce more wheat — all at the cost of the taxpayer and to the detriment of alternative (and cheaper) food crops. Even the Meat Board’s Abattoir Corporation is now in the privatisation market, offering its expensive “meat palaces” for sale to red-blooded investors.

But — to consider the prodigious number of under-utilised grain silos dotting the Highveld — it will not be easy to rid an industry of its past sins of over-indulgence. The total storage capacity of SA’s grain silos (owned by the co-ops and costing them, and the farmers, millions to maintain) is about 15.6 Mt. Good maize crops average about 8 Mt, while the wheat industry this year (for the first time) could produce more than 3 Mt. The R1.5bn historic capex on the massive silos testifies to a costly mistake — and consumers must pay the end-cost of maintaining them through higher food prices.

But the principle of listening to the market

FINANCIAL MAIL AUGUST 5 1988

Volkkas economist Louw ... no simple solutions
has been accepted. The latest example is the SAAU's lofty named "Strategic Plan for Healthy Agricultural Development in SA." It is certainly a healthy departure from the old cry that "government must solve the problem" — mostly by dishing out millions.

Emergency aid in the case of drought, floods and even economic calamities remains in place, but in the "normal" run of events, market realities should be the major determinant, the document argues. According to SAAU economist Koos du Toit, "Our biggest task now is to implement this philosophy, hammered out with the help of Federale chairman Kereels Human, Development Bank MD Simon Brand, and Armco chairman Piet Marais."

"The farmer as independent entrepreneur" is the catchphrase of the new SAAU philosophy, accepted by government through Agriculture Minister Greyling Wentzel. At the SAAU congress Wentzel said SA agriculture was entering "a new phase," with the individual farmer as a pivotal point.

"In the past, our sectoral focus was too strong," he said. "We now need to focus on the farm. It was widely accepted at one stage that specific sectors had the answers to all SA's agricultural problems. This sectoral approach became so strong that it led to the total fragmentation of agriculture."

While naming no names, Wentzel may well have been referring to the formerly powerful maize lobby, Nambo, whose stridency and demands for unrealistic prices and State aid had long made it unpopular in wider farming circles.

Sectoral or "group" thinking has a strong socialist bias and runs counter to government's new free market beliefs — or so one must hope. It is certainly overtly so. Deputy Director General of Agriculture Chris Bignaut says: "The new views now becoming prevalent in agriculture are the logical consequences of macro-economic policies with a strong bias towards the free market. For example, changes in interest and exchange rates affect agriculture, while fiscal policy moves like the recent decision to extend the previous one-year tax write-off on farming equipment to three years, form part of the broader tax dispensation. Farming does not operate in isolation."

Bignaut adds that structural changes do not take place on an ad hoc basis — most new policies, in fact, flow from the 1986 recommendations of the Economic Advisory Council (EAC) on the "rebuilding" of agriculture, which made specific recommendations.

Bignaut comments: "The EAC said that all future farm aid should be based on individual merit, while certain structural changes were seen as essential. For example, international market moves away from carbohydrate-based foods like maize to protein-rich foods like meat were recognised, implying policy changes in the maize farming sector."

Bignaut says that while government does not prescribe, it will point the way. And change in one sector can often precipitate changes of a far more wide-ranging nature. "Sectoral" representation of farmers is a stumbling-block to change as, more often than not, it is unrepresentative of farmers' real economic or practical problems and needs. For example, many maize farmers also produce wheat, sorghum, sunflower, groundnuts, beef, mutton or chicken. The maize lobby represents only a portion of individual farmers' interests.

The boards are changing, too. Whereas the maize Board practises a one-channel, fixed-price marketing system, the sorghum Board now operates a virtually free market, selling its product on TV in direct opposition to maize — with government's full blessing at that.

The call for a more individual approach could have enormous implications for the future powers of the various control boards in terms of the Marketing Act. Although the minister is not considering scrapping the Act, most boards are under investigation — and various market-related changes have already been brought about.

Maize is currently under the spotlight of the Brand Commission of Inquiry into an alternative marketing system, and a new marketing system for wool has just been announced.

Meanwhile, the maize industry is fighting to retain market share with special discount deals for specific tonnages and even price reductions — further proof that market realities will win in the end. MB GM Hennie Davel makes the claim that some 430 000 t of the "lost" market has been won back.

Maize is also notorious for being the most debt-ridden of any farming sector in SA — the result of over-ambitious production plans in the past, the drought, high interest rates and the collapse of its export market. It is therefore the focus of government's policy to switch production from the fading grain sector to beef, mutton, pork, chicken, eggs, milk, soy beans, sunflower, sorghum, cotton or wool. These all have good (and growing) local or export markets and government feels it worthwhile to subsidise individual farmers to switch to planted grazing to support live-stock.

The move out of maize into meat will once again place severe strains on the R4.5bn-a-year red meat industry, now coming money from sky-high meat prices. While consumers blame the Meat Board's control structures for high prices, the board counters that livestock supplies to the abattoirs have dropped dramatically as farmers rebuild depleted herds following the rains.

The new maize dispensation means that more slaughter cattle and sheep will reach the markets. That will result in lower prices — and a reduction in the restrictive powers of the control lobby.

The controversy around high meat prices (and food prices in general) raises the question: are the farmers and their control boards solely to blame? Not so, argues Maize Board economist Johan Willemsse. He says farmers in general get only 47,4% of the consumer rand — the rest goes to the processors, packagers and distributors. "And, while producer prices only rose by about 9,8% over the past year, food prices in general jumped by 14,2% — proving that other factors come into play."

Willemsse says a look at the profit position of some of the food giants featuring in the FM's Top Companies survey (May 20) proves that farmers alone are not to blame for food price inflation, although they have to compensate for rising input costs. This is a point which can and will be argued for a long time to come.

There is no easy answer.

Meanwhile, a new outspokenness, acceptance of economic realities and fresh thinking on how to tackle the complex agric-problems inherited from the socialist policies of the Thirties are becoming more evident by the day. Spring-cleaning is in vogue and there is a new spirit in the air for SA agriculture.
LELIOETEIN NEEDS THE PATIENCE OF JOB

Weekend Airs Correspondent

THE people of Leliendlein reserve, the farming enclave about 100 km north-west of Cape Town in the heart of Namaqualand, who recently went to the Supreme Court to fight to remain on their land, say that they are again threatened by government red tape.

The reserve covers about 200,000 ha, with a population of between 6,000 and 8,000.

The town itself is more than 50 km off the N7 motorway, and its inhabitants boast of more than 2,000 f arms species to be found here, some of which have yet to be documented.

On the surface it seems peaceful country, with flocks of sheep, goats and donkeys grazing along the dusty road.

Looking closer, it seems the community is preparing for war. New regulations passed in June are the talk of the town and have dampened the spirits of the farmers, who were still celebrating their Supreme Court victory against earlier regulations.

In April, the Supreme Court, Cape Town, ruled against the introduction in 1968 of a privatized camp system whereby the land was divided into 47 "economic" units.

The man behind the system, H. Can. Reiter, Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Mr. Davis Curry, said at the time that it agreed with the Court's decision in principle.

In an about-turn, however, he decided to have stringent regulations imposed through the territory's management committee.

In a letter dated May 30, Mr. Curry urged the Steenkopf management committee to urgently recall existing grazing regulations and issue new ones.

In terms of the latest regulations, all occupiers should register to farm the land, but farmers can be refused registration without reasons being forwarded.

A registered occupier can only keep the amount of stock for which grazing rights have been granted.

When circumstances require, the committee may use its discretion to change or reduce the area as well as the amount of stock. The board is also empowered to cancel grazing rights.

Contravention of the regulations could lead to a fine of up to R50 or three months' imprisonment.

Asked about the future of farmers unable to live up to the demands of the new regulations, Mr. Curry replied that each case would be considered on merit. He said the regulations were "in the interest of sound farming principles and also in the interest of the farmers and the community at large."

The Leliendlein community, however, has vowed to fight the latest grazing regulations.

"This is nothing but revenge. We won't lie down; we will fight these regulations with everything we have. The community rejects them and feelings have reached high levels," said senior citizen Oom Gert Bekeur.

"The community has had enough. This land belongs to us and we should not have to beg or make applications to farm it. The court agreed with our view.

Oom Gert is an old man bordering 70, gnarled and bent like a weather-beaten tree after years of toil. His soft-spoken voice and gentle manner belies the determination which has made him one of the respected citizens.

Many Leliendlein residents refer to enfranchisement of their rights in the form of "Tickets of Occupation" granted by the Cape Colonies and recognized by Queen Victoria in 1874.

Moreover, the people of Leliendlein have always been able to rely on one storm after the other but they have had to band together to defend their occupation in recent times.

Since the advent of the tricameral system, when Mr. Curry inherited part of Mr. Chris Hensel's portfolio for the House of Representatives, residents say there has been an uninterrupted onslaught on the social structure of the community.

"Despite several petitions to Mr. Curry, he proceeded to slowly but surely drive us off the land we inherited from our fathers," said Tantie van Wyk.

Although Namaqualand is a vast rural area, there is very little agricultural crop planting due to insufficient water supplies and severe drought. Farmers generally keep small stock—goats and sheep—and plant a little wheat, barley and rice.

Employment is scarce, with 64 percent of the population dependent on the income of those with jobs. It is also insecure because of the fluctuating fortunes of the region's mining industry.

The majority of the residents have been forced to graze their stock on commonage around the villages in the reserves.

TOTAL IMPOVERISHMENT

Mr. Johannes Brandt of Nourrier said his stock of 200 goats and 100 sheep had been reduced to 10 goats and 17 sheep.

When the Court ruled against the regulations earlier this year, farmers thought they would be able to rebuild their stock and be able to plan again.

Now they face the new grazing regulations.

"This will leave them exposed to total impoverishment because of lack of work and they would then lose access to land," said Lala Suley.

Picture: Chris Gutiura

Oom Gert Bekeur and Tant Katie van Wyk...dapper inhabitants of Leliendlein in Namaqualand.
PW authorises visit after request

US farm experts
to study SA
drought aid plan

By David Braun,
Political Correspondent

BLOEMFONTEIN — The United States agriculture department has requested permission to visit South Africa to study the Government's drought assistance schemes, Minister of Agricultural Economics Mr Greyling Wentzel said yesterday.

He told the Free State National Party congress in Bloemfontein the Americans had asked to come to South Africa because they had been experiencing their own problems with drought and they wanted to see how South Africa coped.

"Now, you know the State President does not much like Americans and I do not either. But the State President said they can come, so they can come," Mr Wentzel said.

He said a considerable number of assistance schemes for farmers had been introduced by the Government and these had cost the taxpayer well over R3 billion over the past seven years.

South African farmers had been so adversely affected by the weather that at one stage this year parts of the Free State were being assisted by emergency drought relief schemes, while other parts were receiving flood relief.

Mr Wentzel said the Conservative Party was trying to politicise agriculture, which made people emotional about farming problems.

DELAYS

He admitted that not all the assistance schemes had gone as smoothly as the Government had hoped and there had been delays in processing applications for assistance which had cost the party a great number of farming votes.

He defended the Government's policy of regional services councils in so far as they involved the agricultural sector.

He said the SA Agricultural Union would be stupid if it did not take the opportunity to be involved in the agricultural councils, which in turn had seats on the RSCs.

The RSCs embodied the whole concept of the Government's devolution of power and of the tax burden, he said.

The four provincial leaders of the National Party had an exceptional relationship because they shared responsibility.Political Correspondent,
AGRICULTURE

Going to seed?

Weather prospects for the coming season—and world grain prices—could determine the financial survival of large numbers of grain farmers in SA’s northern summer rainfall region.

The fortunes of fertiliser, seed, tractor, implement and agro-chemical manufacturers are closely linked to those of farmers.

Maize producers have been advised to scale down maize plantings in favour of producing more red meat, wool and other products (Leaders August 5). But the US drought and its bullish impact on world grain prices have sent mixed signals to SA’s farming fraternity.

Thousands of farmers in the Free State-Transvaal maize belt must decide in the next few weeks whether to take a calculated risk and plant maize (in the hope of good export prices), or opt for the safer route of diversification.

Many have already made the latter choice by switching to wheat during the winter. As a result, the Wheat Board (WB) may have to export almost 1 Mt this year (weather permitting) from a record crop of well over 3 Mt. The huge crop was largely due to an increase in Free State wheat plantings following excellent late summer rains.

“Our estimates show an approximate 20% increase in wheat plantings this year, implying a considerable substitution of maize,” says Sasol Fertiliser MD Pieter Viljoen. He says this could lead to a drop in fertiliser sales during the second half of the year.

The large swing to wheat means land available for maize plantings has been reduced, possibly resulting in a lower-than-normal crop this season. However, should plantings take place on around 3.5m ha, and good, soaking rains occur in summer, a bumper crop could still be harvested.

Meanwhile, tractor and fertiliser sales are improving. Tractor sales in the first half of this year were 25% above 1987, with 2 646 units sold as against 2 117. The trend was even more encouraging during the April-June quarter, with 1 303 sales 34% above last year’s 973. Industry spokesmen ascribe the rise largely to the sharp increase in wheat planting.

John Deere MD Leighton Lee is “reasonably confident” that 1988 tractor sales will breach 6 000, compared with 4 880 last year. But he foresees major supply problems should the market really take off.

“Strong demand for motor car compo-
name of the (i) organization and (ii) foreign country involved?

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

No.

(a) and (b) fall away.

Kwandebele: casino

1063. Mr J H VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether his Department or any provincial administration has received any applications for (a) military pension and/or (b) war gratuity from a certain Black war veteran, particulars of whom have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (i) and (ii) what is the name of the applicant; (ii) what is the nature of this involvement, (b) who carried out the investigation and (c) what was the cost involved in each item of the investigation;

(2) whether any overseas journeys were undertaken in connection with if so, what are the relevant particulars;

(3) whether a decision has been taken on the ejection of this casino; if not, when can a decision in this connection be expected, if so, what decision?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

No.

Rest of question falls away.

Agriculture: expenditure

1092. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What percentage of the total State budget was spent on agriculture since the 1980-81 financial year in each specified financial year for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

1980-81 3.50 per cent
1981-82 3.39 per cent
1982-83 3.25 per cent
1983-84 3.16 per cent
1984-85 3.04 per cent
1985-86 2.90 per cent
1986-87 2.71 per cent

Other expenditure in respect of agriculture, e.g., from statutory levy funds, is not included in these percentages. Similarly the cost of arrangements such as the low fuel prices for agriculture and special rail tariffs for certain agricultural products are not included in the above-mentioned percentages.

Transfer of money to foreign country

1035. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

Whether, with reference to information furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, his Department has at any time rendered assistance to a certain organization in connection with the transfer of money from South Africa to a foreign country; if so, whether the full details of this assistance and (ii) name of the (i) organization and (ii) foreign country involved?

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

No.

(a) and (b) fall away.

Black war veteran: military pension

*1. Mr T ABRAHAMS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether his Department or any provincial administration has received any applications for (a) military pension and/or (b) war gratuity from a certain Black war veteran, particulars of whom have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply; if so, (i) and (ii) what is the name of the applicant; (ii) what is the nature of this involvement, (b) who carried out the investigation and (c) what was the cost involved in each item of the investigation;

(2) whether any overseas journeys were undertaken in connection with if so, what are the relevant particulars;

(3) whether a decision has been taken on the ejection of this casino; if not, when can a decision in this connection be expected, if so, what decision?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

No.

Rest of no (1) falls away.

(2) Falls away.

Yes.

Black war veteran: military pension

*2. Mr T ABRAHAMS asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) Whether the South African Defence Force has received any representations concerning a military pension for a certain Black war veteran, particulars of whom have been furnished to the Defence Force for the purpose of the Minister's reply; if so, (a) when, (b) to whom, (c) what is the name of this veteran and (d) what was the response to these representations and (e) whether the reasons for this response;

(2) whether the Defence Force has records of Black soldiers who served in the Force during the Second World War; if not, why not;

(3) what is the policy of the Defence Force in regard to parity in respect of military pensions and war gratuities for members of all race groups?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

Neither my Department nor the Provincial Governments administer military pensions for Black persons and therefore no responsibility in respect of military pensions for Black persons was placed on them. If the honourable member refers to war veterans' pensions, the reply is as follows:

(1) (a) No. No formal application but requests for the allocation of a war veterans' pension were received. The applicant is resident in Bophuthatswana and does not qualify for war pension benefits in RSA. The applicant was repeatedly advised to apply in Bophuthatswana. As a matter of fact, the name of a contact person in the Bophuthatswana Department of Internal Affairs in Naimabato, was given to him.

According to information, the Department of Internal Affairs of Bophuthatswana indicated on 2 April 1987 that his application was in hand and being attended to.

(b) No.

(2) Falls away.

Yes.

Black war veteran: military pension
PRETORIA — '86 farming income almost matched debt

Gross farming income in 1986 amounted to R9,9bn — almost equaling farmers' total debts of R9,2bn, according to a Central Statistical Services survey released yesterday.

This represented a total average remuneration of R1,22 per worker — an increase of 78,5% compared with 1981.

The farmers' R6,2bn debt was 8,2% more than the previous year.

They earned R1,2bn in cash and R420m in kind.

Capital spending amounted to R1,5bn in 1986 and spending R7,1bn.
Jane Evans comes out tops for labour of love

By Marike Shroyer, Star-Style Editor

The Star's Woman of the Year 1988 is Mrs Jane Evans of Vljudenskroon, who has watched her brainchild, a nursery school for the children of farm workers, mature into an educational project operating on well over 100 farms in remote parts of rural South Africa, reaching now also into urban township areas.

Thanks to her inspiration and dedication, thousands of black children who would otherwise have been denied the precious gift of early childhood education have been given a chance to develop their potential.

Thanks to her dream, many more children will receive essential pre-school stimulation.

The one nursery school which she began on the mud floor of her farm house in Vljudenskroon district 12 years ago has spawned the educational project Natalse, a South Sotho word meaning “to lead a child by the hand”.

Expansion

There are 19 schools in the Vljudenskroon district.

She has watched humbly as illiterate women on farms “stuck away in the bush” have responded “faithfully” to training, in the universal urge to give their children a lifetime to a better future.

Mrs Evans’s early career path could not have been further from her present one.

Journalism was her first choice. After graduating with a BA degree in English and archaeology from the University of the Witwatersrand, she became a general news reporter on the Rand Daily Mail.

A fort that was on the woman’s pages was followed by 14 months as a correspondent in Zimbabwe (then Rhodesia). She returned to Johannesburg to become municipal reporter and was then offered the position as editor of the Rand Daily Mail women’s pages.

Marriage and a move to the Vljudenskroon district intervened to become the catalyst for a change in her life path, for which many children have cause to be grateful.

Soon after she made the farm her home, she discovered that the many children of the farm’s labourers were languishing in a deprived environment, facing a bleak future.

With no formal experience or training in pre-school education, she set about starting a nursery school for the children. Since then the school has become a small part of the burgeoning Natalse project.

Funding from the Dutch Van Leer Foundation, which supports innovative education projects, and the Mobility Education Trust have given the project a much-needed impetus in paying the posts of some training staff and funding the original six schools in the Vljudenskroon district. Mrs Evans does not draw a salary.

Natalse offers training for women as para-professional nursery school teachers on farms and in small urban areas.

The project offers introductory, follow-up and in-service training and aims to improve the care of socially and culturally disadvantaged children.

Mrs Evans receives requests from all over the country, including small township areas in the Transvaal. Natalse has provided courses this year for 100 women, fitting in two extra courses:

“We still can’t cope with the demand,” she says.

Her plans for the future are to consolidate all our work and offer good services in the areas in which we work.

There have been requests for the Natalse project to be taken to the northern Transvaal, where Mrs Evans will offer training next year.

She is training people for the first time from the northern Cape and the Natal Midlands, and has also established training in the western Cape.

She recently returned from Mamelane in the eastern Transvaal, where she has been offering training quarterly for the past year.

A permanent training post has now been established. She notes with pride that there are already 25 schools in that district.

Since its low profile beginnings, Natalse has been sparking interest in a variety of areas.

Rotary award

Last year, Mrs Evans received a Rotary award for service to the community. The Departments of Education and Training and of Health bring visitors to see her unique project.

“They even ask if they can make use of my method of training,” Mrs Evans says.

She is making headway in a very conservative area. Her house is constantly populated by people of “all colours, shapes and sizes”, she says, who come to look at, discuss and share ideas on pre-school education.

She is blessed, she says, with an accommodating husband and four lively children. They are packed into the car to accompany her on the many trips she makes to far-flung areas as new schools emerge and the insatiable demand for training arises.

The Woman of the Year floating trophy was presented to Mrs Jane Evans of Vljudenskroon by the Editor-in-Chief of The Star, Mr Harvey Tyson, at a gala lunch in Johannesburg today. Mrs Evans was the overwhelming choice of The Star’s readers from among 14 distinguished candidates for the award. Mrs Evans is the originator of a pre-school educational project for the children of farm labourers. She will have her portrait painted by Louise Guedemond.
The Star’s Woman of the Year 1988

By Marika Shoros, StarStyle Editor

Mrs Jane Evans of Vljoenskroon, who started a pre-school education project for the children of farm labourers which has spread to well over 100 farms in remote parts of South Africa, is The Star’s Woman of the Year 1988.

Mrs Evans received the award at the Woman of the Year seminar in Johannesburg today.

Her remarkable vision which she translated into practical training for illiterate mothers and vital education for their children was the overwhelming choice of The Star’s readers.

It was their votes that decided who most deserved the title Woman of the Year 1988 from among 14 distinguished candidates.

Mrs Sylvia Cook of Wentworth, Durban, is the Unsung Heroine 1988. She has worked alongside her parish priest for 20 years caring for the old and infirm, counselling alcohol and drug abusers, helping pensioners and gang leaders in her community.

STUDENT

Rising Star 1988 is Ms Sui-wah Wai, a final year BSc metallurgy student at the University of the Witwatersrand, whose research has shed light on the use of an important material used in the mining and engineering industry, tungsten carbide crystals.

Unsung Heroine and Rising Star award winners were chosen by a panel of senior editorial members of The Star.

See Page 9.
Crops reach record.

Mr. Schule, the general manager of Santiaco at Ficksburg said that since the beginning of last month, coverages totaling $700 million had been granted. This was a 30 percent increase over the last year's figure, which had also been a record.

Mr. Schule said wheat, tobacco, and other crops were among those crops being insured on a very large scale.
DURBAN — A massive outbreak of the bovine trichomoniasis, a deadly venereal disease in cattle, has been diagnosed in Vryheid where a staggering 50 percent of the cattle in a test block have been found to be infected.

This disease, described as possibly as deadly as AIDS in humans as there is no vaccine or known effective cure, could cost struggling farmers millions of rands.

It could also aggravate the current beef shortage and send prices rocketing even higher than the current record levels.

As no easy method exists to eliminate the disease, Allerton veterinary laboratory has recommended that all bulls proving positive and all cows which do not produce a calf should be slaughtered.

Where a high percentage of bulls are positive, all bulls older than four years should be slaughtered.

Only bulls that test negative for three consecutive tests with a 10- to 14-day interval, can be considered free, said Allerton.

As an alternative, natural breeding can be replaced by artificial insemination.

The extent of the disease was only determined after a survey of farms in the Vryheid State veterinary area was carried out in June to obtain information on the incidence of the disease in beef cattle.

It is suspected that this disease may largely be responsible for low calving percentages in beef herds in Northern Natal and it is predicted that calving percentage could be increased by up to 20 percent if the disease is under control.

No vaccine is available and results of research indicate that none will become available in the foreseeable future. Experience has shown that treatment of infected bulls gives poor results and farmers cannot depend on this approach to solve the problem.

Culled bulls should be replaced by virgin bulls younger than three years of age as these will be free of infection. Young bulls are also less likely to become permanently infected and on a few farms the owners have gone so far as replacing all bulls annually with young virgin bulls, with excellent results.

Allerton said that all natural breeding herds with a calving percentage below 75 percent should be considered potentially infected.
By Sue Valentine

For some children in the Vryburg area, going to school requires a lot more effort than getting out of bed on time and catching a bus or a ride with the local lift club.

A daily walk of 40 km — 20 km there and 20 km back — was the order of the day for most children of coloured farm labourers until the Rev Harold Brooks and his wife, Gertrude, intervened. In 1975 they took a number of these children into their home. At first the garage was converted into a dormitory, but as the number of children increased so the Brook’s study was taken over and finally they had about 50 girls and boys accommodated in their home.

In 1980, the Vryburg Children’s Care Centre was opened, providing a home for 150 children who otherwise would still have been living on the farms in the Stellaland district and spending their studying time walking to and from school.

No longer would these children have no alternative but to follow in their parents’ footsteps, being born into a life of farm labour and never having the opportunity of another life.

140 children squash into a one-room school

By Sue Valentine

When it’s sunny and warm the children at Boichoko nursery school in Vryburg can play and learn under the trees, but on cold, wet days the 140 preschoolers squash into a single room that constitutes their school.

Boichoko, which means perseverance in Tswana, is in the township of Vryburg called Huhudi. It will cost about R550,000 to build a four-classroom school on a larger site in the township.

The nursery school is run by three teachers, Ms Gloria Simane, Ms Grace Tikane and Ms Maria Molekele, who look after the two to six-year-old children from 7 am to 4 pm each day.

SYLLABUS

“The syllabus includes art, pasting, story-time, recitations and playtime,” says Ms Simane, the head teacher.

“We have crayons, but no toys for the children to play with. Until we got felt covering for the floor last year the children had to play on the concrete. Our fees are R5 per month for each child, but this does not cover costs or pay the teachers’ salaries. We receive much of our funding from West Germany.

“We give them Breakfast, lunch and a slice of bread before they go home.

“The black community of Huhudi comprises mostly migrant labourers, domestic workers and unskilled labourers,” says the Methodist minister in Huhudi, the Rev Abiel Molekele.

“The average wage is R20 per week for labourers and R40 for domestics. Blacks are the last people to be offered skilled jobs in Vryburg. First choice goes to the white, India or coloured communities, leaving educated black people roaming the streets.

“Eventually they leave Vryburg for the cities, looking for greener pastures and leaving behind the unskilled and domestic workers.

“Boichoko was established in 1956, but when the committee which was running it went bankrupt in 1986 the Methodist Church agreed to take it over in order to help the community,” says Mr Molekele.

Since 1968, Huhudi has been threatened with removal and during that time no renovations or new construction was allowed, but since the reprieve steps can now be taken to go ahead with improvements to facilities in the township.

The building of a creche-nursery school is conditional upon sufficient funds being pledged and generated for the scheme.
Wits students give clinic a shot in the arm

By Winnie Graham

Labourers and domestic workers on farms in Muldersdrift, Transvaal, many of whom are in desperate need of health care, are being looked after at a clinic run by the students and staff of Wits University's Medical School.

The Muldersdrift clinic is also a centre where educational programmes aimed at making the population more self-reliant are being offered. Members of the community are being involved both in decision-making and the running of the clinic.

Yet, despite the good work being done at the clinic, the Wits students and staff have had more than their share of difficulties in providing the urgently needed services.

FORCED TO CLOSE

They started the clinic in 1973 when the need for a health service in the Muldersdrift area was first perceived. In 1979 the clinic ran into land tenure problems and was forced to close. Five years later, the students were back again - this time with a multi-faceted programme for the community.

They had acquired a 10-year lease on a property and, it seemed, they were set to get on with the job. Then the owner of the property died and they were once again looking for a venue to conduct the clinic.

"We consulted with the community and they agreed we needed our own property," said one medical student. "We have now bought land so, at last, we can get on with our work without interruption."

Some of the labourers in the Muldersdrift area have good jobs and are well cared for by their employers, while others are in desperate straits. Unemployment and homelessness is as much a problem there as elsewhere.

"We recently found a homeless old woman who lived in the veld because she had nowhere to go," one student said. "She was unsure that she qualified for a pension, which, fortunately, we were able to arrange for her."

Though Muldersdrift is so close to Johannesburg, students find people living in "unbelievable" poverty. Kwashiorkor and marasmus are rife. Students also treat gastro-enteritis, TB, pneumonia, scabies and chickenpox.

Some small children, whose mothers are often unable to bring them to the clinic because of work commitments, make their own way there.

Community health workers, who started off as volunteers, have been employed part-time to help run the clinics and disseminate information and health skills.

To encourage community participation, meetings are held every Saturday. Opinions are canvassed and people are urged to discuss problems.

A play group has been started and gives many children their first taste of pre-school education. Also in the pipeline are literary and self-help schemes and development of vegetable gardens.

The clinic, however, does not provide only one-sided benefits. By helping there, the students, nurses and doctors are being exposed to challenges in primary health care that they would not otherwise have encountered.

NEW BUILDING

"We might be helping farm labourers and domestic workers, but we are learning from the experience," a student said.

But, while new buildings are now going up at Muldersdrift clinic, the students do not know where their funds will come from next year. That's the next problem they will have to face.

● Starbridge was launched to help close the race gap. If you have ideas on how communication can be improved, write to Starbridge, Box 1014, Johannesburg 2000.
Experts accuse farmers of land abuses

By Norman Chandler

Southern African farmers have been accused in a new study of the sub-continent's soil conditions of paying little or no attention to the problems of long-term devastation of land through over-grazing, over stocking and ploughing.

A paper written by three Bophuthatswana academics say new methods of farming must be introduced and new crops planted to stop what they call "the continued degradation of our land".

They point out that southern Africa's vast pool of unskilled labour and huge stretches of marginal soils may appear "distinct disadvantages but they represent grossly under-utilised resources with an enormous potential as yet unrecognised and begging exploitation".

The authors are Mr N P Serfontein and Mr S Louw, of the University of Bophuthatswana, and Mr C Campleon, of the Drought Relief Office, Bophuthatswana government.

Their paper, entitled "Improved utilisation of marginal soils and low rainfall-areas," has been submitted to Bophuthatswana agricultural authorities as well as organisations in South Africa.

They quote reports from the South African Government, British groups, the Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) and other academic studies as having warned for decades that the region faced disaster as a result of soil erosion.

The new study says urgent steps need to be taken to remedy the situation.
Letting market winds blow

SA's agricultural sector will enter the Nineties with a new approach to market realities. That's the message from last week's acceptance at the SA Agricultural Union's (SAAU) annual congress of a new strategic plan for the sector.

The plan, accepted in principle by government but still to be thrashed out in detail by regional farmers' unions, has vital implications for the future management of SA farming. Its main components are:

☐ It accepts the market as the major determinant of price-forming;
☐ It makes a distinction between economic and socio-economic factors and says government support should be focused on the latter (which includes housing, education, security and transport infrastructure);
☐ It accepts that control boards and co-ops could be at fault in administrative and price-forming functions and should be subject to scrutiny and pressures to change;
☐ While the Marketing Act is not seen as expendable, there should be maximum flexibility in administering schemes for different crop products. Should a board be too restrictive in interpreting the marketing needs of a crop, producer bodies can apply pressure to change the scheme;
☐ State subsidies will be reduced and come into play only for socio-economic needs and for disaster aid;
☐ A comprehensive system of market information will be devised, which could allow farmers access to a computerised system with up-to-date market information and price trends; and
☐ Research and advice services to agriculture will be sharply upgraded, so individual farmers can be provided with scientific information on which to base their production and marketing planning.

The strategic plan, described last week as the new Magna Carta for SA farming, will, if implemented, change the face of agriculture. It will also help remove many antiquated structures that have hampered the sector since the Thirties.

Market and economic realities, the R14bn farming debt and the six-year drought all helped to concentrate minds and led to this new outlook for a sector that was long seen as the basket case of SA's economy.

According to SAAU director Piet Swart: "State assistance will have to continue in the socio-economic areas. While agriculture provides only about 6% of SA's GNP, it must provide a decent living for 25% of the black population. Clearly this is impossible without some form of State assistance."

By making a division between economic and socio-economic factors, the plan means the consumer will not — directly — pay more for his food.

But assistance will have to come out of the central fiscus; and, of course, who pays for that additional spending at the end of the day is another matter.

By reducing distortions in the price-forming process, farmers will also effectively discount criticism that they alone are to blame for rising food prices.

In his opening address at the SAAU congress, Agriculture Minister Greylng Wentzel laid the blame for much of food price inflation at the door of food processors, wholesalers and retailers.

Farmers have used the balmier climate of the past season to increase gross earnings by 10% in the year to end-June 1988, to R14,02bn, while net farm income grew by 11% to R4,4bn.

Expenditure on intermediate goods and services increased by 8% — from R4,9bn to R5,3bn. The gross value of farm production increased 22% to R15,6bn.
Interest rise will sting farmers and homeowners

Tighten your belts again

By Sven Lünsche

Homeowners face increases of up to 40 percent in bond repayments, and people buying on hire-purchase will be confronted with a heavy extra burden in their budgeting as a result of the 2 percentage point rise in the Bank Rate yesterday.

First National Bank announced that its bond rate on new and existing loans will rise by 2 percent to 18 percent from November 24.

Standard Bank, in line with its promise not to exceed the average building society rates, is to increase its bond rate from 16.75 percent to 17 percent from December 7.

Building societies in a spot

Other banks are likely to increase their rates by 2 percent.

Building societies are in a dilemma because most of them — except Saambo — have already raised their bond rate by 1 percentage point to 17 percent. It means they are likely to increase their rates by only 1 percent in the new year.

These rises will see economic growth rates slow down considerably in months to come.

Economists forecast higher unemployment as a consequence of the cutbacks.

They could also lead to more insolvencies of smaller companies as interest repayments on starting capital or personal borrowing soar.

Mr Bob Tucker, president of the Association of Building Societies, said yesterday that building societies could also be landed with house repossessions.

Farmers will be hard hit, and it will cost them an additional R200 million in interest repayments on their estimated R1.600 million debt.

The president of the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU), Mr Kobus Jooste, said in Pretoria that the Bank Rate increase had come at a bad time for farmers.

"Agriculture is in a recovery phase at present, and the rise will drastically increase pressure on farmers."

The Government has indicated that a proposal will be implemented to increase certain...
November 24.

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"Agriculture is in a recovery phase at present, and the rise will drastically increase pressure on farmers."

The Government has indicated that a proposal will be implemented to increase certain subsidies to farmers to offset interest rate rises.

While the major commercial banks have all upped their prime interest rate by 2 percent to 18 percent, most banks, with the exception of FNB (16 percent), Standard and Allied Bank (17 percent), are still debating whether to implement the full 2 percent rise on the bond rate.

**Outlook bleak in housing market**

By Norman Chandler

The housing market is likely to experience a downward spiral which will result in fewer properties being bought and sold, hundreds of repossessions, a fall in prices, and smaller estate agents in liquidation - all by the second quarter of next year.

That was yesterday's grim message from economists, credit information companies and estate agents following decisions by building societies to increase home loan repayment rates by one percent, to 17 percent, with effect from next month, and the likelihood of a further one percent rise in the new year.

It is the fourth building society increase since March 30 this year when the rate stood at 12.5 percent.

**Yesterday First National Bank announced that home loan rates will go up by two percent from November 24 following a similar rise in the bank rate announced earlier.**

Mr Paul Edwards, managing director of Information Trust Corporation, said yesterday that "there is no doubt this is going to cause a fair amount of pain, especially to those highly borrowed."

Indications of bad times ahead in the property market come from Reserve Bank statistics which showed that new loans granted by building societies dropped from a high of R693 million in March this year to R765 million in June and were now hovering at the R650 million mark - "a dramatic cutting back is on the go," says Mr Neville Berkowitz, of The Property Economist.

**Overdraft squeeze**

A bond rate increase of 2 percentage points is the fourth increase this year, which started with a rate of 12.5 percent.

Bond payments (over a 25-year period) on R40 000 will rise from R436 to R605.

On a R60 000 bond, payments will increase from R654 to R910.

On a R60 000 bond, payments will spring from R672 to R1 212.

Bank overdrafts will also cost more, with rates for best customers rising 2 percent to 18 percent.

The man in the street could pay 20 percent on an overdraft or loan, while borrowings on credit cards is expected to rise 2 percent to 25 percent.

New purchases of cars, furniture and other goods on HP will also cost more.

On the other side of the coin, however, savers can expect slight increases in their deposit rates.

Many banks have already announced slight rises in their savings rates, but further increases of up to 1 percent are on the cards.

See Pages 11 and 15.
Union issues 'guidelines' on squatters to farmers

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — The South African Agricultural Union (SAAU) has issued guidelines to its members countrywide on ways to deal with the "squatter problem" on farms.

Mr August du Preez, SAAU media service manager, said farmers nationally could order squatters off their farm, and if they refused to leave, they could report the matter to the Provincial Administration offices and the police station.

If another farm was occupied by squatters, but the owner failed to do anything about it, the neighbour could notify the local police station and the provincial administration offices, he said.

Mr du Preez said the SAAU and the Manpower Committee realised that, "squatting on farms is a serious problem". He said the 1951 Illegal Squatting Act was difficult to implement and until such time as the Prevention of Illegal Squatting amendment Bill was passed, these guidelines had been drawn up to assist farmers.

Mr R Malan, SAAU general service assistant manager, said the guidelines were issued on behalf of the Manpower Department.

Criticism

He said the union hoped that the new Bill, when enacted, would "help solve the problems of illegal squatting on farms".

"Once the matter is reported, there are certain actions which authorities may take, but they vary depending on the area," he said.

The announcement has been criticised by various organisations and legal representatives who specialise in squatter issues.

Mr Geoff Budelender of the Legal Resources Centre said: "The announcement is worrying because it indicates a more active role by the Agricultural Union to encourage its members to remove squatters, which will only increase homelessness."

"It is a mystery why they think they need even greater powers than they have already," he said.

The existing Illegal Squatting Act already authorised the owner of the farm, the local authority, or provincial administration, to demolish the homes of squatters, he said.

Mr Budelender said farmers could not take action against squatters settled on land that did not belong to them.

Mr Alan Morris of the Transvaal Action Committee (Trac), said: "When looking at so-called illegal squatters, one must look at the history of the worker, and how long they or their family have lived on the land, and whether they have previously had permission to live on the land. One finds they often have the right to be on the land ... a century ago, the land belonged to blacks.

"They or their family have often lived on the farm for generations, and have previously worked for the farmer."
When people have to move

THE Government had replaced bulldozers, detentions and the police with more subtle methods to remove black people from "white" areas, the Association for Rural Advancement has said.

Afra has produced a study of Cornfields, a section of black freehold land in white farmland outside Estcourt that faces the threat of removal.

There are 276 registered landowners at Cornfields. Officially 5000 people live there, including farm workers and labour tenants evicted from white-owned farms around Weenen and Estcourt in the 1950s and 1960s.

Cornfields was bought by American Baptist missionary Reverend William Cullen Wilcox in 1912. He sold to African people before the 1913 Land Act restricted where Africans could buy.

Cornfields is about 27km north-east of Estcourt. As it is black-owned, the Government intends moving the people to a re-settlement area on trust land near the KwaZulu town of Wembezi, 20km west of Estcourt.

Afra said more than 100,000 people in Natal had been forcefully removed from black spots such as this since the 1960s with an estimated 160,000 people still threatened.

An estimated 430,000 people had been resettled into overcrowded settlements and bantustan ghettos in the Natal region since 1990.

Cornfields, 8km from the old Johannesburg-Durban main road. It is not exceptionally fertile, but is suitable for cattle grazing.

According to the Government, the people of Cornfields had moved voluntarily to Wembezi, Afra said.

Since the 1985 statement, meetings of the community and officials were characterised by less than subtle attempts to highlight advantages to people who went to the new area, and the disadvantages of staying.

In April 1987 officials told Cornfields residents they would not be forced to move. But, according to Afra, officials said those who opted to stay at Cornfields "should not expect any further government money for development in their area."

Afra said since February at least 250 families, mostly rent-paying tenants, had opted to move to Wembezi.

"There have been none of the familiar state actions that have characterised the brutal forced removals of the past, no police arrests, detentions, bulldozers and home demolition that aroused such condemnation from the South African and international community in the past."

"Furthermore, the Government has not taken explicit action against those who have said they will not move," Afra said.

However, the removal represented a more subtle but no less forceful way of getting people to move. "Its success so far has been achieved through the manipulation of community development resources. The systematic and official neglect of Cornfields in the provision of water, roads, schools, clinics and other services on the one hand, and a heavy commitment to the provision of resources in the proposed resettlement area on the other."

"It is the familiar carrot-and-stick strategy that the Government is increasingly using to achieve its apartheid objectives."
SOUTH Africa's first "warehouse clearance" store, Circuit City, stockists of electronic and home entertainment goods, has opened its doors to the public.

They sell, with a guarantee, a variety of well-known branded television sets, videos, hi-fi's, radios, compact disc players at heavily reduced market prices.

In addition, many of the goods currently on sale were bought by them prior to the introduction of the recent 60 percent surcharge.

They are able to sell at low prices because of their innovative buying skills, strong in-house technical expertise and service and extremely low operating overheads.

In addition, each of the three partners, Alec Goodman, Robert Brozin and Fernando Duarte has a specialist knowledge of the home entertainment industry.

Circuit City's stock is made up of well-known branded items purchased from reputable local manufacturers, importers and distributors. These may be the last of the line or tail-end products; odd stock lots; discontinued showroom models and demonstration models and in some cases, seconds.

Circuit City is at 7 Augusta Road (corner Olga Road), Regents Park and the telephone number is 435-1920. They are open from Mondays to Fridays from 09h00 to 18h00 and on Saturdays from 09h30 to 13h30. There is ample free parking in the area.
Harare official forced to resign

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — A Zimbabwean deputy Minister whose sexual morals became the focus of public debate has been forced to resign.

Television programmes were interrupted on Friday night with the news that President Robert Mugabe had accepted the resignation of Mrs Shuvai Mahofa, whose affair with a local businessman came to light when she was charged with arson after the burning down of a rival girlfriend's hut.

Mrs Mahofa was acquitted on the arson charge, but evidence in court of her sexual activities led to a campaign to oust her from her parliamentary seat in Masvingo province.

At a press conference, Mr Mugabe said people had "been after her blood" and that the deputy Minister had been a victim of "machinations" against her.

In an apparent reference to political infighting within the ruling party in Masvingo province, Mr Mugabe said society should not be guided by personal ambitions, tribalism or regionalism.

He also said the case showed that women in Zimbabwe were "having a raw deal".

"It is taboo for the women to have a boyfriend, but men can have as many girlfriends as the world offers," he said.

Mrs Mahofa's resignation came two weeks after her constituents voted against her in a referendum.

Forced moves persist by stealth, says Afra

By Helen Grange

Removals of rural blacks in South Africa are no less forced than they were before the Government's promise in 1985 that it would no longer compel communities to move, according to the Association for Rural Advancement (Afra).

The organisation, which is based in Maritzburg, says the process of removals is simply more subtle.

"Of late, there are none of the familiar state actions that have characterised the brutal forced removals of the past; no police, arrests, detentions, bulldozers and home demolitions that aroused such condemnation from the South African and International community in the past.

"Furthermore, the Government has not taken explicit action against those who refuse to move," the Afra newsletter says.

CARNOT AND STICK

But removals, as could be seen in Cornfields in the Natal Midlands, are achieved with subtlety through the manipulation of community development resources and neglect requirements such as water, roads, schools, clinics and other services on the one hand with a heavy commitment to the provision of resources into the proposed resettlement area on the other.

"It is the familiar carrot-and-stick strategy that the Government is increasingly using to achieve its apartheid objectives," says Afra.

The objective behind the Cornfields removal was a clear ideological strategy — the removal of people from so-called "white" South Africa into an area the government intended to incorporate into kwaZulu as part of its Bantustan policy.

Resistance to such removals is high, illustrated by Cornfields community's continued protest.

Cornfields' residents have appealed to the Government to rather "proclaim Cornfields a permanent township and to upgrade it into a proper modern township". They argue that this would cost a great deal less than developing the new resettlement area.

In the context of the predicament of rural squatters, Afra says that although the abolition of influx control has meant the evicted farm dwellers are legally entitled to move to the cities, the problems of massive unemployment, their lack of skills, and the alienating experience of urban life (particularly with the present political tensions in the urban areas of Natal) make urban migration a "non-option".

Two held after car chase

DURBAN — Two youths, aged 16 and 15, were arrested on Saturday night after a high-speed car chase in which several shots were fired.

A police spokesman for Port Natal, Lieutenant Bala Naidoo, said it was established later that the youths had been driving a stolen car.

Sergeant H B Vos, who was patrolling the esplanade about 10.30 pm, noticed the car and became suspicious, Lieutenant Naidoo said.

The sergeant gave chase and eventually managed to stop the car in the harbour area. Two bullets had hit its boot. — Sapa.
Teaching black children to communicate in their home language is part of a literacy programme which aims to make children in farm school literate in English as a second language.

The 1820 Foundation's In Service Education and Training (Inset) programme was established in 1984 in reaction to the positive response by teachers to the 1820 Foundation's annual black teachers refresher course for black English teachers. A think-tank of eminent educators was convened and they decided to establish a permanent in-service teacher training programme.

The brief given to the unit was to investigate and develop ways of enhancing the quality of English second language instruction in the classroom. Following the political disruption in black education in 1984-86, Inset broadened this focus to include aiding teachers to improve their own competence in English and assisting teachers upgrade their academic qualifications.

Director of Inset, Mr. David Meyer, says the programme is aimed at making farm school children literate in their home language first.

"As we are based in the Eastern Cape, we teach the children to read, write, and communicate in Xhosa first. Once this has been achieved we introduce English which is the medium of instruction from standard three."

Forty primary schools in the Albany and Adelaide districts are engaged in the Farm Schools project. Teachers in these schools are trained in new, improved methods of literacy in both Xhosa and English.

Child-centred

The programme is child-centred rather than teacher-centred and this has led to children being far more involved in their education.

Ms Pumla Koni, an Inset field officer, says: "The new programme has been very successful, the children are no longer passive recipients to what the teacher tells them."

Once the children have mastered the art of putting sentences together they are encouraged to read and write their own stories.

The schools implement three Inset programmes: School Readiness, Breakthrough to Literacy and Bridge to English.

Inset publishes a number of books which reflect the children's own experiences and these are used to aid communication.

Inset is involved in the initial training of teachers, supportive monitoring and follow-up workshops. Teachers are provided with printed materials and encouraged to develop their own teaching materials using available resources.

Involvement in Inset projects has caused teachers to form spontaneous informal groups to assist one another in improving their teaching.

Inset supplies the training and many of the teaching aids and resources but the actual building in which the school is run are supplied by the farmers who sometimes get a subsidy from the Department of Education and Training (DEET). All teachers are supplied by the DEET.

Mr. Meyer says they are presently only involved in the Albany circuit. This is due to financial restraints and also manpower.

"We need to consolidate our base and at our present rate and with our present staff complement we hope to train a further 40 schools over a three year period."

National impact

Mr. Meyer says he hopes Inset will have a national impact through its resource centre, workshops for teachers and teacher trainers, and through the co-ordination of informal networks of existing programmes and institutions in both formal and the non-formal sectors.

Mr. Meyer says: "Inset will not seek to set up its own programmes in other regions of South Africa because of the sensitivity of each local context, the logistical difficulties of directing distant projects and the fact that many other small projects exist all over South Africa already."

Mr. David Meyer, teaching children to communicate.
Anti-locust squads kill 11,000 swarms

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Anti-locust squads, which have been battling for months to wipe out a plague of the insects in the southern Free State and Karoo, have won the battle after killing 11,000 swarms.

But victory is only temporary, say experts, who predict another plague in the same area around February or March next year when the eggs laid by the recently exterminated swarms will hatch.

A Department of Agriculture spokesman in Pretoria, Mr M L Heyns, said the problem was so serious the department had called on the Minister to introduce regulations which give us the right to force people to pay for the inspections we carry out by helicopter and for exterminations if we find locusts on their land.

He said that if the regulations were introduced they would ensure that farmers who did report a build-up of swarms on their land were not made to foot the bill.

"We've killed all the swarms we can find so we can say the plague has ended. But we've still got four or five squads on standby in the area. We have to try to protect the grain-producing areas."

The 11,000 swarms exterminated since September had varied from 10m in diameter to more than 50m.
By TREVOR WALKER
Business Staff

BOKOMO, the Western Cape farming co-operative, is on the move and the 600 farmers who own this R100-million plus operation can look forward to an ever increasing involvement in the country's food industry.

In a major deal signed this week, Bokomo has bought out one of South Africa's largest food company's egg production facilities and taken over the management of its broiler business.

Premier Milling has put its faith in Mr. Rudolph Koen, MD of Bokomo's poultry division and in a straight merger of assets has handed over the management of Premier's poultry business to him.

It is obviously a feather in the cap of the local poultry man and coupled with the two companies' agricultural feed business, the synergy of production facilities clearly makes for a very good deal.

Premier's chairman and chief executive, Mr. Peter Wrighton said this week that Premier had been impressed with the aggressive attitude of Bokomo and they had approached the co-op to discuss the possibilities of a deal.

Mr. Koen declined to say how much Bokomo paid for Premier's egg business, but said the broiler business was much the bigger of the two.

The combined broiler operation will have an annual turnover of about R450-million and the egg side about R200-million.

The Bonnie Birds trade mark of Bokomo would be used to market the chickens and Premier's trade mark of Farm Fair would fall away.

**Expanded**

On the egg side the company had yet to decide which name the product would be marketed under and also the name of the new broiler company had yet to be chosen.

Mr. Koen said the broiler operation would be owned 50 percent by Bokomo and SACCA and 50 percent by Premier Milling.

Effectively, Bokomo's Lemoenkloof egg division had bought Premier's Nulaid egg operation and this combined business would now be marketed by Bokomo.

Bokomo's now expanded broiler output would produce about 1.6-million birds a week and given the continued swing to white meat in this country, further investment in production facilities would be essential.

Mr. Koen said "to increase our production facilities by about 10 percent will cost us R600-million".

The takeover of Premier's egg division has pushed Bokomo into the leading spot as far as egg sales in this country are concerned.

Yet Mr. Koen says "we are still small and only account for about 22 percent of the total market which has many private businesses in operation".

Nevertheless, the modest Mr. Koen has committed himself to take on the broiler industry dominated by Rainbow Chickens and it was perhaps no coincidence that immediately after talking to The Argus he was off to a meeting with Pick 'n Pay chairman Raymond Ackerman.
AGRICULTURE — GENERAL
1989

[Handwritten signature]
Drought hits farmers in Overberg, Karoo

Staff Reporter

DESPITE good December rains farmers in the Overberg and Little Karoo face an uphill battle to overcome the effects of a winter drought which meant drastically reduced wheat and barley yields and left them low on fodder and grazing for the summer.

Water supplies are low and some farm dams are empty.

Mr Mike Walters, a spokesman for the agriculture department for the winter rainfall region, said Oudtshoorn in the Little Karoo was very low on irrigational water, as was the area stretching from Riversdale to Mosel Bay.

CRITICAL MONTHS

He said: "Oudtshoorn was terribly dry in the critical winter months from May to August, with rainfall only an average 55 percent of the expected'.

"This will affect ostrich-farming which depends on irrigated pastures. Farmers have had to buy fodder for the ostriches."

Mr Walters said last year's wheat yield in the Rieens area — from Bot River to Riversdale — was 145 000 tons, about 40 percent down on the 1987 figure of 247 000 tons.

"Compared with this the Swartland wheat-producing area performed much better with a yield of 530 000 tons last year, only slightly down on the 549 000 tons in 1987," he said.

Almost all the country's barley comes from the Rieens region, but the yield of that most essential ingredient for beer was down by more than 60 percent on 1987.

Of the barley-producing centres, Bredasdorp was particularly hard-hit.

"The 1988 production for the Bredasdorp Co-op area was 34 750 tons, while in 1987 it was 93 397 tons," said Mr Walters.

Meanwhile farmers below the Vaal and Bloemhof Dams have been told to take precautions and move pumping equipment to higher-lying areas because of heavy rain in the dams' catchment areas.
By Don Robertson

THE price of fertiliser has been raised by an average of 11% from the beginning of this month, pushing farmers' bills to more than R1-billion for the first time.

The increase will hit the farming industry severely, suffering as it is with a debt of R14-billion.

Fertiliser costs more because of the higher cost of phosphate rock, sulphuric acid, ammonia and labour.

Fertiliser costs for the movement of raw materials — from Phalaborwa and Richards Bay — account for a major part of production costs. Any increase in tariffs in the Sats budget could result in another fertiliser-price rise.

Neville Crosse, managing director of Omnia Fertilizer, says that because of good rains, fertiliser sales rose by about 10% last year to 2.2-million tons. It is too early in the current growing season to predict volumes this year.

Stocks held by the main producers — Omnia, Sasol and AEC's Kynoch — have been reduced, but this is usual for this time of the year.

The next major selling season starts in September. Although all three producers raise their prices by the same amount at the same time, Mr Crosse says there is no cartel.

He says that if one producer charged R100 a ton more than his competitor, he would not be in the market.

However, price discounts, which have been a feature of the market for many years but have "levelled off" in recent months. The early discount rebate (EDR) is still applicable. It could amount to as much as 14% for those buying fertiliser now for use in September.

### The rand's world value

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<th>R1 equals</th>
<th>One foreign unit equals (R)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>13/01/89</td>
<td>13/01/89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US $</td>
<td>0.419 / 0.512</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK £</td>
<td>0.237 / 0.275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deutschmark</td>
<td>0.769 / 0.833</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japanese yen</td>
<td>53.035 / 64.755</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swiss franc</td>
<td>0.656 / 0.679</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French franc</td>
<td>2.621 / 2.808</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canadian $</td>
<td>0.502 / 0.567</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italian lira</td>
<td>564.955 / 673.045</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe $</td>
<td>0.814 / 0.872</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australian $</td>
<td>0.484 / 0.717</td>
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Trade weighted value of rand, % change against 1974 base: 42/60

### Domestic interest rates

#### MONEY MARKET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Friday 13/1/89</th>
<th>Friday 6/1/89</th>
<th>Friday 30/12/89</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SAR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SARB accommodation: rediscount rate (b)</td>
<td>14.50</td>
<td>14.50</td>
<td>14.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Treasury bill tender rate</td>
<td>15.22</td>
<td>15.21</td>
<td>15.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Basic call of discount houses</td>
<td>14.75</td>
<td>14.75</td>
<td>14.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Three-month banker acceptances</td>
<td>15.50</td>
<td>15.50</td>
<td>15.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three-month NCDs</td>
<td>16.60</td>
<td>16.75</td>
<td>16.80</td>
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<tr>
<td>Three-year RSA stock</td>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>15.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime overnight rate</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
<td>18.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All-in yield of finest acceptances</td>
<td>16.33</td>
<td>16.28</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>credits</td>
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### CAPITAL MARKET

#### SECONDARY MARKET RATES ON MOST TRADED STOCKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Average</th>
<th>As at Previous Month</th>
<th>Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Long-term RSA stocks</td>
<td>16.72</td>
<td></td>
<td>16.62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long-term Escom stocks</td>
<td>16.58</td>
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<td>16.46</td>
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### Best sections this week

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Av % Mv</th>
<th>Av D/Y</th>
<th>Av E/Y</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tobacco and Match</td>
<td>12.5+</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>11.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steel and Allied</td>
<td>9.2+</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>15.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Industrial Holdings</td>
<td>0.8+</td>
<td>5.4</td>
<td>16.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retailers and Wholesalers</td>
<td>18.4+</td>
<td>5.5</td>
<td>14.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamonds</td>
<td>6.3+</td>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>9.5</td>
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### Overall market this week

(Ordinary Shares Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Min.</th>
<th>Nom. Min.</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>London gold</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
EDUCATION is a tool for liberation and it is through it that black people can be assured of greater success in future.

This was said by the Witwatersrand regional manager of Get Ahead Foundation, the Reverend Joseph Tshwane, during a function to open a new school for the Wintersdal community, near Sebokeng at the weekend.

Mr Tshwane said his organisation was proud to have partially fulfilled the needs of a community threatened with removals by building new three-classroom prefabricated school. He said they had planned to erect a brick structure and more classrooms, but could not do so because the Government refused to allocate land for such a structure.

The deputy managing director of Get Ahead, Mr Japie Moropa, said the school would provide shelter to a number of pupils who had in the past attended classes in the open.

The principal of the new school who is also an active member of the local residents committee, Ms Olga Luthu (33), said the school was a "symbol of hope" to the community, she reaffirmed the community's commitment to stay despite the settlement being declared an "emergency camp".
Malcomess moves to plug disinvestment gap

Finance Staff

Two agricultural giants, Malcomess and Claas, have joined forces in a bid to capture the largest slice of the local combine and baler market.

According to a joint statement by the two companies, Malcomess has been appointed from March 1 as the sole distributor of all Claas combines and balers in the Republic, Lesotho, Swaziland, Botswana and South West Africa.

Mr Jonathan Meleck, MD of Malcomess, said the agreement with Claas was reached after Ford New Holland announced that, because of political reasons and on instructions from the Ford Corporate office in the US, they were withdrawing their combine and baler products from the South African market effective from the beginning of this year.

Malcomess has been distributing the New Holland products in South Africa for the past 23 years and became the combine market leader.

Mr Meleck, however, gave farmers who are owners of these products the assurance that all relevant spares will be made available indefinitely and that Malcomess will continue, as in the past, to service this equipment through its branch network.

Malcomess is considering expanding its 36 branches and the possibility of appointing new dealers.
Farmers earn a record R15.36bn

PRETORIA — After four years of drought, farmers earned a record gross income of R15.36bn last year, preliminary estimates showed yesterday. That was 12.2% up on the 1987 figure and was a reflection of the good rains in the 1987/88 summer. However, production costs increased by 15% to another record figure of just over R6bn. Income from maize amounted to R1.53bn and from wheat — although because of rain part of the crop was only harvested this month — it amounted to R1.05bn.

Deciduous fruit farmers earned a gross R557.45m; citrus farmers R398.92m; vegetable farmers R1.05bn; wool farmers R772.32m; cattle farmers R1.98bn; and poultry farmers R2.31bn.

At the start of last year, total farming debt amounted to R13.3bn.

Although there was no official estimate, the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) said the current figure could be above R14bn.

SAAU economist Koos du Toit said this probably included borrowings for increased investment in the industry after an improvement in the financial status of at least some farmers.

Investment fell to a low of R777m in 1983/84. In the 1987/88 financial year, it increased to R1.21bn.
A 32-YEAR-OLD man is under police guard at the Sebokeng Hospital where he was admitted with a gun wound in the leg after a white farmer shot him last week.

The man cannot be named because he is to appear in court for allegedly stealing the farmer's car battery. However, the version given by the police of the incident which occurred on Friday at the Doornkriel Farm near De Deur contradicts that given by the man's brother who said he witnessed the shooting.

Mr Joseph Mokoena said his brother was shot by the farmer who owns an adjoining plot without provocation.

He said his brother was returning from Lenasia where he is employed as a carpenter. He had two bags of groceries in his hands when the farmer told him to stop.

"I heard the farmer say to my brother that he stole his tyres. He then shot him in the leg with his rifle. My brother had not been given a chance to reply to the allegation," Mr Mokoena said.

"When I asked the farmer why he was shooting my brother he said I was a kaffir and threatened to shoot me if I did not keep quiet."

"He then called the police who ordered us to take him to the hospital," Mr Mokoena said.

He said he and his family had lived on the same farm for the last 16 years and that the farmer who shot his brother moved into the neighbouring plot shortly before Christmas last year.

The spokesman for the West Rand police, Major Terence Halkyn, said the farmer shot the man after he found him stealing his car battery. The man ran away when the farmer told him to stop and he shot him in the leg.

Major Halkyn said the man was under police guard at the Sebokeng Hospital and would appear in court soon. He said the man's relatives had not laid charges against the farmer.
Worst...drought...in 70 years.

From PAT CANDIDO
The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — Farmers in the Eastern Cape coastal region are in the grip of the worst drought in 70 years, says Mr Charles Heathcote, chairman of the Greater Algoa Farmers' Union.

There was no fodder on many farms, and farmers were being forced to buy it at high prices. Many farmers were selling breeding stock at auctions to cut down costs. On some farms new-born lambs are being slaughtered to try to save the ewes.

Some farmers are talking of moving to other grazing areas to try to save their stock.

Mr Henry Scheepers, of Elands River, said conditions were critical, and farmers could no longer go on feeding their stock.

Temperatures are soaring. It reached 40 deg C in Port Elizabeth yesterday, and soared to 42 at Kirkwood.
of the north-west Transvaal.

The farms are standing empty. Our people have given up because of lack of money, lack of water, and the high interest rates being charged by the banks.

"Even Eskom won't give farmers the opportunity to pay their electricity charges, and particularly if they fall behind due to a bad season or move," said Dr van Dyk, who has been in the forefront of complaints lodged to the Government about the treatment of farmers suffering under the hardships of a long drought. Dr van Dyk, an articulate 33-year-old graduate of Pretoria University and a former researcher with the Human Sciences Research Council, farms 98 ha on the banks of the Crocodile River 55 km out of Thabazimbi. He and his family — his wife, Denise, is a university-educated music teacher and taught at the Matopo School — and the children, Wanyana (6), George (4) and Hauri of 14 months — have been there for six years.

To rob home the message, they have had six years of poor harvests after having spent five years fighting drought on the Springbok Plats, north of Pretoria.

This year, the depopulation of the north-west Transvaal has gone one more step. The local school does not have a Grade 1 class for the first time — and school enrolment has dropped from 32 last year to 9, a trend which is repeated throughout the vast region.

Twenty-three families have left their farms in one area of the Thabazimbi district and it is estimated that most of the remaining 30 will have left by the end of 1989 because of debt and, in particular, the inability to meet the huge electricity costs. In the last few months, at least 25 have been declared bankrupt.

These are not just ordinary farmers. Very single farmer along the Crocodile River, for instance, has had some form of tertiary education — there are doctors, lawyers, and economists among them.

As for whether he spent sleepless nights wondering what to do about his debt — conditions were too bad that he fell behind on electricity payments, saw his power supply disconnected, and lost R30 000 on a cotton crop because of it — Dr van Dyk kicked the dry river bed of the Crocodile and said: "Not one night. Every night.

The Snyman family have seven farms — three on the Crocodile River, four in other parts of the western Transvaal — and they are not rich, as that number of farms may imply.

Oom Dawie Snyman runs an earthmoving business in Thabazimbi to pay off his debts. His son, also Dawie, tills the land.

"Why doesn't he sell a farm or two?"

"The laugh was instantaneous. "Is jy stal (Are you mad)?" he wanted to know.

"I have been trying to sell farms but no one wants to buy. I have one up north where I will sell for R400 000, but I can't get a buyer. Sure, there are kersels who can give me R200 000 and pay off the rest. But I need the money to pay my debts."

Oom Dawie, who has been farming the district since 1954 and has seen costs rise steadily, is very bitter.

"Among our biggest costs are those we pay Eskom. From July 1988, we have paid R130 000 to Eskom. And I owe the same amount. We just want time to pay that off but, if we don't pay the monthly amount, Eskom will cut our power supply by R72 000 on granis as a result of bad harvests caused by drought. This would be manageable, but the harvest been good."

"We work day and night just to pay the R2.5 million interest, since 1981, on our debts. There is no one month in which we do not do outside work in order to meet the interest payments."

"Now we are sitting like fowls on a roof waiting to see what the banks are going to do."

Oom Dawie is not optimistic about the future. He doesn't think there will be 18 percent of the existing Crocodile River farmers still in business two years hence.

And that is also the prediction for huge areas of the veld. Lonely roads, lonely farms, lonely people worrying
Today farmers in the bushveld are seeing benefits from the 1976 and 1977 water supplies — a result of the efforts to prevent desertification. On a farm near Vryburg, farmers report that the new irrigation system has increased their production by 50%.

A scene typical of the Bushveld — a homestead stands abandoned with lockers showing the signs of the north-west Transvaal. Picture by Sean van den Berg.

The farmers — as least those who could afford it — have been provided with means to reduce their costs of living by two-way radio systems.

The farmer who worked the land, the bushman, is still there, but he has adopted new agricultural practices to maintain his living. Some farms don't come in for such disruption to their way of life. Some have adopted what farmers still call "the old and good" attitude.

At least two farmers, one of the relatively fertile Crocodile River irrigation scheme area, have shown themselves when facing bankruptcy, reorganisation, or foreclosure on the land.

A farm near Klerksdorp in west of the Transvaal, has once been the site of a gold mine. The mine closed down in the 1930s, but it is now being worked on again as a source of water and energy. The farm, which is called "The Old Mine," is a symbol of the past and present of the bushveld.

The farms are staying empty. Our people have given up hope as the value of their lands continues to fall, and the high interest rates are charged by the banks.

Even Keston won't give up his farm, the opportunity to pay off his electricity charges and particularly if they fall below the worst of the rest of the country, which is now in a terminal state of neglect.

On a few kilometres away, a farmer himself after the bank board has given the bad news of foreclosure. The widow of Langans Boes of Mapoka is preparing to leave the farm on which the family has lived for years.

At Bronkhorst, 15 km away from Mapoka, two brothers are dying of old age. They are the last of the Duma family, who are among the last of the original inhabitants of the farm.

Three generations are there — two widow, two children, and one grandchild. The farm has been in the family for over a century, and it is now being sold to a developer.

Three years ago, the family moved to the city for more opportunities. They never returned to the farm, which is now being used for a new housing development.

The farmers are talking about the future. They are hopeful that the government will provide them with support to help them maintain their farms.

The struggle for land and resources continues in the bushveld.

Drought, high debts, small farms, rough digging equipment, little consumers on the last second portion of generations of proud Afrikanders. The once fertile lands are now desert, a grand scale of the bushveld in the north-west Transvaal, and it is also causing a great security problem.

Norman Chandler reports.
Govt refuses to bail out drought-impacted farmers

A Government decision not to write off or even contribute to, the elimination of SA’s huge R14.8 billion agricultural debt is making dramatic inroads into the future of farming in the bushveld.

The huge north-western Transvaal area is turning into a dustbowl as a result of decades-long drought. There has been an string of crop failures and farmers have incurred astronomical deficits — particularly in Estom, where 80 farmers are known to have shot themselves because of debt.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr Kraal van Niekerk, said last year that the Government could not "undertake any circumstances" write off the huge agricultural debt — which includes R2 million in arrears for water, R1 million in arrears for the general circulation, more than R10 billion to agricultural co-operatives and the rest to the Land Bank.

Farmers are particularly straining of Estom, and claim the electricity is not in service all the time. They said that their policy of demanding immediate payment for power was just "carrying them". Estom will turn this border area into desert, said a farmer who declined to be identified.

Farmers told The Star they were losing bank money, "or at least Estom money, having power cut off. Apart from normal household usage, power is also needed to operate vital irrigation systems, secure emergency and radio communication.

The Star was told that Estom requires a guar- antee of R1.2 billion before power is connected to a farm — the organization has 218 farmers in the Thabazimbi district on the power grid — they default on payment, and power is disconnect- ed, the full account is then required along with a R3.5 million guarantee for reconnection.

Estom chief public relations officer Mr Laeti- van Staden yesterday told The Star that while it was Estom’s business to generate and supply electricity "we are not a supplier of credit. That is a facility that is offered by large financial institutions which are specifically geared to give these ser- vices.

She said, however, that Estom is "very sympathi- cally towards any customer who has difficulty in paying electricity bills. But we do feel there are other sources of credit which can meet this risk and give the farmer the necessary credit. In this case we are mainly referring to the Land Bank and the Land Bank.

GUARANTEES

Mr van Staden confirmed that Estom policy was to ask for a deposit equal to three months’ use of electricity, and if a person was a "risky customer" then more rigorous practice was to increase the deposit. A “risky” customer was one with a bad credit record.

"To make it easier that we try to co- operate, we give preferential guarantees as we do not think that capital being put to use as hard cash is adequate for agricultural purposes.

Bushveld farmers said they expected only 10 per cent of the existing population working on the Crocodile River irri- gation project to still be on farms by the end of next year.

The total of 23 families have already left because of their debts. The local school has had a decline in student numbers from 32 in 1981 to 10 this year. Dr Minne van den Berg, a farmer in the Thabazimbi area, told The Star that the Thabazimbi bank by Mr Gert Geldenhuys confirmed that financial institu- tions were facing the problem in the bushveld but, he said in response to a question on whether foreclosures by creditors was an answer, “the bank (didn’t) help to enforce a sale. Such a move does make it hard to get a proper price for the land. We do try to hold the land.”

Mr Geldenhuys said his bank “is concerned about the farmers. It will not be an easy recovery, par- ticularly because of our limited interest rates and high input costs.”

Farmers, including Mr Dawie Sny- der, a farmer of “Sturkie” in the Thabazimbi district, said they were at their wits end. "At least our banks are showing a live of our live situation in their dealings with farmers.

WATER SHORTAGE

Thabazimbi mayor Mr P van der Merwe, who is a farmer, said the Star. That underground water supplies in the dis- trict are so low that a massive drilling project would be needed. He added: “From a farmer’s point of view, it is very poor. From Kostermond downwards, farmers are getting out of business. Many have switched from cattle to crops in a bid to obtain easy cash and alleviate debt but I think most are a mistake.

Farmers said the Gov- ernment’s R1.1 billion injection to help the in- dustry was a mistake — only 5 million was paid out so far and been distributed to farmers out of the pre-condition — and they were sympathetic from officialdom.”

About 600 farmers in western Transvaal were facing sequestration. By March last year, 227 had applied for assistance under the scheme, and 123 were successful.

A report drawn up by the Transvaal farmers, and presented to the Depart- ment of Agriculture, said that farmers’ debt problems were exac- erbated by inflation (4.3 per cent), higher in- come (9.2 per cent), and drought (13.7 per cent). It said there had been a 100 per cent increase in the price of seed and fer- tilizer, a 90 per cent increase in the price of corn and an 85 per cent increase in the price of potato seed.

Strathy, NORMAN CORNER

Pictures: SAREL VAN DEN BERG

...ing under combination of debt, drought and crop failure

The story of the bushveld — a desolate once-vibrant farm west of Elimas. In the foreground is a dam which is, today, a wasteland.
Children may cross farm, court rules

By Therese Anders, Highveld Bureau

A group of 18 children returned to school this week after a Belfast farmer, who had allegedly threatened to shoot them if they walked across his land, was granted an interdict after an urgent application to the Pretoria Supreme Court.

If the 6 km short-cut across the farmer’s land is closed, they would face a 24 km walk to Belfast’s township schools.

Some of the children, aged seven to 18, were arrested two weeks ago as they crossed the farmer’s land – some for the second time.

Last week an interim order was granted against Mr Frederik Barend Jacobus du Toit preventing him from barring the children’s right of way.

The application was made by the A and M van Rensburg Family Trust, which owns a farm adjoining Mr du Toit’s property.

The children live on the Van Rensburg farm, where their parents are labourers.

Parents say the first incident was in 1987, when seven children were charged with trespassing. They were acquitted.

THREATS

After threats against the children last year, one parent went to see Mr du Toit. He is alleged to have said he would shoot if they continued to use the path.

“Said Mr Solomon Nkosi, one of the parents: “On the second day of the new term, Mr du Toit was waiting in the bushes with two policemen. The youngest were sent home, but the four eldest arrested.”

An eastern Transvaal police spokesman confirmed that four children between 12 and 16 had been charged with trespassing. They are to appear in Belfast Magistrate’s Court on March 2.

Mr du Toit, has been given until February 7 to supply reasons why a permanent interdict should not be granted against him.
Minister may extend ban on weedkiller

 Own Correspondent

DURBAN — Agriculture Minister Mr Greyling Wentzel announced yesterday that he was prepared to extend the ban on the use of hormonal weedkiller — at present banned in Natal's Tala Valley — to other areas of the country.

The weedkiller was banned in the valley — a major vegetable-growing area — after a Government probe, and a ban has been imposed on use of the herbicide in aerial spraying in Natal.

Hormonal herbicides are widely used by the sugar industry and have been the centre of a row for a number of years.

They are the subject of a Supreme Court action brought by fresh-produce farmers against chemical companies which manufacture or market the herbicides in South Africa. Mr Justice Wilson granted an order late last year calling on the chemical companies to show why they should not be prevented from importing, marketing, stocking or dealing in the herbicides. The hearing is set for April.

Mr Wentzel said yesterday that a temporary ban could be imposed in areas where damage to crops could be attributed to the use of the herbicides.
In the land of the rusting ploughs

IT'S a land on which there were once great hopes because the dams were full, the rivers ran strongly and the people could plough their lands and make a decent living.

Today, farmers in the bushveld of the north-west Transvaal, 20km or so from the Kalahari desert, are looking at the future with a heavy heart. The drought has been so severe that many farmers are considering moving away from agriculture altogether.

Drought, huge debts, vacant farms, rusting ploughing equipment, little cemeteries at the last resting places of generations of proud Afrikanders who once tilled the land...there is desolation on a grand scale in the bushveld of the north-west Transvaal, and it is causing a giant security problem.

NORMAN CHANDLER reports in this concluding part of a series.

The drought has been incredible. Eleven years ago was the last occasion on which bushveld rivers came down in flood. Farmers tick off the years of flooding as if they are counting out the days on a calendar - 1894, 1895, 1896, 1898, 1978.

"I know of farmers who simply picked up in the middle of the night and left, or simply shot themselves," said economist-turned-farmer Dr Manie van Dyk, of Tussenkom, in the Thaba-Nchu district, said.

Some of his neighbours have done that.

The lucky ones have friends and neighbours who have rallied around and tried to help the unfortunate get back on his feet - but usually it is a hopeless task.

One, a few kilometres away, shot himself after the bank manager had given the farm back to the foreclosures. The widow of Langston Roux, of Magoppe, is preparing to leave the land on which the family had pinned their faith.

Mr Roux, 51, watched his 52 bales of hay drying up, one after the other. The men, who had been attacked by his creditors, said Marnie, fell to his knees and sobbed uncontrollably. He then shot himself.

Another, at Koeberg, did the same. And then shot himself.

"The farms are standing empty. Our people have given up because of lack of money, lack of water, and the high interest rates being charged by the banks."

"Even Eskom won't give farmers the opportunity to pay off their electricity charges, and particularly if they fall behind due to a bad season or more," said Dr van Dyk, who has been in the forefront of complaints to the government.

In the land of the rusting ploughs...
Citrus groves thirst for relieving rain

By MICHAEL MORRIS

Citrus farmers in the Olifants River valley near Citrusdal could be in grave difficulty soon because of the shortage of water for irrigation.

The river level has fallen so low that farmers are being forced to rely on scattered pools to draw their supply. Crops could be in danger unless there is rain soon.

And further downstream below the Clanwilliam Dam, water restrictions may have to be imposed on scores of wine and fruit farmers, warns the regional director the Department of Water Affairs, Mr James Butler.

The 122-million cubic metre-dam which supplies the valley is just over half full and Mr Butler fears restrictions may be necessary to conserve the limited supply.

The Clanwilliam Dam is Mr Butler’s main concern in the present hot period. Two other dams near George – Kammanassie, with only four percent of its capacity, and Stompdrift with 11 percent – are also causing concern in the Department.

“We will cope”

On the West Coast, drought-threatened Graafwater may soon be relieved if the government approves funds for a project to tap a nearby underground water source.

A top Department of Water Affairs team led by Mr Butler visited Graafwater this week for a preliminary investigation.

But further inland, rain appears to be the only hope for citrus farmers in the Olifants River valley.

A spokesman for the valley’s irrigation board said yesterday: “Our problem is quite simply the scarcity of water. It has been very hot and we have many young trees, so it is worrying.

“But as long as we can water them at least once a week, we will cope.”

Mr Butler said the Olifants River was “flowing” slowly beneath the ground, filling pools along the river bed. It was from these that farmers were drawing their supply.

Wine and fruit farmers below the Clanwilliam Dam — which is at 96 percent of its capacity — still had water to draw on, but restrictions might be necessary to conserve the supply, he said.

Mr Butler added: “There are tens of thousands of hectares of farmland that need that water. It is a worry.”

In the West Coast town of Graaffwater, the shortage of water in the existing underground system supplying the town has forced water restrictions on its 1 300 residents and there is uncertainty about how long this supply will last.

However, relief is likely to come with a new project to drill boreholes into water-bearing soil between 10 and 15 km north-west of the town. The cost of the project is not yet known, nor when it will be completed.

Department of Water Affairs geohydrologist, Mr Marc Vandooolaege, is a member of the team co-ordinating the project and the final scheme will depend largely on his assessment of what lies beneath the baked earth of the area, the Sandveld.

He is confident that the water source under the original bed of the Jakkals River will provide the relief the town desperately needs.

The government has provisionally approved the so-called Sandveld Scheme — which is intended ultimately to supply Graafwater as well as other drought-prone towns in the area — but the Treasury has yet to vote funds for it.

For some years Sandveld communities sought government approval for a regional scheme drawing water from the Olifants River, which lies some 30 km east of the dry Sandveld, but it was rejected as too expensive.
Maize exports could pull in $500m in forex

PRETORIA — Agricultural income this year will be a major factor in the country's overall economic performance.

And an important part of it, says Nampo GM Piet Gouws, is the likelihood that this season's maize surplus could earn the country more than $500m in foreign exchange.

So far good rains have fallen over most of the country's main growing areas in the western Transvaal and north-western Free State where up to 70% of the crop is grown.

If rains continue for the next two or three weeks a crop of more than 10-million tons is probable, with an export surplus of 4-million tons.

Gouws says Sats has the rail and harbour capacity to move and ship the expected surplus within a 12-month period.
Farm children, some of whom had previously been arrested for trespassing, make their way to school. But they must still wait for an interdict to be made permanent before their short cut is safe.

Farmers in row over well-trodden path

By Therese Anders

BELFAST — A bitter dispute between two farmers is believed to be behind the closing of a path across a farm last month which prevented 18 children from attending school.

The farm path cuts 36 km off the only alternative route to the Belfast township school.

After four of the children were arrested for trespassing on the second day of term, the matter was taken to Pretoria Supreme Court last week in an urgent application by Mr Albert van Rensburg on whose farm the children's parents work as labourers.

The court granted an interim order against Mr Frik du Toit, preventing him from stopping the children using the path. He has until Tuesday to show why a permanent interdict should not be granted.

Yesterday a reliable source said the rift between Mr du Toit and Mr van Rensburg began about two years ago when one of Mr du Toit's labourers went to work for Mr van Rensburg.

As this matter was unresolved, Mr du Toit is believed to have said he was closing his farm path to the Van Rensburg labourers and their children.

Earlier this week The Star was told by an elderly labourer on Mr van Rensburg's farm that the path had been used by workers for more than 50 years as the quickest way to walk to Belfast.

Since the Supreme Court ruling last week, the 18 Rietvallei schoolchildren have returned to school.
Minister 'ready to extend ban' on Natal weed-killer

BARRY MARTENS in Durban reports on a sequel to a frightening episode

The Minister of Agriculture, Mr Greyling Wentzel, has announced that he is prepared to extend the ban on the use of hormonal weed-killer in Natal’s Tala Valley to other areas of the country where necessary.

The use of hormonal herbicides has been banned in Tala Valley, a major vegetable growing area, after a two-year investigation there by the government, while a total ban on the aerial spraying of the herbicides in Natal has also been imposed.

Hormonal herbicides are widely used by the sugar industry and have been the centre of a row for a number of years.

They are also the subject of a Supreme Court action brought late last year by fresh produce farmers against the major chemical companies which manufacture or market the herbicides in South Africa.

Mr Justice Wilson granted an order calling on the chemical companies to show why they should not be prevented from importing, marketing, stocking or dealing in hormonal herbicides.

The hearing is set down for trial in April.

In his statement this week Mr Greyling said that in areas where damage to crops could be attributed to the use of the herbicides, a temporary ban could be introduced.

He said the decision had been taken because growth aberrations and poor yields of sensitive crops were being associated with the increasing use of the herbicides.

He said R750 000 had already been spent in investigating the problem.

In the Tala Valley where the investigation had cost R25 000 so far, monitoring during the past two years had indicated that five percent of air samples, 15 percent of rain samples and 11 percent of dew samples contained hormonal herbicides.

Trials conducted by the Plant Protection Research Institute indicated that “the levels present in rainwater resulted in abnormalities in lettuce and tomato seedlings, but not beans”.

He also said scientists in Britain had established that levels much lower than those measured in air samples in Natal could also cause growth abnormalities in sensitive vegetable seedlings.

He stressed, however, that the problem was “fraught with complications and care should be exercised not to arrive at conclusions which could not be scientifically substantiated”.

Aerial crop spraying ... a mixed blessing
Belfast farmer tells court trespassers damaged property

By Deborah Smith, Pretoria Bureau

The Belfast farmer who allegedly threatened to shoot 18 children who crossed his farm on their way to school, said in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday trespassers had damaged his property and neglected to close gates on the farm.

Mr Frederick du Toit was last week prevented from barring the children's right of way after the A and M van Rensburg Family Trust, which owns the farm adjoining Mr du Toit's property, brought an urgent application.

The children involved in the application all live on the Van Rensburg farm where their parents are labourers. Mr Albertus van Rensburg said if the children were prevented from using the path across the Du Toit farm they would have to walk 24 km to school instead of six kilometres.

In his answering affidavit, Mr du Toit said in 1981 the previous owner of the farm, Mr Danie Viljoen, had asked permission for the children to cross the property.

He agreed to allow the children to cross the farm on condition the parents asked permission every year and only the children used the path. Until 1985 there had been no problems, but since Mr van Rensburg had taken over the farm no one had asked permission to walk across the farm, said Mr du Toit.

He said both adults and children used the path and cars had sometimes been driven on his farm. Wires had been damaged and gates left open.

He had told Mr van Rensburg the children could no longer use the path in 1987, but they had continued using it.

He denied threatening to shoot the children in January when he arranged for the South African Police to stop them.

Four of the children were arrested and are to appear in court in March while the younger children were sent home.

He said Mr van Rensburg had no right to bring the application as he didn't contend his rights had been threatened or that he had right of way.

Mr Justice van Zyl ordered the case to stand down until later this week.
Drought hits hard in Cape, Transvaal

Cape Town — Drought-stricken areas in the eastern Cape are now in a critical situation, and many areas are preparing to introduce water restrictions.

Speaking at an emergency meeting for farmers at Patensie yesterday, Water Affairs Deputy Minister Japie van Wyk said there were no short-term solutions.

He said the only solution for the drought-stricken Gamtoos Valley and Kruse River areas was to expedite the supply of Orange River water to the Port Elizabeth/Olifantskloof area. He added that Port Elizabeth and Grahamstown could expect water restrictions within the next few days.

Emergency grazing areas will have to be declared if the drought in the far northern Transvaal continues, according to Miss Niewoudt, GM of the Northern Transvaal Co-operative at Nylstroom. Only 45% of the average rainfall has fallen in the area so far this season.

High rainfall areas such as Pietersburg, Polgietersrus and the Lowveld have had only 30% of their average rainfall, and the Soutpansberg region only 14%. — Sapa.
Drought hits three Eastern Cape districts

The Argus, 7/12/1911

PORT ELIZABETH — Three Eastern Cape districts have been declared disaster drought areas.

The magisterial districts of Port Elizabeth, Peterson/Alexandria and Steytlerville now qualify for Phase 1 of the drought relief measures.

This makes it possible for farmers to apply for a loan to purchase fodder and a rebate on the transport of fodder.

Farmers are facing a critical period as water and food for animals become scarcer every day. Many fountains and boreholes have dried up and in some places the South African Defence Force is carting water for stock and domestic use.

Several farmers have sold off their stock while others have reduced their herds and flocks considerably.
Pupils get right of way

By Deborah Smith, Pretoria Bureau

About 18 Belfast children have been granted the right to walk across a farm on their way to school, according to an order granted by Mr Justice Goldstein in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

Mr Frederick du Toit has been prevented from barring the children’s right of way after the A and M van Rensburg Family Trust, which owns the farm adjoining Mr du Toit’s property, brought an urgent application.

Mr Albert Janse van Rensburg, owner of the farm where the children live, said in an affidavit there was no alternative school available for the children who were allegedly threatened by Mr du Toit, whose land they crossed on their way to a school.

Mr du Toit said trespassers had damaged his property and neglected to close gates on the farm.

According to the judgment the children had the right of way until further court proceedings were instituted.

The children involved in the application all live on the Van Rensburg farm where their parents are labourers.

Mr Albertus van Rensburg said if the children were prevented from using the path across the Du Toit farm they would have to walk 24 kms to school instead of six kilometres.
N Tvl being crippled by long drought

By Dirk Nel,
Lowveld Bureau

PIETERSBURG — A survey of drought conditions in the far northern Transvaal has revealed pessimism and helplessness.

Many places have not had rain since November. Worst hit are Pietersburg, Ellisras, Alldays and Messina.

High rainfall areas such as Pietersburg, Potgietersrus and the lowveld have had only 30 percent of their average and the Soutpansberg only 14 percent.

Crops planted this season are only 87 percent of those planted last year.

Farmers are having to sell cattle at a loss.

"The normal February and March showers will not be sufficient to see us through. We need abnormal rains now to save the grazing situation," said Mr Manie Eloff, chairman of the Soutpansberg District Agricultural Union.
Pupils get right of way

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Drought: Farmers call for govt aid

Own Correspondent
PORT ELIZABETH. — Failed wheat crops for three consecutive years have placed an escalating debt burden on a number of drought-stricken farmers in the Suurbred area between Humansdorp and Kareedouw.

The farmers, members of the Suurbred Farmers' Union, have now applied for their district to be declared eligible for Phase 1 of the government's drought relief fund.

Their application follows Thursday's granting of the magisterial districts of Port Elizabeth, Paterson, Alexandra and Steytlerville as recipients of Phase 1 of drought relief.

Mr Hercules du Plessis, owner of the farm Boplaas and vice-chairman of the Suurbred Farmers' Union, said many farmers in the district faced the prospect of heavy financial losses as a result of loans taken out to plant cash crops (mainly wheat) four to five years ago.

"These government-subsidised loans, which farmers are paying back at six percent interest, will be repayable after six years at 18%.

"If we don't have rain soon, farmers are going to be faced with huge debts caused by failed crops and the subsequent lack of financial returns on capital investments."

He said that because of the present drought, farmers were now forced to take drastic measures to survive, like reducing stock to eliminate increased feeding costs.

Some farmers had cut their stock by as much as 25% while others had leased additional land to prevent overgrazing by sheep and cattle.

Mr Du Plessis said that for the first time in three generations springs and boreholes on many farms had run completely dry.

Some farms were without domestic or drinking water and water is taken to the drought-stricken areas in tankers provided by Eastern Province Command on a regular basis.

Water is also being transported from the Kouga River.
Drought aid: 700 farmers benefit

Six areas in the Cape Province have been declared drought disaster areas and about 700 stock farmers are to share R1.4 million a month.

Payments calculated at R2,000 each for February and March have been approved by the Deputy Minister of Agriculture in the Minister's Council of the House of Assembly, Dr A J "Kraai" van Niekerk.

Representations from organised agriculture pointed out that despite good rains in some parts of the country others have had little or no rain.

Dr van Niekerk said recommendations of the National Drought Committee that were approved included the introduction of the disaster drought scheme for stock farmers in the extensive grazing areas in the magisterial district of Steytlerville.

As part of the scheme, farmers must reduce their livestock numbers for incentives.

Phase one of the drought assistance scheme was reintroduced for stock farmers in cropping areas in the magisterial districts of Port Elizabeth, Alexandria, Riversdale and Albertinia.
Govt bid to prevent reoccupation of land

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Five years after the forced removal of the Mogopa people from their land, the Government is taking court action to keep members of the community from reoccupying the farm Zwartrand near Venterdorp.

The community is still without a permanent home years after their removal — which the Appeal Court later declared to be unlawful.

In an action expected to be heard today in the Pretoria Supreme Court, the Minister of Agriculture and Water Affairs and the Minister of Education and Development Aid have applied for an interim order preventing the people of Mogopa from entering on to the land or from erecting structures there.

They are also seeking a permanent order:

- Ordering all Mogopa community members, except those on the farm, with the permission of the Minister of Development Aid, to vacate the property and to demolish structures they have erected.
- Permitting the authorities to evict the people and demolish their shacks if they fail to do so themselves within three days of the order being issued.
- Prohibiting, for all time, the return of the Mogopa people to the land except where they have written permission from the Minister of Development Aid.

Mogopa community members Mr Daniel Molefe, Mr Matthew Mpshe, Mr Peter More and Mr Jacob More are cited as the respondents and are required to show cause why the order should not be granted.

This year Minister of Development Aid, Dr Gerrit Vlijoen, notified the community's attorneys that he believed that permission "given to the Mogopa committee to visit the graveyard at Zwartrand for maintenance purposes is now being used as a smokescreen to start a process of resettlement of the Mogopa people at Zwartrand."

Dr Vlijoen has agreed to meet Mogopa representatives on Saturday to discuss possible solutions to the impasse on alternative land for the community.

Flashback to February 1984 . . . one of more than 20 Government trucks used in the Mogopa removals is loaded with a Mogopa community member's goods before leaving for Pochsdraai.
Drought: Six disaster areas in Cape

JOHANNESBURG. — Six areas in the Cape Province have been declared disaster drought areas and assistance to stock farmers will be introduced at a cost totalling R1.4 million a month.

About 700 farmers will qualify for assistance under the scheme. The monthly amount that will have to be spent on each farmer is calculated at about R2 000 — totalling R2.8m for February and March.

This has been approved by the deputy Minister of Agriculture in the House of Assembly, Dr A I “Kraai” van Niekerk.

In a statement released yesterday, Dr Van Niekerk said the decision followed urgent representations from organized agriculture that, despite good rains in some parts of the country, others have had little or no rain and are experiencing disaster drought conditions.

He said the following recommendations of the National Drought Committee were accepted:

- The introduction of the disaster drought scheme for stock farmers in the extensive grazing areas in the magisterial district of Steytlerville (with the exception of 21 farms in the northern part); and an identified area south of Pofadder (about 150 000ha).
- The reintroduction of phase one of the drought assistance scheme for stock farmers in the cropping areas in the magisterial districts of Port Elizabeth, Alexandria, Riversdale and Albertinia. This phase involves assistance in the form of rebates on transport tariffs for purchased feed.

Meanwhile, Sapa reports that two people died and another 41 were injured, several seriously, in Johannes- burg, Randburg and Sandton as the soaking rains that have fallen over most of the country since Friday continued.

In other parts of the country, drought conditions are expected to lift in the Kruger National Park areas north of the Southpansberg and in the north-eastern Cape but death and destruction were brought to Namibia and parts of the Free State were flooded.

Four people drowned at Keetmanshoop in southern Namibia and two others were missing after rivers burst their banks.

Two bodies were recovered from the Wasser River, and a mother and daughter died after their house was flooded by the Schaap River. — Sapa
CAPE TOWN — Drought aid, costing about R1,4m a month was being offered to six districts in the Cape declared disaster areas, Agriculture Deputy Minister Kruit van Nickerk announced in Parliament yesterday.

The assistance schemes follow urgent representations from organised agriculture and affected about 700 farmers. In exchange for help to buy feedstock amounting to R2 000 a month, farmers are expected to reduce stock to a third of the estimated long-term grazing capacity of each farm.

Areas qualifying for assistance include the extensive grazing grounds in the Steylerville district (except for 21 farms in the north) and an area south of Pofadder.

Phase 1 of the drought assistance scheme for stock farmers in the cropping areas is being reintroduced to the Port Elizabeth, Alexandria, Riversdale and Albertinia districts. Aid takes the form of rebates on transport tariffs for feed purchased.
Salt of the earth
new danger for farmers

One of the ironies of the eastern Transvaal highveld, where some are probably the most sulphur-laden on earth, is that most crop farmers like it. Take Mr Paul Reynolds (47), whose family has been farming "Sandbaken" in the Vaal district since his British army grandfather fell in love with the area after the South African War. The farm is north of Sondelana.

He told me: "The eastern Transvaal's difficult of sulphur pollution actually saves the name of the soul, and the pollution itself puts it back."

What about sulphur dioxide (SO2), a major cause of acid rain, and known to kill trees and corrode metal and masonry? "Our crops are not in the ground long enough for leaves to be injured by SO2. Not like trees. Trees - and leaves - absorb the stuff year after year. That why we burn and taken are dying in Europe."

Spillage
All the same, something is eating farmer Reynolds' crops. And it is a chemical.

It has become so bad he can no longer grow potatoes, and now he fears for this year's export butternutt crop. The cause reveals yet another threat to the eastern Transvaal's highveld environment. Only this time it is not born on the wind.

The contaminant is coming from the gentle Waterval River. The river has, during the last 15 years, been turned into one of South Africa's saltiest rivers by spillage from mining operations. The quality is so bad that each hectare receives five tons of salt each hectare. Thirty kilometres upriver from Mr Reynolds' farm is Gencor's Evander Group of gold mines. Their spillage goes straight into the Grootspruit, which eventually meets the Vaal itself.

Not only can Mr Reynolds no longer grow crops he has tried growing tomatoes in the place but the salt is eating into his irrigation equipment, whose lifespan has been cut by two-thirds.

He showed me a six-year-old aluminium collar from a 150 mm pipe - a collar that can normally be expected to last 15 to 20 years. The metal is so eaten away it looks like something from an ancient ruin.

The mines have challenged the local farmers to prove their claims - but they have already paid Mr Reynolds thousands of rand compensation for their crops damage.

The row is in danger of becoming a war between consultants. The mines employed a firm that produced a fact document purporting to show the mines were not to blame. Mr Reynolds employed a university professor who found the opposite.

But the banks in its possession the Department of Water Affairs readings of the "total dissolved salts" (tds) in the local streams as well as day-to-day sodium levels. They leave no doubt that every so often (three times in the last 10 months and many times in the last few years) the volume of tds and sodium suddenly leaps.

The worst pollution usually takes place around spring - a disastrous time for irrigation farmers. That is when farmers need the most water and when there is no rain to wash the salty water off the plants' leaves. Thus the crop is ruined, damaged and photosynthesis impeded.

The sudden slugs of polluted water add up to polluting; somebody, upstream, is releasing toxic waste on a regular basis.

When Mr Reynolds once phoned Kinross mine, they told him they could find no leak. "I set out to find it and discovered 40 000 l an hour coming from a pipe in their property. It had inundated an area the mine claimed it monitored daily."

"The mine's reaction was to ask me what business I had walking on their property."

"I had the water tested in my laboratory and the readings were so alarming I had the samples retested. The tds measured 3 800 parts per million - the river above the outlet was 710."

"The sodium level was 276 - enough to destroy a potato crop."

Mr Reynolds showed me a picture of a waste pipe from Kinross gold mine - it had a waste valve right on the banks of the river.

He eventually bought himself three such pipes, each of the three gold mines in the Evander Group, so that he could attend shareholders' meetings.

I found some sympathy that way. I also found that the directors did not really know what was going on when it came to what impact their mines were having on local water quality.

When Mr Reynolds took his complaint to the Department of Water Affairs in Pretoria, the two officials who interviewed him kept looking at their watches.

"I eventually realised it was nearing 4 pm and they were anxious to knock off. At 4:45, one of them, obviously not very impressed, said to me: 'Look Mr Reynolds, this is a Third World country now. Mining is more important to us than farming.'"

Mr Reynolds then wrote to the Minister (Mr Gerr Kotze) who, seven months later replied saying there had been accidents and that the mines were aware of the high salt content of their waste water. He did not feel there were grounds for prosecution and assured the farmer that the department had not favour mines against farmers.

Mr Reynolds says Gencor should build a "fail-safe" dam on the Grootspruit, where it leaves Gencor's property, so that the contaminated water can be pumped out before it overflows and damages farmland.

Not all farmers are aware what is going on.

"One recently asked the department to request the mines to open up the 780 ha Leepaan evaporation so he could irrigate from it."

"The water, from underground and from the reduction plant, would have killed his crops," said Mr Reynolds.

The mines seem unaware of their own toxins - one mine bought lawn turf and then complained when it quickly died. Another has been watering it with highly mineralised water straight from underground.
State eviction threat

Youth choir needs singers

TWO Pretoria music directors, Professor Cornelius Manzini and Miss Erica Smart, will launch a Pretoria Youth Choir this weekend in preparation for a music competition scheduled to be held in Australia.

Professor Manzini said they were looking for students aged 16-20. Interested persons, who should be accompanied by at least one parent or legal guardian to provide written consent, are invited to attend meetings on Friday at 4pm or the following day at 10am at the Pretoria College of Education. All Normal college halls. Further details can be obtained at (012) 44-6292 during office hours or 375-3210 (after hours).

SAVUKA's leader Jonathan Clegg in fiery
speech denouncing partner Dudu Zuza's
Umkomaas ceremony 

SAVUKA's leader Jonathan Clegg in fiery speech denouncing partner Dudu Zuza's Umkomas ceremony. Mr Zuza, an alcoholic, has been working to establish two houses for his wife and five children. IPP PAUL TSABALALA

Savuka's Clegg gets down with the Zulus

MEMBERS of the Umkomas Traditional Dancing Team march to a clearing about seven blocks from Dudu Zuza's home, where they, together with the Amakhulu, Zuza's team, danced from noon until sunset, oblivious of the constant drizzle.

Documents taken by SB in raid on Azapato

MEMBERS of the Security Branch yesterday raided the offices of the restricted African People's Organization in Johannesburg and confiscated several documents, including pamphlets dealing with a memorial service held in honour of the late Dr Aba-

A spokesman for the SAP Public Relations Division in Pretoria yesterday said the action was normal police routine work which they could not comment on. Mr Stephen Peters, who was in the office, told the Swazian that about 10 plain-clothed policemen came in the offices and demanded to see Mr Jack Msomi and Mr Louis Nkosi.

Documents from the Swazi offices were not present at the time and the police searched the offices, he said, adding, they also asked other people in the office to produce their identity books.

He said that the police took several pamphlets, including those dealing with a memorial service held in honour of the late Dr Azaro, Azimian Student Movement and Interbrothers of Nazi and the National Youth Coordinating Committee.

The raid comes in the wake of a warrant of arrest which was issued by the Rand Supreme Court against a former senior member of the organization, Mr George Mabuza.

A recent raid in Soweto also resulted in the arrest of a group of people. By JOSIAH RASOROKO

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FACTFILE - by Norris McWhirter

THE GOVERNMENT yesterday brought an application to the Pretoria Supreme Court seeking an order to evict several families from Bakwena home in the Western Transvaal.

The applicant was the Minister of Housing in the Proclamation of 1937. Mr David Jacobs, a former police officer and head of the Police, said some families, all taken from the farms in the Transvaal.

In the application, filed Monday, the police said they had seized a large number of people from the farm with effect from February 25. On March 2, 25 applicants submitted a statement of interest in the farm and were told they would be heard at a later date. The applicants also asked the respondents to give reasons why they should not have these families removed from the farm. Mr Jacobs said the police would not remove any persons not those who had written permission from Mr Jacobs.

Both Ministers sought an order that this be done in an orderly manner and that all the persons involved be given time to depart the farm.

HUNDREDS of people were yesterday expelled from the Government following a court order in 1985, and they were arrested at their homes in the Transvaal.

The raid comes in the wake of the Swazi cases, which were heard in her own home and were abolished by the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein.

The farm, which has been owned by the Makgopa tribe since 1912, is being used by the Government.
Fair weather for exports

After some hard years, the tide is finally turning for SA's struggling farming sector. And, with good summer rains bringing the prospect of bumper crops, export revenues could rocket by an additional R2bn this year.

While the welcome inflow of foreign exchange should help the country's balance of payments position, and improve the economic outlook for 1989, farmers themselves — and ultimately their creditors and suppliers — should be in line for a direct spin-off.

The maize sector, long plagued by crop failures or uneconomic surpluses, could this year earn R1.2bn from exports of 4 Mt, should predictions of a 10 Mt crop be realised (Business January 6).

Though the area under maize has dropped slightly, excellent on-going late summer rains virtually assure a bumper crop.

Last year's US drought led to a drawdown of world stocks, with prices on the Chicago grain futures exchange firming accordingly. After shooting up to about US$140/t last June, Chicago prices have stabilised at about $115/t.

Maize farmers carry the brunt of the R14bn national farm debt. They should be in a position to repay some of their arrears in 1989. Purveyors of tractors, implements, fertiliser, chemicals and other inputs should also benefit.

Last year's good rains in the Free State also led to a large expansion in wheat plantings, with a record crop of more than 3 Mt now being harvested.

While excessive rains reduced the crop quality, exports of about 650 000 t should earn the sector an additional R200m in foreign exchange this season. About 100 000 t will be sold as low-quality feed grain for about $115/t, while the remaining 550 000 t should earn an average of $138/t, says Wheat Board deputy GM Ivan Hemsingway.

Wool farmers can also afford to smile, notwithstanding the R280m loss on the Wool Board's (WB) forex loan that has been effectively loaded on to their shoulders. While the WB is still smarting over its disastrous forex venture, the industry outlook is decidedly rosy.

Led by a world-wide surge in demand for fine wools (Russia and China have strongly increased imports as their versions of glasnost and perestroika change buying patterns and fashion trends), a supply shortage and the benefits of the low rand, SA producers are heading for earnings of R1bn from wool sales this year.

With about 90% of the local clip exported, this would mean forex earnings of about R900m, or about R230m above last year's export revenue.

Local production is steadily increasing, and with no end in sight for the international wool boom, earnings could increase even further next year.

Citrus producers have also experienced a bumper season, earning about R700m from exports, compared with R500m in 1987. This resulted from excellent world prices, and a record export crop of 30Mt cartons which led to a 33% increase in net payments to farmers.

"The outlook for the current season is good, with demand still strong and the low rand adding to potential earnings," says Citrus Exchange GM, marketing and administration, Hennie Liebenberg.

While Sugar Association GM Peter Sale refuses to disclose any details of exports (the industry lost the US and Canadian markets due to sanctions pressures), world sugar prices have increased by 20%-25% over the past year. Prospects for increased foren earnings in the year to end March look good. Last year, total industry earnings were about R1.4bn.

A spokesman for Unifruco, the company managing deciduous fruit exports, says it is too early to give any views on exports as the Cape season is now in full swing. But crop quality looks good, and the low rand could push earnings above last year's R773m gross revenue (about 97% earned from exports).

Other crops like mohair, karakul, wine, groundnuts and tropical fruits should add to this year's total export proceeds.
Rising interest rates put bigger burden on farmers

PRETORIA — Interest on farm debt is predicted to rise above R2bn a year after the recent hike in rates.

Deputy Agricultural Minister Kraai van Niekerk told the National Secretary of Part-Time Farmers’ Congress at Thaba Nchu on Saturday that, at the end of 1987, total debt was estimated at R13.3bn and interest payments were now farming’s biggest single expense.

This meant there was less available for other items and there was already concern that investment in agriculture was declining.

He warned agriculture was becoming concentrated in the hands of fewer farmers and institutions because of tremendous capital investment involved in entering the sector.

The number of farmers had dropped from about 130,000 in the 1950s to an estimated 60,000 this year.

Income from some units was not enough to keep farmers on the land, while those who wished to enter found it difficult because of the outlay.

There were about 14,600 part-time farmers who made a good contribution to production.

Van Niekerk cited the export of wool and fruit as good foreign exchange earners.

He said part-time farmers played a vital role in agriculture and it was essential everyone should be accepted by the farming community.
Export ‘punishment’ ending

PRETORIA — Government was no longer prepared to further subsidise agricultural export losses, which meant a market-oriented policy was inevitable, senior Reserve Bank deputy governor Japie Jacobs said yesterday.

Speaking in Bloemfontein at the annual farmers’ day at the University of the Orange Free State, he said in the past it was often policy to raise domestic prices if products had to be sold abroad at a loss.

This, Jacobs said, punished domestic consumers for producers’ surpluses.

With the advent of a more market-related price policy, farmers’ ability to pass rising costs on to the consumer was being limited, he said.

Jacobs said the country was in a phase of rising inflation, caused mainly by certain government measures such as the surcharge on imports, the tax on petrol, rising interest rates, the consequences of the depressed rand against the main international currencies and higher wages and salaries.

He said the comparison of SA’s inflation rate with that of industrial countries which had stagnant populations was unreasonable.

Jacobs said agriculture’s most pressing problem in the coming decade, particularly in the summer rainfall area, was how to reduce the debt-asset ratio.

This applied especially to short-term debt which, as a result of successive droughts, formed a great part of farmers’ total debt.

Total debt in the industry had increased by a massive R9,5bn between 1980 and 1988 to R13,3bn, he said.
Farm subsidy to be cut

Finance Staff

The government aims to introduce a market-related agricultural policy by refusing to further subsidise farming export losses. Reserve Bank Deputy Governor Dr Gerhard de Kock said in Bloemfontein yesterday that the free market would also prevent the farmers from raising domestic prices after selling export products at a loss.

He said that the farmer's first aim should be to reduce their massive debt, which had risen by R9.5 billion to R13.3 billion from 1996 to 1998.
QUESTIONs

For written reply: 

General Affairs:

Agricultural products: shortages

29. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether there are any shortages of agricultural products at present or any such shortages are expected in 1989; if so, of what products;

(2) what in each case are the (a) reasons for and (b) price implications of these shortages;

(3) what steps are being taken or are contemplated in each case to counter the effects of these shortages?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes, in addition to agricultural products such as rice, tea, coffee, cocoa-beans and certain grades and classes of cotton and tobacco in respect of which the Republic is not self-sufficient, there are at present shortages of red meat and sunflower seed. Shortages of these products are also expected during 1989.

(2) (a) The shortages can be ascribed mainly to abnormal climatic conditions.

(b) No significant price implications are expected in respect of sunflower seed. The shortage of red meat is being replenished to a certain extent through imports, but meat prices nevertheless rose considerably and it is expected that price levels will remain relatively high during 1989.

(3) The effects of these shortages will be countered to a large extent by means of imports.

Education: distribution of expenditure increase

55. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of National Education:

What percentage of the total increase in expenditure on education of all race groups in the Republic in the 1987-88 financial year was to be spent on (a) White, (b) Black, (c) Coloured and (d) Indian education?

B152E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

Percentage of the total increase in expenditure on education in the Republic that was to be spent in 1987-88 on:

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>%</td>
<td>%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(a)</td>
<td>17.9%</td>
<td>26.6%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(b)</td>
<td>64.2%</td>
<td>54.7%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(c)</td>
<td>16.5%</td>
<td>15.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>(d)</td>
<td>1.4%</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
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The figures in column A do not take into account funds provided for education on the Budget Vote: Improvement of Conditions of Service for 1987-88, whereas the figures in column B do take these funds into account.

These percentages are related to a number of factors such as fluctuations in the student numbers at universities and technikons and the number of pupils in schools, as well as the nature of population migrations.

Own Affairs:

Schools: Afrikaans English as medium of instruction

2. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) How many (a) primary and (b) secondary schools falling under his Department use (i) Afrikaans and (ii) English as their medium of instruction.

(2) How many schools classified as (a) primary and (b) secondary schools are conducted in Afrikaans and / or English as a first or second language.

In respect of which race are these statistics furnished?

B162E
Agriculture faces many changes

By BRUCE WILLAN

WITH the privatisation of the agricultural industry in SA, the industry must realise that there are both opportunities and hazards involved, warns Volkskas group MD D C Cronjé at the recently held Agrocon '89.

Cronjé said that the agricultural industry will have to be more competitive with less input coming from the government.

Farmers will have to bear the responsibility of the risks which are inherent to the industry and production areas.

Government and hence the taxpayer, will no longer have to take the risks which have been passed on by the farmers.

Cronjé said that although it would be impossible to eliminate emergency measures when disasters strike such as drought and floods, subsidies on industries, production inputs and capital will increasingly be scaled down.

Competition will increase between the various fields of agriculture and labour will come under the spotlight.

According to Cronjé political and social changes are beginning to affect labour as a production factor.

More attention will have to be paid to managing the labour force this year which will make agriculture more vulnerable, said Cronjé.

Agriculture will have to prepare itself for joint bargaining power and pro-active action.

Unreasonable interference by trade unions and increasing wage-scale levels will affect agriculture's contribution to job creation which is one of the biggest employers in the country, he said.
cient to satisfy the requisites prescribed by law for admission as an advocate;
(b) as a result of the said decisions several large universities have successfully
applied to meet the needs of the legal profession;
(c) a large number of students have been accepted according to the number of
space available in each course;
(d) it is undesirable to make Latin I, which for

A certain standard of Latin is, however, indicated

(a) of every legal rule is expressed as
Latin maxim;
(b) certain standard ideas are succinctly expressed in Latin;
(c) Latin expressions are part of every-day court language.

It has been suggested to me authoritatively that
whether the following options, or a combination
thereof, is viable —
(a) Latin matriculation level as prescribed by
the Joint Matriculation Board; or
(b) a special university course in Latin which
will entitle a student to proceed to Latin I;
(c) a special university course in Latin comprising general principles of grammar, legal
phrases and expressions, and a Roman legal
and cultural overview.

The implication is that I am contemplating a recommendation to the Government that Latin I
as a compulsory course for admission as an
advocate ought not to be re-imposed, subject to
what I have said above.

I am therefore considering introducing legisla
tion this year, with the above guidelines in mind.
I think this will be done after interested parties have had the opportunity
to study my proposal.

University's coordination of admission of students

27. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of
Education:

(1) Whether he has introduced any measures for bringing about any form of co-ordination among universities regarding the administration of studios to particular courses and faculties, if so, what measures;
(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) No. However, the Department of National Education is negotiating with the Committee of University Principals on measures to ensure that in general, students of better quality will be admitted to universities.
(2) No.

Restrictions on the use of hormonal herbicides

28. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether he issued a press statement recently concerning restrictions to be placed on the use of hormonal herbicides in South Africa; if so, (a) when and (b) what were the contents of the statement;
(2) whether these restrictions have been introduced; if not, why not; if so, what means of enforcing these restrictions have been introduced;
(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes;
(a) on 1 February 1989;
(b) to announce that, where necessary, the ban on the use of certain hormonal herbicides would be extended to other production areas in the Republic where crops sensitive to the use of these remedies are produced;
(2) no, for the reasons set out in the media release, it is at this stage not deemed necessary to extend the prohibition currently in force in the Tula Valley and surrounding area and on aerial application in Natal to the two provinces of the Republic.

Mr C W EOLIN: That is not the point. Mr Speaker ...

The SPEAKER: Order! The time for questions on general affairs has expired and unfortunately I cannot call upon the hon member to speak.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180(3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

30. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

(1) Whether any control is exercised over the (a) movement and (b) buying and selling of cycads within South Africa; if so, (i) in terms of what statutory provisions and/or regulations and (ii) which authorities are responsible for enforcing such statutory provisions and/or regulations in each province?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

(a) Yes.
(b) Yes.
(i) The relevant nature conservation ordinances of the four Provincial governments.
(ii) The Nature Conservation Authorities of the four Provincial governments.

31. Mr D J MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Defence:

(1) (a) With reference to his reply to Question No 15 on 14 February 1989, what progress has been made in the negotiations concerning a certain training base in Port Elizabeth and (b) when does he anticipate that the matter will be finalized?
(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) (a) Valuation of both the SA Defence Force terrain and the offered City Council terrain were done and handed to the City Council of Port Elizabeth who must now indicate...
hon the Minister's reply, was there any stage that our ambassador in Ciskei declined to give the people of East Beiton assistance with their problem?

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I am not aware of that at all but what I am very well aware of is that our ambassador went out of his way to facilitate provision of the necessary protection at all times. He involved himself personally and he visited President Schu on this matter personally. I can give the hon member the assurance that that was the attitude of our ambassador throughout this situation.

Statutory bodies abolished

22. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

Whether it is his intention to abolish any of the statutory bodies falling under the control of his Department in accordance with the Government's stated policy of privatisation and deregulation; if so, (a) which bodies and (b) when, if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TECHNOLOGY: (Reply bad upon the Table with leave of House).

(a) and (b): In the case of the Department of Trade and Industry, it is considered advisable to abolish the Trade Agents Board and to repeal the Trade Agents and Travel Agencies Act, 1983 (Act 58 of 1983). This matter is now being considered by the board and their report will be submitted to me at the end of May 1989.

No other statutory bodies which are linked to the Department of Trade and Industry and of Mineral and Energy Affairs are ear-marked for abolishment or lend themselves thereto. However, investigations are continuously being conducted, where necessary in close consultation with the Ministry for Administration and Privatisation, to establish whether, in the spirit of privatisation and deregulation, specific activities could possibly be transferred to the private sector with advantage. A number of activities which have been identified are on the way to privatisation or have been privatised already, as follows:

(i) The Industrial Development Corporation of SA Ltd (IDC)

There is no intention to privatise the IDC as such, because the Corporation has to assist in implementing the Government's policy in respect of industrial development, import replacement, export promotion and small business undertakings. However, the privatisation of the following industries which are controlled by the IDC for its own account on behalf of the State is receiving attention:

- Foskor: The privatisation of Foskor in its entirety is being withheld until the company's results and market conditions make it possible.
- Alusaf: The transfer of and control over Alusaf to and by private sector interests and the quotation of the company will take place as soon as circumstances are favourable.
- Sorghum beer industry: Good progress has been made in preparing the extensive sorghum beer industry for merging into a unit which can be privatised. The follow-up actions are aimed at arousing the interest of the private sector, in which the consumer will hopefully also be represented.

(ii) The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

The CSIR itself is not ear-marked for privatisation. However, certain functions of the CSIR have been privatised or are in the process of being privatised, namely:

- The South African Inventions Development Corporation (Saicor) will ultimately be replaced by a private company in terms of legislation now before Parliament.
- The motor vehicle fleet of the CSIR has been sold and is now operated by a private leasing company.
- The design office of the CSIR had been underutilised and has been taken over by the office personnel. By also undertaking private work, besides the work which is now being done for the CSIR, the work can be done on a more cost-effective basis. In this way the cost to the CSIR has been reduced appreciably.
- The training function at the CSIR is now also being undertaken by a private company which, too, is contracting for work from outside. Accordingly, the training aspect of the CSIR is done on a more cost-effective basis.

The high precision mass production facility of the AEC is now on the road to privatisation.

Maturity benefits of national servicemen

23. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Defence:

Whether the wives of national servicemen are entitled to the same maturity benefits and medical care as are the wives of members of the Permanent Force: if not, why not?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

No, this is a service condition for Permanent Force members. Sufficient provision is normally made for the majority of families of National Servicemen by their own medical schemes in the private and public sectors. In addition, there are not enough personnel and facilities in the SA Defence Force available to cope with the extra load and it will also place an additional burden on the SA Defence Force budget.

Mr R J LORIMER: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, does he believe it is fair to discriminate against national servicemen like that?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I can reply to that. We do not see that as discrimination. As I have already pointed out national servicemen can make use of their own medical schemes. Further to that question I must point out to the hon member that in cases where certain circumstances arise Treasury approval may be granted for those cases to be handled by the South African Medical Services.

Mr R J LORIMER: Mr Speaker, further arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, if I draw cases of hardship to the attention of the hon the Deputy Minister is he in a position to do something about it?

The DEPUTY MINISTER: Mr Speaker, yes, provision is made for those specific cases.

Control of pesticides

24. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether he is considering introducing legislation to amend the Fertilizers, Farm Feeds, Agricultural Remedies and Stock Remedies Act, No 36 of 1947, in order to transfer control of pesticides to the Minister of Environment Affairs; if so, when will such legislation be introduced?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

No.

25. Mr M J ELLIS: AGRICULTURE. [Withdrawn.]

Latin: abolishment as requirement for admission in Supreme Court

26. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice:

Whether he intends to introduce legislation in 1989 to abolish the requirement of a qualification in Latin for admission as an advocate in the Supreme Court, if so, when, if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

Last year the hon member for Sandton also asked me about the possible abolition of Latin as a prerequisite for persons wishing to practise as advocates and attorneys. On 8 March 1988 I pointed out in this House that before I exercise my power in terms of section 1 of the Admission of Advocates Amendment Act, 1987 (Act 17 of 1987), to determine a date on which the concession granted in terms of that Act is to cease to apply, I require the viewpoint of the advocate. According to a majority resolution of the General Council of the Bar of South Africa it is proposed that Latin be abolished as a requirement. The various Bars were, however, not unanimous in that regard, and several representations on behalf of individual Bar Councils were once again received, advocating the retention of Latin as a requirement for admission as an advocate.

I have, in the meanwhile, had the benefit of a wide range of views, in the course of which the following factors have emerged as most relevant:

- the certain provincial division of the Supreme Court of South Africa have held that a special university course in Latin is suf-
and with the staff of the Director of Education of the Orange Free State. Several superintendents of education in the Free State were present at the function. Further, the Std 9s and Matrics were invited. Nobody was under any obligation to attend it. Further, it is within the rights and powers of the Director of Education to decide to have it in school hours. The Director of Education did this. The Director of Education is of the opinion, and I agree with that, that it was also an opportunity to inform high school pupils in a broader context than the academic tuition they receive at school. Thus, it took place with his full approval, and I think it was in the interest of all the pupils that they could attend it.

Mr A GERBER: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister’s reply, I now received a reply to a question I did not ask, namely that permission was granted. I would like to know whether this person endorses Christian national education or does the hon the Minister not know?

Mr M R MURROWS: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, could he give us an indication of when he understands that a meeting on this matter will be in progress over the next few days — as to whether a report can be expected in the near future?

Mr M R MURROWS: Mr Speaker, the hon member always comes with such a question following the previous one. I want to tell him that it is not the style of my Department to drag its heels, but it is also not the style of my Department to just do things without having made the necessary inquiries and consulted with the partners concerned, and the hon member should know that. We shall therefore make the result of that known as quickly as possible.

Mr M R MURROWS: Mr Speaker, further arising from . . .

Mr SPEAKER: Order! I regret to have to inform the hon member that the time allotted for own affairs’ questions has expired.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C(3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

Investigation into pre-primary schooling

3. Mr M R MURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether a committee of the Committee of Education carried out an investigation into pre-primary schooling; if so,
(2) whether this committee has completed its report, if not, why not; if so, what are the main recommendations of this report;
(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Yes;
(2) no, because the admission of students is the responsibility of the universities;
(3) no.

Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply:

(1) Whether his Department has at any stage conducted or commissioned research into the use and/or environmental impact of pesticides; if so, (a) when, (b) who conducted the research and (c) what were the findings of the research conducted;
(2) whether the findings of such research are available to members of the public; if not, why not; if so, in what form;
(3) whether any further research of this nature is contemplated; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY:

(1) Yes.
(2) At least for the past 20 years.
(3) The Division of Pesticide Dynamics of the Plant Protection Research Institute in Pretoria and certain departments at universities working under contract for the Institute.
(4) The research done on the use and/or effect of pesticides on the environment forms part of a comprehensive research programme carried out in the interest of farmers and the consumers in the RSA. It is impossible to summarise the findings in a few words. The findings have been published in literally hundreds of scientific articles in international and local scientific journals and technical communications, some of which are issued by the Department of Agriculture and Water Supply. Amongst other this research gave rise to the total withdrawal or severe restriction of at least 27 pesticides.

It is, however, important to note that the published research results are completely objective and that the decision to impose an embargo or limit...
tation on a pesticide rests with the Registrar of Act 36 of 1947 and the Minister of Agriculture.

(2) Yes, the research findings are available to members of the public. In the form of scientific publications and scientific project reports.

(3) Yes, the research is of an ongoing nature, but according to thoroughly planned programmes that are dealt with in order of priority, taking into account the available manpower, equipment and funds. This programme involves 10 Research workers, 9 Research Technicians and 4 research assistants. The budget for the financial year 1988/89 is R700 000 of which R307 000 is used for current expenditures. Nineteen research facets are conducted in this programme.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Apprentices Indented

16. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

(a) How many (i) White, (ii) Indian, (iii) Coloured and (iv) Black apprentices were indentured to his Department, and (b) in which trades were they indentured, as at 31 December 1988?

B70E

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

(a) 6 449; and
(b) (i) 443; and
(ii) 362.

Vacant posts designations

18. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

(a) How many posts on the establishment of his Department were vacant as at 31 December 1988 and (b) what are the designations of these posts?

B72E

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

(a) 5 986 — which figure represents the difference between the total authorized establishment and the number of persons who occupy posts on the fixed establishment; and
(b) Assistant Restaurant Manager, Superintendent; Assistant Printer, Assistant Museologist, Assistant Quantity Surveyor, Assistant Human Resources Officer, Restaurant Manager, Architectural Draughtsman, Postmaster Grade 4, Postmaster Grade 3, Deputy Legal Adviser, Senior Human Resources Officer, Administrative Officer, Senior Psychometrician, Senior Administrative Officer, General Assistant, Personnel Officer, Job Evaluation Officer, Control Telecom Electrician, Senior Job Evaluation Officer, Control Telecom Mechanic, Telecom Officer, Operating Inspector, Mail Handling Officer, Industrial Journalist, Registry Clerk, Sorter, Industrial Social Worker, Branch Postmaster, Marketing Officer, Telegraph Officer, Printer, Senior Architect, Statistician, Data Officer, Reprographic Manager, Technician, Driver, Psychometrician, Photographer, Psychologist, Senior Design Artist, Chief Inspector: Works, Language Officer, Chief Human Resources Officer, Works Inspector, Chief Psychometrician, Telecom Electrician, Chief Job Evaluation Officer, Telecom Mechanic, Dealer, Security Assistant, Catering Assistant, Instructor, Telecom Assistant, Mail Handler, Learner Printer, Postman, Exchange Superintendent, Learner Works Inspector, Telephone.

Waiter, Inspector of Uniformed Staff, Senior Housekeeper, Museum Design Artist, Senior Caretaker, Human Resources Officer, Cook, Senior Foreman, Internal Auditor, Senior Stores Foreman, Cost Investigation Officer, Foreman, Senior Security Officer, Design Artist, Security Officer.

Hospitals; beds needed/available

19. Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

How many hospital beds were (a) available and (b) needed for (i) White and (ii) non-White patients in hospitals falling under the control of his Department as at 31 December 1988?

B73E

THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(a) Meduna Dental Hospital
(i) and (ii) 10 beds,
(b) (i) and (ii) no additional beds.

SANDTON: additional post offices/postal services

23. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Communications:

Whether it is the intention to provide any additional (a) post offices and (b) postal services in the Sandton area in 1989, if so, (i) where, (ii) what services, and (iii) when, in each case?

B78E

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

(a) No;
(b) yes:
(i) Linbro Park and Sandton;
(ii) Linbro Park: The provision of a mail collection point and Sandton: The relocation of the existing post boxes to a separate lobby in the parking area of the same complex and the provision of an additional 1 500 post boxes; and

The following additional services are planned for the Sandton area for completion later than 1989:

(i) The construction of a new departmental post office with 2 000 private post boxes in Wendywood to replace the existing hired premises. The estimated date of completion is September 1990.
(ii) The establishment of a post office in Morning Side. A departmental building is envisaged and a site has been identified. Negotiations for the purchasing thereof are underway.

Note:
In a written reply furnished in response to question No 130 on 15 March 1988, it was envisaged that a new departmental post office in Wendyswood would be constructed during 1989. The project has unfortunately been unavoidably delayed as a result of changes in the planning of the building.

Telephone services: applications outstanding

47. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Communications:

(1) How many applications for telephone services were outstanding in respect of (a) the exchanges of (i) Bryanston, (ii) Randburg, (iii) Benmore Gardens, (iv) Kelvin, (v) Bramley, (vi) Rosebank and (vii) Sunninghill Park, and (b) any other exchanges serving the Sandton constituency, as at 31 December 1988?

B96E

(2) When is it anticipated that the backlog in respect of each exchange will be eliminated?

(3) What steps are being taken to satisfy the demand for telephones in respect of each such exchange?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

(1) (i) 1 577,
(ii) 606,
(iii) 155,
(iv) 114,
(v) 146,
(vi) 136.
Going overboard

The furore over farmers' liability for the R290m loss on the Wool Board's (WB) forex loan (Business September 30 1988) has led to a major rethink on the role of agricultural marketing boards.

The result could be privatisation of certain boards through the creation of companies or co-operatives to handle marketing and exports.

This could herald greater direct accountability by the marketing organisation to its members, even where accumulated "company" assets are concerned.

In the case of the WB loan debacle, wool producers are asking why government should not accept responsibility for the mistakes of the statutory WB.

Another question raised at recent Wool Growers' Association meetings was whether the WB should be compelled to liquidate some of its substantial assets, essentially created from the proceeds of farmers' produce. These assets include the WB buildings in Pretoria and property the WB owns in Port Elizabeth.

The WB is now looking at putting its marketing functions into the hands of a co-operative. It would not be the first agricultural sector to do so.

In the case of the Citrus Exchange (a co-operative handling all citrus exports) and Unisfruco (a company handling Cape deciduous fruit exports), farmers have a direct say — and stake — in the running of their marketing operations.

At the recent Agricon congress in Pretoria, Agriculture Minister Greyling Wentzel criticised some marketing boards for concentrating more on regulating and controlling administration than on reacting to market signals.

Even more significant was a speech by National Marketing Council (NMC) chairman Roelf Kotze, spelling out the details of the new thinking.

He told Agricon that NMC was looking at alternative structures to ensure maximum benefit to the farmer from the marketing of his produce. He cited precedents, such as Unisfruco and the Citrus Exchange.

"In the case of some farm products, the marketing function of the marketing board is privatised by transferring this function to a private concern like a co-operative or a company," he noted.

There are other compelling reasons for transferring assets to producers.

"In the case of some marketing boards, the fixed and current assets and reserves together total more than R200m," said Kotze.

"If the producer should stop farming or dies, neither he nor his estate have any claim on these assets. Should these assets belong to a company and the producer has shares in that company to the value of the assets that he can claim, he will have a direct say in the matter and could receive a financial benefit, which is not possible under the current dispensation."

Kotze added that a marketing co-operative would give the producer greater control over the marketing of his product.

The annual congress of the Maize Producers' Organisation in Potchefstroom on March 15 and 16 should throw light on the reaction of maize farmers to the recommendations of the Brand Commission of Inquiry into alternative marketing structures for the grain sector. The suggestions were wide-ranging.

Among other things, it recommended the creation of a grain market where surplus maize, wheat and sorghum can be traded on the basis of individual offers and free price forming for individual lots.

Much has been said about deregulating agriculture. Is lip-service now about to give way to action?
Two drought-hit farmers quit

PORT ELIZABETH: — At least two Eastern Cape farmers have abandoned their farms to seek work elsewhere as a result of drought — and several others are also thinking of leaving.

Farmers in the Gamtoos Valley face disaster if there are no heavy rains before the end of the month. If rain does not fall, farmers will be allocated water for domestic use only and nothing for irrigation from the beginning of April, according to the Administration Engineer of the Department of Water Affairs at Patensie, Mr Pierre Joubert.

The deputy director of the Department of Agriculture in the Algoa sub-region, Mr Hennie Lourens, said he had had inquiries from farmers regarding unemployment measures for labourers. “This means farmers are looking at reducing the number of workers and at trying to cut down on costs.”

ITION

Limited of the United Kingdom

claimed management development than 3 500 companies. It is part of the include large scale construction Education and Training.
Drought-hit dorps are dying

Winter's tempests roll through the dorp. The howling wind rots the trees, wherever it happens. The ruins, blackened and smouldering, are left behind. The after-math of the disaster is a scene of desolation.

The dorps of South Africa have been hit by the worst drought in living memory. The country has been divided into four drought areas:

1. The drought area covers most of the Cape Province, from the Orange River to the Indian Ocean.
2. The drought area covers most of the Transvaal, from the Limpopo River to the Indian Ocean.
3. The drought area covers most of the Orange Free State, from the Orange River to the South African border.
4. The drought area covers most of the Natal, from the South African border to the Indian Ocean.

The drought has caused a decrease in the number of white farmers in all but one Transvaal border district since 1970.

A similar situation exists on the Limpopo border. The South African Agricultural Union has estimated that 30% of farmers in drought-stricken areas such as the north-eastern Transvaal and the southern Transvaal are in a critical economic position.

Professor Hugo, who has been monitoring the situation, estimates that there has been a 10% drop in the number of border farmers over the last decade alone — and only 5% of the remaining farmers are able to make a living.

There are also social problems: a lack of education, poor health care, and the deprivation of facilities which cause difficulties for the farmers.

Perhaps within a generation, the great farming dynasties of the plains will have abandoned the lands — unless there are more severe circumstances.

In the border areas, the Thabazimbi district is the only one that has not been affected by the drought. However, there is a severe problem in the crops due to the lack of rainfall.

The Government has made no efforts to assist farmers. There is a lack of government support and a lack of proper planning and budgeting.

The future of the border areas looks bleak.

Farmers may have left the land, but Thabazimbi is still growing

By NORMAN CHANDLER

The once-thriving town of Thabazimbi, which was once a bustling trading post, is now a ghost town. The town's population has dwindled to a few hundred, and the once-abundant crops are now scarce.

The town is now a symbol of the struggle against drought and the effects of climate change. The government has promised support, but it remains to be seen if this support will be enough.

The town's survival is still in doubt, but the people are determined to keep it alive. The town is now a symbol of resilience and hope in the face of adversity.
Farmers may have left the land, but Thabazimbi is still growing

By NORMAN CHANDLER

In the highveld of the Transvaal lies Thabazimbi, a small town on the border of South Africa and Zimbabwe. It is a farming community with a rich history, but in recent years, the land has changed hands as the economy has struggled.

The town sits in a valley surrounded by hills, and the landscape is dotted with farms and small villages. The nearby river, the Vaal, provides water for irrigation and supports the local agriculture.

The town's population is made up of farmers, ranchers, and workers in the surrounding areas. Despite the challenges, the community continues to thrive, and the spirit of the people remains strong.

The town has a number of attractions, including a historic lighthouse, a museum, and a variety of shops and restaurants. Visitors can explore the area on foot or by car, and the town offers a range of accommodations, from camping sites to luxury lodges.

For more information, visit the Thabazimbi Tourism Association website or contact the local chamber of commerce. Visitors are welcome to explore the area and experience the beauty and history of Thabazimbi.
The Agnesian Correspondent

Winter of Discontent

Bushey Town Thrives Against Odds, this winter
SHOWDOWN LOOMS AT RIVER OF DOGS

SCORERS of families living on the farm Hondsrivier, near Bronkhorstspruit, have been threatened with eviction, lawyers representing them said yesterday.

Notices issued by the Bronkhorstspruit Town Council and the town committee of Zithobeni were served on more than 52 families on February 2. They were told to vacate the farm by February 28, according to Mr J B Sibanyoni, an attorney representing the families.

A spokesman for the Bronkhorstspruit council, Mr D J van Zyl, yesterday confirmed that the families had been served with notices informing them that they were staying illegally on the farm Hondsrivier.

Mr van Zyl said they had asked the Administrator to approve a recommendation by the council that the families be resettled at Rethabiseng, which, according to Mr Sibanyoni, is situated about 20km from Hondsrivier.

Mr van Zyl said the area was near Ekangala. "There are already houses, empty stands, sewerage and water available there," he said.

Mr Sibanyoni told the Sowetan that the families, three quarters of whom were squatters in Zithobeni township, and the others staying on the property of the Bronkhorstspruit council, did not want to be resettled in Rethabiseng.

"They are apparently given a wrong impression that they were going to be resettled at a place about 4km from where they are presently staying," said Mr Sibanyoni.
No loans for black farmers

THE Land Bank had lent R2 774,7 million in 38 635 farmers. But none of these loans have been lent to black farmers, the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said yesterday.

Last year the Land Bank granted loans to 3 156 white farmers, 21 coloured farmers and six Indian farmers, but no black farmers applied for loans.

Mr Du Plessis, who was replying to questions from Mr Rupert Lorimer (FFP Bryanston), said by the end of last year the Land Bank had granted R2 774 658 in loans to farmers.

Last year white farmers were granted loans of R509,1 million, coloured farmers R451 700 and Indian farmers R771 000.
THURSDAY, 13 APRIL 1989

Orange Free State 0 3 42 306 455
Natal 0 15 72 248 271
Cape 0 6 32 211 380

(b) TOTAL 1 45 344 2 504 3 998

National Senior Certificate: Black pupils

203. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:
(a) How many Blacks at each school in the Western Cape falling under the control of his Department (i) entered for and (ii) wrote the National Senior Certificate examinations in 1988 and (b) how many entrants (i) passed, (ii) failed and (iii) obtained matriculation exemption at each such school?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(i) (ii) (iii)
Fezeka Secondary 45 50 13
Malizo Secondary 87 116 9
I.D. Mkize Secondary 15 59 2
Langa Secondary 35 35 11
Luhaza Secondary 63 20 20
Simon Hebe Secondary 17 50 2
Sizamile Jnr Secondary 68 53 14
Crossroads No. 3 Secondary 31 22 10
Langa Comprehensive School 13 53 2
Guguletu Comprehensive School 13 43 1

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

FRIDAY, 14 APRIL 1989

653

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS
*Indicates translated version.
For written reply:

General Affairs:

Posts/vacancies

82. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

(1) How many posts were there on the establishment of his Department as at (a) 31 December 1987 and (b) 31 December 1988?

(2) (a) how many posts on the establishment of his Department were vacant as at 31 December 1988 and (b) how many of these posts had been filled temporarily or permanently in 1988?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

(i) 101 367, and
(ii) 101 683;

(2) (a) 5 958, and
(b) these statistics are unfortunately not readily available. However, according to calculations approximately 2 000 of the aforementioned vacancies were filled in one wave or another for various periods during 1988.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) 1987 = R14 312 million (estimate)
1988 = R16 514 million (estimate)

Agriculture: value of production/exports

159. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What was the value of the Republic's agricultural (a) production and (b) exports in 1987 and 1988, respectively?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) 1987 = R14 312 million (estimate)
1988 = R16 514 million (estimate)

(b) 1987 = R3 193 million
1988 = R3 521 million (estimate)

Subsidies paid on bread/maize/butter

161. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What amount was paid out in subsidies in respect of (a) bread, (b) maize and (c) butter for consumer use in the 1987-88 financial year?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) R150 million;
(b) R80 million;
(c) Nil

The said payments were made under Vote 17: Programme 6: Agricultural Economics and Marketing.

Agricultural products: surpluses

177. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether there are any surpluses of agricultural products at present or any such surpluses are expected in 1989; if so, of which products;

(2) what in each case are the (a) reasons for such surpluses and (b) price implications;

(3) what steps have been taken or are contemplated in each case to (a) counter the effect of such surpluses and (b) avoid them in future?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes, there are at present and there will be surpluses during 1989 of a large number of agricultural products such as wool, mohair, hides, skins, maize, wheat, citrus fruit, deciduous fruit and canned fruit.

(2) (a) With the current production levels the local and overseas market potential is taken into account, but in the case of especially maize and wheat the production levels are influenced by weather conditions

(b) Export prices of maize and wheat compare favourably with domestic
serving prices. This tendency has negative implications for producer prices whenever large quantities are exported.

All the other commodities mentioned are realizing profitable export prices.

(3) (a) In respect of maize and wheat the effect of surpluses on producer prices is somewhat neutralized by the domestic selling prices. In addition, assistance is given to the Muize Board to subsidize maize prices. In respect of the wheat industry assistance is given by way of a bread subsidy which enhances local sales of wheat.

(b) In respect of maize and wheat the government introduced measures to financially assist those producers who wish to change over to other farming enterprises. In the grain producing areas concerned, the establishment of pastures on land previously used for growing grains is being subsidised. In addition certain maize and wheat farmers are also receiving financing aid for this purpose.

Milk: price increases

178. Mr R J LORMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:
(a) What was the producer’s price of (i) milk and (ii) industrial milk as at 31 December 1988 and (b) what price increases came into effect in respect of each category in 1988 and (ii) subsequent to 31 December 1988?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:
(a) (i) and (ii) 40.52 cents per litre
(b) (i) None
(ii) 4.54 cents per litre

The above-mentioned price is the minimum price for milk with a butterfat content of 3.8% and a protein content of 3.3%. No difference is made between milk and industrial milk and only a minimum producer price is now determined for milk.

Publications Act: items declared undesirable

182. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs:
(1) How many items were declared undesirable in 1986 in terms of section 47(2)(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) and (f), respectively, of the Publications Act No 42 of 1978;
(2) whether any appeals were lodged against decisions to declare any such items undesirable if so, how many cases in respect of each of the categories referred to in section 47(2) of the said Act (a) had been (i) upheld and (ii) dismissed and (b) were pending as at 31 December 1988?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:
(1) (a) 246; 87
(b) 21 4
(c) 11
(d) 35
(e) 415 5
(f) — —

(2) Yes, but only in respect of the categories “publications or objects” and “films”. Particulars are as follows:

Publications or Objects
(a)(i) (ii) (b) (a)(i) (ii) (b)
Section 47(2)
(a) 8 6 — 14 4
(b) — — — 1 — —
(c) — — — — — —
(d) — — — — — —
(e) 4 2 — 1 1
(f) — — — — —

Foreign media: applications for visas

183. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs:
(1) How many applications for (a) new, and (b) the renewal of, visas were received from foreign media representatives in 1988;
(2) how many such applications (a) had been (b) granted and (c) refused and (b) were pending as at 31 December 1988;
(3) what was the average time taken before such applications were decided upon?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:
(1) (a) 86 386 363; (b) 30 903 260 309;
(2) (a) 86 386 363; (b) 30 903 260 309;
(3) 19 622 19 622

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:
(1) (a) Yes
(b) 86 386 363; (c) 1 Oct. 1984 — 30 Sept. 1985.
(2) (a) 26 673 362 (b) 1 Oct. 1985 — 30 Sept. 1986.
(3) (a) 19 622 19 622 (b) 1 Oct. 1986 — 30 Sept. 1987.
(5) (a) 2 312 723 ton (b) R 30 462 000 (c) June to September 1986.

South African citizenship regained by Blacks

225. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Home Affairs:
(1) How many Blacks in each independent Black state regained their South African citizenship in 1988 in terms of the provisions of the (a) National States Citizenship Amendment Act, No 13 of 1987, and (b) Restoration of South African Citizenship Act, No 73 of 1986;
(2) whether any applications were refused; if so, (a) how many from each state, and (b) why, in each case?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:
(1) (a) 13 312 723; (b) 13 312 723
(2) 10 125 5 10

Export and import of wheat

190. Dr F HARTZENBERG asked the Minister of Agriculture:
(1) Whether the Wheat Board exported any wheat in recent years; if so, (a) how many tons, (b) what was the value thereof, and (c) on what date, in each case;
(2) whether the Wheat Board imported any wheat in recent years; if so, (a) how many tons, (b) what was the value thereof, and (c) on what date, in each case;
(3) whether any losses were suffered on the importation of such wheat; if so, what (a) was the extent of and (b) were the reasons for each of these losses?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:
(1) (a) 13 312 723; (b) 13 312 723; (c) 1 Oct. 1984 — 30 Sept. 1985.
(2) (a) 26 673 362 (b) 1 Oct. 1985 — 30 Sept. 1986.
(3) (a) 19 622 19 622 (b) 1 Oct. 1986 — 30 Sept. 1987.
(5) (a) 2 312 723 ton (b) R 30 462 000 (c) June to September 1986.
Reverse grazing rights move

ONE day after Cape administrator Mr Gene Louw had turned down an application for emergency grazing rights in the Cedarberg area, the permit was granted on the instructions of the department of the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mr Gert Kotze.

Mr Louw has now written to Mr Kotze requesting that the grazing permit issued for the sensitive area be withdrawn.

A spokeswoman for Mr Louw said yesterday the permit was granted to a farmer, Mr Ernst Nieuwoudt, one day after Mr Louw had turned down an application for emergency grazing rights in the area.

She said Dr Dawie de Villiers, minister with responsibility for administration and privatisation in the Office of the State President, had supported the original application in his capacity as MP for Piketberg, where Mr Nieuwoudt has his farm.

Mr Louw reacted sharply when told earlier this week that the permit had been granted without his knowledge. He was reported as saying he regarded the incident in the most serious light and that severe steps would be taken against the people responsible.

He instigated an immediate inquiry and decided within 24 hours to write to Mr Kotze requesting that the permit be withdrawn.

Mr Louw's spokeswoman confirmed that the permit had been issued, on March 23, by an officer of the Cape Provincial Directorate of Nature and Environmental Conservation.

However, this, she said, was only because the directorate administered the area in question for the National Department of Environment Affairs.
Troubled Mighty Meat to be restructured

In terms of the proposed restructuring, Mighty Meat's present controlling shareholder, Ronny Ho, has agreed to sell 10-million shares at 3c each for a total consideration of R200 000 to Limberopoulos, who will extend a similar offer to minority shareholders.

Mighty Meat's subsidiary companies will be sold back to Ho for R150 000. In turn, Limberopoulos will regain certain of Mighty Meat's assets for R450 000, to be settled by the assumption of R450 000 of Ho's liabilities.
More court divisions rejected

CAPE TOWN — Calls for the establishment of more local divisions of the Supreme Court, particularly in the southern Cape, the western Transvaal and non-independent homelands, have been rejected by the Hefer Commission.

The commission, whose report was tabled in Parliament yesterday, recommended that no further local divisions of the Supreme Court be created or that divisions be established in the self-governing homelands, although legal provision has been made for this.

However, it did recommend that the Durban and Coast Local Division of the Supreme Court be given appeal and review jurisdiction on the same basis as the Witwatersrand Local Division.

The commission, whose sole member was Mr Justice J J F Hefer, an Appeal Court judge, found that there would be considerable difficulties and costs in establishing new local divisions of the Supreme Court.

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BUDGET VOTE:
AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
AND MARKETING

PRESENTATION ACCORDING TO
STANDARD ITEMS

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<th>Items</th>
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<th>1989/90</th>
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<td>Administrative expenditure</td>
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<td>Stores and livestock</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>Professional and special</td>
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<td>6 742</td>
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<td>Transfer payments</td>
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<td>Miscellaneous expenditure</td>
<td>2 750</td>
<td>2 332</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amount to be voted</td>
<td>248 751</td>
<td>318 116</td>
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Departmental and miscellaneous receipts: R 25 000 000.
1988/89: Officials earning R 90 000 and more = 21.
1989/90: Officials earning R 90 000 and more = 21.
Source: Estimates of Expenditure.
Govt considering ban on herbicides in Natal

CAPE TOWN — Government was considering a total ban on hormonal herbicides throughout Natal, Agriculture Minister Greyling Wentzel said last week.

He said the ban would be part of an investigation to determine whether the herbicides were, in fact, the main cause of the fall in yields for vegetables. At present, the ban applies only to the Tala Valley and adjacent areas. Aerial application of herbicides such as 2,4D is already banned throughout Natal.

He said so far the investigation had not eliminated other factors, such as plant diseases, pests and the occurrence of other chemicals.

Wentzel said: “Although monitoring by the Department of Agriculture showed there were small quantities of the hormone herbicides in rain and dew samples in Natal, no reasearch results are available indicating that such small quantities can result in crop losses.”

Certain crops, such as beans and lettuce, could show growth abnormalities, but the yield was not affected. Wentzel said the decision to ban herbicides could not be taken lightly because of the financial implications.
DURBAN — Government has hastily reconsidered its decision to introduce a controversial amendment to the fuel rebate system, it was learned at the weekend.

The amendment, introduced without any prior consultation with affected parties, effectively disqualified commercial transport operators from being able to recover a 21,1c/l rebate when transporting agricultural or forestry products.

Although it was gazetted last week, economists from the Public Carriers Association and the SA Cane Growers' Association only "stumbled" across the amendment two days ago — immediately sending shock-waves through the transport industry and sparking queries to government departments.

The PCA predicted it would result in transport costs rocketing by between 10% and 15% — which could in turn be passed on to consumers of agricultural and forestry products.

However, Customs and Excise Commissioner Dan Colesky said last night that the amendment would be reconsidered.

He confirmed there had not been a prior consultation with affected parties, but said this was "normally the case if duties are amended".

He said the matter would now be reconsidered.

He said one of the reasons for the amendment was that the fuel rebate system was open to abuse by the transport industry.

If transporters entered into a contract which entitled them to the rebate, it was theoretically possible for them to carry agricultural goods in one direction, and then goods of a totally different category on the return trip.

Before government's decision was known, Enrico Garcia, chief executive of Unitrans and former director of the PCA, called for a moratorium.

"This amendment — which has major implications — has been introduced without any prior consultation, and displays utter contempt for the interests of the public," he said.
Agriculture’s gross income a record R15,20bn

PRETORIA — The agricultural industry’s gross income last year reached a record level of R15,20bn — R1,5bn up on the 1987 figure, the Agriculture Department’s latest calculations have shown.

And SA Agricultural Union economist Koos du Toit said he believed gross income for 1989 would be substantially higher.

A preliminary forecast of the value of exports this year, with major contributors being maize, wheat, wool and sugar, put the figure at R14bn.

In most categories last year, record incomes were earned by farmers, with an increase in wool income of R332,7m to R772,32m.

Production inputs during the year amounted to R6,37bn. Contribution to GDP reached R9,35bn — an increase of R697,7m on 1987.

Wages in the industry totalled R1,69bn compared with R1,65bn in 1987.
Bid to reverse unlawful removal

Tribe fights for farms

A COURT case which will determine whether 420 families, unlawfully removed from two farms they had owned in the Venterdorp district since 1916 and 1931, can return, began in the Pretoria Supreme court this week.

The Appellate Division (AD) ruled the eviction order by President PW Botha unlawful but, while AD proceedings were pending, government expropriated the farms and leased them to the Koster and Venterdorp Agricultural Union as emergency grazing.

Government now wants to sell the farms to private individuals, according to court documents.

Department of Agriculture and Water Affairs Minister Greiling Wentzel and Education and Development Aid Minister Dr Gerrit Viljoen are seeking an order to remove people who recently returned to the farms.

Council for the respondents, Jules Browde, SC, argued the expropriation was invalid because it was not effected for "public purposes", as required by Section 2 (1) of the Expropriation Act of 1975, and "was effected in bad faith and for an ulterior purpose".

Browde went on to quote what he cited as a similar case, Mathebe vs the Government of SA, where the court ruled the incorporation of Moutse into KwaNdlebele was void because the decision was taken "with a view to administrative convenience".

Measures

The Magopa tribe was forcibly removed from the farms Zwartrand and Hartbeeslaagte — about 5 000ha — in February 1984, to Pachsdraai, in the Groot Marico district.

Prior to the order, Department of Co-operation and Development officials adopted a series of measures "calculated to coerce the tribe to move", according to a document before court.

These measures included: the demolition of houses, schools, churches and clinics; the removal of water pumps; the termination of the bus service; the refusal or neglect to grant official assistance with pensions and to issue endorsements in terms of influx control legislation.

The order was challenged by counsel for the tribe two weeks after it was issued, but was upheld by Mr Justice J Van Dyk. He also refused the tribe leave to appeal.

Leave to appeal was granted after the tribe instructed attorneys to petition the Chief Justice.

The eviction order was ruled invalid by the Appellate Division in September 1985.

But, while legal proceedings were pending, the tribe was forcibly removed and the Community Development Minister served an expropriation notice.

Before judgment by the AD, the Development and Land Affairs Deputy Minister advised the tribe's attorneys the land had been expropriated.
Diesel rebate is restored

CAPE TOWN — The diesel rebate of 18.6c/litre for transport contractors carrying agricultural and forestry products on behalf of farmers and foresters is to be restored retroactive to April 15, Deputy Minister of Finance Dr Org Marais said yesterday.

The additional 2.5c/litre on diesel collected as part of the levy on heavy vehicles would not be refunded, and refunds to farmers for production and transport diesel for their own products would remain unchanged.

As the rebate had led to misuse, a committee would be appointed to investigate the matter, Mr Marais added. — Sapa.
THE Reserve Bank, in announcing the increase in Bank Rate by one percentage point to 17% from today, said on Friday it would ease the burden of higher rates for some borrowers.

These include farmers, small businesses and home-owners whose mortgage costs were not heavily subsidised by employers.

- The Reserve Bank will extend special facilities at a lower rate of interest to the Land Bank to enable it to keep its short-term lending rates unchanged.
- The expansionary impact of this credit expansion on bank reserves and the money supply will be offset by open market operations.
- The maximum interest rates on money loans and credit and leasing transactions, laid down under the Currency Act — 8.1% on amounts up to R6,000 and 10% on amounts between R6,001 and R250,000 — remains unchanged.
- Additional financial assistance will be provided by the Department of Finance to the Industrial Development Corporation, the Small Business Development Corporation and other development corpor-

ations to enable them to keep their lending rates to small business as low as possible.

The Bank stated that, although previous restrictive measures had already started to take effect, domestic spending, which rose 6% in the first quarter of the year, was still too high.

It also said the increase in the rate of money supply was still excessive.

The Bank stated: "The need for further tightening in monetary policy has been underlined by two recent developments: the rise of the Rand to R5.90 to the dollar on March 11, compared with an average of R5.37 in 1988, which represents adverse implications for both the balance of payments and economy.

"The second is recent increases in interest rates in Switzerland, Germany and several other European countries, following earlier marked upward movements in interest rates in the US and UK.

"The resultant widening in differentials between real interest rates in 4A and those in the major industrial countries, with further expectations of a further depreciation of the rand, has resulted in a new outflow of short-term capital from SA." The Bank said these factors, combined with an excessive rate of increase in domestic spending, had led to a depreciation of the rand in — terms of a weighted basket of foreign currencies — of 4.4% since the beginning of this year, following a 1.3% decrease in 1988.

This depreciation had played a material role in the rise in the quarter-on-quarter increase in the consumer price index, from 3.2% for the first three months of 1988 to 14.3% in the first quarter of 1989.

The Bank said: "Against this background, it is imperative to reduce the rates of increase in bank credit, money supply and total spending and to achieve realistic rates on interest in order to:
- Prevent a further undue depreciation of the rand;
- First minimise and then reverse the current acceleration of the rate of inflation;
- Encourage domestic firms to make more use of foreign trade credits instead of switching to domestic sources of finance, and
- Ensure the achievement of a large enough surplus on the current account on the BoP to finance the anticipated foreign debt repayments and to strengthen the gold and foreign exchange reserves in the course of 1989.

"The Bank said its rate was to rise from 16% to 17% in general, with the rediscount rate for Land Bank bills from 16.15% to 17.15%, and that for liquid bankers' acceptances from 16.3% to 17.3%.

Restrictions are to be introduced on accommodation through the discount window operated by the Bank, and overnight loans will be granted only in exceptional circumstances and for short periods.
Judgment in the Mogopa-triune hearing, in which the tribe faces an eviction order, has been reserved by the Pretoria Supreme Court.

An urgent application was brought by the Government earlier this year to have the remaining 70 members of the tribe evicted from the 3,940-hectare Zwartrand farm in the Western Transvaal, which the tribe has occupied since 1916.

During the 2½-day trial Mr Justice van der Merwe heard that the tribe's land was expropriated by the State President in 1963.

Mr Sam Maritz SC, counsel for the applicants — the Minister of Agriculture and Water Affairs, and the Minister of Education and Development Aid — argued that the farm now belongs to the Government.

He said that although the tribe had bought the farm in 1916, following the expropriation, the tribe members had been "compensated" and were "relocated" to the Pachsdraai farm in the Groot Marico district.

Counsel for the tribe, Mr Jules Browde, SC, said the State's expropriation of land was "one of the most flagrant violations of human rights conceivable".

He earlier argued the expropriation was invalid in terms of the Development Trust and Land Act. He said Mogopa was a thriving community with its own schools and churches, and produced its own food.

Furthermore, the Minister of Education and Development Aid and his officials had allowed other tribes in white areas to remain on their land, even land in the same Ventersdorp district, Mr Browde argued.

In a letter (handed in to support the defence argument) written by the tribe's attorney Mr N R L Haysom to Minister of Education and Development Aid Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the attorney said removal began on January 23, 1983. A demolition squad destroyed three churches and a clinic.

The Ventersdorp-Mogopa bus service was ended and the tribe's water pumps were removed.

Mr Browde argued that the application to have the tribe evicted should be dismissed.

The interim order passed by the Supreme Court earlier this year — with Mr Acting Justice Human granting a temporary order stipulating that no tribe members, except those now on the farm, may trespass on the land and no structures may be erected — was extended until judgment is handed down.
In Rootothenien they farm the desert

New land methods bring relief to residents

BY MARCUS BOSCH

The people of Rootothenien work on the desert, gradually changing it into a fertile land. They have developed new methods for farming in the hot, arid climate. The government has provided assistance in the form of water systems and infrastructure to support these endeavors. The community has adapted to the harsh conditions, creating a sustainable way of life. 

The importance of cooperation and collaboration cannot be overstated. Residents work together to ensure the success of their projects. The water systems are crucial for the survival of the crops and the community. The government's support has played a significant role in the development of the area. The people of Rootothenien have shown resilience and determination in their efforts to transform the desert.
Sanctions: no quick effect, says envoy

CAPE TOWN — Sanctions had not achieved a quick, dramatic effect and only time would tell whether they were worth while, Canadian ambassador to SA Ronald MacLean said yesterday.

Speaking to the Cape Town Press Club, he said he would not comment on whether the speeding up of the reform process had gone hand in hand with sanctions.

"I won't comment whether it has been cause and effect, that remains to be seen," he said. It had never been argued that sanctions were perfect, "but we felt that the plus side outweighs the down side".

MacLean spoke broadly on Press censorship and said a monopoly over broadcasting services made a free Press so much more important.

For this reason Canada supported particularly the "alternative" Press, which included publications such as South, Vrye Weekblad and Weekly Mail.

The country sponsored study at the journalism school at Rhodes University, and in-house training at alternative newspapers because it believed "post-apartheid SA will need trained journalists".

MacLean said it could not be argued that human rights in Canada were sufficient; nor could the country be portrayed as the perfect model to follow. "We do not, however, accept that our own record being imperfect precludes us from speaking out on human rights violation."

Canada was aware of the pros and cons of sanctions and there had been a protracted debate before it took action.

"We think the jury is still out on whether they will work in the economic sphere. I do not suppose they will achieve a dramatic effect so quickly. Indeed they haven't." — Sapa.

Mogopa tribe loses battle to stay on farm

PRETORIA — The Mogopa tribe has lost its legal battle to stay on the farm it has occupied since 1911.

Mr Justice van der Mervye yesterday confirmed an interim order in the Supreme Court, in terms of which tribe members without written authorisation to be on Zwartkrans farm in the western Transvaal have seven days to vacate the farm.

He authorised the Ventersdorp police to assist in "removing" tribe members if necessary. The respondents in the case were the Minister of Education and Development Aid and the Minister of Agriculture and Water Affairs.

The tribe's lawyer, N Haysom, said an urgent application for leave to appeal might be lodged. He was awaiting the tribe's decision.

The State expropriated the tribe's land in 1983 and the tribe was "relocated" to Pachersdraai in the Groot Marico district.

J Browde, counsel for the tribe, said the expropriation of their land had been one of the most flagrant acts of human rights violations conceivable. — Sapa.
Mogopa tribes loses its land

The Mogopa tribe has lost its legal battle to stay on the farm it has occupied since 1931.

Mr Justice van der Merwe yesterday confirmed an interim order by the Pretoria Supreme Court in terms of which tribe members without written authorisation to be on Zwartrand farm in the western Transvaal have seven days to leave.

Mr Justice van der Merwe authorised the South African Police at Ventersdorp to assist in “removing” tribe members if necessary.

The tribe’s lawyer, Mr N’Haysom, yesterday said that application for leave to appeal might be lodged.

The State expropriated the land in 1983 and the tribe was “relocated” to Pachsdraai in the Groot Marico district.

Mr J Browde, counsel for the tribe, said the expropriation of their land had been one of the most flagrant breaches of human rights conceivable.

The tribe had been a thriving and prosperous community with its own schools and churches. — Sapa.
Tribe has a week to get out

A PRETORIA Supreme Court judge yesterday issued an order giving the Bakwena ba Mogopa tribe seven days to leave Zwartland farm in the Western Transvaal.

The order by Mr Justice van der Merwe followed an application to evict 70 members of the Mogopa tribe living on the farm. The application was brought by the Ministers of Agriculture, Water Affairs and Education and Development.

Yesterday's order also empowered the Ventersdorp police to assist with the eviction in case the tribe does not move.

The judge said it was wrong for the representatives of the tribe to have brought up the expropriation of the land as defence in the application.

He said the invalidity of the expropriation of the farm could have been challenged on its own and not as a subject in the present case.
Owners want white area declared a township

By Helen Grange

Residents of Orange Farm near Grasmere, Johannesburg, have appealed to the government to declare it a township development area.

Most of Orange Farm, except for about 300 ha on the west, is occupied by squatters, many of them having been moved there from surrounding areas.

Residents say their properties have been devalued substantially and are “continually being destroyed”.

“On one occasion, a roof was stolen, and because many of the home-owners live and work in town, they have no control over theft or destruction,” said Mr Henry Wienand, a resident at Orange Farm.

Mr Wienand said white home owners on Orange Farm wanted the whole area declared a development area so they could sell their houses either to the Government or to black, Indian or coloured buyers.
About 70 Mogopa residents who have re-occupied the farm from which they were unlawfully removed five years ago are sitting tight to see whether they will be uprooted from this land for a second time tomorrow.

The period of grace which the Pretoria Supreme Court set last week for them to leave the farm near Venterdrops will expire tomorrow. If they do not leave officials will be entitled to evict them.

But lawyers for the community are hoping to secure an agreement that the authorised eviction will not go ahead on deadline.

“We have noted an application for leave to appeal against last week's Supreme Court judgment,” said Mr Nicholas Haysom, attorney for the community.

No date had yet been set for the hearing of the appeal application, he said. “In the interim, we are trying to get an undertaking from the Departments of Agriculture and Development Aid that the eviction order will not be executed,” said Mr Haysom.

“We are concerned that the authorities should not act precipitously, as they have done in the past.”

Minister of Development Aid Dr Gerrit Viljoen would not disclose his department's reaction to possible legal initiatives by the community.

Mr Haysom’s reference to “precipitous action” relates to the fact that about 300 Mogopa families were forcibly removed in February 1984, while the Chief Justice was still considering whether to grant an appeal against a judgment which had declared the removal order was valid.

Removal illegal

More than a year after the removal an Appeal Court Bench unanimously declared the removal order defective — and the removal therefore illegal.

But the land had already been expropriated by the Government and all attempts by the community to negotiate a return have fallen on deaf ears.

Last year, however, Dr Viljoen allowed a small section of the community to return to the Mogopa farm to repair the ancestral graveyard on the property. They were allowed to stay on the farm for this purpose.

But early this year — it was disclosed in court — the authorities became suspicious that the repair of the graveyards was simply a pretext for a return to the land, which the Government had hired out as grazing to farmers in the area.

Permission for them to be there was then withdrawn and an eviction order sought. Many of the 70 people affected by the order are old men.

Dr Viljoen made it clear yesterday that he viewed the manner in which the men had occupied Mogopa as a breach of “an agreement which I made to the community on negotiating for an acceptable permanent home and in the meanwhile allowing limited access to clean and maintain the cemetery”.

The Star Tuesday, 9/7/91
Tribe appeals against order to move on

LAWYERS representing the Bakwena-ba-Mogopa tribe are to lodge an appeal against the pending removal of the 70 families living on the Zwartland farm in the Western Transvaal.

Members of the Mogopa tribe, who are due to be forcibly moved following a Supreme Court order, have been given until today to leave the farm. The order against them was issued last week after the Ministers of Agriculture and Water Affairs and of Education and Development Aid applied for their eviction.

The tribe was given seven days to move failing which the government would evict them. The police have also been given permission to assist the authorities if the need arises.

A spokeswoman for the Transvaal Rural Action Committee (TRAC), said lawyers representing the tribe have been battling to lodge an appeal since the day the order was made. She said lawyers have not been provided with a date yet and that the situation was "critical".
The group of die-hard residents of Mogopa, who some months ago reoccupied the Ventersdorp farm from which they were unlawfully removed in 1984, have won a reprieve from eviction.

In terms of a Supreme Court order issued last week, the group — numbering between 50 and 70 — could have been evicted any time after midnight last night.

Yesterday a spokesman for the office of the Minister of Development Aid indicated the eviction would not take place before the legal process had run its course.

"Should the people be granted the right to appeal, we will be awaiting the outcome of the Appeal Court hearing and will do nothing until then," he said.

The announcement has defused a tense situation, with residents bracing themselves for yet another eviction and foreign interest in the issue mounting.

At least two foreign diplomats visited the residents yesterday and foreign journalists have been there this week.

A spokesman for the Transvaal Rural Action Committee said a court date for the application for leave to appeal had not been set.
Mogopa - stay of eviction

THE group of die-hard residents of Mogopa, who some months ago re-occupied the Venterdorp farm from which they were unlawfully removed in 1984, have won a reprieve from eviction.

In terms of a Supreme Court order issued last week, the group — numbering between 50 and 70 people — could have been evicted any time after midnight on Tuesday.

Yesterday a spokesman for the office of the Minister of Development Aid indicated that the eviction would not take place before the legal process had run its course.
Mogopa: State action feared

By Jo-Anne Colling

Formal representations concerning the people of Mogopa were made to Foreign Minister Mr Pik Botha in Cape Town yesterday by the Spanish Ambassador, acting on behalf of all 12 member states of the European Economic Community.

The first secretary at the Spanish Embassy, Mr Alfonso Sanz Portolis, confirmed that a communication had been delivered to Mr Botha. He would not disclose details of it.

CONCERN

The diplomatic initiative came amid fresh concern for the security of some 50 Mogopa residents who have re-occupied the Western Transvaal farm from which they were unlawfully removed in 1984 and against whom the Department of Development Aid has obtained an eviction order.

Attorneys acting for the Mogopa people yesterday received a telex from the State Attorney denying the accuracy of press reports which stated that
‘Let Mogopa return home’

DAVID BRAUN

WASHINGTON — The United States has renewed its call on Pretoria to allow the people of Mogopa to return to their ancestral land.

A State Department spokesman said the US strongly opposed eviction of the people from their ancestral land in 1984.

“We are disturbed by reports that the Government intends to evict those who have returned on their own to the land where they lived in peace for 70 years.”
Agricultural exports to boost earnings

PRETORIA — SA’s foreign exchange earnings will be boosted this year by record export earnings from the best agricultural season in a decade.

The last biggest maize export surplus was in the 1981/82 season, when around five-million tons was exported, earning about R630m in foreign exchange.

Du Toit added that last season’s record wool earnings of around R760m could be exceeded.

Sheep numbers were increasing and wool prices were stable.

Sugar earnings too could reach record levels, he said.

Exports from this year’s record wheat crop of 3,5-million tons would amount to around one-million tons. Under current rand exchange value, this should realise between R300m and R400m, Du Toit said.
**Worrall blames De Klerk for Rubicon mess**

DP CO-LEADER Denis Worrall claimed last night that NP leader F W de Klerk persuaded President PW Botha to change his 1985 Rubicon speech which prompted the rand’s collapse.

He added, in a blistering attack on De Klerk at a public meeting in Milnerton, that the next president would be more of an economic illiterate than Botha, judging by his Sunday’s Network TV performance.

Heaping scorn on De Klerk’s claim that government was not responsible for the rand’s debased value, Worrall, SA ambassador in London at the time, said De Klerk had persuaded Botha to rewrite his Rubicon speech.

"De Klerk should tell the public what role he played in that episode. It was he, F W De Klerk, who persuaded Botha to rewrite that speech.

"He told him the Transvaal congress of the NP, which was to come, was more important than the Natal congress. And so the international banks closed down on us and we got Rubicon rands."

Worrall added: "Judging from his answers to the economic questions, De Klerk is more of an economic illiterate than President Botha.

"For him (De Klerk) to say that the unemployment, inflation, soaring costs and general economic misery which South Africans are experiencing is the result of circumstances beyond the NP government’s control is both insulting and insensitive," Worrall said.

After addressing scores of political meetings in the past two months, Worrall said he could tell De Klerk that the feeling out there is one of anger — anger at the economic mismanagement, anger at the excessive taxes, anger at rising costs and especially bitterness at the inability to find work for many millions."

Worrall threatened to make the SAIT and Network news an election issue unless the corporation proved its impartiality.

"Our stand on the NP’s abuse of what should be a neutral public corporation is a principled one," he said.

**Agricultural exports to boost earnings**

PRETORIA — SA’s foreign exchange earnings will be boosted this year by record export earnings from the best agricultural season in a decade.

SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) economist Koos du Toit said a preliminary estimate based on current trends indicated that exports could reach, or even exceed, R4,5bn.

This was assuming, too, that the country’s transport system could handle the five-million tons of maize available for export before the year’s end.

The SAAU estimates about 25% of the estimated total value of agricultural production this year will be exported.

Total value is expected to exceed R16bn. Mailand Board estimates are that exports will earn R1,5bn.

**Swapo back in Angola**

LUANDA — A senior UN official said yesterday that SWAPO forces had pulled back into Angola and been confined to their camps.

Untag’s Maj John Ryan said 5,166 SWAPO guerrillas paraded at the weekend at Chibemba, in southern Angola, where they were counted by UN officials.

"Our fighters are all out," he said.

Ryan spoke as UN officials from SA, Angola and Cuba, and Soviet and East European observers, were meeting on the border to decide if all SWAPO fighters had quit Namibia. — Saps-Reporter.
Develop coloured farming, urges Labour

At a recent farmers' day for coloured agriculturists in the Dysselsdorp area, the biggest farmer owned two cows, seven goats, 12 sheep, 47 pigs, 42 chickens, six turkeys, two geese, six ducks and four donkeys, Mr J D Swiegselaar (LP Dysselsdorp) told the House of Representatives.

Making a plea for a comprehensive development plan for coloured agriculture, he said the Dysselsdorp farmer was hardworking, but still had to work elsewhere daily to earn enough money to feed his family.

Another farmer in the area had paid R25,000 for a hectare of land without a house or water on it.

On this basis, coloured farmers would never be able to develop to a level where they could farm full-time and support their families with the cash generated by farming.

Land in the coloured rural areas should be divided up and allocated to potential farmers on a scientific basis, he said.

The largest number of people possible should be drawn into the development process by encouraging the sharing of facilities and specialisation. — Sapa.
Farmers who stayed on their land during drought praised

CAPE TOWN — Throughout the worst drought in history SA’s farmers remained on their land and produced enough food for the country, Willem Odendaal (NP Sasolberg) said yesterday.

Speaking in the Agriculture and Water Supply vote of the own affairs budget, he said it was a tribute to the skill and tenacity of SA’s farmers that during the drought, there had been no shortage of any foodstuffs in supermarkets.

In spite of tremendous hardship, the number of farmers had remained stable and, in some places, increased.

He said much of the credit for the farming sector’s performance should be given to outgoing Agriculture Minister Greyling Wentzel, and to the NP government for assistance programmes which helped the farmers survive the drought.

Jan van Gend (DP Groote Schuur) said while he agreed farmers should be assisted in times of need, he did not believe large sums should be paid to them merely to maintain the lifestyle to which they had grown accustomed.

Perd Hartzenberg (CP Lichtenberg) said farmers relied on profit to make their initiatives viable. Profit margins were falling. — Sapa.
Leisure group to develop exclusive game farm

Finance Staff

One of South Africa's leading leisure groups, Vacation World, has entered into a development contract to purchase a 70 percent share in a 6,000 ha game farm only 90 minutes away from Johannesburg.

The game farm, to be called “Roan Lodge”, is situated near Lostop Dam, adjoining the game farm “Sebaka”.

The area where the game farm is situated is classified as one of South Africa’s most beautiful nature areas and plans are afoot to declare some 25,000 ha as a Nature Reserve.

The Roan Lodge will be developed on a very exclusive basis and the intended target market will consist of the large corporations and the A and B income groups of the PWV area.

“Our surveys have shown an increased tendency by the larger corporations to invest in luxury game farms for the entertainment of overseas clients”, said Mr Johan Sturm, a spokesman for the company.

Trends in other parts of the world and especially in the United States have shown the need for a weekend get-away to be situated as close to the cities as possible. People want to get to their weekend homes as soon as possible and not waste precious time travelling.

Living in the bush will be comfortable and luxurious.

Orchid Hotels, the hotel management arm of Vacation World, has extensive experience in the operation and running of game lodges and nature reserves. Gethlane Lodge in the Eastern Transvaal, is one such a nature reserve that has become a popular retreat with excellent cuisine and facilities. “The running of Roan Lodge will be in the hands of specialists”, commented Mr Sturm.

The lay-out of the units will be planned in a manner that will afford the guests the utmost seclusion and privacy to avoid a clustered, overcrowded effect that will detract from rather than enhance the natural surroundings.

Thatch chalets will be built to emphasize this aspect and will blend in with the environment. A small conference facility will allow delegates the required tranquility and inspiration required for seminars and think-tanks close to the cities.

Special care will be taken in selecting the site with the client present so as to avoid damage to the abundant tree and bird life that abounds at Roan Lodge.

The lodge will have striking water features and the gorge running through the property already has some of the most breathtaking scenery in Southern Africa.

“As more awareness is created in the protection of the environment, this project will not only be enjoyable, but will help us to protect a piece of Africa for future generations.”
Agriculture: UCT breaking new ground

By ANDREA WEISS, Staff Reporter
THE newly established Group for Research Relevant to Agriculture (GRRA) is dispelling the myth that the University of Cape Town has nothing to offer in this field.

A recent call to all faculties showed that UCT was breaking new ground in agricultural research.

One pioneer in this field is Professor Jennifer Thomson, head of microbiology. Her department is involved in a project which is an international first.

"Super bug"
Using biotechnology, she hopes to develop a "super bug" to help cows digest feed more efficiently.

Explaining the background to the AECI-funded project, Professor Thomson pointed out that cows used bacterial enzymes in their rumen to digest the grass they had eaten.

However, many of these enzymes are not 100 percent efficient and a fair bit "goes out the other end of the cow".

By cloning genes from different bacteria, Professor Thomson is hoping to develop a more efficient genetically engineered bacterium to add to the feed.

Agricultural research has fallen off in certain parts of the world because of food gluts and, said Professor Thomson: "The funding of anything to do with increasing food production is drying up."

The reverse is true in South Africa, which makes it fertile ground for this kind of research.

Professor Jennifer Thomson

Other UCT projects being funded by AECI are the development of resistant plant cultivars.

One virus on Professor Thomson’s hit list is the maize streak virus which is found only in Africa. Others are crown gall disease and the cucumber mosaic virus.

In the case of the maize streak virus, a combination of ecological and molecular biological knowledge is used.

First, the strain of virus found in a specific area has to be correctly identified. Then, by introducing a coat protein gene cloned from the virus into the plant, the plant will be made resistant.

"When the virus infects the plant, it takes off its 'coat' and goes to work. The cloned coat protein will inhibit it," Professor Thomson explained.

A more contentious area of work is the introduction of genetically engineered micro-organisms known as GEMS into the environment.

This, rather than the invention of super plants, has caused the biggest outcry in Europe and America.

Ecological spin-off
In the case of sugar cane, which in Natal is being devastated by the burrowing larvae of the Eldana moth, a bacterium has been isolated which produces a toxin to kill the larvae.

Cloned and introduced into bacteria associated with sugar cane, the bacterium could have an ecological spin-off and kill other organisms.

For this reason, extensive research will have to be undertaken before the plant material is released.
Squatters at Weiler's 'on the move'

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration is slowly clearing Weiler's Farm, the squatter camp where Barend Strydom claimed his first victim.

Mr John Mavuso, MEC for Housing and Community Development, said a quarter of the original residents of the "Weiler's Farm transit area" had been moved to a new development at Orange Farm.

A total of 296 structures had been shifted from Weiler's Farm up to May 20. Another 927 were scheduled to be moved.

Mr Mavuso emphasised that the TPA would not threaten or force people to leave Weiler's Farm, but "sustained attempts are being made to communicate with those who are squatting illegally on land not intended for residential purposes, and to persuade them to move to a better environment where they may settle permanently and lawfully".

He also said that squatters need not move to Orange Farm, but could settle at, say, Evaton North, "where better services are also available".

Mr Mavuso said that when "various community facilities were established at Orange Farm by the TPA and other organisations, they had an encouraging effect on the resettlement of Weiler's Farm squatters."

"This was obvious from the heightened interest in resettlement shown by the residents during the past couple of months."

Facilities so far included administration offices, a mobile clinic, a school, a football field and a netball court. An athletics track is being prepared.

The clinic was to soon become permanent, and the school would by the third quarter of the teaching year have facilities for 900 pupils.

The TPA had asked the South African Transport Services to upgrade the railway service to Orange Farm.

The 4 300 stands there were made available in October. From December to mid-March, 159 families had moved. In the past two months, that figure had almost doubled.

"The TPA is doing everything in its power to make the move easier," said Mr Mavuso.

He added that free transport was available for residents.

Help is given with the breaking down of structures and their re-erection at Orange Farm.

In certain circumstances, the province also supplied building materials to the homeless.

No rents or service charges are being levied until the end of June to aid those who are short of money.
PRETORIA — Foreign exchange earnings from the most bountiful agricultural season for years will help substantially to compensate for lower gold earnings because of the metal’s depressed price.

The SA Agricultural Union economist Koos du Toit said last year’s agricultural exports earned the country about R2.2bn. This was less than half of the year’s expectation of about R4.2bn.

He said yesterday that without the great performance of the farming industry SA’s balance of payments problem would have intensified, as would repaying the country’s international debt. Grain exports alone this year would earn R2bn.

Guaranteed

The Maize Board estimates earnings of R1.5bn from the export of just over five million tons, and Wheat Board GM Ivan Hemingway said the 1.1-million tons of wheat to be exported this year could earn in excess of R400m, depending on conditions on world markets.

Hemingway said about 600 000 tons of the record 2.5-million ton harvest would be carried over into the new season starting in October. This was about three months’ supply and was a guarantee against late deliveries of the new crop.

Du Toit expects big earnings, too, from the export of sugar, deciduous fruit and wool. Wool’s earnings, if current conditions continue, could exceed R1bn.

The Reserve Bank said gold last year earned R19.6bn and the average price worked out at $4976.69 an ounce.

Up to the first quarter of this year, the price averaged $395.96 an ounce, and since then the price has continued to sag to yesterday’s level of about $351.

Economists say there is little likelihood of a spectacular increase in the gold price, and gold earnings will be well down on last year.
Agriculture expected to boost SA forex earnings

From GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA. — Foreign exchange earnings from agriculture will help substantially to compensate for lower gold earnings, said SA Agricultural Union economist Koos du Toit.

Last year's agricultural exports earned the country about R2.2bn. This is less than half of the this year's expectation of around R4.5bn.

Du Toit stressed that without the great performance of the farming industry, the country's balance of payments problem would have intensified as would the problem of repaying the country's huge international debt.

Grain exports alone this year will earn the country R2bn.

The maize board estimates earnings of R1.5bn from the export of just over 5m tons.

And wheat board GM Ivan Hemingway said the 1.1m tons of wheat to be exported this year would earn in excess of R400m, depending on conditions on world markets.

Hemingway added about 600 000 tons of the record 3.5 ton harvest will be carried over into the new season in October.

This was about three months supply and was a guarantee against late deliveries of the new crop.

Du Toit expects big earnings, too, from the export of sugar, deciduous fruit and wool. Wool earnings of if current conditions continue could exceed R600m.

According to the Reserve Bank, gold last year earned R19.6bn at the average price of $437.09.

In the first quarter of this year the price averaged $394.08 and has since continued to sag to Monday's level of around $361.

According to economists there is little likelihood of a spectacular increase in the gold price, and earnings will be well down on last year.
All Magopa tribe has left is a prayer to stay

Mogopa — Every morning Mr Daniel Molefe, a Mogopa tribesman, walks to a hilltop behind his tin shack to pray for the fall of the South African Government so that he can remain on the land where he was born.

"But the more I pray, the more the Government becomes stronger and the more black people suffer," he said.

Five years ago, on St Valentine's Day, Pretoria sent bulldozers guarded by soldiers and armed police with dogs to flatten Mr Molefe's home town.

They knocked down houses, churches, schools and clinics, demolishing everything the tribe had built in this village of Mogopa, 200 km west of Johannesburg.

Then the Government sold the land to white farmers. Police forced the people of Mogopa at gunpoint to move to arid land some 200 km away.

The tribe settled legally in Mogopa 89 years ago. After the National Party came to power in 1948, the area was designated as white farming land under the Government's laws.

Their presence was declared illegal because the old laws which had enabled blacks to own land had been repealed.

Tears rolled down Mr Molefe's face as he recalled how his once closely-knit community had been forced out.

They have moved three times in the past five years, seeking a place where they can settle and rear their families.

After the Government relocated them in the arid bushveld at a place called Pachtsdraai in the far western Transvaal on February 14 1984, a small section of the community trekked to another barren land called Bethanie.

"We chose Bethanie because it was near the PWV industrial area, where our people could find jobs," said the tribe's headman, Mr Lucas Kgalitsoe.

But a few months after they arrived in Bethanie, Pretoria incorporated their new home into Bophuthatswana, one of 10 nominally independent mini-states created under South Africa's apartheid race policies.

This meant the Mogopa people would lose their South African citizenship and be forced to become citizens of a country whose sovereignty is recognised by Pretoria alone.

The case provoked an international outcry. Foreign diplomats visited the tribe's leaders and the Mogopa community launched a legal bid to have their land returned to them.

The Government has blocked every legal action the community has taken. Last September Pretoria gave Mr Molefe, Mr Kgalitsoe and 70 others permission to go back to Mogopa to restore and clean family graves. When they arrived they built tin shacks where they had lived before and refused to leave.

**Parliamentary debate**

Pretoria sought a Supreme Court order to evict them. With the help of human rights lawyers, the tribe contested the application, but lost.

Lawyers told the court that under the law originally used to evict the Mogopa community, the matter should have been debated in Parliament.

The Mogopa tribe again took the matter to court. But, while the case was being heard, Pretoria used another law to expropriate the land retroactively. The tribe now faces a second forced removal.

Every morning the tribal elders assemble to pray that the Government will change its mind and let them rebuild their homes.

Earlier this month the 12-nation European Community sent a protest to South Africa's foreign ministry, about the Government's treatment of the Mogopa people — Reuter.
18 families forced into the cold

By Helen Grange

The families of 18 farm tenants in the Weenen district, near Ladysmith, are being forced to sleep in the open veld without shelter in sub-zero temperatures, after being thrown out of their homes by farmers.

Farmers are using civil ejectment orders to drive labour tenant families out of a cluster of 20 “thornveld” farms south of Weenen, according to the Association for Rural Advancement (Afra).

In the past few weeks, 40 families have been served court orders which will result in the eviction of about 260 people (including the 70 people already evicted).

Mr William Mkhize, head of one of the displaced families, said the owner of the farm, accompanied by a messenger of the court and a policeman, had served him an eviction order on Monday last week.

“I was born on this farm, so were my forefathers. I know no other place,” he told Afra.

The recent spate of court-sanctioned evictions follows years of bitter conflict between the tenants and the farmowners, many of whom are absentee landlords, over continued occupation of the farms by the black families.

The focus of the conflict lies in the Mngweya Valley where Afra estimates there are 2,700 families threatened with removal from a cluster of farms.

Although an emergency camp for evicted tenants has been established by the Natal Provincial Administration (NPA), Afra maintains there has been no provision yet made for their accommodation.
Ministers hurt by car thieves

CHURCH ministers had a close shave this weekend when a group of armed car thieves fired bullets at them and robbed them of their new mini-bus at the Lutheran Church at Kwezi, Soweto.

A church elder who was stabbed three times was admitted to Baragwanath Hospital on Sunday while another minister, who had a deep wound in his hand, is recovering at home.

The armed men, who are believed to be members of a_stats___robbery gang, were so close to the church that they fired shots into the sanctuary, where 150 people were attending the morning service.

The attackers, who wore black hoodies and had their faces covered with bandanas, also entered the sanctuary and made off with the minibus, the church's computer and a cash register.

The police were called to the scene and are now investigating the incident.

The attack is the latest in a series of crimes targeting churches and religious institutions in the area, which has a high crime rate.

By SONTI MASEKO

The families of 18 black farm tenants in the Weenen district, near Ladysmith, are being forced to sleep in the open veld without shelter in sub-zero temperatures after being thrown out of their homes by farmers.

Farmers are using civil ejection orders to drive labour tenant families out of a cluster of 20 “thornveld” farms south of Weenen, according to the Association for Rural Advancement (Afra).

In the past few weeks 40 families have been served with court orders, which will result in the eviction of about 280 people including the 70 people already evicted.

Rain

The evicted tenants have been subjected to bitterly cold conditions and two successive nights of rain which have left their blankets and clothing saturated.

Mr William Mkhize, head of one of the displaced families, said the farmer had refused to remove the family from the farm. Mr Mkhize said the farmer had served him with an eviction order on Monday last week.

Some of his possessions had been taken to delay legal proceedings.

He said his wife had become ill after the rain and she needed some shelter. His children were writing exams at school, but they could not study.

Although an emergency camp for evicted tenants has been established by the Natal Provincial Administration (NPA), Afra maintains there has been no provision yet made for their housing.

The Weenen cooperative project, which represents the families, has also warned that the crowding of dispossessed people into a cramped resettlement village will greatly increase the level of factional violence present in the area.
THOUSANDS FORCED TO LEAVE LAND

In 1949 the ban was extended to Weenen and the farmers were allowed only five families living on a farm. All unauthorized tenants were forced to leave. Mass evictions by baton beatings and bulldozing of huts and court proceedings occurred between 1969 and 1971 during which it is estimated that more than 10,000 people were forcibly evicted.

Today evictions are taking place in a much subtler form. Farmers use civil action against the labour tenants. This has replaced the criminal action which was used for many years when farmers laid charges of illegal squatting.

Until very recently many tenants were imprisoned or faced heavy fines, but the farmers returned to their homes and left them without even paying the fines.

In frustration, some farmers used other forms of intimidation and harassment to force tenants off the farms.

In the last two months 40 families have been subjected to the same proceedings — 18 of which have already been "processed" and evicted. Closely's organization believes that the legal process will not provide a solution to the conflict between farmers and farm workers.

"If the state can provide them with the land they will increase very slowly and producively. The small-scale farmers will be forced to leave."

Closely's organization believes that the legal process will not provide a solution to the conflict between farmers and farm workers.

"If the state can provide them with the land they will increase very slowly and producively. The small-scale farmers will be forced to leave." Closely says. "An economically rational programme of land settlement and redistribution is an absolute necessity. This means that the present basis of land distribution as it exists in the apartheid Land Act would have to be radically re-evaluated.

The province's planners have other ideas about resolving the conflict.

Mr. R. Baard, director of the Land Control Service branch of the Natal Provincial Administration, says that the rate of the conflict is through the creation of small-scale farming towns in areas closest to the farm worker's homes and that the programme of land settlement is a rational approach to solving the problem. Already 12 towns are in an advanced stage of development and other areas are being identified.

"What we are awaiting is the finance, the manpower and the availability of land to be able to put a reward for the programme of creating the towns, which is envisaged will exist with the services of community life," Baard says.

Closely believes that "this forced urbanization is a recipe for disaster. We have already seen the effects of similar rural-urban centres in our region."
TRIBE MUST MOVE

By ISMAIL LAGARDJEN

THOUSANDS of people in northern Natal are to be evicted from their ancestral land to make way for a mammoth nature reserve.

In a multi-phased plan to establish a Great Maputaland National Park of whom the main protagonist is the KwaZulu government, the Thembe-Thonga people face mass eviction and possible relocation.

The people affected in the present phase are those in the Kosi Bay area. Villagers who have lived there "for centuries" have been told not to farm in their usual places and a fence has been erected preventing some farmers from reaching fertile areas.

A field worker for the Association for Rural Advancement (Afra), a church-funded organisation, estimates that close
PRETORIA — Farmers were dissatisfied with government in spite of aid so far given, SA Agricultural Union president Robus Jooste said in Durban yesterday.

At a Red Meat Producers' Association congress there, Jooste stressed the industry's financial plight.

There was a long list of areas in trouble, and many co-operatives' figures presented an ugly picture.

Jooste asked why farmers' numbers were still decreasing and special schemes were necessary in border areas to induce people to stay. Why, too, were entire towns, communities and districts dying?

GERALD REILLY

This indicated a serious sickness, Jooste said. Latest figures, if they were accurate, could only mean that few farmers were making money and the rest were going under.

"We spent much on our defence force and arms industry," he said.

There was no difference in worth to the country "between a soldier with a gun but an empty stomach, and another with a full stomach but without a gun".

Escalating input costs were impoverishing farmers.

Government's contribution to the "sickness" was taxation on production and diesel, GST, excise duties and unnecessary industrial protection affecting a large range of products. Interest rates also continued to escalate, retarding production.

"It will be difficult to turn the process of deterioration in the industry around. The least we can do is to arrest the process."

Farmers should not be blamed if they kicked against government's taxing of production companies which made unreasonable profits from agriculture, and co-operatives which strove for goals other than the farmer's financial interest.
A bumper crop from the farming sector could earn R5.5 billion in exports this year, thereby compensating to some extent for lower foreign exchange earnings from gold.

Exact annual figures are difficult to establish because of seasonal variations of crops and a statistical lack of clarity over what constitutes primary agricultural commodities and refined farming goods.

But last season farming’s contribution to total exports increased to over 10 percent and the figure could rise substantially this year as the lower gold price is likely to reduce the metal’s share of forex earnings from 40 percent to 36 percent.

Higher farm production and exports should also add about one percent to the gross domestic product this year.

A number of factors are contributing to the optimistic outlook for the agricultural sector.

Foremost is the decline of the rand against the dollar, which is improving the competitiveness of South Africa’s products abroad because 80 percent of its commodities are traded in dollars.

Bruce Donald, economist at the South African Foreign Trade Association (Safco) says: “Combined with the favourable effect of rising international commodity prices, the impact of the falling rand is helping South African exporters to keep ahead of rising production costs.”

A detailed analysis of agricultural prospects by Mr Donald, published in the latest edition of *Safco Exporter*, shows that most sectors can look forward to record crops in the 1989/90 season.

WHEAT: A record crop of more than 6 million tons is now being harvested and while excessive rains have reduced crop quality, exports of 650,000 tons should earn an additional R400 million in foreign income by the end of June 1990, with half of this due this year.

DECIDUOUS FRUIT: Cape fruit exports are once again expected to be bountiful and the industry is gearing up for another record year, which this season should yield R750 million in exports alone.

CITRUS FRUIT: Producers have had a bumper season, earning about R700 million from exports. The outlook for the current season is good, with demand and the low rand adding to potential earnings.

SUGAR: Prospects for increased forex earnings in the year ending March this year look extremely good since world sugar prices have risen by up to 25 percent over the year.

In the previous year, total industry earnings were R1.4 billion and a substantial increase can be expected in the 1989/90 season, as well as in the current season.

WOOL: Producers are heading for earnings of R1 billion from wool sales this year, of which R900 million is expected to be in foreign exchange. Local production is increasing and, with no end in sight to the international wool boom, earnings could increase even further over the next season.

Mr Donald says other crops like molasses, karakul wool, groundnuts and tropical fruits should add to this year’s total export proceeds from agriculture.
Richtersvelders revolt

Farmers want a return to communal grazing

By ANDREA WEISS
Staff Reporter

SOUTHERN Richtersveld stock farmers have vowed to battle for the return of their communal grazing land after the success of other Namaqua communities in having an unpopular privatisation scheme.

Leiefontein and Steinkopf, two areas with similar historical backgrounds to the Southern Richtersveld, won court applications to set aside the system last year.

"Economic units" were first introduced to the Southern Richtersveld when the local management board agreed to divide land around Leiefontein and Steinkopf into 37 camps to be leased to individual farmers by central government.

With more than 260 small stock farmers in the Southern Richtersveld, at least three-quarters of the people who had farmed the land were displaced.

On mines

Some farmers decided to participate in the scheme, but the majority were not in a position to jockey for the few units offered.

Many, whose stock had been severely depleted by drought, sold off their remaining animals and went to work on the mines which dot the Namaqua countryside.

Now, encouraged by the successful court applications of their counterparts in Leiefontein and Steinkopf, stock farmers in the historic reserve have decided to challenge the system.

When farmers gathered in Leiefontein recently to discuss how they would tackle the problem, they spoke about their grievances against the system.

Some were no longer farming but expressed a keen desire to return to an occupation which brought in supplementary income during lean times.

Farmers in the arid areas of Namaqualand traditionally rely on winter and summer grazing, but some of the units have been divided in a way that unevenly distributes water and seasonal grazing.

Oom Saul de Wet who was forced to sell off his remaining stock after a drought in the late 70s said he believed the system was "unfair to the individual.""The result of the system is that the opportunities and rights which people enjoyed have been removed," Mr de Wet said. "They must remove it (the new system). I want to hear nothing more about it."

If the system had not been introduced, he believed he could have built up a new herd after the drought. "But under this system, I can't farm," he said.

Mr Robert Strauss works on a mine to make ends meet. He remembers the days when "if you talked about stock, you meant stock" and describes himself as a stock farmer "from the moment I opened my eyes."

After the drought and when the economic system was introduced, he saw there was "no chance" and sold his last few sheep and goats in 1980.

Although offered a partnership in an "economic unit" or camp, he refused. While he has worked on the mine he has been "unable to survive the way I did when farming."

But he insists: "If the system is removed, I'll come straight back to farm."

Descendants

A man who decided to participate in the system is Mr George Fruiter. But he has come to believe that the old system of a "free Richtersveld" where everybody could live together allowing their stock to drink the same water and graze the same veld would be much better.

"If it were everybody's place there would be a future for my son, my son's children and their descendants."

The Rev Andrew Julius, Minister of the Budget and Agriculture, said the House of Representatives' policy towards "economic units" remained unchanged but he was open to discussion with farmers about it.

In the past, the House of Representatives has been committed to a policy of privatization of agricultural land in the "coloured rural areas" of Namaqualand.

Some of the areas rejected "economic units" out of hand and others like Leiefontein and Steinkopf have won reprieves in court against their management boards which opted for the system.
Exports boom seen for farming sector

From SVEN LÜNSCHE

JOHANNESBURG. — A bumper crop from the farming sector could earn R6-billion in exports this year, thereby compensating to some extent for lower foreign exchange earnings from gold.

Exact annual figures are difficult to establish because of seasonal variations of crops and a statistical lack of clarity over what constitutes primary agricultural commodities and refined goods.

Last season farming’s contribution to total exports increased to over 10 percent and the figure could rise substantially this year as the lower gold price is likely to reduce the metal’s share of forex earnings from 40 percent to 25 percent.

Higher farm production and exports should add about one percent to overall economic growth this year.

A number of factors are contributing to the optimistic outlook for the agricultural sector. Foremost is the decline of the rand against the dollar, which is improving the competitiveness of South Africa’s products abroad because 80 percent of its commodities are traded in dollars.

Bruce Donald, economist at the South African Foreign Trade Association (Safta) says: “Combined with the favourable effect of rising international commodity prices, the impact of the falling rand is helping South African exporters to keep ahead of rising production costs.”

A detailed analysis of agricultural prospects by Mr Donald, published in the latest edition of Safta Exporter shows that most sectors can look forward to record crops in the 1989-90 season.

- Maize: Excellent ongoing late summer rains have virtually assured a bumper crop of 11-million tons, which could reap a record R3.3-billion, with farmers’ earnings rising by R850-million. The total amount available for export should be more than 5-million tons and could gross forex earnings of R1.5-billion.

- Wheat: A record crop of more than 3-million tons is now being harvested and while excessive rains reduced the crop quality, exports of about 650 000 tons should earn an additional R400-million in foreign income by the end of June 1990, with half of this due this year.

- Deciduous fruit: Cape fruit exports are once again expected to be bountiful and the industry is gearing for another record year, which this season will yield in excess of R750-million in exports alone.

- Citrus: Producers have also experienced a bumper season, earning about R700-million from exports and the outlook for the current season is also good, with demand and the low rand adding to potential earnings.

- Sugar: Prospects for increased forex earnings in the year to end-March look extremely good as world sugar prices have risen by up to 25 percent over the year. In the previous year total industry earnings were about R1.4-billion.

- Wool: South African producers are heading for earnings of around R1-billion from wool sales this year, of which R900-million are expected to be forex earnings.
It's the green, not the gold, we have to thank

SOUTH AFRICA's good economic performance in the last two years was a result more of good luck than good management, Nedbank economist Edward Osborn argued recently. Last year the gold price fell but with the boom in the industrial and newly industrialising countries, the prices for other important South African exports - base metals and minerals - rose enough to compensate. This made more of a contribution to the country's success in repaying its foreign debts and in having a growing economy than did good management by the financial authorities, he said.

This year it seems luck will come to the financial authorities' aid once again. And this time it's partly thanks to the weather.

South African agriculture is this year expected to make a significant contribution to export earnings and is likely to boost economic growth.

In the latest Volkskas Economic Spotlight, economist Adnum Jacoby forecasts better-than-expected agricultural crops could add one to 1.5 percent to the growth rate in 1989. The growth rate of gross domestic product could be 2.5 percent this year, rather than the 1.5 percent it might have been without the contribution of agriculture, he forecasts.

"The export figures will also be adjusted upward as a result of the favourable agricultural conditions," he adds.

Top of the lucky list is maize. Good summer rains have meant the maize crop this season is expected to be higher than last season's by up to four million tons. The South African Agricultural Union's (SAAU) latest estimate is the maize crop will total 11 million tons this year, worth R3.3 billion. Farmers' gross earnings are expected to be about R350 million up on last year's, according to Maize Board estimates.

The large crop means there will be a sizeable surplus for export. South Africa has not exported much maize in the last few years - in 1983, the last year for which figures are available, about 2.4 million tons were exported. The crop this season is expected to be comparable.

The latest Volkskas Exporter, released by Nedbank, shows that the volume of foreign orders is expected to increase by 15 percent this year, on the back of higher prices and increased exports. The more optimistic outlook for 1989 should mean that the country's exports are expected to increase by 10 percent this year.
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Squatters haven't budged

By Thabo Leshlo

Only a handful of about 800 Wynberg squatters, who were supposed to be relocated to Orange Farm near Grassmere at the end of June, have left the area.

It is not clear what action the Sandton Town Council, under whose jurisdiction the camp falls, will take. Chairman of Sandton's management committee Mr Peter Gardner referred The Star to Mr Steve Burger of the Alexandra Town Council who declined to comment.

The camp is on property owned by Mr Max Green and is earmarked for industrial development.

It is called "kwa-Green" (Green's Place) and is divided into two stands, Stjwetla and Greenside.

Greenside has no water, electricity or toilets, and the squatters do not pay rent.

Although as overcrowded as Greenside, Stjwetla receives some electricity from a derelict factory and has water and communal toilets but no refuse removal. Residents pay R35 monthly to the Alexandra Town Council.

Relocation will cause upheavals. Many squatters work in Sandton and their children go to school in Alexandra.

Mr Johannes Lebogol of Stjwetla said they would have to pay R8 to get to work whereas now they walk or pay at the most a rand a day.

Publicity secretary of the Alexandra Action Committee, Mr Obid Bepe, said claims of a land shortage in Alexandra were not true.

Quoting findings of research conducted by his committee, he said 120,000 people in Alexandra lived on 380 ha of land but in nearby Eastbank 260 ha of the total 320 ha was vacant.

SA grip on Swazi farming

The Star Bureau

Johannesburg — South Africa is dumping produce in Swaziland, where it cannot compete, The Financial Mail reports.

Mr. George P. Madeley, assistant secretary of the South African Agricultural Marketing Board, said many Swazi farmers will find it very difficult to meet the standards of the South African government.

The South African government is hoping to establish a marketing system in Swaziland to ensure that the Swazi farmers would serve the country's needs.

The market manager, Mr Mike Dlamini, hopes that the Swazi farmers now have a market for their produce, they will grow and sell more and so reduce the amount coming in from the Republic, the report adds.
Less fuss on farms
In a significant deregulation move, government is scrapping the need for permits to import a wide range of "controlled" agricultural products and materials.

The change becomes effective on August 1 and means about 12,000 fewer permits will have to be issued annually, says chief plant and seed inspector of the Directorate of Plant & Liquor Control, Jack Lotz. This represents about 60% of permits now issued.

Up to now, importers have been required to obtain individual permits for "controlled goods". Though Lotz says they issuing of permits did not necessarily delay importers' schedules, the administrative process did cost the State time and money which will now be saved.

In future, importers will merely need to ensure that the "controlled goods" they bring into SA comply with the requirements laid down in a government notice published on May 26. Lotz says the notice is, in effect, a "blanket permit."

The imports will still be subject to inspection at their port of entry, which is restricted to the main ports, airports and border posts. Importers will be responsible for ensuring that the goods comply with health and other requirements laid down in the government notice.

"Controlled goods" affected by the deregulation include a wide range of seed, vegetative propagating material, rooted greenhouse plants, fresh, frozen, dried and glazed fruit, tissue culture, fresh frozen and dehydrated vegetables, cut and dried flowers, timber and unmanufactured timber products, bark, cork, vegetable fibre, vegetable gums and resins, rattan and bamboo, leaf tobacco, tobacco leaf, stalks and tobacco dust, herbs, spices and other parts of plants meant for medicinal, human or animal consumption, biological material for composting, vermi compost, granulated beeswax and products containing beeswax.

Lotz says agricultural products now subject to strict quarantine requirements, such as grape vines, fruit trees and plants, do not fall under the "controlled goods" for which permits will not be needed.

The scrapping of the need for individual permits is in line with government's deregulation policy, but Lotz stresses that the move in no way exempts importers from the conditions laid down in the government notice. ■
Luxury imports must go, says agriculturalist

UNNECESSARY imports of luxury and non-essential goods should be eliminated as a step towards preparing the South African economy for the challenges that lay ahead, the chairman of the Western Province Agricultural Union (WPAU), Mr FJ Malan, said yesterday.

Delivering the keynote address at the start of the WPAU’s annual congress at the Cape Sun, Mr Malan called for “an urgent and radical restructuring” of the economy and a “very serious look” at the present approach to the “so-called ‘free economy’”.

“If we remember that the processing and refinement of primary products, which can be marketed competitively in international markets, will determine the welfare of communities in the future, it is clear that the South African economy, and by implication our agricultural industry as well, faces the greatest challenges in our history.

“It is clear that the economy of South Africa, which presently rests very strongly on our mineral resources, will have to undergo an urgent and radical restructuring to expand its existing base.

“I believe that positive steps will have to be taken to safeguard the balance of payments position against sudden declines in the gold price.”

A “basic precaution”, Mr Malan said, would be to stop capital leaving the country for buying luxury or non-essential consumer goods, particularly those from countries which do not permit imports of South African products.
Staff Reporter

NOT a cent has been budgeted this year for housing for farm labourers. Mr P J Joubert, of the Berg River Farmers' Union, told the 10th annual Western Cape Agricultural Union congress yesterday.

He said 23.8% of the total South African population lived in rural areas, yet only 1% of last year's R1 000 million housing budget — R10m — had been allocated to farm employees' housing.

"Is this not a tragedy?" Mr Joubert asked. "What can we do with R10m? It's only 1% of the housing budget to keep people on the platteland and ensure that our whole population does not end up in decline around our cities."

It was "a crying shame" that police had been told to search farmers' bakkies and confiscate a certain variety of lucerne seed. Mr John Robertson, a farmer, told the congress.

He spoke during a debate about the activities of the Lucerne Seed Board, which tried to stabilise production of the seed thus avoiding vast price fluctuations and to introduce new pest-resistant strains.

"I feel that the danger of overproduction is exaggerated," Mr Robertson said.

"It is a crying shame that the free market mechanism is interfered with in this way and ordinary people are made into criminals. The fault lies with the system."
Freeze ‘good and bad news’ for the farmers

By Paula Fray

The freezing weather over most of South Africa has brought good and bad news for the farmers, says the executive manager of the Free State Agricultural Union.

Mr Lulu de Jager says stock farmers will all be affected by the intense cold. Animals will lose weight and farmers whose sheep were lambing need to take extra precautions.

"Stock losses have been kept at a minimum at the moment, although temperatures have plummeted to a low of below zero in Bloemfontein," he said.

The Transvaal Agricultural Union said yesterday that it had received no reports of stock losses.

Mr de Jager said the central Free State had not been as badly affected by the cold as the southern area where there had been heavy snow.

The cold was welcomed by wheat farmers because it was needed for the pattern of growth. The climate suggested a very good wheat year.

The cold was also good for ridding farms of unwanted insects and animals. But it has not been welcomed by maize farmers, who are already behind schedule with harvesting.

This would now be delayed yet again and would affect farmers who needed the money urgently, he added.

The harvesting delay would mean farmers would not be able to start preparing their land in time for the next crop.
Blocks of land for
learner Zulu farmers

The Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — Natal Trust Farms, owned by the South African Development Trust, is developing farms to settle KwaZulus.

The project is aimed at encouraging them to become full-scale commercial farmers by granting them more land.

The manager of the trust, Mr Louis van den Aardweg, said the big blocks of land, spread throughout Natal, will be subdivided into 250 to 300 units and leased indefinitely.

TRACTORS TO BE LEASED

The trust will provide expertise, lease tractors and provide fertilisers.

Mr van den Aardweg said the trust had the names of 17 farmers who had applied for land. They had been forwarded to the State for approval.
Self-help project gives farmers hope

Arid Namaqualand soil has yielded 'a miracle'

By Winnie Graham

The farmers of Namaqualand say it is a miracle. Until two years ago their arid earth was barren. The water supply was hopelessly inadequate and the soil poor.

Now the good earth is yielding vegetables and crops for more than 50 farmers involved in a communal venture. The feeling of hopelessness which once crushed almost all the poor people of Steinkopf is giving way to cautious optimism.

The turning point in the lives of the farmers came when Operation Hunger stepped in and commissioned Professor Amos Richmond, an Israeli specialist in desert research, to ascertain the most viable methods of farming the area.

Mr. Rượtel Frasca of Operation Hunger said: "He showed us the enormous potential of Namaqualand. In spite of the dry climate, it is possible to grow an enormous range of crops there."

With R1 million from the Anglo American and De Beers Chairman's Fund, a project was launched in 1987 to establish a cooperative.

Farmers, all Afrikaans-speaking coloureds, were chosen on the basis of those in greatest need and divided into eight groups. Agriculturist Mr Jan Geerstens was appointed manager. Tractors and planters were bought to enable each group to prepare its land properly for crop production. Boreholes were drilled.

Crucial to the success of the project is a centre where various seed types are being grown for use by the farmers. Training courses are being held to upgrade farming techniques and to teach reservoir building.

Exports to Namibia

Mr Frasca added: "There was a time when there were no fresh vegetables to be had in Namaqualand. People had to wait for supplies from Cape Town. Now the farmers are producing and have a huge potential market in Namibia."

Mr Frasca said Operation Hunger and the Chairman's Fund would both eventually withdraw from the project when it was self-supporting.

Many of the coloured farmers working the lands are old but if you ask them why they are prepared to put so much effort into their work their answer is always the same. They say they have been given something their fathers always wanted: the ability to farm Namaqualand.

"And they hope their efforts will bring their children back again."

She added: "We have all learned so much from the project.

Farmers involved in a communal veg plant cops in Namaqualand.
Life is hard in tents

THE 30 evicted Weenen (near Estcourt) farmworker families who were removed on Monday from the roadside site they have occupied since their civil erection at the beginning of June, say they do not want to be at their new settlement camp.

They say that it is a lie that it will be just a temporary measure.

The evicted workers were moved to the new site adjacent to the Weenen emergency camp on Monday afternoon.

A large number of policemen, Natal Provincial Administration workers and other unidentified officials arrived at the roadside site and allegedly told them that they had to leave.

The farmworkers said they had refused to pack their belongings and workers in orange NPA overalls had then begun collecting all their possessions for them.

After the NPA workers had packed everything into boxes, the displaced workers were then told to get into two buses which had been brought for the purpose of transporting them.

When they refused, some were allegedly pushed into the buses. Two ambulances were also allegedly at the scene.

The farmworkers are now being accommodated in about 50 tents provided by the NPA. There are 10 portable toilets on site, as well as a large water tank.

The families complained about the tents, which they say leaked water and were colder than the Red Cross tents they had received last week.
Farm school is in danger of closure

"By Abel Mushi"

The Philena Farm School at Knoppieslaagte north of Johannesburg is in danger of being closed at the year-end. The school was started in 1964 with about 100 pupils, comprising mainly farmworkers' children.

Because of its high standard compared with what was available at the time, the school opened its doors to children from neighbouring farms, according to the school's headmaster Mr Nicodemus Mphiwe (52).

Enrolment rose steadily and presently totals 450. The school has 10 teachers and the classes range from grades to Std 7. The school falls under the Department of Education and Training.

"This school has become totally indispensable in the area but with conditions as they are, it doesn't have a future," said Mr Mphiwe.

Owner of Philena Farm, Mr Phillip Koekemoer, told The Star: "I'm fighting for the black people because they have helped me a lot too. I will do everything in my power to save the school."

The Rotary Club of Kyalami has established a committee under the chairmanship of Mr Bernard Tribe, to deal with the problem.

They have explored a variety of possibilities and one of them, Mr Tribe said, was to buy a portion of the land from Mr Koekemoer, so that a new school could be built. However, it had not been possible to negotiate a suitable price.

The other possibility would be to buy land in the vicinity and build a school there. It would be impractical to renovate the existing school buildings.
Vile odours sweet for weed-killer Farm-Ag

By David Carte

THE trouble with Farm-Ag is that it does not understand gearing, says a stockbroker's analyst.

The trouble with analysts is that they do not understand gearing, says Farm-Ag managing director Robert Maingard.

The statements highlight a gulf in attitude and understanding between the Maingard brothers' roisterous agricultural chemicals company and brokers' and institutional analysts.

Transformed

With turnover in the past 5 years jumping from R$50 million to R$150 million and big losses in 1984 and 1985 transformed into a profit of R$2 million in 1986, Farm-Ag is quite a company, notwithstanding the decline in earnings from R$11.5 million to R$2.2 million in 1989.

The market balks at Farm-Ag's debt-equity ratio of 150 and the fall in interest cover from 4 to 2. It also does not like earnings that go back four years, as Farm-Ag did last year.

But an unchastened Mr Maingard, claims shareholders' funds of R$6.9 million to the long-term assets they are lending — fixed assets of R$4.7 million and investments of R$1.5 million.

Debt, he argues, is funding stocks and debtors.

Accent

"I can understand concern if our stocks were high-fashion luxury items, but they are not," he says hardly in his strong Mauritian-French accent.

"The raw materials in stock are internationally tradable commodities, and the finished goods are bread-and-butter items. Without these chemicals, farmers cannot plant. Agricultural chemicals are more basic than food. Our stocks are like gold."

The debtors?

"Our debtors are the who's who of the chemical industry. The other interests are designed to reduce seasonality, though, ironically, lawn mowers are also heavily biased towards summer."

Capi, which makes electric, gas and paraffin burners, does best in winter. This company was not to be listed before the great crash.

Farm-Ag would not have sold 49%, realising its own purchase price and keeping 51%, so the investment would be in the books at no cost.

Disgusted

Most of Farm-Ag's non-chemical interests have a large market share. The Ms Group claims to be second in lawn-mower manufacture, and Hacks Group is No 1 in sock manufacture.

Farm-Ag has 46% of Hacks and Nsinan — "the blue chips in the wash". Which is all very well, but when interest rates are 22% plus, debt of R$5.5 million is inevitably going to whittle away profits and earn a company a lower JSE rating, says the stockbroker's analyst.

Mr Maingard is disgusted at the way investors are valuing a company which he founded in 1935 and now turns over R$250 million a year. Some products for Monsanto, Bayer, ICI and other world chemical giants.

He believes Farm-Ag has done well for shareholders, raising net asset value from 75.2c a share in 1958 to 367.4c and paying 16c of dividends as well.

Essentially, Mr Maingard is making the old industrialist's complaint about Wall St — financial types who understand nothing but their own curious ratios will dump an industrialist and his finest investment projects all for one low-market earnings.

I visited the plant at Canetlands, near Verulam, Natal. It is all home-built. With the help of C.H. Wu of Taiwan, Farm-Ag can build chemical plant more cheaply than anyone else. It is thus able to ensure that capital investments pay for themselves in one to three years.

The philosophy is to make products similar to those of the multinationals when their patents expire. The plant has a low-tech look. It comprises mainly mixing vats into which vile smelling liquids and gases are passed.

Chopper

"Even after a drought, if a farmer wants to plant at the beginning of the next season, he has to buy our fungicides and herbicides. It is only to wards the end of the season, when his crop is a write-off because of drought or hail, that he can stop spending on pesticides, etc."

Having moved into lawn mowers, socks, electric heaters and toiletries, Farm-Ag has been criticised for losing focus. But Mr Maingard defends diversifications. All of them are aimed at import replacement.

Because they are used on maize, sugar, wheat, vine and tobacco crops, agricultural chemicals are seasonal. Most sales are made in spring and summer.

Most of Farm-Ag's non-chemical interests command large market share. The Ms group claims to be second in lawn mowers and Hacks is number one in socks.

Farm-Ag has 46% of Hacks and Nsinan & Lester holds 60%. Hacks is the proprietor of the Bidgard green ring trademark, which allegedly prevents weeds from becoming smelly.

Potter & Moore is well known in specialised niches in toiletries and pharmaceutical manufacture and distribution.

MT Satto and Miracle mowers are well-priced, top-quality items and are moving well. Last summer there was a shortage of rain, but enough heat to get lawns growing.

The imported surcharge was a blow. There has been a switch to electric engines. As a result, Ms ended the year overstocked with engines.

Optimistic

Mr Maingard and team are optimistic for Ms this year. Finally, there is a 23% stake in Bearing Man, the third biggest distributor of bearings in SA.

The market seems to be content with about where Farm-Ag can make the transition from backyard opera tion to large-scale business.

Most of all, it is worried about the R$67-million debt. The company is confident that by squeezing stocks and debtors it can bring debt under shareholders' funds of R$50-million in the current year.

Cash flow last year, excluding earnings of associates, was R$52 million. In a crisis, the company could pass its dividend, saving R$6.1 million.

In addition, investments could be realised — so Farm-Ag's survival is simply not in question. Upside in the event of interest rates declining is enormous. At 25c, the share is 3.2 times last year's earnings. The dividend yield is a fat 16.7% and the discount to net asset value is 26%.

The impression is that in a market that has lost sight of all but the blue chips, Farm-Ag is an absolute steal.
PRETORIA — SA's agricultural industry, battered by four successive droughts, has moved into a recovery phase after last summer's widespread rains, according to Agricultural Minister Greyling Wentzel.

Since 1989 the industry had shown a negative growth rate of 3.7% and for more than half this period the country had been caught up in devastating droughts and unprecedented floods, he said in a statement issued here yesterday.

Wentzel said the recovery in the industry had actually started in 1995. Government financial bridging assistance had been given to farmers in an effort to counter the destruction caused by droughts and floods.

Wentzel said in spite of the severely adverse conditions the growth in real net farming income in the four years from 1994 showed a "phenomenal" increase of 18.6%.

The recovery was indicated by a levelling off in the rate of increase in the farmers' massive debt since 1995 and in increased investment in the industry in the past two years.

Also encouraging, he said, was the fact that although the rate of increase in the price of farming requisites was still alarmingly high, it had been levelling off since 1996.

Wentzel added export earnings had increased — from R1.7bn in 1993 to more than R4bn this year.
SOUTH Africa's farmers, afflicted by a 200% price increase in trucks in the past two years, are reducing capital expenditure by refurbishing and rebuilding vehicles.

Sam Mather, of AAD Truck & Bus, says that against a backdrop of the continued weakness of the rand and imported price increases, these options have become more attractive.

"The refurbishing extends the truck's working life by five to seven years, delivery time is generally quicker and the specialised workmanship is highly satisfactory."
Greening of Cape is in, shows boom in nurseries

CAPE TOWN nurseries are experiencing a boom in the wake of increasing environmental awareness and a trend towards home improvement and the upgrading up suburbs rather than moving “up-market”.

Robert Stodel of Stodel's nurseries says sales have increased “in excess of 25%” over last year and Mike Pierce, owner of Brackenfell's Bracken Nursery confirms an increase of 25-27%.

However, Stodel says that while sales have increased tremendously, profitability in the nursery business has not always been so: "This is due to the fact that nurseries in Cape Town are more competitive than those in Johannesburg by up to 50-60% on individual plants.

"The nursery business here is dynamic, taking the lead ahead of the Transvaal. It is cut-throat and competitive and a very exciting market."

Liz Hoare, spokesman for the Cape Association of Nurserymen, says: "The nursery industry as a whole is presently experiencing an unprecedented boom. Gone are the days when hubby went off to play golf and left the gardening to the wife."

Public awareness
"For most couples it is now a joint venture with careful planning backed by the sound advice from their local nurserymen. There is also a definite awareness of indigenous plant material - so much so, that our association is supplying all member nurseries with special indigenous plant labels to enable customers to identify them and to create more public awareness in this regard."

Dull facade
"The first impression of the exterior of the house and the garden is defini-
Going cold turkey

In the past three years, farmers have had to adjust to a dramatic drop in interest rate subsidies. Unfortunately, implementation of market-related interest rates, in 1984-1985, "coincided with devastating droughts and a sharp increase in interest rates," says Wits MBA student Andy Johnson, in a paper on Agricultural Financing & Monetary Policy, in Business Alert No 110.

This combination created a perception that market-related interest rates must be high and increasing; but this is not so. "Under a market-related system," says Johnson, "interest rates, particularly short term, are likely to be subject to greater fluctuations. With the high percentage of short-term debt, farmers can expect to feel the effect of this volatility — especially those who purchased land and other capital items with short-term credit from banks."

But this does not imply that rates can only rise. Since the phasing-out of interest rate subsidies started, the economy has seen rates fall and remain substantially negative for a long period before rising again.

The adjustment is particularly difficult for farmers as they came to rely on getting credit at a substantial discount to market rates (see graph). "This is largely due to the socially desirable consequences of enabling this sector to produce cheap food under the exceptional environmental conditions in which it has to operate." Hazards facing the farming community include "an unpredictable climate, highly seasonal production, slow turnover of capital and high degrees of risk."

Much subsidised financing flowed through the Land Bank (LB). The problem for monetary policy arose because LB bills, debentures with an original maturity of three years or less and commercial bank advances to the LB carried liquid asset status. Their absorption by the banking system allowed the expansion of "credit to the private sector by a multiple of these additional liquid assets and thus contributed to excessive creation of money," says Johnson.

Johnson calculates that in 1984, when subsidisation on long-term loans reached a peak, the interest rate differential between market-related interest rates and those charged farmers provided relief worth more than R164m on long debt of R1,7bn.

Phasing out of favourable financing for farmers started in 1982, when most commercial bank advances were converted into bills and debentures yielding market-related returns. Today, neither overdrafts nor bills (other than those of a self-liquidating nature) carry liquid asset status.

But, says Johnson, as "the LB pools funds (of different terms) and enjoys the advantage of interest-free reserves and interest subsidies on members' carry-over debts at co-operatives, while not being tied to the financial requirements of the Banks Act, (it could) phase in the new measures and cushion the shocks to the agricultural sector."
Farmers face ruin as plea for more water is rejected

BY BILL KRIGE

THE CRUNCH has arrived in the drought-stricken Eastern Cape where cities and farmers are locked in deadly competition for a fast-dwindling water supply.

For farmers in the Gamtoos Valley the next few weeks will be critical, with their multi-million-rand investment in citrus and vegetables headed for disaster unless they get water.

On Thursday, their application for an immediate increase in their allocation from the 10-per-cent-full Paul Sauer Dam was rejected by a government committee.

Now it's up to the Minister of Water Affairs, Mr Gert Koepe, either to confirm the decision or overturn it.

Depleted

The crucial factor is that severely rationed Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage both draw supplies from the dam and any further raid on the depleted water stock could jeopardize the entire industrial complex.

But while officials juggle with figures, quotas and predictions, the 115-million Gamtoos citrus crop is on the brink of failure.

"Farmers are looking at a 90 per cent crop write-off unless they get more water for their trees in October," said the administrative manager of the Patensie Citrus Co-op, Mr Quentin Strydom.

"We've got a 'green drought' because the trees look normal. But unless we get good irrigation now from Paul Sauer that harvest is lost."

Not only is the crop at jeopardy but farmers who have invested up to R200-million in trees, land and equipment are now teetering towards bankruptcy.

The normal allocation to Gamtoos farmers from Paul Sauer Dam was cut by 90 per cent in April because of the drought, now in its eighth year.

In Port Elizabeth, where severe restrictions are backed by heavy penalties, relief will only come next March if the rains continue to fail.

That is when an emergency scheme to pipe water from the Orange River via the Sunday's River to the city's system comes on stream.
Cheap-cash days end for strapped farmers

By Don Robertson

"The move to market-related financing of agriculture does not mean that the State no longer finds it socially desirable to provide cheap credit to this sector. Where the Government wishes to subsidise interest rates this will be done by means of direct subsidies included in the Budget and voted in Parliament.

"In this way, the adverse effects that the old system of agricultural financing had on the effectiveness of monetary policy will no longer arise.

"Under a market-related system, interest rates, particularly short term, are likely to fluctuate more. With the high percentage of short-term debt, farmers in general can expect to feel the volatility of this.

It will be especially true for those who have bought land and other capital items with short-term credit from banks."
‘Alert farmers’ reap benefits

Pretoria Bureau

Economic prospects for “alert and adaptable farmers” have greatly improved, a senior agricultural economics lecturer says.

Dr G F Ortmann, of the University of Natal, Maritzburg, has made this prediction despite an increase in the farming debt to more than R14 billion.

Writing in The Farmer, official publication of the South African Agricultural Union, Dr Ortmann says that in 1984 more than 30 percent of the country’s farmers were in serious financial difficulties.

Pessimism about the future of the industry has been fanned by a decrease in world commodity prices but, recently, “prices of major commodities, such as grain and sugar, on the world market improved due to decreasing production in major producing countries resulting from lower prices, changing government policies and adverse weather conditions”.

FUTURE PROSPECTS

He says uncertainties in farming are also brought about by Government indications that it intends deregulating agriculture, the possibility of organised labour unions, interest rates and inflation.

“It is understandable that farmers are concerned with the future prospects of farming. However, there is no doubt that there will always be farmers … flexible and able to adapt to changing economic circumstances.”

Dr Ortmann adds that the importance of the domestic market has been enhanced by sanctions.

He also urges farmers to computerise their operations far more than has been the case until now, adding that care needs to be taken to ensure that the correct system is installed.
Star readers help fill farm workers' library

Free State farmworkers and their children have welcomed a precious new facility inspired by the initiative of the farmer's wife, Mrs Norma Rolfe, of Vljoenskroon.

"With the help of readers of The Star, she has started a library.

The Rolfe's' workers live in, perhaps, the most pleasing circumstances in the province. They have attractive homes, electricity, running water and the only licensed clubhouse for farmworkers in South Africa. Their children attend school, and everyone — both old and young — are encouraged to improve their literacy.

"To make sure both youngsters and their parents have something to read, Mrs Rolfe asked readers of The Star for any books they could spare.

The response soon filled several shelves in the new library. But there are still some standing empty.

"I am so grateful to readers who were good enough to parcel books and send them to me," she says. "I know, however, that many people haven't the time or inclination to parcel and post books, so I have asked my sister in Johannesburg to act as a 'depot' for me."

She is seeking all sorts of books for young children, high school pupils and adults. Old textbooks are useful for children to use for reference purposes. Mrs Rolfe's sister in Johannesburg, Mrs Hazel Macmillan, of Illovo, has offered to act as a collection depot. She can be contacted at (011) 442-7936. If you are able to offer books, do telephone Mrs Rolfe at (014137) 4231.

The new library at Rolfe's Farm in Vljoenskroon is used by adults and children alike.
Cautious welcome for Land Bank move

PRETORIA — Farmers have given a qualified welcome to the Land Bank announcement that existing interest rates in aid schemes and production credit are to be retained. (Gerald Reilly)

SAAU president Kobus Johannes said the concession was applicable only to about 15% of total agricultural debt. He said the general increase of interest rates affected the farmers’ ability to recover “very seriously”.

Another SAAU source said, taking total debt at R14bn, the 15% concession applied only to about R2.1bn.

Although welcome as a gesture, this was seen as hardly significant.
FW ‘fully aware of problems facing farmers’

By GRAHAM LIAMMORE
Staff Reporter

PRESIDENT F W de Klerk apologised to farmers attending the annual congress of the South African Agricultural Union in Cape Town, saying he wished he could have made some earth-shattering announcement concerning agriculture.

All he could do at this stage was promise farmers his unqualified commitment and support in their efforts to make the necessary adjustments, so that the industry could maintain its vital role as a provider of food, employer and earner of foreign exchange.

Opening the 85th congress of the SAAU in Sea Point last night, Mr De Klerk said he was fully aware of the problems facing farmers, particularly the unfavourable climatic conditions in the past decade.

Vital role

In some cases food had to be imported where previously it had been exported, and this had a negative influence on the balance of trade. At the same time, the farmer’s debt burden had increased to about R14-billion, which had placed great demands on local capital markets.

Mr De Klerk said agriculture was an indispensable sector of the economy. Its role was vital for healthy economic development and social and constitutional order and stability.

He congratulated agricultural leaders who had formulated their own strategic plan for sound agricultural development which was approved at last year’s congress in Kimberley.

According to Mr De Klerk, the most important thing about the plan was that it pursued the economic independence of the farmer.

It made sense that agricultural production should be market-orientated, but it was also true that there was nowhere in the world that agriculture was able to operate in a totally free-market situation.

Employed

There would always be circumstances which would compel the State to hold a “protective” hand over the agricultural sector.

Mr De Klerk said the socio-economic contribution of agriculture was vital to the country, particularly as between 15 and 17 percent of the economically active section of the population was employed in agriculture.

Taking their dependants into account, agriculture provided a livelihood to about 23 percent of the total population.

Mr De Klerk said agriculture also had the responsibility of uplifting the rural populations, and he appreciated what was achieved on farms.

He said 47 percent of all black pupils at primary level received education in schools built by farmers on their own farms.
‘Farm debts big burden on markets’

By ANTHONY JOHNSON
Political Correspondent

SOUTH AFRICAN farmers’ R14-billion debt burden had placed great demands on local capital markets during the ‘80s, President F W de Klerk said last night.

Opening the SA Agricultural Union congress in the city, Mr De Klerk said the extremely unfavourable climatic conditions experienced in the country during the past decade meant that food exports had declined.

In some cases foods that used to be exported had to be imported, resulting in a negative impact on the balance of trade.

This had placed great additional demands on the agricultural credit system and suppliers of agricultural products and services experienced a drop in demand.

Mr De Klerk said the problems surrounding agricultural production in South Africa were clearly illustrated by the fact that the country had “a relatively low agricultural potential”.

Only 12% of South Africa’s total land surface of 86 million hectares was suitable for cultivation. Of this, only 3% was “high potential” ground, which included much of the roughly 1m hectares under irrigation.

The loss of arable land through erosion and the growth of cities and mining was disturbing and had resulted in a loss of almost 13 000ha a year for the past 18 years, he said.

Mr De Klerk said that agriculture contributed only between 5% and 7% of South Africa’s gross national product.

However, the agricultural sector was, after mining, the second-largest net earner of foreign exchange and the largest provider of work in the Plattenkraal.

Between 15% and 17% of economically active South Africans were employed by agriculture, which also had a “great task” of uplifting the population in rural areas.

About 47% of all black pupils at primary school level received education in schools erected by farmers on their own farms, in many cases at their own expense.

“...The mere fact that so many black children can receive primary education while they can still live at home with their parents, most definitely contributes to a stable community.”
Farmers must be ‘ready for the new South Africa’

Staff Reporter

A CONSTITUTION for a new South Africa could be an economic and emotional disaster for farmers unless they took part in the debate when land issues were discussed.

This warning came from the outgoing president of the South African Agricultural Union (SAAU), Mr Kobus Jooste, at the opening of the 85th congress of the union in Sea Point last night.

Mr Jooste, who has served organised agriculture for the past 39 years, said land was the farmer’s most precious possession and was a big emotional issue in Africa.

He said this was already true in Namibia and unless the problem was correctly handled from the start, South African farmers would be on a collision course.

“Farmers must take part in the debate when land issues are discussed. Let us make sure we are ready for that day — it may come sooner than we think,” he warned.

Mr Jooste said he knew farmers were willing to help President De Klerk in the creation of the new South Africa.

A good base for the future had been laid with the creation of a strategic plan for healthy agricultural development.

He warned that the welfare of farm workers would also be influenced by political developments.

About 5-million people lived on farms but only about 1½-million were economically active.

There was a continuous struggle to get money from government to help build housing on farms.

But he warned that unless the state contributed to housing, farmers in their own interests and the interests of agriculture would have to remove more than half of the unproductive people from their farms. Those that remained would have to be more productive.

Farmers in the new South Africa would have to accept that farm labour could not be treated differently from other labour and agriculture could not continue to be excluded from the labour Acts, Mr Jooste said.
FW warns about rural migration

GERALD REILLY

MIGRATION of the rural population to the urban areas was one of the major problems for South Africa. President F W de Klerk said in Cape Town last night. His speech was released in Pretoria.

Opening the annual conference of the South African Cultural Union, he stressed demand for housing in the metropoles alone, caused by the migration, was a most pressing part of the problem. It had to be tackled.

If living conditions in the rural areas could be made more attractive, migration to cities could be partly curbed.

On market-oriented production, de Klerk said nowhere in the world did agriculture operate in a totally free market situation.

There would always be circumstances compelling the State to protect the industry.

Economically active

Stressing the socio-economic contribution of agriculture, de Klerk said it provided jobs, contributing to economic and social infrastructure in rural areas and helped protect South Africa’s borders.

After mining, agriculture was the second biggest net earner of foreign exchange and the biggest job provider in the platteland.

De Klerk said about 17% of the economically active population worked in agriculture, the industry providing a livelihood for about 23% of the total population and contributing between 5% and 7% of the GNP.

However, only about 12% of the agricultural surface area of 86-million hectares was workable. Of this only 3% was high potential land.

Referring to the droughts of the 80s, he said because of the resultant decrease in farm exports, the country’s balance of payments had been harmed.

Farmers’ debts had risen to around R14bn which had made great demands on the local capital market as well as on the Agricultural Credit Board.
AGRICULTURE

Times of plenty

The sun is shining on SA's farmers these days. According to two agricultural reports just released, farm debt in real terms is down sharply; cash flow, net income and export earnings are up markedly.

The sector's brighter fortunes are illustrated by reports from the SA Agricultural Union and the Directorate of Agricultural Economic Trends.

"The debt situation, in real (inflation-adjusted) terms, improved dramatically over the past two to three years," says Maize Board senior economist Johan Willems.

"Total farm debt grew by a mere 4.1% - from R12,4bn in 1986 to R12,9bn - in 1987. The further hike to R13,6bn in 1988 adds another 4.9%.

With the value of farm assets soaring to R54,5bn, the sector's debt-asset ratio dropped from 26% in 1987 to 24.9% in 1988.

The levelling off of farm debt can be seen in the interest figures. The interest bill for the last three years was estimated at R5,1bn, but the total debt increased by only R1,2bn. With favourable weather and a few more good seasons, farmers should be able to start repaying capital.

Meanwhile, farm profits are also improving dramatically. "Agriculture is now back at the profitable levels of 1980 and 1981," Willems says. "It is going well with most sectors -- deciduous and tropical fruit, maize, wheat, sugar, red and white meat, wool and others. In the case of maize alone, farmers expect a 60%-odd improvement in their earnings this season."

In the year to June, gross farm income increased by 9% to R15,7bn. And, taking the late maize crop into account, another R2bn may be added to the year-end figures.

The union's report, for 1988-1989, states: "The net farming income of R6,4bn in 1988/1989 was about 28% above the previous year, compared with a similar 29.4% increase the year before. If the situation since 1985/1986 is studied, one finds that this year's income is about R4,2bn higher than that year. This represents an average annual increase of 41.5% in nominal terms."

Farmers' increased spending power was directed not only at repaying interest. The union reports that expenditure on seasonal goods and services increased by 18% over the previous year.

- The volume index of farm produce increased by 4%, while producer prices went up by 6% across the board.
- Stock farmers increased their earnings by 18% to R3,1bn, with receipts from wool, red meat, chicken and eggs all posting sharp increases.
- Agriculture's contribution to GDP increased by 3% to R9,6bn. This represents 6% of GDP.
- Cash flow improved dramatically from R1,5bn in 1983 to R5,6bn in 1988; and
- Agricultural exports improved from R3,2bn in 1987 to R3,6bn in 1988, with total exports for 1989 estimated at R5,8bn.

While it is true good rains over the last two years helped to boost production, soaring local demand also underpinned the improvement in farming incomes.

"Total expenditure on food in 1988/1989 reached R32,3bn, which represented an increase of 19% on the previous year, compared with a similar increase of 21% the year before," the directorate reports.

But, while their earnings have improved strongly, farmers are still plagued by sharply rising costs. The ratio between the increase in producer prices and cost increases weakened from 0.85 to 0.77 in 1988/1989, the directorate notes.

Other structural problems also remain. Exports of surplus maize and wheat have pushed down producer prices, which could speed up the switch from these crops to alternatives such as soya, red meat, wool and chicken farming in the summer rainfall areas. And chicken sales are still booming, putting pressure on the red meat sector.

Short-term debt still constitutes an alarming 30.7% of the total farm debt, though this figure has improved slightly from 52.4% in 1986. In 1970, the percentage was a mere 8.6%.
Government gets tough over drought aid to farmers

PRETORIA — Government is reining in on lavish drought aid to farmers, which cost the country many millions of rands in the great drought of the eighties.

This is clear from statements made by Agriculture Development Minister Kraai van Niekerk, when he spoke yesterday at a farmers' day in Kenhardt.

He said repeated massive drought aid, which in the case of non-viable farming units made no contributions to the national interest, had to be reduced and eliminated.

Although there was uncertainty about weather patterns, at least there was a certainty that droughts happened regularly. Farmers should therefore be prepared for them to a far greater extent.

It was the massive aid given uneconomic units in the past five years in the north-west Cape which had resulted in a special investigation.

Coping with seasonal droughts inherent in a particular area had to be accepted as the farmers' own responsibility. In practice drought aid was often asked for at too early a stage.

Measures to counter droughts had to be part of the farmers' management strategy. In terms of the revised scheme it was expected of stock farmers that they should become more self-sufficient during the initial phases of a disaster drought through proactive action.

"If we fail to make provision in good years for less favourable ones it becomes more difficult to escape from the resultant debt escalation", Van Niekerk said.
Farmers make savings by importing fertiliser

PRETORIA — A group of Free State maize producers, frustrated by soaring input costs, have imported fertiliser from South America and landed it in SA substantially cheaper than the local price.

Angered by the withdrawal of discounts by local fertiliser producers and a “take-it-or-leave-it” attitude by a “cartel”, the farmers went in search of alternative supplies in South America, a source said.

It is understood the 5 000 tons of urea fertiliser imported was landed in SA and transported to Bothaville at R130 a ton, or 18% less than the local price, which is around R153 a ton.

This was after taking into account an import surcharge of R120 a ton.

A mixed fertiliser, selling in SA for R150 a toe, was also imported — at a total cost of R850 a ton.

National Maize Producers Organisation GM Giel van Zyl said although Nampo was not involved in the operation, it welcomed the initiatives of the farmers.

“Farmers, and particularly maize farmers, have been under tremendous pressure from input costs rising at 20% and more a year and any move to slow down the price spiral and lower total production costs is obviously to be applauded,” he said.

Neither Kynoch fertiliser boss Dr J Skeen nor Sasol fertiliser GM Dr H Viljoen were available for comment.

But Fertiliser Association of SA director H Venter said if fertilisers were imported on a significant scale it would impact heavily on local producers.

He said overseas fertiliser prices were subject to wild fluctuations.

Van Zyl said Nampo had monitored overseas prices for a number of years and no big valleys and peaks had been noted.

Other sources warned that a switch to imports on a large scale could discourage investment in the local industry, lead to a drop in production and expose the agricultural industry to the risk of being forced to buy at exorbitant prices abroad.
Agric sector boosts economy

OWN CORRESPONDENT
JOHANNESBURG — The strong performance from the agricultural sector has bolstered economic growth, at a time when manufacturing activity is slowing in response to tight monetary and fiscal policy.

Latest Central Statistical Services figures reveal that whereas the seasonally adjusted real GDP for the non-agricultural sector dropped sharply by an annualised 2.8% in the third quarter of this year, the equivalent rates for agriculture climbed 6.8%.

The only other sector to register positive growth over this period was mining with a 2.9% growth.

Growth in the non-agricultural sector has slowed in response to tougher economic measures, falling by a seasonally adjusted annualised 0.3% in the second quarter after edging up 0.1% in the first quarter.

Yet, the agricultural sector has grown by 42% in the first quarter and 31% in the second quarter as a result of bumper crops.

SA Agricultural Union chief economist Koos du Toit attributes the solid growth to better volumes and higher prices for agricultural goods, particularly maize.

However, he says the extraordinary growth in the third quarter results from the late harvest of the maize crop.

A spokesman from the Directorate of Agricultural Economic Trends confirms that if the maize crop had not been late there would have been a more even growth trend for the year.

In current prices gross income from the entire agricultural sector for the first three quarters of 1989 was R12,78bn more than R11,54bn up on the R11,24bn achieved in the comparative period last year.

Although agriculture accounts for less than 10% in GDP, this performance is helping to maintain positive growth, says a CSS spokesman. A modest 1.2% growth in GDP was achieved in the third quarter.
Financial husbandry

Livestock farmers who live on a diet of massive State relief during droughts are facing tough new rules. From next year, relief will be based on a farmer’s conservation methods, according to Agricultural Development Minister Kraai van Niekerk. The new policy will help safeguard SA’s fast-deteriorating grazing lands — and force livestock farmers to plan for droughts.

The policy should also lead to more scientific and economic farm management — and save taxpayers’ money. Drought aid to farmers was R1,44b from 1983-1989. In the current financial year, R54m is budgeted — sharply down from the R214m paid out in the last financial year.

In the past, handouts frequently benefited neither farms, taxpayers nor the environment. Farmers were not encouraged to reduce overstocking or overgrazing — they knew they could rely on government for drought aid that came with minimal conditions. Taxpayers were in effect bailing out farmers who would otherwise have gone under.

As a consequence, poor farming methods — which led to increasing erosion of SA’s grazing capacity and the loss of millions of tons of topsoil — were rewarded with grazing subsidies. Conservation-minded farmers, who planned for long-term survival by reducing their stock in dryer years, could not qualify for aid because they were in no danger of going under.

Small, uneconomic farms that would have been forced to sell out and be consolidated into larger farms in drought years were kept in business by well-meaning, if misguided policies. These distortions will soon end, Van Niekerk says. “The new scheme will be aimed at optimising resource use while also utilising State funds more effectively.”

He adds that farmers are often too optimistic in the good years and they make overly ambitious investments that prove too costly when drought returns. “The carrying capacity of the veld deteriorates and it cannot absorb the effect of the next drought.”

The new policy includes:
- Support for the consolidation of non-viable farms;
- Reducing or eliminating “repeated massive drought aid” for non-viable farms that “do not render a positive return;” and
- Greater attention to which farmers apply conservation principles, when deciding how to allocate aid.

“The condition of the conservation farmer’s veld will increasingly be used as a measure for the institution of an emergency drought aid relief scheme for an area,” Van Niekerk says. “This will enable the State to apply its funds more effectively. In future, farmers will have to become more pro-active and self-sufficient — for example, by reducing stock loads by at least a third of the farm’s carrying capacity before qualifying for aid.”
Flooded farmers cut off as dams burst

By RYAN CRESSWELL

A FARMING community in flood-ravaged Natal was devastated after seven dams burst this week.

Most farmers in the Magudu area on the Pongola River were cut off from the outside world for three days. The area was drenched by about 300mm of rain after a week of lighter rain.

Residents said farmers saw an occupied car being washed away.

Esuan Holl, owner of Lelies-look farm, said: "We lost all our fish and a lot of topsoil. A neighbour lost 20 000 chickens."

Rebka Burger of the farm Eucalyptus said the water level on her grazing areas was knee-high.

She said raging torrents had rolled huge rocks into the cane fields.

Warrant Officer Fritz Gouws, the station commander at Magudu, said tar roads connecting the town to Pongola and Vryheid were extensively damaged.

Rescue

He said police had received no reports of flood-related deaths.

In the same area, police used a helicopter to rescue Sindwane Militari, 23, and one-year-old Mjiglalene Myeni from the top of a tree in the Mkuze River.

- The general manager of Romatex Textiles in Durban, Tom Gato, 56, was swept away and drowned in a river at Botha's Hill.

- Visitors to the Ndumo Game Reserve in northern Zululand were cut off by the flooded Ingwavuma River this week. They will only be able to leave the area tomorrow.

- During a 24-hour period this week, the greater Durban area measured record rainfalls of 102.5mm.

- Bathing along most beaches in Natal was banned because flood debris damaged shark nets.

- Many townships in the Natal Midlands were also flooded.
AGRICULTURE AND GROWTH

Pennies from heaven again

Bumper crops add some glow to a generally gloomy economic outlook

Economists might find it as instructive these days to keep an eye on the rain gauge as on the zig-zagging gold price. Gold may underpin the economy, but the weather — and what it means for agricultural prospects — counts for a great deal, one way or the other.

We have emerged from a six-year drought which seriously aggravated already grim economic conditions — with sanctions and disinvestment eroding the productive base. There was the loss of export revenues and maize imports cost SA about R160m over that period. In 1984-1989, drought relief schemes burdened taxpayers with a R1,4bn bill.

This year, the farming sector has again revealed its underlying strength. Though contributing only an estimated 6.5% to 1989 GDP, excellent summer rains and handsome crops could keep the economy growing at a pace that would not otherwise have been possible. Moreover, export earnings from farm exports should help SA meet its international debt commitments for the year.

Department of Agriculture estimates say these exports will translate into close to R3.8bn in foreign exchange this year, with the sector’s share of GDP increased by 8% to R10.5bn. And Rand Merchant Bank economist Rudolf Gous says the farming sector “could contribute 0.6% to this year’s projected real GDP growth of 2.2%.”

While the non-farming sector experienced negative growth of 2.8% in the third quarter, agriculture’s strong performance boosted total GDP growth — at factor cost — to 1% (Economy November 24). This is the direct result of buoyant growth in the value of farming output of 42%, 31.4% and a huge 67.8% (largely thanks to maize exports) in the first, second and third quarters, respectively, of 1989.

While statistics relating to farming can be volatile, the sector is clearly enjoying exceptionally good times — and the spin-offs are considerable. The heavy burden of the farmers’ debt is falling: in nominal terms it is still an unaccept-

able R14bn, but it has come down in real terms, with increases of only 4.1% and 4.9% in 1987 and 1988 (with inflation running at 14-15%). “The relatively slow increase in the total agricultural debt in 1989 confirms that, globally speaking, there are indeed signs of financial recovery in agriculture,” states the SA Agricultural Union’s 1988/1989 annual report.

Between 1986 and 1988, short-term debt came down from 52.4% of the total to 50.7%, while net farm income — as a percentage of total debt — increased from 25.2% to 40.6%. This “indicates a potentially shorter debt repayment period and/or a better ability to repay debt,” reports the union. This is good news for the long-suffering commercial banking sector — owed R3.5bn — though banks complain that farming co-ops still unfairly benefit from the lien they hold on farmers’ produce.

The co-ops are owed about R3.4bn, with the Land Bank in for another R2.9bn. In fact, the commercial banking sector was the end-provider of most of the Land Bank’s funds as well. Nourished by cheap finance, the 290 co-ops’ turnover leapt from R1.16bn in 1985 to R18.7bn in 1988, while their total assets increased from R2.9bn to R11.1bn — growth of 12% a year.

But, while farmers look no nearer than ever to controlling their own destiny, their grass is growing greener. Booming sectors include agriculture (gross 1989 income up 15% to R5.7bn), animal husbandry (earning 14% more at R8.2bn) and horticulture with gross earnings lifted 4% to R3.8bn. Total gross farm income increased 12% to R16.9bn over the past year and net income increased (by a smaller 6%) to R3.7bn after production costs and interest payments. The latter remains the largest single agricultural cost.

Purveyors of intermediary goods and services are benefiting from this recent boom. To end-September, total expenditure jumped by 19% to R6.9bn (from R5.8bn) on sales of fertiliser, animal feed and agrochemicals which increased by 22%, 17% and 12% respectively. But, while volumes increased, higher prices added to the farming bill — the prices of farming requisites increased by 18%, 14% in the year to end-September. Fuel costs went up by 32% and maintenance and repairs an additional 27%.

Farmers are upset by the escalating cost structure of production inputs. Volkskas agricultural economist André Louw says the terms of trade in agriculture (the ratio between producer prices and input costs) weakened from 100 in 1975 to 59 in 1989. “Tractor prices this year rose by 26%, fertiliser by 24.4%, fuel by 22%, irrigation equipment by 21% and implements by 18.5%. This is placing the future profitability of the sector under severe stress and the matter is seen in a very serious light by the SA Agricultural Union,” according to Du Toit.

Producer prices are falling — the increase of 13.4% in the consumer price index in the year to end-September was made up of a non-agricultural rise of 14.3%, while food prices rose only 10.6%, reports the department. This compares with a food price increase of 17.7% in the previous year. So the good rains have also reduced the inflationary impact of food prices.

The boom in farming has not only created spin-offs for industry and service sectors like transport (moving this year’s 11 Mt maize crop should earn exports about R500m), but has also helped support the economic base of the platteland.

Millions benefit. Agricultural union economist Koos du Toit says: “Some 1,4m farmworkers and domestic servants — about 13.6% of the economically active population — are employed in agriculture, making it the second-largest single employer in the economy. These people support a further 4.3m dependants, so that about 5.7m souls find sustenance in agriculture.”

Development Bank’s Johan van Rooyen adds that for each R1m invested in agriculture about
Richertsvald communal grazing rights restored

RESIDENTS of the Richertsvald in Namaqualand yesterday won the right in the Supreme Court to return land to communal grazing — after a decision to take it from them, subdivide it into 39 farms and lease it to individual farmers, was set aside.

The court order set aside the subdivision and ordered the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, Mr David Curry, and the Southern-Richertsvald Management Committee to pay the costs.

This followed an application by Mr Joseph Cloete and seven others against the minister, the management committee and the 83 residents.

In an affidavit, Mr Cloete, 69, of Lekkersing, said the Richertsvald had been undivided and farmers and residents had the right to graze stock on the land as the need arose.

The two areas were split into separate areas under separate management committees. Prior to that stock were allowed to graze in the entire area but that had been changed when camps of up to 6,000 hectares were started for the exclusive use of one person.

He had never received notice that the camp system would be introduced.

Sometime in 1980 he found a fence right through his reed house and he was forced to move the house. Two years later he was told by a farmer it was his (the farmer's) property and that he must move. He was subsequently charged with trespassing but acquitted, he said.
‘Farmers must be restricted in the new SA’

Own Correspondent

KIMBERLEY — Farmers must not be allowed to own more than three farms each in the new South Africa, a member of the President’s Council, Mr Billy Ross, said at the Labour Party congress here yesterday.

The first conspicuous aspect of the “great unfair distribution of wealth” was found in farming, he said. More than 90 percent of the farms belonged to whites.

He said one former Cabinet Minister owned 36 farms. (29 Oct 1979)

“If I want to buy a farm I must go to all the neighbouring farmers and ask their permission to have me as their neighbour. (29 Oct 1979)

“If a man owns more than three farms, the surplus must be expropriated by the State and offered for sale to the public. Is this a shock? Remember, our properties were expropriated by the Group Areas Board.”

He also warned that some municipalities were going to subvert the removal of the Separate Amenities Act by privatising their facilities, such as caravan parks and swimming baths.
AGRICULTURE - GENERAL

JANUARY - JUNE

1990
Farmers’ herbicide claim set aside

Own Correspondent

MARITZBURG.—The Judge President of Natal, Mr Justice Howard, said he did not accept as a fact that any use of hormonal herbicides anywhere in South Africa results in damage to fresh produce growing in the Tala Valley.

Mr Justice Howard said this in a judgment on Friday in a matter between the Natal Fresh Produce Growers’ Association (NFFGA) and Tala Valley farmers Mr Roger Evans and Mr Manfred Wild, and nine South African companies.

"Granted that hormonal herbicides sprayed on crops can be transported through the medium of water and air, I cannot accept that any that are applied by watering can to crops or domestic lawns in the Cape Peninsula or the far Northern Transvaal, for example, can possibly be deposited on fresh produce growing in the Tala Valley, or anywhere in Natal for that matter," he said.

Prevent manufacture

"All that I do say, without fear of contradiction by any truthful evidence that can possibly be adduced, is that the allegation (in the plaintiffs' particulars of claim to the effect that any use of hormonal herbicides anywhere in South Africa results in damage to fresh produce growing in the Tala Valley) is based on fantasy rather than fact."

Mr Justice Howard was giving judgment in an action in which nine companies have taken exception to an application by the NFFGA and the two farmers for an interdict which would prevent the manufacture or distribution of any hormonal herbicide products in South Africa.

In his judgment Mr Justice Howard set aside the particulars of claim.
Preparing for a white homeland

IN the rich soil of the homeland, a few whites plough their fields and run their shops without black labour. As the apartheid system crumbles elsewhere in the nation, they still seek to perfect racial separation.

The small group of Afrikaners, calling themselves the Society of Orange Workers, have retreated to the tiny, eastern village of Morgenzoon where they hope to plant the seed for a white homeland.

The Orange Workers claim about 3,000 members nationwide, including several members of Parliament. About 200 members live in and around Morgenzoon, 160 kilometres south-east of Johannesburg.

But even in Morgenzoon, which existed for decades before the Orange Workers arrived, black outnumber whites by about 2,000 to 1,200.

No servants

At the Orange Workers' headquaters, a white man serves tea to visitors. At home, white women do all the washing, cooking and cleaning - virtually unheard of in South Africa. At the Ladina clothing and fabric store, black workers and customers - the foundation of the South African economy - are barred.

"We don't want to dominate blacks or anyone else," said Hendrik Verwoerd Jr, director of the Orange Workers. "We want a territory exclusively for the Afrikaners where we can lead our own way of life."

However, the Afrikaner way of life always has involved large numbers of black labourers, who have worked the farms and the gold mines and made the country comfortably wealthy for whites.

The Orange Workers believe white dependence on black workers is partly responsible for the unavailability of apartheid, and say that unless Dutch-descended Afrikaners become more self-sufficient they will be an impotent minority of three million dominated by the country's 28 million blacks.

If you accept blacks as workers, you must accept them as part of the community," said Verwoerd. "We want to prove you can build a community free of black labour."

Verwoerd's goal of establishing a white homeland is laced with irony. His father, Hendrik Verwoerd, the prime minister from 1958-66, was the architect of "grand apartheid," which established 10 black homelands on 13 percent of South Africa's territory and reserved the remaining 87 percent for whites.

Verwoerd, assassinated in 1966, was so confident of his plan that he predicted the majority of blacks would be living in the poor, rural homelands by 1978 and South Africa's racial conflict would largely be resolved.

Independence

But, by 1978 blacks had permanently settled in urban areas in such large numbers that some conservative whites began to look for their own homeland and to speak about the inevitability of black rule.

The younger Verwoerd, now 49, spent 10 years working as a missionary in the black homeland of Lebowa. He said he believed the blacks there lived happily because "they had their own customs and values and no one imposed on them."

But anti-apartheid activists sharply disagree, saying the homelands are an attempt to keep blacks on isolated, undeveloped reserves and deprive them of political rights in South Africa.

Today, the largest homeland, Transkei, is considering giving up its nominal independence and returning to South Africa. The other seven "black homelands," which draw their name from William of Orange, a 16th-century Dutchman revered by Afrikaners for ending Spanish domination of his people.

Partition

Most whites in Morgenzoon are conservative and share the Orange Workers' belief in rigid apartheid, but believe they also need black workers and customers.

"We'd be out of business overnight if we didn't have black shoppers," said one white storeowner, who asked to remain anonymous. "The same storeowner, who said he didn't care for the Orange Workers, has two doors to his shop. The front one is used by whites, the back one by blacks.

Peter Dias, a black resident, said blacks felt discriminated against by the Orange Workers as well as whites who don't belong to the group.

"The youths are unhappy with the situation and they are planning to protest," said Dias. "We want to see things change."

Verwoerd would like an Afrikaner homeland that includes a large patch of Transvaal Province in the north-east, as well as the central Orange Free State Province and a corridor to the southern coastal city of Mossel Bay.

Other Afrikaner groups, who maintain ties with the Orange Workers, seek even larger chunks of territory. The extreme-right Conservative Party, which captured 31 percent of the white vote in elections last year, wants to partition South Africa into more than 10 separate states.

At the moment, all such prospects appear dim.

President F W de Klerk, who has pledged to remove all discriminatory laws, has met with several right-wing Afrikaner leaders and told them plans for a white homeland are unrealistic.

Verwoerd says he is not deterred and wants to work more closely with the other Afrikaner groups who share a similar vision.

Sapa-AP

Media Council

THE South African Media Council is an independent body established to deal with various matters affecting media reporting and comment.

One of the council's functions is to receive and act upon complaints from members of the public who have not been happy with the service provided by newspapers or other news media.

Complaints must relate to published editorial material and should be lodged within 10 days of publication. But late complaints may be accepted if good reasons can be advanced.

The address is: The Councilor, Registrar, SA Media Council, PO Box 5222, Cape Town 8000. Telephone: (012) 461-717. Inquiries are welcome.
Orange Workers keep their white redoubt as apartheid crumbles

GREG MYRE

MORGENZON — In the rich soil of the heartland, a few whites plough their fields and run their shops without black labour. As the apartheid system crumbles elsewhere in the nation, they still seek to maintain their perfect racial separation.

The small group of Afrikaners, calling themselves the Society of Orange Workers, have retreated to the tiny, eastern village of Morgenzon where they hope to plant the seed for a white homeland.

The Orange Workers claim about 3,000 members nationwide, including several Members of Parliament. About 200 members live in and around Morgenzon, 160 km south-east of Johannesburg.

Mainly black

But even in Morgenzon, which existed for decades before the Orange Workers arrived, blacks outnumber whites by about 2,000 blacks to 1,200 whites.

At the Orange Workers' headquarters, a white man serves tea to visitors. At home, white women do all the washing, cooking and cleaning. At the Ladika clothing and fabric store, black workers and customers — the foundation of the South African economy — are barred.

"We don't want to dominate blacks or anyone," said Hendrik Verwoerd, director of the Orange Workers. "We want a territory exclusive, for the Afrikaners where we can lead our own way of life."

Historical facts

However, the Afrikaner way of life always has involved large numbers of black labourers, who have worked the farms and the gold mines and made the country comfortably wealthy for whites.

The Orange Workers believe white dependence on black workers is partly responsible for the unravelling of apartheid, and that (unless Afrikaners become more self-sufficient) they will be an impotent minority of blacks feel discriminated against by the Orange Workers, as do whites who don't belong to the group.

Own homeland

Because the town is so small, the Orange Workers can avoid blacks only in their own homes and shops.

Verwoerd would like an Afrikaner homeland that includes a large patch of Transvaal Province in the north-east, as well as the central Free State Province and a corridor to the southern coastal city of Mossel Bay.

Other Afrikaner groups, who maintain ties with the Orange Workers, seek even larger chunks of territory.

At the moment, all such prospects appear dim.

President PW de Klerk, who has pledged to remove all discriminatory laws, has met several right-wing Afrikaner leaders and told them plans for a white homeland are unrealistic.

"Afrikaners grow up believing the whole world is like South Africa, that there is always a huge supply of black labour," said Peter Bruwer, a 12th generation African who heads the publications department for the Orange Workers. "Psychologically, we are still trying to adjust to doing the work ourselves."
Once-fertile Springbok Flats now in grip of merciless drought

Farmers desert their beloved land

Years of drought on the Springbok Flats east of Warmbaths have slowly sapped what was once the "land of milk and honey" for the farmers who live there. And while the farmers struggle to hold on to their farms, prospects of a better time are slim.

The Springbok Flats in the northern Transvaal — once a fertile landscape rich in crops — now seem to hold only disaster for its once-prosperous farming inhabitants.

Stricken by the 10-year drought that has parched the land, an estimated 20% of farmers are beginning to desert the land from which they can no longer make a living. Already, farmers have agreed to sell their farms in the next three months.

Many more are expected to follow.

"In the good years, the land was covered with maize, tobacco, peanut and citrus," said Mr. Frans Lourens, chairman of the Willem Farmers Association. Today only isolated patches of indigo and cotton can be seen.

The drought has brought farmers to knees that would otherwise remain on their farms.

Concessions

However, the "Vlaktes" community fervently believes that the future will be better, because the farmers have the potential to recover again.

The farmers have appealed for concessional loans of up to R30,000 to help them survive until the next rainy season.

A cross section of Vlaktes farmer near Naboospruit said the farmers were asked to contribute to a fund to be shared among themselves.

They have appealed for a trial of crop rotation to help with production costs and to help them to stay in business.

The owner of a 1,000-hectare farm, Mr. Kobus van Heerden, surveys what was supposed to be a healthy cotton crop. "Picture by Sarel van den Berg."

Another crop failure... Springbok Flats farmer Mr. Kobus van Heerden surveys what was supposed to be a healthy cotton crop. "Picture by Sarel van den Berg."

The real casualties of the prolonged drought in Springbok Flats, however, are the farmers who come to the farm years ago from Lebowa and other homelands to work the land.

Already, thousands of farmers have been forced out.

"Of the 1,000 labourers I had working for me, only 100 are left. I had to pay the rent off," said Mr. van der Merwe.

Mr. du Toit said 500 of his labourers "had to go."

"There is no longer any work for them around here and I am struggling to keep my own head above water," he said.

Although there is enough sympathy afforded the farmers by Governments and the agricultural sector, their problems are only a small part of the countrywide drought crisis.

We are very aware of the serious problems facing the farmers in this district, and a committee has been appointed to give priority to these problems and make recommendations to the Government.

A survey will be necessary to quantify the magnitude of the financial dilemma and what it will cost the State to assist. 

"But the situation in Springbok Flats — escalating costs, inflated produce prices, consecutive droughts and the inability to service debts — is an emergency, and we should act quickly. The financial and economic position of these farmers is very unhealthy and deteriorating all the time," Mr. du Toit said.
PROKLAMASIES
van die
Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika
No. 12, 1990
VERKLARING TOT OOPGESTELDE GEBIED VAN SEKERE GROND IN DIE DISTRIK MOUNT CURRIE, PROVINSIE NATAL

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 2 (3) (b) (i) van die Ontwikkelingtrust en Grond Wet, 1936 (Wet No. 18 van 1936), verklaar ek hierby die gebied omskryf in die Bylae hiervan, tot oopgestelde gebied vir doeleindes van gemelde Wet.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seel van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Scottburgh, op hede die Twintigste dag van Desember Eenduisend Negehonderd Nege-en-agtig.

F. W. DE KLERK,
Staatspresident.
Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:
C. J. VAN DER MERWE,
Minister van die Kabinet.

BYLAE
DISTRIK MOUNT CURRIE
Gebied 89

Die plaas Waterval 294 en Restant van die plaas Melkspruit 293, groot 338, 6285 hektaar.

No. 13, 1990
VERKLARING VAN 'N GROEPSGEBIED INGEVOLGE DIE WET OP GROEPSGEBIEDE, 1966, TE RAWSONVILLE, ADMINISTRATIEWE DISTRIK WORCESTER, PROVINSIE DIE KAAP DIE GOEIE HOOP

Kragtens artikel 23 van die Wet op Groepsgebiede, 1966 (Wet No. 36 van 1966), verklaar ek hierby dat die gebied omskryf in die Bylae hiervan, vanaf die datum van publikasie van hierdie Proklamasie, 'n gebied is vir okkupsie en grondbesit deur lede van die gekleurde groep.

750—A

PROCLAMATIONS
by the
State President of the Republic of South Africa
No. 12, 1990
DECLARATION AS RELEASED AREA OF CERTAIN LAND IN THE DISTRICT OF MOUNT CURRIE, PROVINCE OF NATAL

By virtue of the powers vested in me by section 2 (3) (b) (i) of the Development Trust and Land Act, 1936 (Act No. 18 of 1936), I hereby declare the area defined in the Schedule hereto a released area for the purposes of the said Act.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Scottburgh this Twentieth day of December, One thousand Nine hundred and Eighty-nine.

F. W. DE KLERK,
State President.
By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:
C. J. VAN DER MERWE,
Minister of the Cabinet.

SCHEDULE
DISTRICT OF MOUNT CURRIE
Area 89

The farm Waterval 294 and the Remainder of the farm Melkspruit 293, measuring 338, 6285 hectares.

No. 13, 1990
DECLARATION OF A GROUP AREA IN TERMS OF THE GROUP AREAS ACT, 1966, AT RAWSONVILLE, ADMINISTRATIVE DISTRICT OF WORCESTER, PROVINCE OF THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Under section 23 of the Group Areas Act, 1966 (Act No. 36 of 1966), I hereby declare that the area defined in the Schedule hereto shall, as from the date of publication of this Proclamation, be an area for occupation and ownership by members of the Coloured group.
Farmworkers' lot 'must be improved' or at least Africa's — bread basket, but these objectives would never be reached if farmworkers' needs were not satisfied.

Mr Richards said the LP did not accept the tricameral system, but used it in the short term for the benefit of its own people — to take them as equals into the new South Africa.

Negotiations would be initiated from Parliament, and it was necessary to be there as part of the negotiating team. — Sapa.
Agricultural conference

The agricultural outlook conference (Agrocon) is to take place in Pretoria tomorrow and on Wednesday, 12/12/90 (3 km). The conference, the 11th to be held, is the result of a recommendation by the Wentzel Commission, which investigated the Marketing Act, that an annual conference be held to determine trends in agriculture.

It will be opened by the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Jacob de Villiers.

One of the key issues to be discussed is expected to be agricultural research in view of the possibility of legislation establishing an Agricultural Research Council. The role of the agricultural industry in welfare is also to come under the spotlight. — Pretoria Bureau.
A top farming congress heard today that the cost of many agriculture products would rise in the coming months.

A series of reports on commodities were presented to the Agricultural Outlook Conference (Agrocon) in Pretoria today. The reports were compiled by agricultural control boards, the South African sugar industry, the KWV, the International Karakul Secretariat, the South African Poultry Association and the South African Agricultural Union.

A paper by the Meat Board said there were hopes that the price of red meat would stay at present levels. A beef surplus was expected to continue until at least 1996.

A total of 474,172 tons of beef and veal would be available this year — 20,000 tons more than last year. It would therefore not be necessary to import beef.

**DROP**

"From a long-term point of view, beef prices have already reached a plateau phase and will drop in real terms during the next few years," the conference heard.

"The increase in supply in the lower grades is expected to place considerable downward pressure on beef prices, which will not rise by more than three percent in 1990."

The price of mutton, was expected to go up by 6.3 percent during 1990.

The Egg Board said "eggs will remain a basic commodity in most households" despite the fact that the price of eggs was likely to rise.

"On average, egg prices are expected to be 13 percent higher during 1989-90 and 14 percent higher during 1990-91." It added.

Housewives continued to buy cheese, despite increased prices following the deregulation of the dairy industry.

The consumer price of milk, cheese and butter had all increased substantially over the past two years.

If this trend continued it could have a negative effect on sales, the report added.
'Farmers must show profits'

One of the biggest problems farmers had in South Africa was to sell their products profitably, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr Jacob de Villiers said in his maiden speech yesterday.

He said in the part appropriation debate that this was because production changed from year to year and there was not always adequate consumer demand on the domestic market.

Mr de Villiers said agriculture was the backbone of the country community and it was the responsibility of each farmer to show a profit, while it was the role of the Government to improve the climate for the making of decisions.

TAKE STOCK

Mr de Villiers said it had become urgently necessary that each marketing board should take stock of the present problems.

"Each of them should be managed in such a way that the profitability of farming activities is promoted and access to the market is improved," he said.

He said it would be to the credit of agriculture if farmers were to adopt a code of ethics to stigmatise untidy farming practices. — Sapa.
Role of politics stressed in bid to recapture agricultural markets

PRETORIA — Improved socio-political conditions in SA could play a vital role in the recapturing of lost markets and the expansion of outlets abroad for the SA agricultural industry.

This is the view of some commodity control boards in their reports to the Annual Agricultural Outlook (Agricon) conference, to be opened here today by Agriculture Minister Jacob de Villiers.

Soaring input costs, reports stressed, were major obstacles to the viability of sections of the industry.

The Canned Fruit Board said international relations and internal politics played a vital role in the development of trade.

GERALD REILLY

"Development on the local front as well as in Europe holds great possibilities in that SA could regain lost market share of world trade in canned fruits."

The Deciduous Fruit Board reported a 19% increase in the value of consumption from R615m to R735m last year.

In the season ahead, the board said the international political situation would play an important role in the market outlook.

Long-term expectations in the red meat industry indicated cattle prices would move sideways for the next few years.

This would be followed by a "price slump".

According to the Maize Board the new season's price — effective from March — was expected to increase by between 15% and 15%.

This board expected production in the medium term to become more market-related with smaller areas planted to maize.

The Egg Board said production price rises had hit the industry hard, and economic conditions, it stressed, were likely to remain depressed until at least the end of 1991.

The Wool Board said the industry had been adversely affected by reduced buying in China and market uncertainties in the US.
PRETORIA — Improved socio-political conditions in SA could play a vital role in the recapturing of lost markets and the expansion of outlets abroad for the SA agricultural industry.

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"Development on the local front as well as in Europe holds great possibilities in that SA could regain lost market share of world trade in canned fruits."

The Deciduous Fruit Board reported a 19% increase in the value of consumption from R619m to R736m last year.

In the season ahead, the board said the international political situation would play an important role in the market outlook.

Long-term expectations in the red meat industry indicated cattle prices would move sideways for the next few years. This would be followed by a "price leap."

According to the Maize Board, the new season's price — effective from March — was expected to increase by between 13% and 16%.

This board expected production in the medium term to become more market-related, with smaller areas planted to mealies.

The Egg Board said production price rises had hit the industry hard, and economic conditions stressed, were likely to remain depressed until at least the end of 1991.

The Wool Board said the industry had been adversely affected by reduced buying in China and market uncertainties in the US.
Clewlow expects strong economy

PRETORIA — The key issue facing SA was international competitiveness, because without it the country could fall behind and become an "also-ran", Barlow Rand's CE Warren Clewlow warned here yesterday.

Speaking at the Agricultural Outlook Conference (Agricoeq), Clewlow said measures taken by government, the Reserve bank and industry would result in an economy stronger than at any time in the past ten years.

Although in a downturn at present, the economy was in good shape. Productivity had increased slowly in the past few years under competitive pressures.

SA would emerge from its present difficulties, strengthened and renewed. Agriculture was a basic building block.

A consequence of deregulation in the industry would be an aggravation of the great urbanisation problem. There was no easy way out of the dilemma. Already urbanisation levels were high and those forced off the land would have to be accommodated in urban or semi-urban situations. This placed an increasing responsibility on secondary industry, the manufacturing industry and the agricultural processing industry to provide jobs.

He also warned the industry would have to move away from the present comprehensive marketing control to a system incorporating a greater degree of deregulation. Market mechanisms would have to be allowed to determine prices.
SA exports a `key issue`

The future exporting of SA produce has become one of the key issues raised at Agrocon.

Agricultural attaches at SA embassies in Europe and the US say in a report prepared by the Department of Agriculture that the crumbling of the Iron Curtain had opened up many trading possibilities, and particularly for farm produce.

"Western governments will have to give large amounts of financial help to ensure that the new order (in Eastern Europe) is successful. In the short-term, it means food and other produce will be in greater demand than before," the report says.

The chance for organised agriculture to export to the Eastern Bloc had come about because the US had identified the Far East as its main market.

The produce — particularly wool, sugar, citrus, fresh fruit, and maize — would probably be exported initially through Europe, conference delegates were told.

One problem which would have to be overcome was terms and methods of payment.

"The importance of agricultural exports cannot be over-emphasised, the total value of such exports during 1988 was R2.9 billion, 6 percent of the total exports that year," the report added.

The Far East was also likely to be a major export area for South African produce in future.

Chicken rules the roost at braais

The humble chicken is giving cattle farmers the bird because it is very busily changing the face of the traditional South African braai.

Red meat used to hold sway as the braai ingredient, but today it is the chicken which has taken over.

Delegates to Agrocon have had to face the Chicken Challenge head-on this week: red meat, the conference heard, is almost a luxury these days.

Red meat is not increasing its market share, confirmed Professor J.M. Laubscher to a group of 310 agricultural experts, and it appears to have little place in the lifestyle of more and more South Africans.

Instead, enter The Chicken … all 320 million of them.

South Africans consumed far more red meat in the 1970s than they are doing now — and projections for 1990 show per capita consumption of beef, for instance, will drop to just over 14 kg, a far cry from the 30 kg recorded in 1980. Mutton consumption per capita this year will be about 4 kg, compared to nearly 10 kg in 1970.

But chicken has gone from 2 kg in 1954 to an estimated 16 kg this year.

Tractor protest

Farmers are questioning whether the local content programme for tractor engines should continue, because in some cases it was costing 80 percent more to buy a local unit than one imported.

Mr Gerhard Basson, group managing director of Sentrachem, told Agrocon that the "duty protection on tractor engines seems excessive and should be reviewed".

He suggested that duty be levied on the total value of a tractor with an imported engine, as now, but rather on the value of the engine itself.

Mr Basson said significant improvements had been made in diesel engine technology.

"While increased local content is desirable from the South African view, tractor manufacturers have great difficulty in getting enough volume for prices cheaper than imported units."
Govt advisers want more land for black farmers

Two top Government advisers yesterday called for blacks to be allowed to enter the farming industry on a larger scale than at present.

Mr Warren Clewlow, chairman of the State President's Economic Advisory Council, and Dr Simon Brand, chairman of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, both told the Agricultural Outlook Conference of the need for agricultural land to be made available.

Dr Brand questioned agriculture's contribution to the economy from an equity point of view, particularly distribution of "welfare or prosperity" between different groups.

"Agriculture appears to have played a constructive role in economic development in ways specifically related to local economic circumstances. Questions do arise, however, about the nature of the past contribution and its sustainability in the future."

He said one of the inequalities existing in agriculture at present "has been the access to land as determined by the Land Act, the Subdivision of Land Act, and other legislation restricting free access to agricultural land in South Africa."

"Without going into the political or social aspects of the matter, it must clearly be expected that this question of the distribution of access to land between different groups will increasingly become a burning issue in respect of the rural areas, as it has already become in respect of urban areas."

Dr Brand said the issue could become "emotional... especially when linked to radical proposals for land reform."

He added that if restrictions were relaxed "it need not necessarily have a negative effect on production and the efficiency of resource use in agriculture as a whole."

It could even enhance the industry, particularly if access to farm support services were provided — something which is only supplied in limited form at present.

"Such a pattern of development is also likely to have a positive impact on employment in agriculture," Dr Brand said.

Mr Clewlow told the conference, attended by 300 top agricultural experts and marketing executives, that "as political reforms continue, black people will gain ownership of agricultural land, possibly legally. There will be a huge demand for many black small farmers to be accommodated."

Existing land currently deemed to be "unproductive" could be handed over to "peasant farmers" who would be able to make use of modern bio-engineering.
Inflation: Farmers hit out at the govt

PRETORIA. — Farmers' share of the consumer rand continued to decline and a finger pointed at the government's responsibility to curb inflation, agriculture minister Jacob de Villiers said here yesterday.

Opening the agricultural outlook conference (Agricon) de Villiers said apart from monetary measures to combat inflation the government also had to address the issue of state spending.

Farmers selling prices were increasing at a far slower pace than the retail prices for their products.

Input costs would have to be cut to the bone. On state spending de Villiers said in the past few years the government spent more on goods and services than it could afford.

It had to borrow, he stressed, to keep afloat. On import surcharges he said these were introduced as an interim measure to protect the balance of payments.

However state income was generated to such an extent that government expenses grew to absorb it: "Naturally we will have withdrawal symptoms when they are phased out."

"The government would have to guard against using short term defensive actions which had detrimental structural consequences.

On services rendered to agriculture de Villiers said the era of free services was rapidly disappearing and a user pay principle would have to be introduced."
Challenge of feeding 138-m

By Norman Chandler, Pretoria Bureau

South Africa's food supply, and Africa's in general, was a high priority, the Agricultural Outlook Conference (Agrocon) heard in Pretoria yesterday.

Mr Jan Cronje, director of the South African Co-Ordinating Consumer Council, said shortages had to be avoided.

He said South Africa would have to support a population of 138 million by the year 2040 and methods would have to be developed to meet this growth.

There was a worldwide preference for convenience foods, which were taking the place of staple diets.

Mr Cronje said concerns about health were also playing a role in the development of food habits and it was important for the industry to take cognisance of this.

Urban black communities were also changing their diets.

"The consumption of meat has remained the same, while the use of milk and vegetables, previously part of the traditional diet, has slackened off."

The expectations of consumers regarding prices were that they should be "as low as possible, free from fluctuation and with a clear correlation between price and quality".

An attempt should also be made to provide produce at special prices to meet the needs of the elderly and low income groups, particularly in rural areas "where the lack of competition does not reduce prices".
Tiger in sweet deal

By Ann Croft

The giant Tiger group is moving into the R1 billion a year confectionery market with the purchase of a 50 percent stake in Beacon sweets and chocolate manufacturer, Durban Confectionery Works.

Beacon has an annual turnover of over R300 million and is estimated to hold a 34 percent share of the SA confectionery market.

The agreement between the Zulman family — owners of the Beacon operations in SA — and Tiger is subject to several conditions, all of which are expected to be fulfilled before February 28, 1990.

Although the deal fits well into the Tiger food basket it will not have a material effect on Tiger’s earnings for the year to end-September or on its net tangible asset value.

No details of the price have been disclosed but industry sources indicate that based on the annual turnover figure and on similar deals that have been struck within the industry, Tiger could be paying as much as R50 million to get this stake in what is regarded as a fast growing market.

The joint venture deal between Tiger and Beacon should combine the former’s resources (including its distribution expertise in the black market) with the latter’s knowledge of the industry to maximise the benefits offered by market’s growth potential.
SADF 'needs aid of farmers'

By Norman Chandler

Pretoria Bureau

The Defence Force relied on the farmer to act as its eyes and ears in remote districts, a top army general said in Pretoria yesterday.

Major-General Jan Klopper told the Agricultural Outlook Conference (Agrocon) that "revolutionary tactics of the enemy" were spreading to remote parts of the country.

He said that the far northern and north-western Transvaal were two areas which were already affected.

General Klopper said attacks in which limpet mines and other weapons were used were only the "tip of the iceberg, 15 percent of an iceberg" in the terrorist war.

"There are a whole range of other methods — the remaining 85 percent of the iceberg — which form part of the revolutionary onslaught."

"There are underground organisations operating on the platteland and there are already certain signs that the enemy has organised underground groups in the far north and north-west Transvaal."

General Klopper said "a healthy farming community" was vital — this included inhabited farms and farm labourers who were satisfied with their quality of life.

"The role played by agriculture in the safety of an area is of great importance to the South African Defence Force," General Klopper said.
Prof warns of surge in population

By Norman Chandler,
Pretoria Bureau

A picture of a land bulging at the seams with more than 130 million people was painted at the Agricultural Outlook Conference (Agrocon) in Pretoria yesterday.

"It is a spectre staring us in the face. We have to be prepared for it," said Board for Population Development chairman Professor Pieter de Lange.

**Widespread hunger**

He said that in a global sense, Africa found itself in a position in which its population growth rate did not match economic growth.

"Governments in Africa are already finding it difficult to meet the needs for water, sanitation and sewerage, housing and education.

"Poor nutrition, slum conditions and illiteracy are widespread. At least 20 percent of the total population of Africa is already staring hunger in the eye.

"South Africa, more or less, is in the same situation as most of the rest of Africa," Professor de Lange said.

The country, with a population growth rate of 2.3 percent a year, would have to support 47 million people by the year 2000 and 50 million by 2010 — "by 2040, there will be 135 million people".

Research showed that South Africa, at the present time, had the capability to look after only 80 million people.

**Quality of life**

"Professor de Lange said the birth rate in South Africa, Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei was climbing. "Black women in metropolitan areas bear 2.3 statistical children and those in rural areas 5.7. In the TBVC states the figure is 6.3 children."

The figures showed that the quality of life in the rural areas in particular had to be improved, and that organised agriculture could play a major role in this regard.

"There were 500 000 full-time farm workers (92 percent black) employed by the country’s 65 000 farmers and about the same number of part-time workers. Nearly 7 million people were dependent on income earned from working on farms.

Professor de Lange said farmers, as well as their wives, had to play a far greater role in improving the conditions of workers. He suggested that farm schools be used as community centres after school hours so that various skills could be taught and a sense of belonging instilled in workers and their families."
REGSTELLING
Hiermee word bekendgemaak dat die regulasienummer in die aanhêf van Staatskoerant No. 12287 van 3 Februarie 1990 foutief gepubliseer is. Die nommer moet as volg lees:
Regulasiekoerant No. 4453.

PROKLAMASIE
van die
Staatspresident van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika
No. R. 23, 1990

WEGNEEM VAN SEKERE GROND UIT OOGSTELDE GEBIED IN DIE DISTRIKTE STOCKENSTRÖM EN MACLEAR, PROVINSIE DIE KAAP, DIE GOEIE HOOP, EN DIE DISTRIKTE WITBANK, BRONKHORSPRUIT, BRITS, RUSTENBURG EN LYDENBURG, PROVINSIE TRANSVAAL

Kragtens die bevoegdheid my verleen by artikel 2 (2), gelees met artikel 2 (2A) (b), van die Ontwikkelingstrust en Grond Wet, 1936 (Wet No. 18 van 1936), neem ek hierby die grond omskryf in die Bylae hiervan, uit ooggestelde gebied weg.

Gegee onder my Hand en die Seel van die Republiek van Suid-Afrika te Kaapstad, op hede die Ses-en-twintigste dag van Januarie Eenduisend Negehonderd-en-negentig.

F. W. DE KLERK,
Staatspresident.

Op las van die Staatspresident-in-Kabinet:
C. J. VAN DER MERWE,
Minister van die Kabinet.

RECTIFICATION
Notice is hereby given that the regulation number in the preamble of Government Gazette No. 12287 of 3 February 1990, was incorrectly published. The number should read as follows:
Regulation Gazette No. 4453.

PROCLAMATION
by the
State President of the Republic of South Africa
No. R. 23, 1990


Under the powers vested in me by section 2 (2), read with section 2 (2A) (b), of the Development Trust and Land Act, 1936 (Act No. 18 of 1936), I hereby excise the land defined in the Schedule hereto from released area.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the Republic of South Africa at Cape Town this Twenty-sixth day of January, One thousand Nine hundred and Ninety.

F. W. DE KLERK,
State President.

By Order of the State President-in-Cabinet:
C. J. VAN DER MERWE,
Minister of the Cabinet.
Agriculture boosts growth in GDP

By Sven Lüüsche

South Africa's gross domestic product for 1989 grew by 2.1 percent compared with the previous year, figures released by the Central Statistical Services yesterday show.

The growth rate in 1988 was 3.7 percent.

The CSS said that the growth rate of 2.1 percent was mainly due to rapidly improved agricultural conditions.

Real production of the agricultural sector increased by 10.3 percent in 1989 and contributed 0.3 percent to the total growth rate.

The real GDP for the non-agricultural sector was only 1.6 percent up in 1989 compared with 1988.

The mining sector in particular showed almost no growth during the course of 1989.

The rates of increase in growth in the non-agricultural sector started to decline during 1989 and showed an actual decline of 1.6 percent in the fourth quarter after a 1.2 percent rise in the previous three months.

However, real output over the quarter was virtually unchanged from the previous quarter, and although economists generally expect a further drop in GDP in 1990 as the austerity measures begin to bite, the economy is undoubtedly heading for a soft landing and not for a recession.

A growth rate in GDP of between one and 1.5 percent has been forecast for this year.
Labour Party

MPs to block legislation

CAPE TOWN—Labour Party MPs have decided to block all agricultural and manpower legislation until the Government comes up with satisfactory measures to protect farm workers from exploitation.

The move, decided by the party's parliamentary caucus yesterday, will have an immediate effect: five Bills on manpower and agricultural matters are due before Parliament's extended public committees today.

Labour spokesman Mr Peter Hendrickse said the decision was taken because the LP had not had a satisfactory response from the Government, despite numerous representations, over the past five years.

He said hundreds of thousands of workers around the country were "at the mercy of farmers".

There were no statutory regulations governing their hours of work, wages, pension, medical aid or unemployment benefits.

The five Bills affected are the Workmen's Compensation Amendment Bill, Manpower Training Amendment Bill, Roodpoort and Weltevreden Agricultural Settlements Adjustment Amendment Bill, Town and Regional Planners Amendment Bill and the Rand Water Board Statutes Act Amendment Bill.
Minister wants his farm a free area

CAPE TOWN — Transport Minister and Natal NP leader George Bartlett wants to turn his 715ha sugar farm at Inchanga into a free settlement area for 4,290 families.

While Bartlett, who says it will not happen overnight, believes it could be an important pressure valve on the growing demand for residential land in and around greater Durban, his plan has stirred up a hornets' nest among locals. (2)

Some residents are planning a protest meeting tomorrow and Pierre Cronje, Democratic Party MP for the area, said without the Group Areas Act there would have been no need for the scheme.

The scheme could be extended by an additional 2,400ha of surrounding privately owned land which would provide housing for 20,400 families.

Cronje said Group Areas created an artificial shortage of land which was open to everyone and now a government Minister was trying to 'cash in' on the situation.

He believed that the time to lodge objections against applications for a free settlement area was not long enough.

Bartlett, a deputy minister when he started planning the scheme, said it had been cleared with former acting-president Chris Heunis and President F W de Klerk so that he would not compromise his position in government.
Dairy Board lost on exports but gained on imports — De Loor

CAPE TOWN — The Dairy Board exported products at a loss of R511,926 in the 1987/88 financial year, but imported dairy products which were sold at a profit of R54m, former auditor-general Jopie de Loor said yesterday.

The export losses involved R509,603 for butter, R79,818 for cheese and R12,500 for milk powder.

These were written off during the year against the board’s stabilisation fund.

The surplus on imports involved R57,583 for butter, R1,85m for cheese and R5,4m for milk powder.

De Loor, whose report was tabled in Parliament yesterday, said the board was compelled to import because a shortage of dairy products arose during the year.

The board had written off bad debts totalling R1,1m, R1m of which was in respect of five fresh milk distributors.

In his report on the Wool Board for the year between July 1987 and June 1988, which was also tabled in Parliament yesterday, De Loor said foreign loans of R299m together with exchange rate losses amounted to R543,76m by the end of June 1988.

“From 1 July 1987 to 19 July 1988, the realised exchange losses increased with R45,474,121 and include approximately R37m arising from officials of the board omitting to take cover adequately against exchange rate losses during the year.”

Interest on the foreign loans amounted to R50,3m during the year, De Loor said.
The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS:
20. Mr R HULLEY asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs:
(1) Whether he has received a report from the Development Bank on decentralisation policy; if so, (a) when was the report completed, (b) what were the main findings of the report and (c) what action arose from these findings; if not, why not;
(2) whether the report will be made public; if so, when; if not, why not; and
(3) whether any of these vessels were also given permission to offload all or part of their catches; if so, why?
B129E

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS:
(1) No.
(2) Falls away.

Brown's Farm, Philippi: drinking water
21. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs:
(1) Whether the Cape Provincial Administration or any of its officials who are involved in the siting and service development at Brown's Farm, Philippi, have since July 1989 received any requests that drinking water be provided in the interim before the developments there have been completed; if so, how and why;
(2) whether these requests have been acceded to; if so, with what result; if not, why not;
(3) whether the said Administration will reconsider its decision in this regard; if not, why not; if so, subject to what conditions;
(4) what is the earliest date by which developments in the area are expected to reach the stage at which drinking water will be available?
B130E

(b) The appointment of teachers who completed their studies in 1989 has not yet been finalised. New appointments are still taking place. Details of teachers appointed in the Self-Governing Territories reach the Department at a later stage.
There is, however, also the problem of an oversupply of teachers in the urban areas. Newly qualified candidates are often not prepared to accept posts in the rural areas. Teachers to whom posts are offered frequently do not turn up at the schools where they have been appointed. There are also teachers who are not acceptable to specific communities.

(c) (i) Students at Colleges for Education:
First year 1987 — R 800
Second year 1988 — R 1 000
Third year 1989 — R 1 000
Total — R 3 000 per student

— Bursaries of approximately R 172 000 have been granted to students in this category who have not yet been appointed to posts.

Students at Universities:
First year 1987 — R 2 000
Second year 1988 — R 2 600
Third year 1988 — R 3 250
Fourth year 1989 — R 3 250
Total — R 11 200 per student

— Bursaries of approximately R 784 000 have been granted to students in this category who have not yet been appointed to posts.

(ii) The student enters into a contract with the Department in which he undertakes to join the teaching profession within a period of two months after having qualified and to serve the Department of Education and Training or an Education Department in the Self-Governing Territories continuously for at least the same number of years for which he received bursary funding. Should the student not assume duty, he must refund the bursary moneys plus interest.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:
Yes.
(a) 1 794 — as on 12 February 1990.
The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

- Simon MAGAMBA
- David Mohapi MASILLO
- Joshua HLOPE
- George MOGOHANE
- Enosh TSOENE
- Cleopas 'Schoolboy' MAZIBUKO
- Mihloti Phillip MABUNDLA

(b) The first five have been held in detention since 890721. The last two have been held in detention since 891229.

(2) Yes

(a) The South African Government has requested and received consular access and requested that the detainees be charged in accordance with normal legal procedures.

(b) The detainees have not as yet been charged by the Transkei and the South African Embassy is continually in contact with the Transkei Government regarding the matter.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) Yes

(i) and (ii) Fenitrothion (liquid), Fenvalerate (liquid and power) and Phosmet (powder) for the combating of 108 401 swarms of locusts in the Central Karoo, North-Western Cape, the summer rainfall area of Namaqualand, the Cape Midlands, the Western parts of the Orange Free State and East of Bloemfontein.

(b) Yes

(i) and (ii) Fenthion 56g U.L.V. for the Combating of 258 swarms of quesses in the magisterial districts of Amersfoort, Bethlehem, Bothaville, Ellistras, Groot Merico, Groblersdal, Heilbron, Klerksdorp, Kopjes, Ladybrand, Leeuwpoort, Lichtenburg, Middelburg (T.V.), Nigel, Ottoshoop, Reitz, Standerton, Swartkoppies, Schweizer-Reneke, Thabazimbi, Ventersdorp, Vereeniging, Vrede, Vljoenskroon, Warmbaths and Wolmaransstad.

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) (i) and (ii) Penitrothion (liquid), Fenvalate (liquid and powder) and Phosmet (powder) for the combating of 108 401 swarms of locusts in the Central Karoo, North-Western Cape, the summer rainfall area of Namaqualand, the Cape Midlands, the Western parts of the Orange Free State and East of Bloemfontein.

(b) (i) and (ii) Fenthion 56 g U.L.V. for the Combating of 158 swarms of quesses in the magisterial districts of Amersfoort, Bethlehem, Bothaville, Ellistras, Groot Merico, Groblersdal, Heilbron, Klerksdorp, Kopjes, Ladybrand, Leeuwpoort, Lichtenburg, Middelburg (T.V.), Nigel, Ottoshoop, Reitz, Standerton, Swartkoppies, Schweizer-Reneke, Thabazimbi, Ventersdorp, Vereeniging, Vrede, Vljoenskroon, Warmbaths and Wolmaransstad.

Nurses resigning in course of training

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

Resignation of nursing students during 1989:

(a) White

(b) Coloured/

(c) Indian

(d) Black

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<th>Year</th>
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<th>Coloured</th>
<th>Indian</th>
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<tr>
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<td><strong>466</strong></td>
<td><strong>161</strong></td>
<td><strong>170</strong></td>
<td><strong>50</strong></td>
<td><strong>797</strong></td>
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</table>

* Records are not kept according to these individual population groups.

Electrified fence: deaths

The electrified fence on the (i) northern and (ii) eastern borders of the Republic since the construction of each of these fences and (b) died as a result of such contact in 1989?

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

What total number of persons (a) had died as at 31 December 1989 as a result of contact with
FARMING EXPORTS TO HIT R6bn

PRETORIA — Last year’s agricultural exports — the best in decades — would have earned at least R6bn once final accounts had been assessed, agricultural authorities here said.

This compared with R3.8bn in 1988. SA Agricultural Union chief economist Koos du Toit said this year was unlikely to get close to matching the 1989 export earnings levels.

Major contributor to 1989 forex earnings was maize. Farmers produced a 5.5-million ton surplus which earned more than R1.3bn.

Wheat for the first time contributed substantially — earning nearly R500m.

Wool had a bumper year in both quality and quantity, although prices sagged in the last quarter of the year, earnings abroad reached nearly R1bn.

Du Toit estimated sugar forex earnings at between R700m and R750m, although no detailed statistics were available.

Citrus and deciduous fruit, although targets of boycotts, earned nearly R1bn.

GERALD REILLY

Hides and skins, Du Toit said, had also become significant forex earners reaching more than R100m last year.

“However this year is going to be something different,” he said.

Droughts had taken their toll of the wheat crop — which was estimated at less than 2-million tons — and, for the first time in years, wheat would have to be imported to supplement local stocks.

Maize, too, has been hit by drought with the threat of a crop not much bigger than 7-million tons.

And it could be less unless good rains fall within days in the western Transvaal and north-western Free State.

“So the prospects are not bright for big forex earnings from agricultural surpluses this year.”

And this, Du Toit said, “illustrates the boom and bust uncertainties of agriculture in a fickle climate.”

BIDAY 21/2/90
Planting the seeds of reform

Cynics who thought the heavily controlled agricultural sector would be the last to feel the political and economic winds of change now sweeping the country could well be proved wrong.

Any such thoughts should have been dispelled by last week’s annual Agricultural Outlook Conference (Agrocon) in Pretoria. In fact, if the strongly reformist talk at the conference is any indication of what lies ahead, farmers should brace themselves for a quick march towards a more market-related, non-discriminatory industry.

There were many highlights: strong ministerial attacks on control board mismanagement; promises that the bail-out of farmers will no longer be tolerated; an indication that farmers might have to pay for support services; and suggestions that the Land Act should be changed to allow increased access to land by black peasant farmers.

From the opening address by new Agriculture Minister Jacob de Villiers and speeches by Barlow Rand chairman Warren Clewlow and Development Bank chairman Simon Brand, to the closing address by Agricultural Development Minister Kraai van Niekerk, the recurrent theme was change and reform.

The scene was set by De Villiers who referred to “the unhealthy web of measures” created over the past 50 years by “some control boards.”

“Boils have to be lanced by means of open communication and in the interest of farming development,” he said. “Within some marketing boards alliances have been created that sometimes could be detrimental to government’s interests, but mostly the losers are on the producer side.”

This unprecedented ministerial attack on “some boards” follows disclosures over the past two years that the Wool Board had lost its producer members more than R250m in unauthorised foreign exchange dealings. Recently De Villiers suggested that the powerful Meat Board should take a hard look at its restrictive regulatory framework, which controls the largest farming sector.

Over the years the Meat Board has been the butt of sharp attacks because of its dictatorial and costly policies, which often seem to protect vested interests rather than either producers or consumers.

Another control board De Villiers recently singled out for attack is the Tobacco Board, under whose jurisdiction SA is forced to import tobacco. “Foreign currency to the value of R100m a year could surely be put to better use if farmers were free to produce those types of tobacco in short supply,” De Villiers told a recent tobacco conference.

Farmers need a quota granted by the board to produce tobacco. With the board earning levies from imports, it looks suspicious that it grants insufficient quotas to meet local demand. Even more iniquitous is the prohibition against farmers selling their tobacco to anyone except the board’s appointed agents.

Even in Marxist Zimbabwe farmers sell their crops individually to international buyers at Harare’s famous auctions. In SA, which proclaims free enterprise, the board’s agents are free to grade, price and buy farmers’ produce on whatever terms they deem fit. This leaves the system vulnerable to manipulation.

At Agrocon, De Villiers also intimated that, while the deregulation and privatisation of free support services to farmers could cause withdrawal symptoms, budget constraints made this necessary. In the case of veterinary services “the era of free services rendered by the State is rapidly disappearing,” he said. “We will have to introduce the user-pays principle.”

Barlow’s Clewlow identified three trends forcing the new thinking: the increasing global dominance of market-related economies (the single EEC market and moves in eastern Europe towards freer markets are examples), “the growth and development of an environmental consciousness,” known in Europe as the Green Movement; and the impact of bio-engineering on farming.

Green issues include the excessive use of pesticides and fertilisers, soil erosion and water pollution, while bio-engineering is aimed at creating new crops and products. “It is of critical importance that SA keeps pace with these developments,” Clewlow said.

According to Piet Swart, marketing director of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing, the current Uruguay round of Gatt talks involves the phasing out of monumental farm subsidies. In the EEC the Common Agricultural Policy devours 70% of the annual budget.

SA may be forced to open its markets to more imports, and some of its exports could find better world markets, as US and European producers are forced to meet competitive prices or stop producing.

The Development Bank’s Brand focused on the issue of equity in agriculture, noting that the huge disparity between the income generated by commercial farming and traditional, or smallholder, farming, had led to “a disproportionate prevalence of poverty in rural areas.”

“An alternative pattern of development with more emphasis on employment creation and smallholder farming may be preferable,” he said. “Access to land would have to be opened up” because limited access constrained smallholders from reaching their potential. These comments were certainly a radical departure from the traditional focus on white farming issues.

Minister Van Niekerk said in summing up that the tradition of bailing out unsuccessful farmers during hard times, with taxpayers’ money, must be discontinued. “This leads to surpluses, forcing prices down to the detriment of those farmers who have weathered the storms by using the correct farming methods.”
203 TUESDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 1990

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

Own Affairs:

*1. M R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

Whether any individual, committee or other group is investigating the question of parental choice in respect of school admissions policies; if not, why not; (a) what are the names of the persons investigating the matter, (b) what is their brief, (c) to whom are they to report and (d) when are they due to report?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Yes,

(a) an internal task group of the Department under the guidance of the Superintendent General,

(b) to investigate the provision of education by the Department with a view to a possible adjustment regarding the rendering of any service. The investigation also includes school admission policy,

(c) the Minister,

(d) as soon as possible.

Mr M ANDREW: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, could he give us an indication on the time frame he was talking about? He said as soon as possible and I accept that he cannot give a precise date, but does he think it is going to be a matter of weeks, months or years?

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I said on a previous occasion that I am in a hurry in this regard, and I am in a hurry it can naturally not last for a year. I want to hope and trust that it can be within weeks or months. The hon member will understand that when we come forward with a possible model, it must also first be submitted to the advisory bodies. The result of the investigation and the possible submitting of a model must take place much faster than that."}

12 months so that it is made as easy as possible for the person who received the overpayment.

Mr M R BURROWS. Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask whether any of the cases concerned involved overpayment brought about by incorrect interpretation of Commission for Administration or whatever?

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I am not aware of it, but if the hon member has knowledge in this regard, he is most welcome to bring it to my attention. We will then look at it.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

Agricultural credit committees- political affiliations

*1. M R A A B BRUWER asked the Minister of Agricultural Development:

Whether the political affiliations of persons play any part in appointments to agricultural credit committees, water boards and other statutory boards falling under his Department; if so, to what extent?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

No; Political affiliations of persons do not play any part.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Privatisation: statutory corporations/institutions referred

9. M J J WALSH asked the Minister for Administration and Privatisation:

(a) Which statutory corporations or institutions have been referred to his Department since its inception with a view to privatisation and (b) in respect of what period is this information furnished;

The MINISTER:

(a) Which of these corporations or institutions (i) have been rejected as unsuitable for privatisation, (ii) are currently being
(2) No. Since the lead levels in petrol were reduced in two stages from the former maximum of 0.813 g/l, several announcements had already been made.

Mr R J LORIMER: Mr Speaker, arising from the reply given by the hon the Minister, could he tell me when is expected this study which has been instituted will result in a report?... 

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, as soon as possible. Certainly before the end of this year.

Estcourt area: burning of industrial/domestic waste... 

6. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development: Whether her Department has taken any action regarding the alleged large-scale burning of industrial and domestic waste on a farm in the Estcourt area owned by a certain person, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of her reply; if so, (a) what action and (b) what is the name of this person; if not, why not?

B219E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT: 
Yes, (a) as soon as this problem was brought to the Department's attention, a notice was served on the owner of the relevant farm on 12 January 1990 in terms of the Health Act, 1977, to cease the burning of waste, (b) Mr Tim Ralfe.

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

7. Mr F LUCHS asked the Minister of Justice: 

Certain persons sentenced...

B218E

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES: 

(1) No. not at this stage. The lead content in petrol has been reduced by more than 50 per cent since 1986, and is now at a maximum of 0.4 g/l. This maximum is in line with many other countries. The National Energy Council is, nevertheless, co-ordinating a study to determine the technical and economic implications of the possible future introduction of unleaded petrol.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

(2) whether he has been subject to any inquiry regarding the deaths of any persons; if so, (a) how many persons were involved and (b) what were the circumstances of these deaths?

B222E

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE: 

(1) and (2).

The incidents, in which Mr Sybrand Louis van Schoor is allegedly involved, are currently subject to a police investigation. I have requested the Attorney-General concerned to supervise the investigation personally. Apart from the above there were also a number of post mortem inquests in which the name of Mr van Schoor had figured.

Cape Town City Council: permit...

B19E

10. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Water Affairs: 

(1) Whether his Department issued a permit to the Cape Town City Council on 15 September 1978, if so, what is the nature of this permit;

B219E

(2) whether the said City Council is currently complying with clause 8.1 of the permit; if not, 

(3) whether he has taken any action in this regard; if so, what action, if not, why not;

(4) whether he will issue this City Council with a long-term permit of this nature; if so, (a) when and (b) subject to what conditions, if not, why not?

B222E

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS: 

(1) Yes, a permit was issued in terms of section 21(4)(a) of the Water Act, 1956 (Act 54 of 1956) to discharge screened, macerated raw sewage by means of a pipeline into the sea near the Green Point Lighthouse in Mouille Point, Cape Town.

(2) No. the pipeline was recently damaged in a severe storm resulting in it being short-circuited from 1700m to only 250m. This occurrence considerably reduced the dilution capability of the raw sewage on the effluent, which return resulted in aesthetically unacceptable conditions and an increased health risk, associated with swimming and collection of fish seeds. 

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HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

43. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

(1) Whether cyanide effluent was discharged into the Buffalo River near King William's Town in 1988 and 1989; if so, on how many occasions in each year;
(2) whether the culprits were prosecuted; if so, with what result; if not, why not;
(3) whether any precautions have since been taken in the area concerned to prevent similar effluent spills from any source; if so, what precautions?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

(1) No.
(2) and (3) Fall away.

For the information of the honourable member. I wish to mention that a tubing manufacturer in King William’s Town discharged cyanide bearing effluent into a storm-water drain on 21 December 1988 and 22 May 1989. Due to the prompt action by the officials of the Department of Water Affairs the effluent was prevented from reaching the Buffalo River. The company was prosecuted in terms of section 23 of the Water Act, 1956 (Act 54 of 1956) found guilty and sentenced to the maximum fine of R10 000 on both charges. This was the first instance of maximum fines being handed down by a court for such offences. The company concerned has re-evaluated its effluent treatment and control measures, whilst regular inspections by officials of the Department is taking place.

Conservation of agricultural Resources Act: prosecutions

45. Mr E K MOORCROFT asked the Minister of Agriculture:

How many prosecutions were instituted in terms of the Conservation of Agricultural Resources Act, No 43 of 1983, during the latest specified period of 12 months for which statistics are available?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Six during the period 1 April 1988 to 31 March 1989.

Shelters for battered women

56. Mrs C H CHARLEWOOD asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

Whether her Department is responsible for any shelters for battered women in (a) Cape Town, (b) Durban, (c) Johannesburg, (d) Bloemfontein and (e) Port Elizabeth; if not, why not; if so, how many such shelters are there in each of these cities?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(a) to (c) No.

The Department of National Health and Population Development is responsible for the planning, co-ordination and monitoring of national policy regarding health matters, population development and social welfare. Rendering of actual services to the public is not within the line function responsibilities of this Department.

Ramsar Convention: international recognition for St Lucia Bay wetlands

58. Mr J CHIOLÉ asked the Minister of Environment Affairs:

(1) Whether the St Lucia Bay wetlands area has enjoyed international recognition in terms of the Ramsar Convention since round about 1986; if so, what are the relevant details?

(2) whether he has taken or intends taking any steps to have a total prohibition imposed on mining activities in the area known as Eastern Shores, east of Lake St Lucia; if so, (a) what steps, (b) in terms of which statutory provisions and (c) what are the economic-judicial implications of these steps; if not, why not;

(3) whether he has received a petition in connection with this wetlands area; if so, (a) from whom and (b) what was (i) the purport of and (ii) his response to the petition;

(4) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes.

During October 1986 the St Lucia System was included in the list of Wetlands of International Importance in terms of the Convention on the Conservation of Wetlands of International Importance, especially as Waterfowl Habitat (Ramsar Convention).

(2) No.

I have no statutory authority to institute a total prohibition.

(a), (b) and (c) are not applicable.

(3) No.

I have not received petitions in connection with this wetlands area, but I have received petitions regarding the proposed mining activities in the Coastal Dune area at St Lucia. With regard to the proposed mining activities the answer is:

(a) The Star's CARE Campaign which includes the reaction of the public and the following organisations:

- Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Kangwane Parks Corporation
- Zululand Society for the Protection and Care of the Environment (SPACE)
- Trader Cash & Carry
- Pick 'n Pay

- Rand Afrikaans University
- University of Natal
- University of the Witwatersrand
- UNISA
- Several schools
- Technikon Witwatersrand
- Birnam Business College Johannesburg
- St James Presbyterian Church
- Salvation Army Vereeniging
- Liberty Life Insurance
- First National Bank
- National Council of Women of SA

Individual petitions were also received from:

- The Wildlife Society of SA
- Earthlife Africa/Earthlife Natal
- Antarctic Declaration Greenpeace International
- Save our Lakes Campaign, Wansbeck
- Rennies Travel (Pty) Ltd
- Afro Ventures (Pty) Ltd
- L Suzman Lt Partnership
- Kimberley Municipality
- Kloof Municipality
- Meyerspark-Branch Tvl Women's Agricultural Association
- Duval Powerstation Witbank
- TPA: Hospitals, Johannesburg
- Eshowe High School Biology Classes

(b) (i) A request to totally ban the proposed mining activities at St Lucia and demand the assurance that the Government regards Lake St Lucia as inviolate.

(ii) My reaction was that it is gratifying to see that so many South Africans have a strong and positive attitude towards environ-
TWO cornerstones of the apartheid structure — the Land Acts — look set to be repealed by State President FW de Klerk during this session of parliament.

The Minister of Planning and Provincial Development, Hercules Kriel, has confirmed that the cabinet is studying the 1913 and 1936 Land Acts and the possible implications of repealing them.

A representative of the minister’s department said that no date had been set for a discussion in parliament on the Native Land Act of 1913 and the Development Trust and Land Act of 1936, but that it would be “soon”.

Over the last seven decades the majority of South Africans has been allowed to occupy only 13 percent of the land legally. Officially 74 percent of the population is assigned to little over 10 percent of the land — the homelands. Of the country’s arable land only 16 percent lies within these homelands.

Landlessness among blacks is seen as a serious socio-political and economic problem and academics and resistance groups are sceptical as to whether merely scrapping these Acts will resolve the problem.

The introduction of the Land Act saw the demise of African peasant farming, territorial segregation, overcrowding in black areas and land and housing shortages. It also served to provide a cheap labour force for the mines.

The mere repeal of the Native Land Act of 1913 and the Development Trust Act of 1936 can only be the first step towards solving the problem of land hunger among black people,” says United Democratic Front publicity secretary Patrick “Terror” Lekota, while academic and author Colin Bundy points out that the initial step to addressing the problem would be the “repeal of not only the Land Act but all legislation which affects access to the land”.

Bundy says that this will change things only marginally. “To repeal the Land Act in effect creates a free market in land but would certainly not result in a transfer of land to the majority.

“The land that will be available will be more marginal — land that blacks are not going to sell their profitable farms.

“The Zimbabwean experience indicates how land prices rose by up to 55 percent after the removal of discriminatory legislation.

“Only a small proportion of black South Africans could then afford available land,” he says.

The state of landlessness was formally implemented in 1913 by the Union government headed by Jan Smuts, with the tabling of the Native Land Act, which restricted African land ownership to the so-called scheduled areas — 7.5 percent of the land — and forced African peasants to work for white farmers. In 1936 the Development Trust and Land Act was introduced, increasing land in African reserves to 13 percent.

Lawyer Nicholas Haysom explains: “A repeal of the Land Act would mean that blacks can buy land in white South Africa and whites can buy in non-independent homelands.”

He adds: “This will not bring about an equitable redistribution of land. People have been disadvantaged for over 60 years and very few will be able to afford agricultural land.” Lekota reiterates this: “The poverty in the black community means extremely few people will move to change the legislation because such a move could threaten the white farming monopoly.

The land issue is inextricably linked to the present system of government, a fact clearly understood by parliamentary and extra-parliamentary groups.

Although the ruling National Party only came to power in 1948 — after the two laws were passed — it too introduced various measures to reinforce landlessness among blacks. These included the Group Areas Act, which promoted racial segregation and the 1959 Promotion of Bantu Self-Government Act which allocated bantustans as the political homelands of Africans.

The 1984 constitution also reinforced the NP attitude that “the land access and political aspirations of Africans are satisfied by separate homelands and expanded self-government”.

A voice that may well be raised against the repealing of the Land Acts will come from the right-wing Conservative Party. In the CP manifesto the party says it will “repossession black property rights in urban areas”. And a CP supporter sums up the right-wing attitude to land: “When partition takes place, whites will have to have most of the land, because blacks are not well suited to agriculture.”

Bundy says that in searching for a solution to the land question “we must realise that while on the one hand we have to address land hunger, dispossesssion and the very real demand for land we also have to ensure the protection of countryside production of food”.

“We need to look at the nationalisation of land or the partial nationalisation of land,” Lekota says that “in correcting the land problem certain sectors of the economy must be nationalised.

The government should take control of land and use it to communities who suffer land hunger, at rates they can afford.

“The government should also ensure that such communities be paid a living wage to maintain responsible residences.”

Alexander says a general restructuring of society through change in the economic infrastructure is needed. “You can’t change land relations whilst the rest of the country’s relations are based on an evil system.”

Haysom says that other measures to address the problem include the institution of co-operatives which would allow rural people to control the land and finances.

The implementation of African peasant farming is also suggested. Hay- som says that the Zimbabwean lesson is that such farming could be very successful if supported by agricultural agencies.

Organisations and academics have also suggested that redistribution should be implemented by the government removing land from absentee landlords and multinational companies and giving the land with security for tenure to rural people.
Warning on mines' effect on farming:

PRETORIA — A large area of agricultural land in the eastern Transvaal highveld could be seriously disturbed by mining development in the region, Agriculture Minister Jacob de Villiers said yesterday.

Speaking at a crop production farmers' day at Wildebeersfontein, he said the exploitation of coal for power production and the petrochemical industry had an important influence on the agricultural industry in the eastern Transvaal highveld.

About 50% of the electricity generated by coal-fired power stations in SA was produced in the region.

About a million hectares of high potential agricultural land was underlaid by exploitable coal deposits in the region.

The coal was at depths which varied from 150m to 200m. This meant a large percentage could be worked on an open-cast basis.

The implication was that a large surface area of agricultural land could be disturbed and would have a direct impact on the industry's production.

For one thing, the quantity and quality of water would be adversely influenced by mining activities.

However, mining had brought prosperity to the area and it would be a selfish policy to reserve the resources for the exclusive use of agriculture, De Villiers said.

He said maize marketing problems were being investigated by government, and as a result government had agreed to assist the maize and grain sorghum boards in the redemption of "negative balances in their stabilisation funds".
Teachers demand pay

FIFTY eight teachers of an Orange Farm school yesterday marched to the local Transvaal Provincial Administration offices to demand their January and February salaries.

The teachers, from both the primary and high school, fluttered an ANC flag, toy-toyed and held placards when they marched about three kilometers from their school to the offices. Schoolchildren were sent home early.

The school, which has a total enrolment of 4140 pupils was started this year when disused stables were converted into classrooms to accommodate children of squatters who have been moving from Mshenguville in Soweto and other squatter camps.

On arrival at the offices, the teachers were disappointed when they could not present a memorandum containing their grievances to Mr Woods, the TPA's chairman. They were told he was not available.

However, later a white official and a member of the local residents' interim committee told the teachers that the two were going to Pretoria to try and organise their money. The teachers were told they would receive R300 each by yesterday.

Their grievances included demands to be paid, erection of proper school buildings, immediate provision of toilets, provision of school furniture, stationery and textbooks.

A teacher said they had not been paid for two months. She said when the school opened, officials of the interim committee, who run the school, promised that each teacher would earn R1 000 or more. The money, R300, would come from the R10 each parent was to donate to the school; R400 from the TPA and the rest from sponsors.
Mixed forecast

Overall, prospects for farm exports this year look decidedly dim, compared with last year (Business February 2). But at least some agricultural sectors can look forward to a good year.

Among them are the western Cape’s huge deciduous fruit industry where export marketing company Unifruco is expecting bumper crops.

“I am confident we will beat last year’s record R330m in export revenue and hit the magic R1bn figure,” says Unifruco GM Louis Kriel. “SA’s improved political situation has created a better overseas climate for our products, though we expect sharper competition, especially from Chilean producers.”

Citrus producers expect a repeat of last year’s record exports of 30,3m cartons which led to gross export sales of R830m.

“The level of water for irrigation is good in all our major production areas, while most have experienced good climatic conditions through spring and early summer,” says Citrus Exchange GM-operations Arend Venter. “Indications are that the 1990 crop should be as good — or better — than last year’s.”

Dairy farmers face a possible surplus as growth in milk production overtakes demand. “We expect demand to grow by about 0,8% this year, compared with an estimated increase in production of 3%,” says Dairy Board GM Edu Roux.

Nevertheless, the sector’s producer income is expected to increase marginally from last year’s R1,12bn to R1,27bn. Retail turnover, meanwhile, should grow from the previous season’s R2,15bn to R2,35bn. Surplus production will either be exported or bought by the board at a minimum price.

The booming chicken industry will no doubt have to cope with reduced demand this year as red meat prices start drifting lower as the economy cools. The price of the two products moves in tandem because consumers substitute one for the other depending on the direction of red meat prices.

With an estimated output of 350m breeders, chicken producers should gross between R1,6bn-R1,9bn this year. However, producers fear falling demand could force prices lower.

The powerful red meat (beef, mutton and pork) sector also expects a fall in real returns as a result of the economic slowdown. With beef and pork supplies expected to grow by 10% this year, prices should come down sharply. The Meat Board still predicts a 6% rise in beef prices. The board’s chief statistician, Pieter Kempen, predicts beef producers should gross about R2,3bn this year, mutton producers about R35m and pork producers about R420m. The projected gross income for the sector of R3,55bn is slightly above last year’s R3,38bn.
Over 35 000 farmers helped

The State had given R3,6 billion in low interest loans to help 35 900 farmers from 1981 to 1989, the Minister of Agriculture Development, Dr Kraai van Niekerk, said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

Speaking in debate on a motion from Mr A A Bruwer (CP Lydenburg) that the Government had failed to deal with the increasing crisis in agriculture, he said this amount had been given to help farmers in economic straits.

Drought and flood disasters were not the Government's fault, but the Government helped those farmers who could not economically survive for five to six years.

The Government introduced certain schemes to help the farmer, but because they were working with the taxpayer's money, help had to be offered with the greatest caution.

Agriculture had to be shared with all the people of South Africa. — Sapa.
Farm killing adds to strife in East Cape

By BILL KRIGE

SINISTER unrest in the Eastern Cape has spilled over into murder and violence, and several towns have been crippled by black consumer boycotts.

Many Border businesses have been forced to close down as municipalities grapple with political and social problems.

On Friday, a East London farmer Mr Ivan Moss, 55, was found stabbed to death in his bathroom — the sixth attack on farmers in the region within a fortnight and the second murder.

In nearby Ciskei unrest festers.

In the Feddie region a youth was shot dead this week and Ciskei police smashed villager's homes and arrested them in an attempt to displace the homeland's Heroes Day celebrations.

A state of emergency has been declared in many districts and defiant Xhosas are openly destroying their membership cards of President Lennox Sebe's ruling Ciskei National Independence Party.

Spotted Stabbed

In Mantsane, where at least 10 people were shot dead after the release of ANC leader Nelson Mandela, a staff strike has crippled the hospital and widespread looting of shops has caused losses of millions of rand.

Across the border in South Africa Mr Sydney Moorcroft, brother of Democratic Party MP Mr Errol Moorcroft, was the fifth victim of a spate of violent attacks on farmers in the Eastern Cape.

Mr Moorcroft, who was stabbed in the stomach: "We all know what's behind it. It's nothing but blacks wanting to seize power."

But Butterworth's Mayor Nico Ferreira said he felt widespread unemployment and hunger had sparked the boycott which has devastated businesses reliant on black custom.

Fourteen ventures have closed since September.

Mr Ferreira estimated annual white spending in the area at R30 million and that of blacks at R25 million.

In nearby Cathcart, the black consumer boycott has resulted in violence.

Community leader Mr Kenneth Sigidi said a white man who had allegedly tried to force blacks to break the boycott was set upon and his van was burnt after he fled.

Mr Sigidi said his telephone had been disconnected in an effort to displace the boycott leadership.

Tensions

A letter addressed to Cathcart residents was distributed at a meeting on Friday to discuss ways of breaking the boycott.

It read: "We would like to prevent as much money as possible from going into the township and thus force blacks to stop boycotting.

"This can be effected by either being your own servants or putting them onto short-term and reducing their salaries appropriately. This can be done on the understanding that they will be re-employed when the boycott is over."

Mr Sigidi said racial tensions were so great that outside mediation would be needed to restore peace.

Said the deputy mayor of Kenton, Mr Ian Hutchison: "They have all asked exactly the same in all the towns. They started with complaints about sewerage disposal but as soon as one addresses the problem they raise something else.

Community leaders demanded a high school but when they were told a Std 8 class could open next year and a Std 9 class the next, that wasn't good enough. They had to have the whole thing now."
ANC farmers wait to end 31 years of exile

CHONGELA (Zambia) — African National Congress veteran Mr Lenford Ganyile is waiting for Mr Nelson Mandela to tell him it’s time to go home after 31 years in exile.

Until then he helps tend a giant breeding boar called De Klerk on a farm run by the ANC, 30 km outside Lusaka.

Mr Ganyile, 55, was among hundreds of ANC exiles in Zambia who welcomed Mr Mandela on his first trip abroad since his release on February 11 after 27 years in prison.

Organise protest

"Mandela sent me from Soweto to Pondoland in 1967 to organise protest against apartheid and that is where I was arrested. I want to go back and carry on the work Mandela sent me to do."

Mr Ganyile and his co-manager of the ANC’s Chongela farm, 59-year-old Mr James Chirwa, were friends and colleagues of Mr Mandela before the black nationalist leader was jailed in 1962.

Mr Chirwa, “Uncle Jimmy” to the dozen young ANC exiles studying agricultural methods at Chongela, spent 10 years with Mr Mandela on Robben Island.

“A man cannot be happy away from his home. That is my place. They are my people. I want to go back,” said Mr Ganyile, who wants to return blacks and whites to the anti-apartheid cause.

Mr Chirwa wants to see his family and get a job, probably as a farmer. “I want to feed the people of South Africa. That is politics, too.”

The fate of the ANC’s 3,500 hectare (8,650 acre) farm is undecided following Mr De Klerk’s about-face on 40 years of fierce white resistance to black aspirations. It might eventually be sold to raise funds for a similar training facility inside South Africa.

“The farm was started in 1978 to produce food for our cadres here in Zambia and at the camps in Angola,” said Mr Moses Masiboko, a Soviet-trained agricultural scientist who heads the cooperative farm’s management.

“As the farm was developing we thought it should also serve as a teaching aid to the people who want to make agriculture their career. A free South Africa is going to need farmers,” he said.

The farm produces about 3,500 litres of milk a month as well as 25 pigs and 10 cows for slaughter.

“We send the milk and the meat to the ANC people in Lusaka. The surplus we sell, said Mr Masiboko.

Mr Masiboko studied agriculture in Moscow for almost six years. During his exile, he visited every continent to lecture and study, and now speaks eight languages.

The South Africans are beginning to see we are all the same, we are all equal. I think that is why they are changing from their years of oppression to begin to accept us,” he said.

Mr Chirwa was also confident blacks and whites would reach agreement under the joint guidance of Mr De Klerk and Mr Mandela.

The white people have killed us and our children, but that is over. I don’t want revenge. I want their children to see that we will not hurt them so they can grow up and know that their parents were wrong to fight us for so long,” he said.

— Sapa-Reuters.
ANC farmers wait to end 31 years of exile

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— Sapa-Reuters.
Mining will have 'minimal effect' on agricultural land in the eastern Transvaal, says Chamber of Mines Safety and Technical Services manager Johan Greeff.

Greeff was responding to a statement by Agriculture Minister Jacob de Villiers that agricultural land in the area could be disturbed by mining.

Greeff said the area comprised about 4,8 million ha of high, low and medium potential agricultural land. About 1 million ha of this ground was underlaid by mineable deposits of coal and only 402 000 ha was exploitable by high extraction coal mining.

Only 3.5% of this agricultural land would be subjected to high extraction mining over a period of 100 years, Greeff said.
MONDAY, 5 MARCH 1990

283

How many Standard 10 pupils are taking Latin as a subject for the purposes of the Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1990? B165E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

537.

Port Elizabeth area: school facilities

20. Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) How many (a) pupils, (b) teachers, (c) classrooms, (d) desks or tables for pupils and (e) chairs for pupils are there at each high school falling under the control of his Department in the Port Elizabeth area;

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished? B188E

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: B191E

(1) How many (a) pupils, (b) teachers, (c) classrooms, (d) desks or tables for pupils and (e) chairs for pupils are there at each high school falling under the control of his Department in the Port Elizabeth area;

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Hansard 5/1/90

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<td>Westering High</td>
<td>628</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(c), (d) and (e) not available;

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

SCHOOL

Port Elizabeth area: primary school facilities

21. Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) How many (a) pupils, (b) teachers, (c) classrooms, (d) desks or tables for pupils and (e) chairs for pupils are there at each primary school falling under the control of his Department in the Port Elizabeth area;

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: B191E

(1) How many (a) pupils, (b) teachers, (c) classrooms, (d) desks or tables for pupils and (e) chairs for pupils are there at each primary school falling under the control of his Department in the Port Elizabeth area;

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Hansard 5/1/90

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOOL</th>
<th>(a)</th>
<th>(b)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hendrik Verwoerd Laer</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Herbert Hurd Primary</td>
<td>641</td>
<td>29</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kabega Primary</td>
<td>710</td>
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<td>Lorraine Primary</td>
<td>815</td>
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<td>Moregrove Primary</td>
<td>303</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mörwag Laer</td>
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<td>25</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mount Pleasant Primary</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>17</td>
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<td>North End Grey Primary</td>
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<td>11</td>
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<td>Park Primary</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parsons Hill Primary</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piet Retief Laer</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protea Primary</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Redhouse Primary</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rowallan Park Primary</td>
<td>642</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Augustine's Primary</td>
<td>138</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Joseph's Primary</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summerwood Primary</td>
<td>390</td>
<td>19</td>
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<td>Suuridge Primary</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>27</td>
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<td>Sydenham Primary</td>
<td>324</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tjaart van der Walt Laer</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Verkenner Laer</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Victoria Park Grey Primary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Walmer Laer</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walmer-Wcs Primary</td>
<td>321</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westering Primary</td>
<td>548</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young Park Primary</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agricultural extension officers offices

25. Mr A A B BRUWER asked the Minister of Agricultural Development:

(a) How many offices for agricultural extension officers are there in every specified region served by his Department, (b) how many of these offices are manned by graduates at present, (c) how many (i) graduates and (ii) holders of diplomas are in charge of the said offices and (d) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

B293E

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

1. Transvaal Region
   26 19 19 6 23/02/90

2. Highveld Region
   25 15 15 7 23/02/90

3. Free State Region
   24 14 14 8 01/03/90

4. Natal Region
   16 10 10 6 21/02/90

5. Eastern Cape Region
   14 10 10 4 22/02/90

6. Karoo Region
   16 3 3 6 21/02/90

7. Winter Rainfall Region
   20 14 14 6 22/02/90

Total 141 85 85 47 10

Agricultural research projects: amount spent

26. Mr A A B Bruwer asked the Minister of Agricultural Development:

1. (a) What amount was spent on agricultural research projects by his Department during the 1989-90 financial year and (b) what amount has his Department received from (i) industries and (ii) organizations in contributions in respect of such projects;

   (1) Amount budgeted for 1989/90 financial year for Agricultural Research. The expenditure will only be available after the closure of the financial year on 31 March 1990.

   (b) (i) R1 125 000 000

   (ii) R6 618 175

2. (a) R1 025 500

   (b) UNIVERSITY

   1. University of the Orange Free State
   R105 200

   2. Potchefstroom University for Christian Higher Education
   R37 500

   3. University of Pretoria
   R31 900

   4. Rhodes University
   R9 800

   5. University of Stellenbosch
   R169 300

   6. University of Natal
   R190 100

   7. University of Cape Town
   R103 000

   8. Rand Afrikaans University
   R19 000

   9. Medical University of Southern Africa
   R35 000

   10. University of Fort Hare
   R5 700

   11. University of the Witwatersrand
   R9 000

   12. University of the Western Cape
   R10 000

   TOTAL: R1 025 500

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

INTERPELLATIONS

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign † used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

General Affairs:

Delimitation commission

1. Mr H D K Van Der Merwe asked the Minister of Constitutional Development:

   Whether a delimitation commission was appointed recently; if so, when is it anticipated that this commission's business will be completed; if not, why not?

   *The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Speaker, a delimitation commission was appointed recently. In terms of the provisions of the Constitution the next delimitation commission must be appointed on 3 October 1990 at the latest, in the case of the House of Assembly, and in the case of the other Houses on 11 June 1994 at the latest.

   The Government envisages introducing an amendment to section 48 of the Constitution during this session, which will result in the delimitation period for the three Houses being concurrent. If the legislation is accepted, a commission for each of the three Houses will have to be appointed before 11 June 1989, but prior to 11 June 1994.

   The reasons for the Government's standpoint are as follows: In terms of the Constitution the general election of members of the three Houses of Parliament must take place on the same day. It is therefore desirable that the delimitation of constituencies for the three Houses should also take place at the same time.

   As the next general election need not take place before 1994, it would be premature to have the delimitation of the House of Assembly take place as early as 1990. As a result, shifts in the population which took place after that would not be taken into account, and by 1994 the delimitation would therefore already be out of date.

   B368E. INT

If a decision were taken to go ahead with the appointment of a delimitation commission for the House of Assembly before 30 October 1990, such a delimitation would only come into operation with the following general election for the House of Assembly. This would therefore mean that a second voters' roll, based on the new delimitation, would have to be compiled while the existing voters' lists based on the old delimitation would still be valid for by-elections, with far-reaching administrative implications, not the least of which would be for the constituency organisations of political parties.

The present distribution of House of Assembly voters indicates that an amendment to the number of House of Assembly members who represent each province has become desirable. Such an amendment also implies the amending of the number of constituencies per province, and this would then influence the delimitation of constituencies before a next general election. An earlier delimitation based on the old number of constituencies would therefore be pointless on the one hand, and on the other hand fail to solve the existing problem of large differences in provincial quotas.

*Mr H D K Van Der Merwe: Mr Speaker, with every speech and reply of the hon the Minister even if the best political expert is further away from an answer to the riddle of what the constitutional plans of the Government are for our country. In the old South Africa one could perhaps have understood it. But in this grey Lubukswian underworld of the NP what is unclear becomes even more so. [Interjections.]

Yesterday the hon the Minister made a speech which lasted 30 minutes, and he said in his own words inter alia:

I want to make it clear that the NP's point of departure is that there must be separate (ie) representation, and therefore also separate voters' lists, for every group that wishes to make use of the opportunity for the protection of political rights for groups and minorities in terms of the NP premise. Those who do not want to make use of this, will probably have their own group voters' roll. That is the logical consequence of that standpoint.

What is far worse is the standpoint which the hon the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs
How many Standard 10 pupils are taking Latin as a subject for the purposes of the Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1990?

Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) How many (a) pupils, (b) teachers, (c) classrooms, (d) desks or tables for pupils and (e) chairs for pupils are there at each primary school falling under the control of his Department in the Port Elizabeth area;

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

The Minister of Education and Culture:

How many Standard 10 pupils are taking Latin as a subject for the purposes of the Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1990?

Hansard 5/1390

How many Standard 10 pupils are taking Latin as a subject for the purposes of the Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1990?

Hansard 5/1390

21. Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) How many (a) pupils, (b) teachers, (c) classrooms, (d) desks or tables for pupils and (e) chairs for pupils are there at each primary school falling under the control of his Department in the Port Elizabeth area;

(2) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

The Minister of Education and Culture:

How many Standard 10 pupils are taking Latin as a subject for the purposes of the Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1990?

Hansard 5/1390

20. Mr E W TRENT asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(a) How many (a) pupils, (b) teachers, (c) classrooms, (d) desks or tables for pupils and (e) chairs for pupils are there at each high school falling under the control of his Department in the Port Elizabeth area;

(b) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

The Minister of Education and Culture:

How many Standard 10 pupils are taking Latin as a subject for the purposes of the Senior Certificate examinations at the end of 1990?

Hansard 5/1390

SCHOOL (a) (b)
Altona Primary 224 13
Blouwaterbaai Primary 358 18
Charlo Primary 403 21
Clarendon Park Primary 592 25
Coege Primary 41 3
Collegiate Junior 337 18
Coswold Primary 147 12
Coswold Voorbereiding 208 11
Cunningham Primary 153 11
Dagbreek Primary 93 7
Danie du Toit Lacoer 199 10
Diaz Primary 370 21
Dr. Viljoen Lacoer 323 18
Erica Girls' Primary 475 24
Ethel Valentine Primary 69 6
Exceller Primary 273 15
Greenwood Primary 282 15
Grey Boys' Primary 736 34
Hendrik Verwoerd Lacoer 423 20
Herbert Hurd Primary 641 29
Kabega Primary 710 34
Lorraine Primary 815 26
Moredgro Primary 303 16
Morewag Lacoer 434 25
Mount Pleasant Primary 308 17
North End Grey Primary 116 11
Park Primary 139 9
Parsons Hill Primary 141 9
Piet Retief Lacoer 386 20
Protea Primary 38 3
Redhouse Primary 42 3
Rowallan Park Primary 642 31
St. Augustine's Primary 138 7
St. Joseph's Primary 173 7
Summerwood Primary 390 19
Sunridge Primary 505 27
Sydenham Primary 324 18
Tjaart van der Walt Lacoer 501 24
Verkenner Lacoer 389 21
Victoria Park Grey Primary 309 16
Walmer Lacoer 147 8
Walmer-Wes Primary 321 15
Westering Primary 548 25
Young Park Primary 69 5

(c), (d) and (e) not available;

(2) 19 January 1990.

Port Elizabeth area: distribution of pupils

(c), (d) and (e) not available;

(2) 19 January 1990.

Port Elizabeth area: distribution of pupils

(c), (d) and (e) not available;

(2) 19 January 1990.

Port Elizabeth area: distribution of pupils

(c), (d) and (e) not available;

(2) 19 January 1990.

Port Elizabeth area: distribution of pupils

(c), (d) and (e) not available;

(2) 19 January 1990.

Port Elizabeth area: distribution of pupils

(c), (d) and (e) not available;

(2) 19 January 1990.
The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Number of extension offices</th>
<th>(b) Offices now manned by graduates</th>
<th>(c) Graduates in control</th>
<th>(e) Diplomates in control</th>
<th>(d) Information correct as on:</th>
<th>(e) Officers vacant in respect of graduates or diplomates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transvaal Region</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>23/02/90</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highveld Region</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>23/02/90</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Free State Region</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>01/03/90</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natal Region</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21/02/90</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eastern Cape Region</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>22/02/90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karoo Region</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>21/02/90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter Rainfall Region</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>22/02/90</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Agricultural research projects: amount spent
26. Mr A A B Bruwer asked the Minister of Agricultural Development:*

(1) (a) What amount was spent on agricultural research projects by his Department during the 1989-90 financial year and (b) what amount has his Department received from (i) industries and (ii) organizations in contributions in respect of such projects;

(2) (a) what amount did his Department allocate to universities for agricultural research in the said financial year and (b) how much was allocated to each university?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) R125 000 000 (Amount budgeted for 1989-90 financial year for Agricultural Research. The expenditure will only be available after the closure of the financial year on 31 March 1990).

(2) (b) R1 26 500

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The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS:

1. Major developers were asked to submit sketch plans for the development of part of the harbour at Hout Bay for purposes of tourism. Two groups of developers came to the fore, and the preliminary plans of these two groups are at present with the Provincial Executive Committee for a decision and the appointment of one of them. Subsequently the successful developer will be asked to submit full architectural plans, which, if necessary, will be subjected to an environmental impact study.

2. Falls away.

3. Falls away.

4. No, because there are as yet no final plans which can be discussed with the local community. The final plans will be open to inspection by interested parties.

Mr C W EGLIN: Mr Speaker, rising out of the hon. the Minister's reply, may I take it that although they are called "final", the plans will actually be finally formalized until an impact study has been done and approved and until the local residents have been consulted and have made their input?

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVIDENCE:

Mr Speaker, what is happening at the moment is that two different plans are being evaluated. One of these developers will then be asked to present architectural plans, as they are rather expensive items. Once they have been received, those plans will be submitted to the local community for their input and comment.

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

1. Yes. The officer was in charge of a group of policemen who were performing duty on the station.

2. No.

3. No.

Brown's Farm: housing

1. How many persons will Brown's Farm be able to accommodate after it has been developed?

2. Whether any other land has been allocated for those persons who were forced to leave the Crossroads area in 1986 and cannot be accommodated on Brown's Farm: if not, why not; if so, (a) with what representatives and (b) when?

Brown's Farm: tenants

1. Whether his Department has received any representations regarding the use of tartrazine in foodstuffs during the past five years: if so, (a) from whom, (b) when, and (c) what was the (i) purport of and (ii) response to these representations, in each case?

2. No.
The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS: \Handwritten 6/3/90
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(3) Falls away.

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The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: 
(1) Yes. The officer was in charge of a group of policemen who were performing duty on the station.

(2) No.

(3) No.

*16. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs: \Handwritten 6/3/90

(1) How many persons will Brown’s Farm be able to accommodate after it has been developed? \Handwritten 6/3/90

(2) whether any other land has been allocated for those persons who were forced to leave the Crossroads area in 1986 and cannot be accommodated on Brown’s Farm: if not, why not, if so, what land? \Handwritten 6/3/90
The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS: [Honourable 1/3/90]

(1) Major developers were asked to submit sketch plans for the development of part of the harbour at Hout Bay for purposes of tourism. Two groups of developers came to the fore, and the preliminary plans of these two groups are at present with the Provincial Executive Committee for a decision and the appointment of one of them. Subsequently the successful developer will be asked to submit full architectural plans, which, if necessary, will be subjected to an environmental impact study.

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Brown’s Farm: housing

*16. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs:

(1) How many persons will Brown’s Farm be able to accommodate after it has been developed: [Honourable 1/3/90]

(2) whether any other land has been allocated for those persons who were forced to leave the Crossroads area in 1986 and cannot be accommodated on Brown’s Farm; if not, why not; if so, what land?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes. The officer was in charge of a group of policemen who were performing duty on the station.

(2) No.

(3) No.

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Whether a certain police officer whose name has been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister’s reply, was present on the third-class concourse of the Cape Town railway station on the afternoon of 31 January 1990, if so, why?

(2) Whether this officer or any policemen under his control took any action there; if so, what action;

(3) Whether he will make a statement on the matter?

B34E

B34E
Farmers' debt mountain grows to nearly R15bn

PRETORIA — The agricultural debt mountain had soared to a record level of R16.7bn by the end of last year, according to the Directorate of Agricultural Economics.

The figure was more than R1bn higher than the total agricultural debt for 1998.

This year, agricultural authorities here warn, debt could reach R15.5bn or more following below-average farming conditions.

Farmers' gross incomes at the end of last year amounted to R17.5bn — another record figure — boosted by above-average climate conditions and large maize and wheat crops.

This year, however, according to SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) economist Koos du Toit, because of drought in large parts of the wheat and maize growing areas, total income could plunge by tens of millions of rands.

This could force an increasing number of financially vulnerable farmers off their lands.

Farmers, Du Toit said, were trapped in a vicious cycle. High interest rates and inflated production costs on the one hand and drought and crippling debt on the other.

In a survey trip to Natal and the Free State last week, an SAAU group was told many farmers were in desperate straits.

Some would inevitably have to sell out and leave their farms.

Du Toit said R7.5bn of the total debt was owed to commercial banks and agricultural co-operatives.
Powersharing neglects farmers — CP

Govt condemned for ‘crisis in agriculture’

The Government was paying more attention to satisfying blacks and coloureds than to the needs of whites, especially farmers, Mr A A Bruwer (CP Lydenburg), said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

Introducing a motion condemning the Government’s failure to deal with the increasing crisis in agriculture, he said the plight of farmers no longer appeared relevant to the National Party.

Debts growing

Farmers’ debts were growing, inflation was increasing and productivity was dropping. The position of farmers had begun to deteriorate when the Government had embarked on its policy of powersharing.

The Government should realise that constitutional development was not the only area it had to address — agriculture also needed attention as it was an essential part of the economy.

The only explanation was that there was “a mole” in Government ranks who was aiming to bring whites in the country down.

Mr Errol Moeroof (DP Albany) said the answer to South Africa’s farming problems lay not in simply continuing to sacrifice farmers on the altar of inflation, but in developing a financial climate conducive to stability in the industry.

He said that this climate should be one in which the traditional family farming unit could not only survive, but prosper.

“The decision which the State needs to make should not be that of whether they, the State, are to allow the marginal farmers to survive or not.

“The decision which the State needs to make is whether or not it is going to tackle the cause of the farmers’ plight, that is curb inflation and allow the farmers themselves to make the decision whether they are going to remain on the land.”

The phenomenon of fewer farmers and larger units should not be regarded as a necessary process.

It only became necessary if inflation and diminishing profitability continue to make more and more farming units unviable.

It was obvious that the State could not continue to act indefinitely as a wet-nurse to farmers, but if it cut the umbilical cord without addressing the causes which destroyed the viability of farmers in the first place, very little would have been achieved.

Interest rates

Mr P J Farrell (NP Bethlehem) said that interest rates were the largest single problem facing South African agriculture.

He said that rates had never been constant.

The problem was that farmers made their calculations based on the lowest interest rate. When the rate rose, they got into trouble.

The time that agriculture was merely a way of life, and that farmers did their sums on the back of a cigarette packet, was past.

Now it was a business, and sound financial management had become an inescapable part of agriculture. — Sapa.
Co-ops autonomous, minister points out

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

THE Minister of Agriculture, Mr Jacob de Villiers, pointed out that agricultural co-operatives were autonomous organizations, in responding to the controversy over Bokomo Co-operative using surpluses from the sale of produce to compete against the farmers themselves.

Farmers complained this week that most of Bokomo's profits were not passed on to farmers as dividends or to the consumer by lowering product prices but used to expand in direct competition with farmers.

Mr De Villiers pointed out yesterday that agricultural co-operatives were managed by a board of directors elected by their members and with the responsibility to report back to these members and get their consent.

He added: "Co-operatives have to pay taxes as with any other business making a profit."
W Cape farmers told to diversify or face losses

By MICHAEL MORRIS
Political Correspondent

FARMERS in the Western Cape have been given a clear signal by the government to diversify, or possibly end up with crippling financial losses.

Minister of Agriculture Jacob de Villiers told the Farmers’ Sheep Breeding Association in the city last night that "too great a dependence on a single industry ... brings about exceptional risks and endangers the ideal of long-term stability in agriculture".

LONG-TERM STABILITY

He said that while small stock farming had made an important contribution to lowering the risk and improving the long-term stability of the farming system in the Western Cape, "unfortunately attractive, unrealistic prices for cash crops have sometimes resulted in an unbalanced move by farmers to one or perhaps two industries".

He added: "When prices then drop as a result of the market, financial problems can result unless intelligent diversification was kept in place.

"There are many producers who have not allowed themselves to be unrealistically tempted by favourable short-term prices. Producers who maintained a sensible balance in their farming enterprises, among other things by introducing small stock on their farms, are today reaping the benefits."

Mr De Villiers warned: "It is dangerous for any industry not to give careful consideration to risk distribution and risk management."
Pupils eager to start school at the new Wolwehoek farm school, near Sasolburg, are surrounded by some of those who made it possible... (from left to right) Mr Tony Theron of the Sasolburg Rotary Club, Mr Willie Brown, president of the club, Mr Moses Tsilo, headmaster of the new school and Mr Bob Collins, also a rotary club member.

New building a boost for farm school

By Melody McDougall, Vereeniging Bureau

Tomorrow will be a red letter day for 170 black children at the Wolwehoek farm school when they say goodbye to their dilapidated classrooms and move into a brand new school, thanks to the Sasolburg Rotary Club.

The pupils, who range from Grade 1 to Std 5, will also be celebrating the official opening of their new school. The R125 000 school, which will retain the name Wolwehoek, was partially funded and erected by the Sasolburg Rotarians as part of an ongoing project involving the upgrading of farm schools in the club's area of jurisdiction.

According to club president Mr Willie Brown, Rotary embarked on the long-term upgrading project as a whole about four years ago before earmarking the school at Wolwehoek for urgent attention two years ago. He explained that at first the club intended to upgrade the classrooms only, but due to the extremely poor conditions of the building it was decided to rather build a new school close to the existing one.

With only eight members, the Sasolburg Rotary club raised the necessary funds. They also received donations for the project from a company, the farmer who owns the land the school is situated on, and a rotary club in Germany — while the education department has promised to contribute 75 percent of its valuation of the completed school.

Mr Brown said rotary has also undertaken to provide the school with running water and electricity, as well as additional library books, at a later stage.

The new school — a far cry from the old one which is literally falling to pieces — has five classrooms, a staff room, a store room and toilet facilities.

According to a beaming Mr Moses Tsilo, headmaster of the school, the children are bursting with excitement at the prospect of moving out of the small, derelict classrooms and into the new ones tomorrow.

The school was originally an old trading store which has been occupied by the pupils since 1974. Conditions here have been extremely unsatisfactory for many years, while the building is a very real safety hazard. Parts of the walls are on the verge of collapsing while most of the windows are smashed and a lot of the wooden floorboards are missing in the cramped and overcrowded classrooms. Mr Tsilo pointed out during a guided tour of the building.

He stressed that he, the staff and pupils were absolutely thrilled with the new school, and thanked everyone who helped make the project a reality.
CAPE TOWN — The future of agriculture was being shaped increasingly by environmental trends and resource constraints, Minister of Agriculture Mr Jacob de Villiers said yesterday.

He told the President's Council that the most prominent trends were continuing loss of topsoil from croplands, conversion of cropland to non-farming uses, waterlogging and salting of irrigation areas, falling water-tables and the diversion of irrigation water to non-farm uses.

In reply to a question on whether the country could continue to develop without water, Mr de Villiers said farming would have to be in harmony with the environment, and not at the expense of natural resources.

"If we overtax the environment, we will have insufficient water. It is not a good idea to take water from areas where there seems to be an over-abundance and move it to other areas where there is less. This could result in the desiccation of certain areas."

Natural resources were vulnerable and exhaustible. Effective conservation of these was important for the continued quality of life. — Sapa.
Farmers helped maintain growth

THE growth in the real gross domestic product for the calendar year 1989 was estimated at somewhat more than two per cent even though economic activity had dropped from the beginning of 1989, the Minister of Finance, Mr Barend du Plessis, said yesterday.

After almost three years of a cyclical upswing, South African economic activity had slowed from the beginning of 1989. Source 15/3/90

Although the growth of two percent was lower than the 3.5 percent growth rate in 1988, it was still higher than the average of 1.5 percent during the 1980’s.

The comparatively favourable circumstances in 1989 could be attributed mainly to the substantial increase in agricultural output and the continued sharp expansion in the volume of merchandise exports.

The value added by the agricultural sector increased by 10 percent in 1989, mainly as a result of a sharp increase in summer crop production.

Exports of South African goods had increased from 5.5 percent in 1988 to 9.5 percent in 1989 as a result of a continued strong demand for SA products abroad.
Why wasn't levy lifted asks farmer

By Melissa Nicolson

It was disappointing that the surcharge on essential capital equipment and spares intended for agricultural production had not been phased out, Mr Nico Kotze, president of the South African Agricultural Union, said yesterday.

Mr Kotze described the Budget as reasonably well balanced and said it would benefit the average person, particularly the less well-off.

"To the extent that the proclaimed measures will promote economic growth, agriculture as an integral part of the economy will also benefit from them," he said.

Mr Kotze also expressed the hope that agriculture, as an important employer, would receive a fair share of the considerable sums that have been earmarked for social and socio-economic upliftment.

An amount of R302 million was allocated to agriculture, R14 million more than last year.
Agriculture produces more, but other sectors sluggish

CAPE TOWN — Agricultural production increased substantially in 1989 as a result of a particularly good maize crop and relatively favourable circumstances, Finance Minister Barend du Plessis said in his expanded budgetary review yesterday.

However, weather conditions had deteriorated in the final quarter of the year resulting in a 40% decline in the wheat crop and a substantial decline in the value added by the agricultural sector as a whole. Apart from agriculture, the value added by the other sectors had increased by lower rates than in previous years.

Mining had shown no increase and gold mining production had in fact declined by about 1% in 1989. The result was that mineral sales increased by only 12% in the first 11 months of 1989, after an increase of 16% in 1988.

Manufacturing production remained virtually unchanged in 1989 but the volume of production of durable goods increased up to the second quarter of 1989. However, the production of non-durable goods declined in 1989.

In the fourth quarter of 1989 total production was 2.5% lower than in the corresponding period in 1988. — Sapa

The building industry showed an increase of 17.5% in the real value of buildings completed in the first 10 months of 1989. — Sapa
Agriland Fertiliser enters local market

ANDREW GILL

A NEW fertiliser company, Agriland Fertiliser (Pty) Ltd, has entered the local market.

The production plant is based in Richards Bay, previously belonging to exporters Indian Ocean Fertilisers.

Agriland MD Rhynie Greef said yesterday the company, registered in January, was aiming for a 5%-10% share of the R1.8bn market. Competitors included Kynoch (45%-48% market share), Sasol and Omnia.

Agriland has a production capacity for granulation of 400 000 metric tons a year. It also has the capacity to produce 70 000 metric tons of mixed fertiliser a year. Annual market sales are 2.2-million tons.

He said that the company was planning to export between 50 000 and 150 000 tons a year.

Annual market turnover was R1.8bn and he was aiming for a share of about R180m.

The announcement followed a move by farmers last year to import cheaper fertilisers, after claiming the local market was a cartel.

Greef said the introduction of a fourth competitor in the industry boded well for farmers. "It has been years since any real competition and since other producers heard about our entry some prices have fallen by 20%." He realised the SA farmer was under great financial pressure and would do his utmost to co-operate with agriculture for SA's greater benefit.
"The MINISTER: No agreements or appointments between the Government and Mr Mandela were made. At most, matters pertaining to government were touched upon. What happened, however, is that a certain relationship of trust developed which led to mutual respect. There were still differences in respect of political points of departure, of course, and those differences continued to exist independently and without mutually influencing one another. [Time expired.]

"Mr S JACOBS: Mr Speaker, initially the hon the Minister said in his introductory speech that they did not intend to begin negotiations with Mr Mandela. Now he is telling us yes, matters pertaining to government formed part of those talks. The hon the Minister surely ought to know that if part of the talks involved matters pertaining to government—this is my contention and I am putting it to him, he spoke to Mr Mandela about the new South Africa. We now want to ask him what he achieved in those talks he had with Mr Mandela. He achieved absolutely nothing. Mr Mandela misled him, just as he has misled the rest of the Cabinet and South Africa, because today Mr Mandela is still advocating violence. He has not renounced violence. Mr Mandela still adheres to all the principles of the ANC. He still insists on nationalism. He is misleading the hon the Minister and the hon the Minister is too naive to see it.

"The MINISTER OF JUSTICE: Mr Speaker, I just want to tell the hon member for Brakpan that I was using the form when I said members of the CP and leave it at that. I deny asking the hon member to adopt a certain line of questioning. The very last thing I would have wanted to do was cause any embarrassment. The point I just want to make is that I did not do that with the intention of covering anything up, of acting in such a way that no one would ever know about this. [Interjections.] That is the first point. That is why I informed people. Secondly it cannot be disputed that during July of last year, after his discussions with Mr P W Botha, Mr Mandela committed himself to the peaceful development of South Africa.

"Mr P VAN VUUREN: Is he also a member of the CCB? [Interjections.]

"The MINISTER: I am, in effect, putting a fact to hon members: they did not do it, it is what they like. They can reproach him politically for that. They can do what they like, but I am stating it as a fact.

I also want to tell hon members that there has been a material change in the climate because of the discussions with Mr Mandela. Today we are in a position to say that not only the ANC and Mr Mandela are concerned, there has been healthy interaction in regard to peaceful development in South Africa. For the rest the future will take care of itself. I cannot predict what Mr Nelson Mandela will do. I have repeatedly said that from now on they must abide by all political rules which all other parties are subject to. [Interjections.] That includes the fact that we will take the ANC up on its economic policy.

"Mr J H VAN DER MERWE: And their high treason!"
21. Mr K M Andrew—Planning and Provincial Affairs [Question standing over.] Regent Road, Sea Point: satellite police station

22. Mr W EGLIN asked the Minister of Law and Order: [January 23] 10 (1) Whether the South African Police is considering closing down the satellite police station in Regent Road, Sea Point; if so, why; 251 (2) whether he will give an assurance that the station will not be closed down until adequate and effective alternative crime prevention and policing facilities exist in that part of Sea Point.

23. Mr W Trent—Defence. [Withdrawn.]

*24. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Defence: Whether any workers have been retrenched at a certain factory in the Strand, the name of which has been furnished to the South African Defence Force for the purpose of the Minister’s reply; if so, (a) how many, (b) on whose orders, (c) for what reasons and (d)(i) when and (ii) by whom were these workers advised that they were to be retrenched? [January 23] 10

25. Mr M DALLING asked the Minister of Justice: With reference to his reply to Question No 17 on 20 February 1990, what is the current daily tariff paid to “the Government by private employers of prison labourers”?

26. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Education: [January 23] 10 (a) How many schools are there at the Orange Farm settlement camp, (b) what is the name of each such school and (c) how many pupils can they accommodate?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION: (a) 5 (b) Orange Farm Public Primary School, Coquisswe Primary (Private) School, Smapza Primary (Private) School, Tskane Sizwe Primary School, Black Forest Secondary School.

(c) Number of pupils that can be accommodated 920

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE: Yes.

(a) 252. (b) The Board of Directors of the company. (c) The decision was taken as a result of cuts on the workload of the company which followed cuts in the 1990-91 SA Defence Force budget.

(d) (i) On 27 and 28 February 1990. (ii) The Management of the company.

(3) General

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND TOURISM: Inward industrialisation is not so much a strategy as a process: the government is not in a position to “implement” it by fiat, but should rather be seen as removing obstacles to what is actually a perfectly “natural” process in any industrialising country.

The essence of inward industrialisation, in the South African case, is a growing mass demand for basic goods and services with high labour-intensity but a low import coefficient: in particular, housing. Inward industrialisation is the flipside of urbanisation; and, to the extent that government is promoting or encouraging urbanisation, it is advancing inward industrialisation.

Indeed, the provision of physical and social infrastructure on the periphery of the metropolitan areas is itself part of the initiating impulse of inward industrialisation. This opens up the whole vista of government’s housing and education policies; or, at a wider remove, of its social spending as a whole.

Inward industrialisation naturally rests also on a broad base of small-scale economic activity in both the formal (“small business”) and informal sectors. The former is being promoted through various bodies, notably the Small Business Development Corporation, an institution that has been and is receiving substantial financial support from government (including R60 million in the Budget of 14 March 1990). The informal sector is growing appreciably, and is being promoted by means of deregulation and training programmes.

A model example of how inward industrialisation is the raising of labour-intensity in production. As was stated in the Budget speech, government is seeking to bring about a situation where the relative prices of labour and capital better reflect their relative scarcity. The pursuit of positive real interest rates (accepted as a guiding principle by government) will contribute to this.

Inward industrialisation can also be said to rest on a redistribution of income towards those with a high propensity to consume. The latest Budget involves just such a shift.

The government’s dramatic R3 billion upliftment and development fund is bound to accelerate the whole process of inward industrialisation.

Prison labourers: tariff paid by employers

28. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice: (Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House)
assurance that procedures would be set in motion which would entitle Black medical doctors to be appointed as district surgeons. It would seem to me that those procedures were not put into effect. I want to express my regret at this state of affairs.

I would therefore urge the hon the Minister of Health Services and Welfare to have serious consultations with the hon the Minister of National Health and Population Development to ensure that the assurance that was given to this House on a previous occasion, is honoured.

[Time expired.]

Mr YISEDAT: Mr Chairman, following upon the hon member for Springfield, I find it strange that he questions an hon member from this side of the House putting an interpellation. I could be wrong, too, but I am sure he is even further off the mark. I do not think there is anything that precludes an hon member from this side of the House from putting an interpellation on the Question Paper.

It is the hon member's contention that this is in the form of a question and could have been discussed in the hon the Minister's office. However, the very fact that he took up a point which arose out of the discussion, and asked the hon the Minister to work with the present hon Minister of National Health and Population Development, is an indication that there is merit in this interpellation.

Procedures were discussed when we discussed the motion on 21 March 1988, because they were not implemented and because no action had been taken. This matter was raised in the interest of the community whom we are representing. [Time expired.]

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE: Mr Chairman, in respect of the contributions made here, queries were raised as to whether Black district surgeons could be appointed. There are no restrictions on applications that are put forward for the appointment of district surgeons. My department does make inputs as far as appointments are concerned. In fact, we do pick the best persons, as appointments are based on merit.

TheleaderoftheOFFICIALOPPOSITION:Thatissensation!

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE: Mr Chairman, in respect of the contributions made here, queries were raised as to whether Black district surgeons could be appointed. There are no restrictions on applications that are put forward for the appointment of district surgeons. My department does make inputs as far as appointments are concerned. In fact, we do pick the best persons, as appointments are based on merit.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: That is nonsense!

The MINISTER: He disturbs me. That is why I cannot give him an answer.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: This watch cost R30 000.

The MINISTER: He raised the question of district surgeons in Chatsworth. As far as district surgeons in Chatsworth are concerned, I have actually asked my department to look into the workings of the district surgeon in Chatsworth. In fact, we will take the necessary action to see that he is doing his job. I have taken cognisance of what has been happening.

Mr K CRETU: He is wasting taxpayers' money!

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Are you talking about the hon the Minister?

Mr K CRETU: Yes, they should fire him!

The MINISTER: I now come to district surgeons at hospitals. It is not necessary for them to be at hospitals, because they can work from a point where they do have other duties to perform, besides when they are called upon to perform autopsies...

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Your district surgeon should examine you! You need examination! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER: As far as I am concerned, district surgeons will be appointed...

[Time expired.]

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version.

For oral reply: House 201910

Own Affairs:

Durban Housing Action Committee: meeting

*1. Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing:

(1) Whether his Department was represented at a meeting in Pretoria with a Government working committee at which the Durban Housing Action Committee was present; if not, why not; if so, when was this meeting held;

(2) whether the affordability of rents in Government-controlled housing schemes was discussed at this meeting; if so, what was the outcome of the meeting?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

(1) No, my Department was not invited.

(2) Falls away.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is he aware that such a meeting took place and, if it did, who organised it— notwithstanding the fact that the hon the Minister was not invited?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, it is true that a statement was released after that meeting—it was broadcast over the radio—which in fact conveyed a message which was not entirely correct. It was at that stage that my Department took up this matter with a view to correcting that statement.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, who organised this particular meeting?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I am not aware as to who organised that meeting.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is it not correct that this meeting affected a matter which fell directly under the responsibility of the hon the Minister and, if so, did he complain to the relevant authorities that such a meeting should not have taken place without his knowledge or the attendance of any officials from his administration?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, the point raised by the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition was in fact taken up and it was indicated to my officials that the press release issued by this party did not convey the nature of the discussions. They gave the impression that they had virtually succeeded in extracting certain concessions, which was not true.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is he aware of the fact that the meeting may have been arranged behind his back by one of his colleagues?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, no comment!

Glendale: low-interest loans for farmers

*2. Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture:

(1) Whether farmers in the Secunda area of Glendale are being offered low-interest loans to re-establish their farming activities; if so, (a) how many farmers have been re-established as farmers and (b) what was the total amount of these loans;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) No.

(2) Yes.

It would be appreciated if the Honourable Member could furnish a detailed map to indicate where Secunda in the area of Glendale is situated. I am unaware of a Secunda in Glendale my constituency where I have lived for the past 46 years.

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, may I inform the hon the Minister that the name "Secunda" is due to a typographical error on the part of the secretariat. The correct name is the "Sezana" area of Glendale. Now that the hon the Minister is aware of that, could we give us the reply?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I acknowledge that there could have been a gross typographical error of this nature. If the hon member would re-submit his question I will answer it.

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, I would like the hon the Minister to concede that the Glendale area is a very small area and that the matters concerning that small area should have been well known to him. More particularly because it is in his constituency and because it is relevant to his Ministry.
TUESDAY, 20 MARCH 1990

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I would like to tell the hon member who raised the issue—who knows that it is in my constituency and is so particular about this—that this Question Paper was printed some time ago. If there was a typographical error and if the hon member did the honourable thing and read the Question Paper, then he would have made that correction a long time ago. If he thought this question was going to embarrass me, then he is wrong.

Mr M RAJAB: He is still a fool! (3)

The MINISTER: He got it all wrong and as I said earlier I suggest that the hon member put it in writing. "Written 203/90"

If he wants to persist in calling me a fool, I believe that that is a reflection on his own qualities.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! Did the hon member for Springfield refer to the hon the Minister as a fool?

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, I certainly called the hon the Minister a fool.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The hon member must withdraw it unconditionally.

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, the hon the Minister is not a fool.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The hon member must withdraw it unconditionally.

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, I withdraw it.

Asiatie Bazaar: construction work

*3. Mr D K PANDIAOHEY asked the Minister of Housing:

(1) Whether any persons constructed or are constructing buildings on property belonging to the Administration: House of Delegates in the Asiatie Bazaar in Pretoria: if so, what are their names?

(2) whether any action is being taken against the persons concerned; if not, why not; if so, what action has been taken?

(3) whether his Department has received any representations for the actions of these persons to be condemned; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

(1) No.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES

(2) No.

(3) Falls away.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, may I know who owns the properties in the Asiatie Bazaar?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, only property within a proclaimed Indian group area falls under this Administration. That area is not controlled by this Administration, and therefore it is not the property of this Administration.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister’s reply, does the Administration on the Housing Development Board administer this particular area referred to by the hon the Minister?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I could furnish the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition with an answer after making the necessary enquiries, but at this point in time I cannot give him the overall picture as far as that area is concerned.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, I am aware of any representations made by the Indian MEC in the Transvaal to any officer of the regional office in Pretoria about this?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, before I answer that question, I just want to jolt the memories of everybody, including the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition: There is no need to descend to this gutter level. [Interjections.] I make a plea, Mr Chairman.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Preach to your own side!

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I make a plea to everybody: Let us conduct ourselves here in a manner which will bring respect to this institution. This is my sincere plea. [Interjections.]

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! I appeal to hon members to try and keep the level of debate and discussion here as high as possible. For written reply:

General Affairs:


8. Mr K PANDAY asked the Ministry of Public Works and Land Affairs: "Written 203/90"

(1) Whether his Department pays a monthly allowance to any members of the Ministers’ Council of the House of Delegates for residing in their own homes; if so,

(2) whether he will furnish details in this regard; if not, why not; if so, (a) who are the members concerned and (b) what amount is paid to each per month;

(3) whether these amounts are paid during sessions of Parliament only; if not, on what basis are they paid;

(4) whether any other payments are made by the Department to these members; if so, what are the relevant details?

The MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND LAND AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.

(a) and (b)

Dr J N Reddy MP, Chairman of the Ministers’ Council and Minister of Housing

R 925.00 p.m. plus actual expenditure on municipal services and rates and taxes

Mr B Dookie MP, Minister of Health Services and Welfare

R 708.50 p.m. plus actual expenditure on municipal services and rates and taxes

Mr Y Moolla MP, Minister of Local Government and Agriculture

R 925.00 p.m. plus actual expenditure on municipal services and rates and taxes

The above-mentioned amounts include compensation for use of own furniture, general maintenance and cleaning and gardening services as other Ministers are provided with furnished official residences. The Department is also responsible for the maintenance of official residences and the furniture therein as well as the rendering of cleaning and gardening services.

(3) No. Members of the Ministers’ Council are entitled to furnished official residences in both Cape Town and Durban and if the Department of Public Works and Land Affairs cannot provide such accommodation, the private residences of the relevant Ministers are used as official residences. As official residences provided by the Department are at the disposal of the relevant Ministers at any time, compensation is paid throughout the year to those Ministers whose private residences are used as official residences.

(4) No.

Own Affairs:

Disability grants: cancelled

16. Mr K CHETTYY asked the Minister of Health Services and Welfare:

(1) Whether any disability grants administered by his Department in respect of any physically disabled and mentally retarded persons were cancelled in 1989; if so, (a) how many, and (b) why, in each case;

(2) whether any such grants have been reinstated since then; if so, (a) how many, and (b) why, in each case;

(3) what criteria are applied in determining whether an applicant is eligible for a disability grant?

The MINISTER OF HEALTH SERVICES AND WELFARE:

(1) Yes.

(a) 468 who no longer qualified.

(b) They were found not unfit in terms of the criteria set out in reply to question (3) hereunder.

(2) Yes.

(a) 257.

(b) On review, additional medical evidence has been submitted.

(3) An applicant will qualify for a disability pension if, in the opinion of the Pensions Medical Officer, with the information at his disposal, his physical or mental condition is such as to render him unfit to earn an income from employment; provided also that he is not precluded by the application of the Means Test laid down in the regulations promulgated under the Social Pensions Act No. 37 of 1973.
Drought-stricken farmers strike it rich

Political Staff

FARMERS on the verge of ruin in the drought-stricken Western Transvaal have suddenly struck it rich.

When the drought threatened to drive some farmers off their land in the Klerksdorp district, they turned to digging for diamonds to survive.

Yesterday the director-general of Mineral and Energy Affairs, Mr Lourens Engelbrecht, said R21.7 million worth of diamonds had been found in the area. On two farms near Wolmaransstad diamonds valued at R2.7m and R3.7m were discovered.

Mr Engelbrecht’s annual report, which was tabled in Parliament, noted that a 31.7-carat diamond found on an alluvial digging near Bloemhof was sold for R554 000.

A 22.86-carat stone was found on the Ruigelaagte alluvial digging in the Lichtenburg area and was sold for R100 000. A stone found on the Mimosa digging in the Schweizer-Reneke region was sold for R256 000.

Mr Engelbrecht said that while farmers were forced to turn to diamond digging by the drought which ravaged their lands, the subsequent increase in the price of diamonds was the main reason that farmers and other interested parties took to prospecting on a large scale last year.

During the year, he said, 292 prospecting permits were issued and 28 applications for prospecting and digging agreements were received. This was in addition to 129 such agreements that were already in place.
The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(a) How many strikes occurred in 1989, (b) in how many cases did the strikes arise out of wage demands and (c) what were the main causes of the remainder of the strikes?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(a) 738

The Department of Manpower only keeps record of strikes which have to be reported in terms of the Labour Relations Act, 1956.

(b) 267

The figures furnished are for strikes and work-stoppages as separate figures are not kept.

(c) Working conditions

Disciplinary measures

Wages and other matters

Trade union matters

Other or unknown

Note:

The figures furnished are for the period 1 November 1988 until 31 October 1989.

Own Affairs:

Land transferred to White farmers

27. Mr A A B BRUWER asked the Minister of Agricultural Development:

(a) Whether any land has been transferred to his Department by the Department of (a) Development Aid and (b) Public Works.

Hansard 21/3/90

B440E

Hillbrow constituency in 1989; if so, (i) how many such applications had been (aa) granted and (bb) refused as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (ii) what were the reasons for (aa) granting and (bb) refusing each application?

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

Statistics of applications for permits for construction of houses in Hillbrow during the period 21 July 1989 to 31 January 1989 are as follows:

(a) Yes.

(i) (aa) 2.

(bb) None.

(ii) (aa) and (bb) Each application is considered on merit in terms of the provisions of section 21(2)(a) of the Group Areas Act, 1966.

(b) Yes.

(i) (aa) 10.

(bb) None.

(ii) (aa) and (bb) Each application is considered on merit in terms of the provisions of section 21(2)(a) of the Group Areas Act, 1966.

Hansard 21/3/90

B293E
Land reform must give people power

The redistribution of land is central to the success of the national democratic revolution, says ANC researcher, Tessa Marcus. But redistribution alone is not enough, she says. CHIARA CARTER reports:

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Land Acts are under fire

No other Acts in a long and depressing list of apartheid laws had done as much harm to South Africans as the 1913 and 1936 Land Acts, the Democratic Party spokesman on agriculture, Mr Errol Mooncroft, said yesterday.

He said in debate on the Agricultural Development vote that they, along with the Group Areas Act, were the most glaringly discriminatory laws affecting agriculture, and the DP called for their repeal. - Sapa.
Producers
hard hit by
surpluses

World agriculture was currently influenced by surpluses, low prices, consumer resistance, changing trade patterns and a search for markets, Dr F.J.A. Swart, deputy director of the Department of Agricultural Economics and Marketing said yesterday.

He said South Africa will have to adapt and prepare itself to take part in the negotiating process for an improved international agricultural trade environment.

Dr Swart told agricultural representatives at the agricultural outlook conference (AFROCOM) held at the CSIR in Pretoria, that tension was mounting between trading partners because of the negative effects of internal policy measures have on their trade, market share and trade balances.

He said this resulted in increasing protectionism, a high level of support for internal markets and growing state subsidies for agricultural exports.

"The fear of the 1970s that the world would not be able to feed itself led to increased production and protection of the internal economy against excess exports. Over-production worldwide led to stringent competition and traditional exporters increased production and importers became self-sufficient, and even exporters," he said."
JCI STRIKES OLD CAPE GOLD

JCI has bought the farm Steenberg in Tokai, Cape Town, for about R20m. The sale was concluded by agents Jeremy Friedlander and Graham Sherratt of Leadenhall FM J3310.

It was something of a coup for the tiny firm of property brokers. Not only are such prestige estates rare and tightly held but they did the deal ahead of better-known Cape competitors Pam Golding Properties and Board of Executors which have been trying for years to persuade the Louw family to sell.

JCI's Raymond Hofmann says the group was attracted by the property's rarity and prestige. Only Buitenvaartwacht and Groot and Klein Constantia have the same cachet. The 202 ha farm comprises a traditional Cape Dutch gabled homestead and outbuildings dating back to 1682, a considerable area under vines producing wine and table grapes, grasslands and fynbos.

The property, within the metropolitan area, also has considerable development potential. In terms of the agreement of sale, JCI has undertaken to preserve the homestead and surrounding farmland. Beyond that, Hofmann says: "JCI will consider the possibility of low-density, sensitively designed residential properties and possibly a golf course."

Locals will no doubt be smarting at the fact that one of their jewels has fallen into the hands of a mining house. Worse still, through the hands of a Johannesburg broker. But with Capetonians none too fond of firstrand purchases, they can at least console themselves that it hasn't fallen into foreign hands.
Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Labour Party MPs are standing firm on their boycott of all agricultural and manpower-related legislation until farmworkers' rights are entrenched.

The boycott effectively blocks all such legislation.

The decision follows a meeting on Monday between LP representatives and Manpower Minister Mr. Eli Louw.

The party is insisting that farmworkers be included in the Wage Act, Conditions of Basic Employment Act, Labour-Relations Act and the Unemployment Insurance Fund.
New scheme for labourers' housing

The existing low-interest loan scheme of the Department of Agricultural Development for the erection of farm labourer housing is to be replaced with new measures which would eliminate the need to register bonds, the Minister of Agricultural Development, Dr Kraai van Nickerk, said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

Speaking during debate on the agriculture development vote, he said the new scheme involved a one-off amount paid to farmers after completion of the housing. "This eliminates the requirement for the registration of bonds to insure such a loan.

"These contributions from the State for the building of labourer housing on farms vary from R4,000 for a one-bedroom dwelling to R7,000 for a four-bedroom house," he said. — Sapa.
Farmers' ire sparks probe into co-ops

By MARIUS BOSCH

The government is to investigate recent developments where co-operatives entered into primary agriculture production following claims that a Malmsbury co-op used surpluses from the sale of produce to compete against its own members.

Poultry farmers belonging to the Boere Ko-operative Molen (Bokomo) have claimed that the massive co-operative entered into competition with its own members — using average surpluses of R25 million over the past four years.

According to the 1986 income statement, only R1.2 million was paid to Bokomo's members of the R40.6 million income available for distribution. R38 million was maintained in a general reserve.

Deputy registrar of co-operatives Mr Bert van der Merwe said the views of several organisations had already been called for, following "recent developments where co-operatives entered agriculture".

Mr Van der Merwe said the government gave a high priority to the wellbeing of farmers and any members of Bokomo with "accusations" should approach the registrar of co-operatives.

Bokomo is a huge organisation involved in wheat milling, animal foods and bread baking, and through subsidiaries the co-operative controls 50% of the Western Cape poultry and egg market.

Farmers told the Cape Times they could not compete against Bokomo, especially when the co-operative had installed sophisticated automatic equipment worth about R22.5 million on farms belonging to Bokomo's broiler division.

Private company

They could not compete with this as the average farmer could not get loans at the same interest rates as Bokomo.

Bokomo's balance sheet shows that the co-operative has loans from different financial institutions at between 12½% and 20% interest.

Farmers said the best rate they could get from their banks was 21½%.

Boland Poultry Association chairman Mr Gigi Passerini said the association distanced itself from the row but said that in principle changes to the Co-operative Act were "imperative".

Farmers also felt that Bokomo should become a private company following the recent example of Unifruco, saying there would be a big injection of wealth into the Swartland if Bokomo went public.

They said farmers could benefit from this as their liquidity could improve by their borrowing money against their shares in the public company.

However, both Mr Van der Merwe and Stellenbosch University agricultural economist Dr Andre Myburgh maintained that the Bokomo management could not make any decisions without the approval of the 600 members.

Dr Myburgh described co-operatives as "very democratic institutions", saying that the management of any co-operative "can't do anything that does not carry the approval of its members".

Bokomo general manager Mr Phillip Barnard declined to comment.
Farmers claim intimidation

EAST LONDON — Farmers and traders in the Kwellera area in the Eastern Cape are allegedly being intimidated by groups of youths to provide transport for the Mandela rally in Bisho at the weekend.

A Kwellera farmer, Mr Louis Smith, said yesterday a delegation from the local township approached him about supplying transport to residents.

He said he asked for a list of names of those interested in attending the rally, but such a list could not be produced by the group.

LIVELIHOOD

"I told the two men I was only prepared to take my staff, that I would drive them there and leave them there as I was in no position to see my vehicles being damaged. They are my livelihood."

The farmer said, however, none of his 100 employees seemed interested in attending the rally, and had indicated they were trying to "avoid the troubles in the town".

Mr Smith said he had been notified by residents on a previous occasion they "wanted a truck free of charge" to transport them to a Mandela rally, which was subsequently postponed.

Mr Smith, who owns three trucks and two bakkies, said he told the residents he was not prepared to send any of the vehicles for fear of them being damaged.

He added, according to police sources, that farmers who refused to lend their vehicles faced the danger of their farms being torched.

In a television news report yesterday, a shopkeeper, Mr Bobby Heyns, said a group had asked him to lend them his truck, and had intimated if he did not co-operate, his store would either be burnt or boycotted.

Two officials of the Department of Community Development were reportedly coerced into driving a party of youths to various small shops and farms in the Kwellera area in search of transport.

It was reported a number of farmers and shopkeepers were approached, one being offered "ANC membership for R1 000".

Another, who offered a R10 donation instead of transport, was told R1 000 would be more appropriate.

The District Commissioner of the SAP, Brigadier S S Weyers, said police had not received any complaints, but would take steps to prevent such acts of intimidation and take strong action against the perpetrators. — Sapa.
FARMING CO-OPS

Under the spotlight

The R20bn-a-year co-operative farming movement may soon face the harsh light of public scrutiny after the attack by some members of western Cape milling co-op Bokomo on its financial and business management.

The focus of the attack is Bokomo’s policy of using members’ “profits” to buy into broiler and egg production, in direct competition with some members. But questions are also being raised over the massive financial outlay wielded by the powerful co-operative movement, especially in view of its subsidised finance supplied by the Land Bank.

Previously, the FM has questioned the role of massive co-operative silos scattered across the highveld in pushing up consumer maize prices.

The feeling is that some co-op officials — controlled, in theory, by a board selected by farmer members, with some nominees from other co-operatives — now call the tune and that farmers have become slaves to the system. The power over farmers lies in the co-ops’ ability to furnish them with their requirements and to act as their bank.

Total assets of the huge co-operative industry reached R11.1bn in 1988. Using cheap Land Bank funds, the co-ops serve 60 000-plus farmers with crop and production finance, provide extensive retailing and wholesaling services, silo storage, marketing assistance and various related facilities.

Between 1970 and 1980, the co-ops’ percentage of the total farm debt mushroomed from a mere 8% (R11,34m) to 22.5% (R866,9m). By 1988, farmers owed “their” co-ops a huge R3,4bn — more than a quarter of total farming debt — compared with R3,5bn to commercial banks.

Many farmers no longer feel free to question decisions by co-op managers because this could lead to subtle — or open — attempts to cut off their credit lifelines and force them into insolvency.

That’s not the story at Bokomo; members owe very little to the milling co-op. But members critical of the co-op still fear being named. According to these members, Bokomo declared profits of about R94m over the past four years but paid out only about R2,5m to members. About R90,5m was put into general reserves. This was used to obtain about R165m in finance from private banks and the Land Bank, which went into buying stakes in broiler and egg producers — in direct competition with some farmer members.

The poultry division of Bokomo, now trading as Bonnybird, is the result of a merger with Premier Foods (50%) and Sacca (25%, the same as Bokomo).

Bokomo budgeted for a R10m loss on its share in Bonnybird in 1989, implying that the venture projected a total loss of R40m for the year. If that’s the case, disgruntled members ask: “Why then get involved?”

Bokomo’s 1989 annual statement also shows that net after-tax income dropped from R3,6m to R16,9m, though R5,7m “income from affiliated companies” pushed the “income from the period” to R23,6m — still a drop of about R13m from the previous year’s R36,8m. Also raising members’ ire was a R45m downturn in “income from activities after interest and tax.”

Furthermore, a R25,3m capital surplus from the amalgamation with Premier’s and Sacca’s chicken production interests was also partly written into reserves, with farmer members receiving only a R1m bonus payout.

Bokomo GM Philip Barnard, answering these criticisms, says final figures for Bonnybird’s operations will be released only when Premier reports on the year’s activities. He adds that “distributable profits” do not necessarily include capital profits. “About R31m was thus not available for distribution, while in 1989, farmers received almost a 100% dividend of R1,2m on their share interest of R1,3m.”

The decision to put profits into reserves was taken by the nine directors, representing the co-op’s 650-plus members. “Five board members are appointed by producer members, while four are selected by the co-operative movement,” Barnard says. Directors are appointed on a rotating basis, for three years, and at the last board meeting in February no voices were raised about our investment or management decisions.”

Barnard issues a challenge to disgruntled members to go public and enter into an open debate with the co-op. But co-op members respond by saying, “most farmers are still speaking out at annual meetings” for obvious reasons.

Arnold van Heystee

COMPETITION BOARD

A wider brief

To the dismay of free marketers, the Competition Board may soon begin getting more power to meddle in business.

Under the proposed amendments to the Maintenance and Promotion of Competition Act, the board will be getting the power to issue guidelines on both monopolies and restrictive practices rather than on just acquisitions, as is now the case. So under the amendments, it will be assumed that an acquisition restricts competition and is against the public interest, unless the parties can prove otherwise. The changes are expected to be passed in this session of parliament.

With this wider brief, chairman Pierre Brooks is keen to provide business with a comprehensive picture of competition policy through guidelines that can be used as precedents in board decisions.

“We don’t want to pass judgment just on a gut reaction. We’ll build up competition principles on the basis of comparative law, taking special note of the laws in the US and EC.”

One criticism of the board has been that the views of lawyers take precedence over the views of economists. This has been especially true since UCT economist Brian Kanter and economist and businessman Jan Graaff left the board last year.

Leon Louw, executive director of the Free Market Foundation, disagrees with the board’s whole thrust. He says companies merge so they can become more competitive and this shouldn’t be restricted. “If companies are placed under investigation because they’ve been successful enough to absorb a competitor, then this constitutes interference in the market.”

He adds that there’s no reason for SA to harmonise its competition laws with those of the US and EC, which have a strong anti-trust bias. “I don’t see why we should follow the lemmings.”

Though on the face of it the new Act appears to be against company growth and, therefore, anti-big business, Brooks insists: “We aren’t against bigness as such. We don’t want to penalise entrepreneurship but would like to encourage competition. Often the
R120 million mill nears completion

A joint venture between steel giant Iscor and engineering group Dorbyl — a R120 million seamless tube mill — will be completed later this month and could save South Africa up to R50 million in foreign exchange per annum.

The mill is owned and operated by Tosa Seamless Tubes, in which Dorbyl has a 60 percent stake and Iscor 40 percent, and is located at Tosa’s existing works in Vereeniging.

Iscor is the mill’s main supplier of feedstock, in the form of 100mm to 150mm diameter steel billets, allowing the mill to produce seamless tube and pipe at an initial capacity of 60,000 tons a year.

The decision to build the plant was taken two years ago, but building only started at the end of last year. State President F.W. de Klerk will officially open the mill.
The scorched red earth of Landplaas

By NORMAN PATTERTON

BLOATED sheep lying next to dirt roads, wind-eroded plains, shrivelled cactus plants and a dam that's been dry since it was built three years ago.

This is the scorched Landplaas district, three hours' drive from Cape Town near hoeknaap on the West Coast, where farmers borrow water from their neighbors for coffee.

The area was declared a disaster drought area this week by the chairman of the National Drought Committee, Mr J J Bruwer, qualifying sheep farmers for state aid.

"The survival of the farming community of the Landplaas area is threatened," Mr Bruwer said. "It is therefore essential that the disaster drought scheme be introduced for this area."

The farmers of the area were almost apologetic when the Cape Times visited them this week.

"If you've come here to hear us moan you've come in vain," said Mr Bouw Prins of the farm Elandsfontein, who materialised barefoot in a cloud of dust when we reached his homestead.

"Things are rough here," said Mr Prins. "The only water we get comes off our roofs. The underground water is worse than salt water. If you water plants with it they'll die."

Farmers were trucking in water at great expense from the distant Green River.

Mr Prins said the dusty, red plains he calls his farm had gone through a four-year drought and the ecosystems on his and 28 other farms were collapsing.

He had already reduced his sheep to 422. Farmers had to buy in fodder and kept sheep in kraals to prevent them from feeding on surviving poisonous plants in the veld. Mr Prins was even feeding springbok that came to his farm house each morning.

There would be no wheat crop this year, following last year's crop failure.

"Our danger is, because we are so used to the dry conditions, we stick it out for too long," said Mr Prins.

Farmers voted against state aid last year when they received rain in August following a long arid period. But August was the last time it rained, said Mr Prins.

"But if the infrastructure (such as installing a state irrigation scheme) does not improve, this land will be left deserted after we lived here for four generations."

They were taking to other activities to survive, contract harvesting in the Free State, doing various jobs, even diving for diamonds off the West Coast.

One of them is Mr Jan Carstens of Swartbooi- seveli.

"We can cope with inflation, high interest rates, whatever, but it is impossible to survive if you link them to drought."
Agriculture boom aided GDP growth

GRETJA STEYN

A BOOM in agriculture was the main reason for the relatively comfortable rate of 2% growth in real gross-domestic product (GDP) achieved last year.

According to the latest Reserve Bank Quarterly Bulletin, output in the agricultural sector grew by 10% in real terms in 1989 while lower (but still positive) rates of real growth were recorded in other major sectors of the economy.

An econometric simulation done by the bank suggested the increase in agricultural output had contributed 0.8 percentage points to the real growth rate of the overall economy of slightly more than 2%. The reason for the buoyancy of the sector was a record maize crop.

"Allowance should, of course, be made for a return to more normal crops and harvests in 1990," the bulletin said.

The sector's performance started to pale in the last quarter of 1989. Less favourable weather at the year-end resulted in a wheat crop that is likely to be about 40% smaller in volume terms than in 1988. (3) General
Launching of book on Bushmen roots

Shakos Roots, a new book on the Bushmen of Namibia, will be launched today at the Market Gallery in downtown Johannesburg.

An exhibition of the photographs taken by Paul Weinberg will be opened by Megan Bissette, co-author of the book, anthropologist and director of the Juliboo Bushman Foundation in Namibia.

By ELLIOT MAKHAYA

The book brings together years of study and research by Megan Bissette and the photographs spanning a period of five years by Paul Weinberg. The photographs take the viewer on a journey into a transient culture, at one time stable and in harmony with nature, today struggling to transform its past into a new practice for the future.

The exhibition looks at the dispersed community who are scattered throughout the country and who account for more than 90 percent of the Bushman population. It also looks at those fortunate enough to have access to land in Bushmanland.

Survival for the Bushman today depends on cash in the form of wages from the army and local farmers.

Under the auspices of the Nyae Nyae Farmers Co-operative, the Bushmen with land are learning the skills in cattle farming and vegetable gardening. Making and selling of crafts is also becoming a source of income as the Bushmen search for ways to adapt to a way of trading.

Bushmen waiting in line to vote in 1989.
there is one thing that is going to make White people apprehensive about the future, it is if they believe that we are simply drifting into the future without any idea of where anyone wants to go and just hoping that somebody else will decide for them where to go. [Interjections.]

I believe in leadership. I believe that people need to be given self-confidence in changed circumstances. They need to believe that they can cope with the new challenges and adapt to the new society and that they do not simply have to sit back and, as the hon member for Pinetown said, leave it to the CP to have a field day by spreading as much fear as they can among parents in their communities. [Time expired.]

*The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE: Mr Speaker, I want to give the hon members for Cape Town Gardens and Pinetown the assurance that the Government, for its part, will do nothing to force any school community to take a specific decision in a specific direction. [Interjections.]

I content myself by saying that it is the responsibility of the Government to place all the facts at their disposal and then to leave the decision to the school community concerned.

I should like to come back to the arguments of the hon member for Brits. I do not know how long hon members of the Official Opposition are going to keep on demonizing in the way that they are doing and adopting standpoints they know are wrong. The Government has no intention whatsoever of coercing any White parent by confronting him with a choice of closing a school or keeping it open. That is a gross untruth, and the hon member for Brits knows it. It is unworthy of him to tell such untruths. [Interjections.]

It is as much of an absurdity to allege that the Government should do their homework in the homes. Surely there is no such thing. Does the hon member for Brits want to come and tell me that it is the Government's fault that there is such a low population increase? [Interjections.]

The hon member should sweep in front of his own door first. Then I must now say that it is also the fault of the Official Opposition. Surely these are absurdities we should not be indulging in the House of Assembly by arguing about them.

The fact of the matter is that there is no point of departure here to ensure that we have integrated education. What is happening here is that a specific need has emerged in respect of providing an education service in specific communities, and we are trying to establish models in order to make that choice wider. [Time expired.]

Debate concluded.

QUESTIONS

1. Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

Own Affairs:


Parking on school grounds: payment by teachers

*1. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether any of the provincial departments of education have promulgated regulations regarding the payment by teachers for parking on school grounds if so, (a) which departments, (b) what amount is to be charged and (c) on whose instructions were these regulations promulgated?

(2) whether his Department has calculated the total sum likely to accrue from such parking fees; if not, why not; if so, what is the sum involved;

(3) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

*2. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) (a) What is his Department's policy regarding the erection and/or purchasing of facilities at full cost to the school concerned and (b) to whom do such facilities belong?

(2) what was the total cost of facilities so erected and/or purchased by schools during the latest specified financial year for which figures are available?

*3. Adv S C JACOBS asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

Whether his Department admits as teachers persons who support the principles and policy of the ANC and the South African Communist Party; if so, (a) how many such teachers were employed in schools under his control as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) what subjects are they allowed to teach?

ANC/SCAP supporters: admission as teachers

*4. Adv T ANGLEY asked the Minister of Agricultural Development:

(1) (a) What total amount did a certain person of the Wempe district in Maseina, whose name has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, owe to his Department at the time of his sequestration in respect of financial assistance, (b) what amount was realised by selling the securities of this person and (c) what is the name of the person concerned;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

*5. Mr A GERBER asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(1) Whether considerations are being given to reducing the gratuity paid to retiring teachers; if so, what are the relevant details;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?

Reduction of teachers' gratuity

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) (a) and (b) Both the professional code of ethics of teachers and the Education Affairs Act, Act 70 of 1988, give strict guidelines regarding the political involvement of teachers. Within these guidelines a teacher, as a citizen, is allowed to be a member of any lawful political party. The Department does not keep record of the political convictions of its personnel.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) Teachers are members of the Government Service Pension Fund or the Pension Fund for Temporary Employees. Both are administered by the Department of National Health and Population Development.

Certified person in Maseina: amount owed to

*4. Adv T ANGLEY asked the Minister of Agriculture Development:

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By Ann Crotty

In another move to increase its exposure to the value-added side of its operations, Kanhyhm has acquired 88 percent of Mielie-Kip for R10.5 million. The 88c-a-share offer will be extended to the minorities.

Mielie-Kip, which is the ninth-biggest broiler producer in SA, has a market share of around two percent.

But as its production is mainly directed at the fresh-meat market, it is not in direct competition with major frozen-chicken producers.

Recently, margins in the frozen chicken market have been sharply knocked by massive oversupply.

As Kanhyhm executive chairman Dirk Jacobs says: “Mielie-Kip does not compete with the dominant frozen-chicken producers, but concentrates instead on the value-added niche of the poultry market with its range of fresh chickens, chicken portions and prepared chicken products.”

A full-year contribution from Mielie-Kip is expected to increase Kanhyhm’s exposure to value-added products to 60 percent of its operating income from the current 53 percent.

And, according to Mr Jacobs, a 12-month contribution from Mielie-Kip would increase Kanhyhm’s earnings per share by 2.5c — after allowing for the interest payments on the funds used for the acquisition.

If all of the minorities accept the 88c, the acquisition will cost Kanhyhm R11.6 million.

The offer is well ahead of the share’s recent trading range, but significantly below its 12-month high of 130c touched briefly last September. However in terms of the historic P/E rating, the offer is a modest four times on the 22c earned in the 12 months to February 1989.
Commandos are not being disarmed – Breytenbach

There was no question that all members of commandos were being disarmed and anyone who said so was lying, the Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Wynand Breytenbach, said in the House of Assembly yesterday.

He said in an interpellation debate introduced by Dr Willie Snyman (CP, Pietersburg) that border farmers and reaction units of various commandos had their weapons available.

Commanding officers of units in various parts of the country had been ordered to return all weapons not needed for operational purposes, or which could not be stored safely.

This had been done to exercise proper control over firearms. Dozens had gone missing.

Mr Breytenbach said that the reason why Dr Snyman had asked whether commandos were being disarmed was possibly because he was trying to cover the back of CP leader Dr Andries Treurachoit after his recent pronouncements on the CP's own so-called armed struggle, and his statement that the CP would not allow its own people to be disarmed.

Dr Snyman said the primary training and motivation of commando members had been to repel ANC and communist-inspired terrorist attacks.

Suddenly, these organisations that had accepted responsibility for murder, destruction and maiming had been legalised and even exempted from prosecution before enabling legislation had been passed.—Sapa.
The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) The government has committed itself towards striving after equal education opportunities, including equal education standards, for all inhabitants of the Republic. The per capita expenditure on pupils, however, influenced by a large number of factors such as the qualifications of teachers and therefore also the remuneration of the teachers. The degree to which equal per capita expenditure on pupils will play a role in striving after equal educational opportunities is therefore difficult to determine.

(a) Lasses.
(b) Lasses.

(2) Yes.

(a) The ten-year plan for education in South Africa was shelved in 1989.
(b) The plan was shelved since the low economic growth of the past few years made it impossible for the State to fund a real annual increase of 4.5% in the education budget which formed the basis of the ten-year plan.

(3) Alternative short-term strategies in place of the ten-year plan are presently being considered. These strategies are mainly based on the principle that better education will have to be provided with fewer resources per client.

D71E

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

The MINISTER OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY AND TOURISM:

(1) No, it is not the intention to purchase any farms in the vicinity of Sishen (Dingle) for Coloured farmers at this stage.

(2) Fails away.

(3) No. No decision has been taken thus far but interested parties will be consulted should such a situation arise.

Export incentive measures

273. Mr D G H NOLTE asked the Minister of Trade and Industry and Tourism:

(1) Whether there has been any change in the export incentive measures during the latest specified period of 12 months for which information is available; if so, (a) what is the extent of this change and (b) in what official documents was it indicated; and (2) how many State guarantees were furnished during the above-mentioned period and (ii) to whom and (b) in what official documents were the relevant amounts indicated.

(3) Whether any State guarantees (a) were written off as bad debts and (b) are considered to be risky; if so, which guarantees in each case?

(4) Whether any subsidies in respect of export incentives were (a) reduced and (b) discontinued during this period; if so, (i) how many subsidies were reduced and (ii) which subsidies were discontinued?

B717E

The marketing allowance to exporters

The marketing allowance to exporters provided for in section 11bis of the Income Tax Act, 1962 was, with effect from 9 March 1989 limited to a maximum of 20 per cent of the export turnover accrued to the exporter. Previously, this concession to exporters was subject to any restriction. The extent in monetary terms of this restriction is difficult to measure and thus cannot be quantified. However, it is expected that the step will result in a substantial saving on the tax concession to exporters under the relevant section of the Income Tax Act.

An announcement on this matter was made on 8 March 1989 in a joint news release issued by the Minister of Finance and the then Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology. The Income Tax Act was subsequently also amended accordingly.

Input costs and value added assistance

According to announcements made by the then Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology in news releases issued on 3 April 1989 and 19 September 1989
Land reform vital - Rolly

Six decades of propertylessness and equitable political participation demanded a land reform yesterday. Speaking at a Wanawake lunch at the National Assembly, former Kgosi Rolly said the ANC-controlled government must provide a foundation for the difficult political transition by finally dealing with the existing institutions of the people of all races and categories.

The people of this country have a right to live in dignity, peaceful coexistence, and prosperity. The people of this country have a right to live in dignity, peaceful coexistence, and prosperity. The people of this country have a right to live in dignity, peaceful coexistence, and prosperity.

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Farmers using drought as 'an excuse for inefficiency'

Political Correspondent

FARMERS have been rapped by the government for treating their land carelessly and being too eager to blame drought for a deterioration of the veld.

The result is that the carrying capacity of the veld is decreasing and more soil is being washed down rivers.

This emerges from the Department of Agriculture's annual report which has been tabled in parliament.

The report warns that "the small percentage of agricultural environment, consisting of high-potential soil, is treated too carelessly".

It adds: "Farmers cultivate crops on soil that is not conserved effectively."

The Directorate of Resource Conservation, responsible for promoting the conservation of the agricultural environment, reports that there "has not yet been a turnabout in the condition of the natural veld, with the result that carrying capacity is still decreasing, excessive loss of soil is occurring on farmlands, while farmers struggle to keep above the breadline."

"The influence of the drought is still more serious than it should be. The blame for this deterioration is wrongfully put on the drought, instead of farmers adapting the number of livestock and game to the available grazing."

The effect of wind and water erosion is alarming, the report says.
Farmers criticised over land conservation

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It adds: "Farmers cultivate crops on soil that is not conserved effectively and too much top soil is being washed away by our rivers as sedimentation."

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The effect of wind and water erosion, the report says, is alarming.

It estimates that only 30 percent of cultivated lands are effectively protected and that only about half of the existing protective works are adequately maintained.
unconditionally; he must therefore also withdraw the word "cowardly." [Interjections.]

Mr H VAN DER MERWE: I withdraw it, but I will get him in Kroonstad! [Interjections.]

The CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES: Order! [Honoured 24/4/90]

Adv S C JACOBS: Mr Chairman, on a point of order: With regard to the question of whether an hon Minister or Deputy Minister may refuse to reply to a supplementary question, I wish to refer you to the ruling of the Rules Committee that five supplementary questions are admissible. [Interjections.] I wish to submit that in this case no supplementary questions have been allowed and that the five supplementary questions may still be put.

The CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES: Order! Supplementary questions have not been refused. The hon the Deputy Minister himself indicated that he would not reply to supplementary questions. [Interjections.]

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180C (3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament.

Certain book recommended by SADF

*3. Mr P C CRONÉ asked the Minister of Defence: [Honoured 24/4/90]

(1) Whether the South African Defence Force sent out a circular in which it recommended a certain book, particulars of which have been furnished to the Defence Force for the purpose of the Minister's reply, if so, (a) under whose signature was the circular sent out, (b) to whom it was directed, (c) what are the particulars of the book in question and (d) what was the cost of sending out this circular?

(2) whether the publishing company concerned refunded the South African Defence Force for the cost of the circular, if not, why not?

B742E

The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:

(1) Yes.

(a) The previous Chief of the SA Army.

(b) Officers, warrant-officers and non-commissioned officers of the Perman-
THURSDAY, 13 APRIL 1989

National Senior Certificate: Black pupils

203. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(a) How many Blacks at each school in the Western Cape falling under the control of his Department (i) entered for and (ii) wrote the National Senior Certificate examinations in 1988 and (b) how many entrants (i) passed, (ii) failed and (iii) obtained matriculation exemption at each such school?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(i) (ii) (iii)

(b) Fezeka Secondary 45 50 13
Malizo Secondary 87 116 9
I.D. Mkize Secondary 15 59 2
Langa Secondary 35 35 11
Luhaza Secondary 63 20 20
Simon Hebe Secondary 17 50 3
Sizamile Jnr Secondary 68 53 14
Crossroads No.3 Secondary 31 22 10
Langa Comprehensive School 13 53 2
Guguletu Comprehensive School 13 43 1

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONs

*Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

Posts/vacancies

82. Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Communications:

(1) How many posts were there on the establishment of his Department as at (a) 31 December 1987 and (b) 31 December 1988;

(2) (a) how many posts on the establishment of his Department were vacant as at 31 December 1988 and (b) how many of these posts had been filled temporarily or permanently in 1988?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

(1) (a) 101 367; and

(b) 101 683;

(2) (a) 5 958, and

(b) these statistics are unfortunately not readily available. However, according to calculations approximately 2 000 of the aforementioned vacancies were filled at one stage or another and for various periods during 1988.

Agriculture: value of production/exports

159. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What was the value of the Republic's agricultural (a) production and (b) exports in 1987 and 1988, respectively?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) 1987 = R14 312 million (estimate)
1988 = R16 514 million (estimate)

Subsidies paid on bread/maize/butter

161. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What amount was paid out in subsidies in respect of (a) bread, (b) maize and (c) butter for consumer use in the 1987-88 financial year?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(a) R150 million;
(b) R80 million;
(c) Nil

The said payments were made under Vote 17: Programme 6: Agricultural Economics and Marketing.

Agricultural products: surpluses

177. Mr R J LORIMER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

(1) Whether there are any surpluses of agricultural products at present or any such surpluses are expected in 1989; if so, of which product;

(2) what in each case are the (a) reasons for such surpluses and (b) price implications;

(3) what steps have been taken or are contemplated in each case to (a) counter the effect of such surpluses and (b) avoid them in future?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes, there are at present and there will be surpluses during 1989 of a large number of agricultural products such as wool, mohair, hides, skins, maize, wheat, citrus fruit, deciduous fruit and canned fruit.

(2) (a) With the current production levels the local and overseas market potential is taken into account, but in the case of especially maize and wheat, the production levels are influenced by weather conditions

(b) Export prices of maize and wheat compare favourably with domestic

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
The MINISTER OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND AGRICULTURE:

(1) Yes.

(2) No.

Oriental Plaza/Gateville shopping centre.

Mr A G MOHAMED asked the Minister of Housing:

(1) Whether a Minister of the former Department of Community Development gave an undertaking that the Oriental Plaza in Cape Town and the Gateville shopping centre in Rylands would be sold to tenants at the price it cost to build them; if so, when?

(2) Whether he intends to honour this undertaking; if not, why not?

(3) What policy will be followed by him or his Department in the respect of determining the selling prices of the above-mentioned premises?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is the hon the Minister aware, on a macro-basis, that the former Ministers of Community Development, Mr Marais Steyn and Mr A H du Plessis, gave undertakings throughout the country to the effect that these shops would be sold to the tenants at cost price?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, this is in fact surprising. If those gentlemen did in fact give such an assurance — I am not questioning the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition — one would have thought that the merchants would have grabbed it because something sold at cost so far back would have been available pretty cheaply.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, with regard to the response that these merchants would have grabbed it, is the hon the Minister aware that in many parts of the country those merchants were willing to grab at purchasing these shops, but that those shops were never offered to them by the officials?

An HON MEMBER: Name them! [Interjections.]

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, my administration will be only too pleased to complete negotiations and dispose of these shopping centres as soon as we can do so. However, I am aware that there have been many, many problems attached to the disposal of these centres, like the problems concerning rentals and one thing and another. However, the Ministers' Council has taken a decision that we will programme to dispose of these centres to the people who are occupying shops.

Mr M RAJAB: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, will he give the House the assurance that he will in fact try to ensure that it is ascertained whether those undertakings were given or not.

The MINISTER: Yes, Mr Chairman, I will ask my officials to investigate the matter and I will submit their report to the hon member for Springfield.

D110E D117E

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION asked the Minister of Housing:

(1) Whether the tenant of Shop No 13 in the Asiatic Bazaar has been served with a notice to vacate his shop; if so, (a) when, (b) why and (c) on behalf of whom?

(2) Whether, in terms of this notice, the tenant concerned was required to vacate his shop with immediate effect; if not, (a) why not and (b) why this was required by his Department of certain tenants of shops in Chatsworth?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING:

(1) No.

(a) As these structures almost appear overnight it is extremely difficult to supply definite figures.

(b) Legal opinion obtained warns that problems may be encountered in a competent court should the court prosecute any offenders mentioned above, before clarity has been obtained about the status of the Asiatic Bazaar in regard to its Group Area status. I have therefore in January this year requested that a senior member of my staff be appointed solely to attend to all matters regarding the Asiatic Bazaar and from reports so far received, I am confident that many of the problems being experienced at present will be solved in the near future.

(2) In some cases Board's approval was obtained, but in most cases the construction has been undertaken without any official approval.

(3) Yes.

My department has received only two representations, apart from a deputation of some of the stall holders who pleaded for condonation of the erection of illegal structures and/or alterations, such matters will be referred to the Housing Development Board for consideration in due course.

The two representations were from Mr Bhima and Mr Madhavjee and an Attorney Mr Saint on behalf of Stalls.
285. Mr M J Ellis asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(a) How many fully qualified doctors currently completing their military service are being used in public hospitals, (b) at which hospitals are these doctors stationed and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished?

B370E

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(a) 7 doctors,
(b) 2 doctors at J G Strijdom Hospital
2 doctors at Ga-Rankuwa Hospital
1 doctor at Scotsburgh Hospital
1 doctor at Harding Hospital
1 doctor at H F Verwoerd Hospital
(c) 4 April 1990.

B764E

B370E

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

JH4. Mr B B Goodall asked the Minister of Agriculture:

What bread subsidy was paid by the Government for each of the latest specified five years?

3. General

B764E

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

1985–86 - R180,497 million
1986–87 - R174,000 million
1987–88 - R174,370 million
1988–89 - R132,000 million

B764E

Own Affairs:

71. Mr W U Nel asked the Minister of the Budget and Local Government:

(a) Whether the identification and functioning of provincial public libraries has been finalised; if not, why not; if so, (a) which provincial public libraries were identified as White own affairs, (b) why were they so identified, (c) when were they transferred to his Department and (d) who took the decision in this regard?

B618E

(2) who will be responsible for (a) ordering and (b) buying books for such libraries?

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

The same question was put to the then Minister in the Office of the State President charged with Administration and Broadcasting Services in 1988 as general affairs question 890(2) and answered by him — vide Hansard No 12/88. (Cols 1187-1188).

B764E

Certain areas: residence permits

111. Adv J S Prinsloo asked the Minister of the Budget and Local Government:

(1) How many persons were granted residence permits in terms of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, from 1 June 1987 up to the latest specified date for which statistics are available to live in White residential areas in the parliamentary constituencies of (a) Heiderkruin, (b) Florida, (c) Maraisburg and (d) Rooodepoort?

(2) in respect of what date are these statistics furnished?

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

(1) Statistics are kept for White declared areas, but not in respect of parliamentary constituencies. For the area of Rooodepoort no residence permits were issued.

(2) 21 July 1989 to 5 April 1990.

Group Areas Act: vacating of premises

112. Adv J S Prinsloo asked the Minister of the Budget and Local Government:

(a) How many persons who occupied premises in conflict with the provisions of the Group Areas Act had terminated their occupation of such premises in (i) the Transvaal, (ii) the Orange Free State, (iii) the Cape Province and (iv) Natal as a result of action taken by departmental groups for group area matters, excluding Police action, as at the latest specified date for which statistics are available and (b) in respect of what date are these statistics furnished?

The MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

(a) (i) 10
(ii) Nil
(iii) 9
(iv) Nil
(b) 21 July 1989 to 5 April 1990.
Chemical companies deny 'bullying tactics'

Chemical companies involved in the hormone herbicide dispute with vegetable farmers in Natal’s Tala Valley have denied using “bullying tactics”.

Mr. Gerry Maritz, executive director of the Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Association of SA, said yesterday the companies were simply seeking to prevent the further spread of scientifically unfounded accusations against their products.

In 1988, the farmers launched an application for an interdict in the Natal Supreme Court preventing the manufacture and sale of hormone herbicides country-wide on the basis that they damaged vegetable crops in the Tala Valley, he added.

This application was withdrawn after the chemical companies had filed comprehensive answering evidence, after which the farmers then elected to proceed by way of action, he said.

Some of the chemical companies, in an attempt to test the legal basis for the farmers' claims, brought an exception to the action in which they asked the court to rule on whether the farmers had any legal basis for their complaints.

‘Loophole’

Early this year the Natal Supreme Court found that the farmers had no case and awarded costs against the farmers.

The farmers did not re-instate their case and announced in recent press articles that their actions were dismissed through a "technical loophole", Mr. Maritz said. Further, the farmers claimed that they were being "blackmailed" into withdrawing their opposition to the use of these products nationally.

After the court judgment, the farmers proposed that the companies waive the legal costs, he said.

The companies then proposed that the farmers issue a statement, declaring that the legal proceedings had been withdrawn by them, acknowledging that the products do not cause crop damage and they were not a health hazard, Mr. Maritz said.

He pointed out that it was unfortunate that the farmers had not laid the dispute to rest, notwithstanding the findings of the court.

Mr. Maritz stressed that the agrochemical industry was highly responsible, guided by scientific facts and subjected to sophisticated legislation.
Worker died ‘after’ man beater straying co-

By DAN DHLAMINI

A SICKLY widow this week cried in Court while she heard a farmer de-
-who later died—because he alk
-Occasionally wiping off tears v
-Leenkoei who told City Press after
-fected her health and she had spor
-Mickey Leenkoei had come to co-
rus farmer Jan Bezuidenhout wh
and Abraham Leenkoei because
strayed into the mealie fields.
-Bezuidenhout, of Esperanza fa-
-Leenkoei on February 18 last year.
pable homicide.
-Earlier, Leenkoe’s grandchildren
-witnessed the alleged assault— to
-cause great damage in the meal
They told the court the well-bu-
ther with his fists in the rib cage a
ach.

The dead man’s daughter Stu
-earlier that she and a woman wh
-carry her father from the fields b
-he could only manage to crawl.
-In his evidence, Dr CRB Ait
-died as a result of head and body.

This week Bezuidenhout told t
-Sunday and had grabbed Leenk
-lowed the cattle to go into the me

He however denied that he assaul
-He said Leenkoei was drunk on that
day and he could have been assau
-led the fields in the compa
-ny of two black wom
-en, and he was walking and not crying as sug
-ested earlier by Stomp

Bezuidenhout denied that he prom
-mised the Leen
-a taxi and a house if they did not lay
-charges against him.
-Elizabeth Fubu, the dead
-man’s sister, in earlier
evidence claimed that the
farmer had made the
-promises in an attempt to
-convince the family not to
-proceed with the case
against him.

Replying to a question from pro-
-secutor Kenny
-Bezuidenhout said he did not know who
-ordered the Leenkoeis to
-leave the farm two days
-after Abraham’s death.

The State closed its
case and the trial was ad-
-journed to July 18. Bezu-
denhout’s advocate C B
-Celliers told the court he
-may call witnesses to sup-
-support his client’s case.

Nani will set medical world alight

Nani Mokoena, 19, is a full-time model who is guaranteed to set any man’s heart on fire. Now this bouncy lass from Mgadi Section, Katlehong, has set her sights on becoming a medical technologist. So watch out all you eligible doctors!
er farmer's assault

beaten up over ying cow – claim

widow this week cried silently in the Welkom Regional she heard a farmer deny that he assaulted her husband – because he allowed a cow to stray onto a mealie

ly wiping off tears while sitting in court was Mickey told City Press afterwards that her husband's death at health and she had spent five months in hospital.

kone had come to court to hear the fate of Odendaals- am Bezuidenhout who was accused of killing her hus- man Leo because the cattle he was looking after on the mealie fields.

out, of Esperanza farm, allegedly killed farm labourer February 18 last year. He has pleaded not guilty to cul- de.

kone's grandchildren Naomii, 9, and Maliba, 12 – who alleged assault – told the court Bezuidenhout had ac- er's daughter Stempana Lekone also told the court she and a woman who works for Bezuidenhout had to her from the fields because he was very weak. She said man's daughter Stempana Lekone also told the court she and a woman who works for Bezuidenhout had to her from the fields because he was very weak. She said to crawl.

dence, DR CRB Atton of Odendaalsrus said Lekone ill of beading and body injuries consistent with assault. Bezuidenhout told the court he was very angry on that had grabbed Lekone by the chest because he had al- to go into the mealie fields.

ler denied ated him at he said Le- unk on that could have been other said. Lekone in the cun- black woman was walking in sug- ar by Stom- out denied ised the Le- and a house I not lay against am, bu, the dead in earlier aimed that id the attempt to family not ith the case
t a question id Kenny Bezuidenhout if he know who Lekones to have done to his dead. Bezuidenhout closed his trial was ad- by 18. Bezui- vocate CB the enu to sup- s's case.

Mickey Lekone ... her husband died after an alleged assault.

SA's own Stallone tells of struggle to the top

BY CHARLES MOGAL

MEET the Sylvester Stallone of the local screens.

He is Thomas Mogotlane, writer-and-director-com- to, and the brains behind the blockbuster movie Mapantsula.

Mogotlane – or Panico to movie buffs – is patiently counting the days to July when the recently unbanned Mapantsula will be screened locally. Already, the movie has rocked several countries overseas, including the United States, Sweden, Holland, France and England.

It has also been featured at the Cannes and Sydney Film Festivals.

Success has, however, not run to Mogotlane's head. He remains a simple man who has to be prodded to talk.

"I am obviously very delighted. I went through hell – there were days when I was just not enough money to buy food, let alone pay the rent. There was a time during the writing of Mapantsula when I almost quit. I very nearly went job-hunting to feed my family," said Mogotlane.

He lives with his wife Portia and two sons Jonas, 14, and Khutsa, eight months, in Mabopane.

"It was tough. We were supposed to shoot the movie in about three months, but we had to squeeze it all into seven weeks because we did not want the authorities to find out what kind of movie we were making. "One other reason I had to act the part of Panico is that I knew about the role, as a writer. So, to hasten matters I had to do it. One day, while we were editing, the police came and demanded to see the film. We gave them a wrong copy. Soon after that, we smuggled the right one out of the country to London, where the rest of the editing was done," he said.

A trained teacher, Mogotlane has never taught.

"I acquired a teaching diploma to have something to fall back on. I have been acting ever since I left Hebron (Training College) in 1973," he said.

He then joined playwright Gibson Kente's stable, appearing in six of his productions, and later helped train young-
Dire warning against nationalising farming

Those who wanted to nationalise the agricultural industry were motivated more by a desire to seek redress for past wrongs than by a desire to make agriculture more efficient, Mr Errol Moorcroft (DP Albany) said in Parliament yesterday.

Speaking in debate in the Extended Public Committee on Agriculture, he said an attempt to redress these wrongs by simply nationalising the agricultural and other industries would change the country overnight.

"We will be transformed from a proudly independent country which feeds and clothes itself into just another bankrupt African state holding out our begging bowl to the Western world, dependent on alms for our existence.

"Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique and a host of other countries have learnt this lesson the hard way. Let us hope that whatever new government we might have in the future will heed these lessons of history lest we condemn ourselves to repeating them all over again." — Sapa.
Integral to reform is the repeal of laws which control the political use of land. It is salutary to consider the enormous historic distortions introduced by the Land Acts, in comparison with which, unravelling the Group Areas Act will be easy. They are a key component of geographic apartheid, introduced long before the National Party era.

These Acts — of 1913 and 1936 — define land racially: 87% for white use, 13% for black. The black regions are fragmented, remote from industrial centres and poor in resources, primarily because of the realities of colonial conquest. That they were used as the basis of migrant labour (and as dumping grounds for “surplus labour”) followed logically. It took the genius of Hendrik Verwoerd to turn them into 10 ethnic “nations.”

The De Klerk administration is looking at ways of changing the Acts so that land acquired by the SA Development Trust for “consolidation” (2m ha of it as yet unapportioned to the homelands) can be sold or leased to black farmers (see Current Affairs). It is obviously useful to have this land available for such redistribution, but it hardly compensates blacks for having foregone 73 years of shareholding (in the broadest sense) in the nation’s most irreplaceable asset.

In many ways this loss is utterly unquantifiable — and can never be made good. For example, locked into the Acts’ conditions as they were, black agricultural wages stayed much the same from Union until the Sixties, when they began to rise. Blacks were regarded as temporary sojourners in the cities, so education, health and prosperity suffered.

It therefore makes little sense to formalise black settlement on Development Trust land wedged between or surrounding the bits and pieces of the homelands themselves — not if land reform is to be in earnest. That would just serve to make rural ghettos slightly larger. Logically, agricultural land as much as residential must be available to be bought and sold or leased by anyone, nationwide.

The issues are enormously complex, taking in tribal rights, the subdivision or consolidation of unviable agricultural entities, absentee landlordism, the legitimacy of various title deeds, the depopulated platteland, and so on. A little attention is being paid to the matter, but not perhaps enough — given the pace of overall reform.

Wholesale nationalisation of the land would be as disastrous as that of any industrial “commanding height.” But the great rural tinder-box will not be dampened by the minimal changes to the Land Acts which are so far, apparently, all that is contemplated by government.
LAND REFORM

Selling the verges

Government is considering a radical plan to sell or lease to black farmers vast tracts of land originally earmarked for homestead consolidation.

The plan has apparently been approved in principle at ministerial level and is seen as a major step in building up a black commercial farming sector, defusing the growing campaign for land redistribution.

The plan involves more than 2m ha of land currently owned by the SA Development Trust (SADT). This is the remaining portion of nearly 7m ha bought by the trust since 1936 to fill out black areas designated as homelands. The balance has already been transferred.

The move is the first step towards dismantling the complex laws that regulate the ownership and occupancy of rural land. It is generally accepted that 87% of land in SA is reserved for ownership and occupation by whites and 13% for blacks.

The plan involves carving up the SADT land into farming units of varying sizes depending on demand. Farmers could either buy the land or lease it with an option to purchase. It has also been suggested the land could be transferred to successful farmers without charge after, say, 10 years — as was done with white farmers in parts of colonial Africa.

Black farmers would have access to the same support systems as their white counterparts, including finance through the Land Bank or a similar institution and extension services through the Department of Agriculture and co-operatives.

Critics of government land policy argue that all land will have to be made accessible to blacks at the same time so that black farmers can own or lease land in areas other than regions owned by the SADT. They say in many cases blacks successfully manage farms of absentee white owners and would have no problem running their own farms in any part of SA competitively.

At a recent seminar on land issues organised by the Institute for a Democratic Alternative for SA, former Zimbabwean Agriculture Minister Dennis Norman said agricultural reform after independence played "probably the largest single role" in achieving political stability. He added a major programme was launched to assist (black) small-scale farmers to grow the right crops for their areas and to give them access to essential inputs and transport.

The value of products sold by Zimbabwean farmers between 1980 and 1985 increased dramatically and, for the first three years, urban drift was reversed (though the situation has now swung back towards increasing urbanisation).

However, Norman said a programme to resettle about 162 000 people in new villages in areas with agricultural potential had been less successful due to insufficient planning, neglect of the importance of title deed (whether leasehold or freehold), insufficient training of aspirant farmers and the general failure of co-ops because of bad management.

SA government officials see the Zimbabwean experience as having important pointers for land reform in SA — in terms of not making the same mistakes. But their critics argue that land reform must be tackled across the entire spectrum and should include the scrapping of the Group Areas Act (GAA) at the same time as the Land Acts in order to open up options for blacks who may want to move off rural land.

Government's current public stance is that the GAA will be scrapped — possibly next year — but replaced with "non-discriminatory" measures to protect existing property rights and maintain standards. There is some concern government's aim is to entrench white privilege.

However, National Party MPs are privately acknowledging the GAA can't be replaced by nonracial measures; it's either enforced or scrapped. They believe government has to posture at this stage about "protection" for existing communities, but in reality the Act will be scrapped and not replaced by any law that has the same effect.

They concede any attempt to introduce new measures to prevent "overcrowding" or "maintain standards" in the post-GAA era will inevitably mean acting against blacks and be perceived as racist. They believe there will be a situation of "controlled chaos" for a short while when the GAA goes — after which markets will take over and people will find their own residential levels.

Chris Freimond
the opinion that such association will not be detrimental to him. Juveniles are also separated with regard to age groups where facilities permit.

Discussions take place regularly between the South African Prisons Service, the local magistrates, prosecutors and the South African Police with a view to keep awaiting-trial juveniles out of prison.

Greater Cape Town area:
Whites/Coloureds/Indians

386. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

What estimated number of (a) Whites, (b) Coloureds and (c) Indians resided in the greater Cape Town area as at 31 December 1989?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:
The data for 1989 is not available at the Central Statistical Service. The population information is obtained from population censuses. The latest available information is that of the 1985 Population Census, namely:

(a) 542,705
(b) 1,069,921
(c) 17,437

The next population census will be held on 7 March 1991.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

QUESTIONS

Indicates translated version.

For written reply:

General Affairs:

22. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs:

(1) (a) What private companies were involved in the upgrading of (i) the KTC squatter camp and (ii) Brown's Farm in Cape Town and (b) for what construction work in each case;

(2) whether tenders were invited for such construction work; if not, why not; if so, (a) what companies submitted tenders and (b)(i) which tenders were accepted and (ii) why;

(3) which authority is responsible for the (a) hiring of companies, and (b) payment of such companies, in each case?

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS:

(1) (a) (i) and (b)

Civil Consultant Eng: Voster, v d Westhuizen & Partners
Contractors: Asha Construction

Electrical:
Consultant Eng: De Villiers & Moore
Contractors: (1) Wheeler Plundlec
(2) Mast & Pole Maintenance

Surveyor:
(1) De Villiers, Reed, Chiddy & Murray
(2) Hoensson & Gluckman
(3) Groenewald, Turner & Wyane.

Town Planning:
Makroplan
(a) (ii) and (b)

Internal Services:
Consultant Engineers: Ninham Shand

Trunk Water Reticulation:
Consultant Engineers: Ninham Shand
Contractors: EU Civils

Trunk Services:
Consultant Engineers: Ninham Shand
Contractors: (1) EU Civils
(2) Clifford Harris

Electrical:
Consultant Engineers: Hill, Kaplan & Scott
Contractors: Racee

Surveyor:
Julian Grey (Co-ordinator)

Town Planning:
Bertie van Zyl

(2) Yes.
(a) Clifford Harris

Lightning Structure:
EU Civils
Basil Starke

Power:
Murray & Roberts
Burger & Wallis
Racee
Savage & Lovemore
Asha Construction

Construction:
Power
Construction
Marten & East
WJM
Construction
Cyclops
Engineering

Haw & Inglis
Earthmovers
United
Cornfield Construction

F & H Construction

CFC Construction
SFS Construction
The Administrative and maintenance costs are financed by the Ixapa Town council.

(iii) The Langa Home accommodates 51 persons and the Nyanga Home 24 persons.

(iv) None.

218. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Development Aid:

(a) How many officials in the Public Service had been seconded to each self-governing territory, (b) what post was held by each such official, and (c) what was the cost of secondment of such officials, as at 31 December 1989;

(b) KTC Brown's Farm
(a) Ixapa Town Council CPA
(b) Ixapa Town Council CPA and West-Cape RSC

Cape Peninsula: old-age homes for Blacks

195. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs:

Whether there are any old-age homes for Black persons in the Cape Peninsula; if not, (a) why not and (b) what steps are envisaged by his Department in this regard; if so, (i) what are the names of these old-age homes, (ii) who financed them, (iii) how many persons can be accommodated in each and (iv) how many such homes were built by the Government in the past three years?

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS:

Yes.

(a) Falls away.

(b) Falls away.

(i) The Langa and Nyanga Homes for the Aged.

(ii) The staff of the homes are on the staff establishment of, and paid by the Cape Provincial Administration.

POSTE GEIDENTIFISEER VIR BEKLEDING DEUR TOEGEWESE AMPTENERE: 31 DESEMBER 1989
POSTS IDENTIFIED FOR OCCUPATION BY SECONDED STAFF: 31 DECEMBER 1989

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Aid schemes for farmers to be probed

ACHMED KARIEM

AGRICULTURAL Development Minister Klaas van Niekerk has asked the Agricultural Economic Liaison Committee (AELC) urgently to investigate several aspects of the assistance schemes for agriculture.

"This is a very important assignment which can have far-reaching effects for agriculture as a whole," he said.

In an address to the National Woolgrowers' Association in Bloemfontein yesterday, Van Niekerk said farmers' financial problems were gaining momentum daily judging by the increasing number of requests for financial help from different areas.

At present the situation was dealt with through several assistance schemes and the AELC had to ascertain if these schemes were still adequate, or whether adjustments should be made.

The AELC was asked to make recommendations regarding carry-over debt schemes, crop production loans, consolidation of debt, settlement proposals, collection of debts in arrears and financial control mechanisms.

Van Niekerk said the solution to the financial problems would call for intense deliberation, because financial assistance which was not adequately channelled could easily be discounted in the economy to the detriment of agriculture.

To qualify for drought assistance, farmers would have to comply with stock-carrying norms for the previous 12 months. Van Niekerk said from June 1 farmers who needed drought aid would have to register as conservation farmers.
To study farming projects

PROFESSOR N C Owen, Dean of the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the Medical University of Southern Africa, has been awarded an Ernest Oppenheimer Memorial Overseas Travelling Fellowship.

He will utilise this opportunity to study projects in Taiwan and Israel which are aimed at promoting and enhancing the activities of small farmers.

He will also be visiting West Germany where numerous research projects aimed at small farm development in Africa are underway.

The aim of the tour will ultimately be to ascertain to what degree veterinary activities and training can be meshed in with small farming enterprises in the African context.

He will also make use of this opportunity to attend the Office of International Epizootics Conference in Paris as an official South African observer.
Inflation winning

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Farmers' gross income for the first quarter increased by nearly R200m to R3.6bn, according to official Agriculture Department figures.

However expenditure on goods and services, such as fertilisers, fuel and labour, increased by R230m to R1.6bn, mainly due to inflation.

Wheat farmers’ income decreased by R221.1m due to a 1-million ton drop in the crop to 2.2-million tons.

Wool and mohair income also fell sharply because of sagging world prices.

However, income from deciduous fruit increased by R31.8m to R320m, tobacco by R2.5m to R45m and vegetables by R72m to R310m.
**Food irradiation: studies**

*15. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) Whether any studies have been conducted in South Africa on food irradiation; if so, (a) when, (b) what is the title of each such study and (c) who was responsible for (i) conducting and (ii) commissioning each of them;

(2) on the basis of what specified research did the Government decide to allow food irradiation in South Africa?*

**B984E**

**The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:**

(1) Yes, in 1982 research on food irradiation commenced at the Fruit and Food Technology Research Institute at Stellenbosch. Since 1969 the Atomic Energy Corporation has been extensively involved with research in this field. Numerous studies and reports in this respect have been published during the past years. In addition to the above, numerous feasibility studies have also been conducted by the other two major food irradiators in South Africa, viz Isolite (Pty) Ltd and Hopen.

(b) I am in possession of a comprehensive list of studies which were conducted locally. There are in excess of 100 publications in this list of which the honourable member may obtain a copy.

(c) (i) the majority of these studies were conducted by the Atomic Energy Corporation in collaboration with local institutes and universities.

(ii) the majority of studies were commissioned by the Atomic Energy Corporation and the former Department of Agriculture Technical Services;

(2) on the basis of the aforementioned studies and the recommendations of the Codex Alimentarius Commission of the World Health Organisation and the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations that food irradiated up to dose levels of 10 kGy (Kill Gray) is considered totally safe and wholesome, the process was allowed in South Africa. The Commission’s view on food irradiation was backed by the outcome of decades of research by international bodies amongst which the United States Defence Force and the North American Space Agency were pioneers.

The irradiation of foodstuffs certainly is the processing method most intensely researched in modern day history with regard to safety. It was thus not necessary for South Africa to repeat everything, but to approve of the use of this safe processing aid, on an individual application basis.

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**Clermont residential area: schools for Blacks**

*16. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education:  

(1) Whether all the schools for Blacks in the Clermont residential area fall under the control of his Department; if not, (a) why not (b) (i) under which authority do the schools concerned fall and (ii) why;

(2) whether the control of any schools in the Clermont residential area has been transferred from his Department; if so, (a) when and (b) by what body was this decision taken?*

**B987E**

**The MINISTER OF EDUCATION:**

(1) No.

(a) and (b) (i) These schools have always been controlled by the Department of Education and Culture: KwaZulu.

(ii) Because the schools have always been under the jurisdiction of KwaZulu and a change in the situation would be undesirable, the Government aims to legalise the situation as soon as possible.

(2) No.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

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**SADF: Incorrect remuneration**

*17. Mr R V CARLISLE asked the Minister of Defence:  

(1) Whether any instances of remuneration having been incorrectly credited to members of the South African Defence Force occurred during the period 1 January to 31 March 1990; if so, how many;

(2) whether he will make a statement on the matter?*

**B988E**

**The MINISTER OF DEFENCE:**

(1) and (2) Yes. A total number of 0,78% queries were received as a result of the implementation of a new computerised pay system for approximately 54 000 members of the SA Defence Force. Queries received immediate attention and have in most cases been solved. Those members with pay queries are encouraged to report them immediately to their officers commanding in order that they can be solved.

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**Interruptions**

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign † used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

**Own Affairs:**

**Agricultural Credit Committees**

Mr A A B BRUWER to ask the Minister of Agricultural Development:  

Whether he accepts the recommendations of organized agriculture in respect of appointments to Agricultural Credit Committees and other boards or councils under his control; if not, why not?

**B972E.INT**

**The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:** Mr Speaker, the hon member for Lydenburg has asked an apparently simple question, namely whether the Minister accepts the recommendations of organised agriculture in respect of appointments to agricultural credit committees and other boards or councils under his control. This question, however, has a more deep-seated political motive. The answer is simple. Sometimes the Minister accepts the recommendations of organised agriculture and sometimes not, because the Act affords the Minister a discretionary power.

Section 6 of the Agricultural Credit Act provides that the Minister may, after consultation with the Agricultural Credit Board, make appointments to the committees concerned. Nowhere does the
Act provide that the hon the Minister must act on the instructions of organised agriculture or that he must consult organised agriculture.

Throughout the years, however, it has been the practice for the Agricultural Credit Board to request nominations from organised agriculture whenever vacancies in the agricultural credit committees had to be filled. In this way farm unions were requested by the local magistrate to submit at least three nominations for a vacancy in order of preference. The nominations are then submitted to the Agricultural Credit Board for recommendation to the Minister. Consequently the Minister is by no means legally bound by a recommendation or a nomination from organised agriculture. He need not even consult them. However, the recommendations of organised agriculture are for the most part accepted.

During the last two years these powers of the Minister have been delegated to the ministerial representatives. Accordingly, appointments are now made by these people. By consulting organised agriculture, we attempt to identify deserving persons. I think this is a sound approach because it would be good to have good people and it is not possible for us to get to know all the farmers personally and then to make the best selection. [Interjections.] This partnership with organised agriculture has worked well for many years. It has been a well-organised affair with a long and honourable record of objectivity and neutrality until the CP initiated a campaign of politicisation of organised agriculture. [Interjections.] It has become increasingly difficult to accept the recommendations of organised agriculture. This is a pity, because there are 295 agricultural credit committees with 906 members. Both the Government and I, as Minister, have the greatest appreciation for these people who sometimes act as committee members under difficult circumstances. They are truly rendering a service to South Africa.

The strategy of the CP to take over control of these committees, will not work, has not worked, and is hampering the operation of the committees. [Interjections.] The CP is trying to fill the agricultural credit committees with CP members. [Time expired.]

Mr A A B Bruwer: Mr Speaker, what the hon the Minister has just said, is precisely what he is doing. I have here in my hand a letter posted from the office of the ministerial repre-

sentative to an incorrect address. Here is proof of the fact that the hon the Minister is making use of the NP to inform him as to which people ought to be appointed to these credit committees. [Interjections.]

In Hansard of 27 February 1990 (Questions and replies, col 20) the hon the Minister was asked the following:

"Whether the political affiliations of persons play any part in their appointments to Agricultural Credit Committees?"

He replied: "No." What is he doing, however? Here is clear proof of the fact that he is politicising agriculture, that he is politicising the agricultural credit committees.

I have proof here of people who have rendered service for years. [Interjections.] There is one of them sitting in the gallery. They served on the agricultural credit committees for years, but politics were forgotten. [Interjections.]

Mr Speaker: Order! Hon members may not refer to members of the public from the floor of the House.

Mr A A B Bruwer: I apologise, Mr Speaker.

I just want to mention four names to the hon the Minister, although I could mention many more names. These are men who have rendered many years of valuable service to these agricultural credit committees, but their politics are wrong. I want to mention the names of Mr Gert Steenkamp from Elinus, Mr Willie Lewies from Ellinrus, Mr Peter Boultenburg and Mr Gert Roos from Thabazimbi.

The hon the Minister was looking for a post for the former MP for Brits, Dr Jan Grobler. He had to get this man into that position in the Agricultural Credit Committee of Thabazimbi at all costs, just as he helps all his friends to get some position or other. The NP attempts to enslave their people by placing them in positions. That is what they do.

This hon Minister says one thing, but he does another. There is a man serving on the Agricultural Credit Committee of Thabazimbi because he is in the NP—he does not even live in that district. According to their method of appointment the moment he leaves the district, he may no longer serve on that committee. However, this hon Minister merely carries on appointing one person after another on the grounds of their political affiliations.

This hon Minister no longer has credibility. Because he does such things, the farmers no longer believe in him. I think he should quietly pack his bags and resign from the NP. [Time expired.]

Mr E K Moorcroft: Mr Speaker, unlike the hon member for Lydenburg we in the DP do not have any evidence of alleged political nepotism in the appointment of committee members to these agricultural credit committees. However, we do support strongly the principle of complete non-political alliances in such a committee. We believe that to practise any kind of political patronage in these committees would be to make a very severe mistake indeed.

We would like an assurance from the hon the Minister that the best possible appointments will be made to these committees. We want this because unless this happens we can have no assurance at all that the decisions taken by these committees will be based on merit.

It was with alarm that I listened to the allega-

tions made by the hon member for Lydenburg, and we do seek assurances from the hon the Minister.

The Minister: The provision reads as follows:

The Minister may also at any time terminate the period of office of a committee member if, in the opinion of the Minister, there are good reasons for doing so.

I have in fact already done this on the strength of affidavits from people who have complained. [Interjections.] There is, however, a further provision in the Act, which reads as follows:

He shall vacate his office if he seeks election at any party or official nomination of candidates for the House of Assembly or attempts to have himself nominated at any such nomination.

What we do discover from the spirit of that Act, however? That we should keep politics out of this. [Interjections.] That is precisely what we are trying to do. [Time expired.]

Mr C H Pienaar: Mr Speaker, in the last little speech he has just made, this hon Minister clearly showed his hand when he said "sometimes there are CPs who conform fairly well to the requirements", [Interjections.] I must say, that remark is a flagrant insult to the farming community, which consists to the greatest possible extent of CPs. To find out that, hon members need only go and look at the constituencies we have won. [Interjections.] That hon Minister paid those farmers a flagrant insult. [Interjections.]

I have already said on a previous occasion in this House that this hon Minister is an enemy of the farming community. He has confirmed this once again today. [Interjections.] He says that those CPs who conform fairly well to the requirements, may in fact be appointed. This hon
Minister is so involved in practising politics and in carrying out his Breekerbond instructions that he is trampling agriculture underfoot in the process. [Interjections.]

In the Free State, with which I am familiar, there are people who, when they join the CP, have not participated in those activities which the hon the Minister has just read out from the Act, but they are simply not re-appointed to the agricultural credit committees. [Interjections.] The hon the Minister is aware of this because his friend the former MP for Heilbron was also involved in this. The hon the Minister, too, was involved in this. He knows about it. He knows which people I am referring to. I want to tell him that this nepotism which he is displaying here by way of the type of remark he has just uttered once again, is a typical Third World characteristic. It is one of those characteristics that cause foreign investors to say that they are not interested in us.

I can understand the hon the Minister displaying a Third World tendency. After all, he is on the road to an Azanian culture. [Interjections.] It is a typical Third World approach that he is displaying here. [Interjections.] That approach is that those people should look after themselves—at the expense of the industry. [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

*Mr A A B Bruwer: Mr Speaker, this hon Minister has just told us that once a man begins to practise politics or to concern himself with politics, he will no longer appoint him to those committees. Surely, Dr Grobler, whom they had to get onto that committee at any cost, also practises politics. Does he not practise politics? Did he not practise politics? [Interjections.]

If, according to this letter, he consults the NP in connection with names of members of the committees, why does he not also consult the CP? [Interjections.] Surely if he were to do this, he would be acting fairly. [Interjections.]

Another statement which this hon Minister made, was that there were, in fact, CPs on those committees. Those places in which there are, in fact, CPs serving on those committees are those places where there are no longer any Nationalists to serve on those committees. [Interjections.] Yes, they are in the Transvaal. [Interjections.] There are certain places in the Transvaal where there are no more Nationalists! [Interjections.] They have no confidence in this hon Minister. I think this hon Minister has disappointed the farmers. He ought to resign. I believe it would be in the interests of the farmers of South Africa if he were to resign. [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Speaker, I just want to reply firstly to the hon member for Albany.

It should not be the hon member I am delighted with his support. I take it to heart. We try to select the best farmers for this very important job, and we will continue to do just that.

I now come back to the charge the CP has laid at my door in this regard. We will relieve anyone, regardless of whether he is a Nationalist, a CP or whatever, of that office if he practises politics whilst he holds that office. [Interjections.] If he practises politics under the guise of the Agricultural Credit Board, I shall relieve him of his post. [Interjections.] That applies to everyone. He must therefore serve agriculture independently. That, of course, is not what the CP does. [Interjections.]

Surely this is an old game of the CP! They have brought about a division in politics. They have divided the cultural organisations. They have even made an assault on the church. [Interjections.] Surely that is true! I now they are attempting to divide agriculture. [Interjections.] Do they think we are going to accept that? No, Sir! [Interjections.] Let us just take a look at how we reacted.

The hon member for Lydenburg is fighting with me about so-called political appointments. There are quite a number of former chairmen of district and regional agricultural unions sitting in this House whom I could mention—they are from Wellington, Humansdorp and Cradock—who, when they were elected to Parliament, resigned from their positions in organised agriculture.

Did the hon member for Lydenburg resign from his position? [Interjections.] He wears two hats on his head, a political hat and an agricultural hat, and the word "CP" is written on both of them. [Interjections.] Does he think we will fall for that little joke?

With regard to this little game I just want to say that we in agriculture work with realities and with facts, but realities and facts are foreign to the CP. They are working with emotions and attempting to take over things to the detriment of agriculture. I also want to warn organised agriculture that if they do not watch out for this, they will become bogged down in the empty ideology of the CP. [Interjections.] [Time expired.]

Debate concluded.

QUESTIONS.

Indicates translated version.

For oral reply:

Own Affairs:

Onderstepoort: teaching establishment

1. Mr R V Carlisle asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(a) What is the total planned teaching establishment and (b) current staff complement of the Onderstepoort Veterinary College?

(b) whether there is a shortage of teaching staff at this college at present; if so, (a) to what extent attributable and (b) what steps are being taken to eliminate the shortage? [House 15 S 10]

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) (a) Still being considered, (b) 83;

(2) yes,

(a) a shortage of veterinary surgeons with post-graduate qualifications who are interested in an academic career,

(b) veterinary surgeons are encouraged to undertake post-graduate studies.

Onderstepoort: new animal hospital

2. Mr R V Carlisle asked the Minister of Education and Culture:

(a) What is the number of schoolchildren smoking cigarettes; if not, why not; if so, (a) how many are cigarette smokers and (b) what is the proposed staff establishment of this hospital?

(b) whether this number is increasing or decreasing.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) No, the existing measures are sufficient;

(2) no.
Co-ops at risk as aid schemes end

VARIOUS agricultural aid schemes were designed to close within the next few years, with serious consequences for individual farmers and co-operatives likely, Agriculture Minister Jacob de Villiers warned in Cape Town yesterday.

Speaking at an SA Agricultural Union Co-operative conference, de Villiers said because of low profitability some co-ops might not have made sufficient provision for bad debts.

The long and destructive droughts of the 80s had damaged the turnover profitability of agricultural co-operatives and some were threatened.

After the expiry of the aid schemes and the state guarantee, the Land Bank would assess co-operatives according to standard credit risk procedures.

The Agricultural Economic Liaison Committee would investigate the effectiveness of existing aid schemes.

On the farmers' plight De

GERALD REILLY

Villiers said input costs had increased more rapidly than producer prices. This had placed the farmers in a cost price squeeze which could not be countered by increased production alone.

De Villiers emphasised a painful period of restructuring and consolidation lay ahead for co-ops in the drought-stricken areas.

The recovery potential of co-operatives was weaker than in other drought-affected sectors because they were limited to agricultural activities.

Diversification to the non-agricultural field was restricted by legislation.

De Villiers said at this stage it was not known how many farmers abandoned their farms because of financial problems, but bad debt losses would have an impact on co-operatives.

There was no indication that the financial problems were abating.

Decentralisation: 1024 concessions were granted

THE Decentralisation Board approved 1024 applications for concessions, with an intended capital investment of R2 468m, between April last year and March this year, Trade and Industry Minister Kent Darr said yesterday.

A further 125 applications with an intended investment of R345.5m were being held over pending the gathering of further information.

Darr was replying to a question which was tabled in the House of Assembly by Harry Schwarz (DP Yeoville).

He said 1244 applications for concessions were received by the Decentralisation Board between April 1 last year and March 31 this year.

Of these, 95 with an intended investment of R262.5m had been rejected.

BARRY STREEK

He added that 155 of the applications, involving an intended capital investment of R1 001m, involved foreign investors.

The estimated number of employment opportunities to be created as a result of the applications was 67 991.

Darr also said that 20 industries with decentralisation incentive benefits had the benefits removed in 1989.

"Except for about five notices of liquidation, the board is not aware of any other concessionaires which ceased to operate in 1989.

"It may be added that, according to the board's records, 524 new business undertakings started to submit claims in the 1989/90 financial year," Darr said.
Call on farmers' joint future

PARLIAMENT — South Africa's Black farmers are needed to forge a strong, established black- owned agricultural sector.

Speaking in debate on the Development Trust Bill, the Minister of Agriculture, Land Affairs, and Rural Development, Thulas Nxesi, said:

"The Bill provides a new framework for the development of agricultural cooperatives. It is aimed at strengthening the capacity of farmers to participate in the development of the agricultural sector."

Nxesi went on to say that the Bill will help to address the historical imbalances in the agricultural sector and promote the development of black-owned agricultural cooperatives.

"This will help to create jobs and opportunities for black farmers, and will contribute to the economic development of rural communities," he said.

The Bill is expected to be passed in the near future and will provide a new framework for the development of agricultural cooperatives.
In decline

GDP fell 1.3% in the first three months of 1990, largely due to a 9.9% decline in agriculture and an 11.8% fall in the mining sector. But for these losses growth would have been about 1%.

Figures are calculated at factor incomes (net indirect taxes), seasonally adjusted, annualised and in constant 1985 prices, says the Central Statistical Service.

Agriculture's poor performance compared badly with a 42.6% increase in the same period last year but is better than the 42.7% decrease in the 1989 fourth quarter. In the same quarters, mining decreased 13.2% and increased 10.6%.

Much of the 1990 mining decline can be attributed to the gold price fall from a London high of US$423 in early February to a five-and-a-half month low of $362 by early March. Chamber of Mines economist Ivor Leibowitz says production is also down, as gold mines keep capex to a minimum in anticipation of further political and economic developments. "Output will continue to fall, probably by more than 20% in the next two to three years."

According to chamber figures, fewer than 140 t of gold were produced in the first quarter of 1990, compared to 142 t in the same period in 1989 (a 1.7% decline), while capex fell from R557m to R540m (3%).

The decline in agriculture is largely due to the lower 1989 wheat harvest, says the Department of Agriculture, much of which was marketed in the first quarter of 1990. Sales of R315m from a healthy 1988 harvest in the first three months of 1989 compared to only R94m in the same period in 1990. Wool was also down, with first-quarter sales of R339m (R276m). Meanwhile, expenditure on intermediate goods and services (fertiliser, feed, fuel, and so on) is up R237m from the first quarter of 1989, to R1.8bn.

Negative growth

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<th>% change in real GDP at factor incomes</th>
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<td>(Seasonally adjusted and annualised)</td>
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Source: CSIR

![Chart showing negative growth in real GDP at factor incomes from 1988 to 1990.](chart.png)
Black communities want sales of farms suspended

BLACK communities have called for a moratorium on the sale of all state-owned land until means to redress the grievances of landless people has been found.

According to Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) spokesman Harald Winkler, the moratorium call was made recently by 29 affected western Transvaal communities in a bid to stop the sales.

The affected communities have learned that government intends selling farms from which they were forcibly removed in the 1950s and 1970s.

And they believe white negotiations between government and the ANC are holding out a promise of reconciliation, so steps should be taken to entrench apartheid's legacy of dispossession and suffering.

The affected communities also felt it was unfair for the government to sell the farms as only "white farmers" could buy them because blacks were precluded from doing so by the Land Act, Winkler said.

GERALD REILLY reports from Pretoria that the Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) has warned government further transfers of white-owned farmlands to other races must stop.

TAU President Dries Bruwer said here yesterday the TAU supported the SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) in its standpoint that organised agriculture had to be consulted before white agricultural land was traded.
Agricultural boards cannot be privatised

CAPE TOWN — Due to the nature of the agricultural marketing boards, a board could not be privatised.

A joint statement by Agriculture Minister Jacob de Villiers and Co-Ordinating Committee of Agricultural Marketing Boards chairman S.J. van Reensburg said the various boards, however, could bring about deregulation.

The general principles of privatisation and deregulation were as follows:

- Deregulation aimed at abolishing those regulations that inhibited the economy and so stimulated economic development;
- Privatisation mainly transferred enterprises and assets from the public to the private sector to benefit the economy by production factors being applied more effectively, and by promoting private sector investment.

The Marketing Act, 1998 (Act 59 of 1998), was thus not at risk, the statement concluded. — Sapa.
The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) to (c).

The Public Relations Division of the South African Police had an edition of 500 copies of the booklet printed through a sponsor. As part of the image-promoting action of the Force, the publication was made available to members of Parliament, prominent businessmen and foreign visitors.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister’s question, could he give us an indication of the cost of the publication?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I do not have the faintest idea. As I said, it was sponsored.

Animals Protection Act: Investigations by SAP

7. Mr R R HULLEY asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether the South African Police have taken any steps to investigate transgressions in terms of the Animals Protection Act, No 71 of 1962, arising from organised dog-fights between pit-bulls and other dog breeds; if so, with what results; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

Yes. Intensive investigation has been instituted as a result of media reports. The journalists who reported on the matter gave the Police their full co-operation, but up until now no positive information could be obtained.

As a result of a television programme which was screened on 4 March 1990, and in which a video of such dog-fights was shown, further investigation was instituted. The person in the video with whom the interview was conducted, appeared under a pseudonym and up until now his identity could not be ascertained.

However, the investigation into these allegations is continuing unabated.

8. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether the South African Police are responsible for the printing and/or distribution of a brochure entitled The Police care if so, (a) when it was printed and/or distributed and (b) how many copies of it were printed and/or distributed?

(2) whether this brochure has been withdrawn from circulation; if so, when; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) and (b) In August 1989, through a sponsor, the South African Police had an edition of 1 million copies of the booklet printed, 700 000 copies of which were distributed.

(2) Yes. On 27 February 1990 instructions were issued for it to be withdrawn.

9. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Justice:

Whether any inquests have been held into the deaths of any of the persons who died in Cape Town as a result of unrest on or about 6 September 1989; if so, in respect of each such person, (a) when and (b) what were the findings; if not, why not?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

10. Mr A A B BRUWER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Agricultural products: subsidisation

Whether he rejects the principle of the subsidisation of any stage of the production or marketing of agricultural products; if so, why; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE:

Yes, as it distorts the utilisation of production factors and the market for the various products and because it favours the large property owner more than the ordinary farmer. However, the Government is in favour of assistance on merit to individual farmers in times of disaster; such assistance is handled by the Departments for their own affairs. Assistance to the agricultural industry is obviously also justified in restructuring or transition stages when structural changes become necessary. I also have no objection to assistance programmes for the underprivileged which may enable them to buy food.

Mr C UYS: Mr Chairman, arising from the very direct reply of the hon the Minister where he says that he rejects the subsidising of the marketing of agricultural products, I should like to ask him whether it also applies to the export of agricultural products.

The MINISTER: Sir, the answer to that is also yes.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: I put...

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, the hon member asked me whether I am also against export subsidies. [Interjections.] I answered in the affirmative. I should like to add that the "yes" should read "provided that export import measures are not subsides".

SA Agricultural Union: statutory finance

11. Mr A A B BRUWER asked the Minister of Agriculture:

Whether the South African Agricultural Union is or is to be financed statutorily: if not, why not; if so (a) why and (b) what is his policy and or that of his Department in respect of criticism by this union on his actions and or agricultural legislation?

Whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

12. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

(1) How many patients suffering from AIDS are at present being nursed in State hospitals?

(2) whether any AIDS patients have been turned away from State hospitals since 1 January 1990; if so, (a) how many and (b) why, if (ii) when and (iii) from which hospitals, in each case?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Transvaal: 6 patients

Orange Free State: 1 patient

Cape: 6 patients

Natal: none.
The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT:

(a) Traditionally farmers in the Ohrigstad Valley were responsible for the production of about 80% of South Africa's Burley tobacco. In 1982/83 as much as 1,600 ha was still planted to Burley tobacco and this produced a crop of 3,44 million kg. The cultivation of Burley tobacco was initially highly profitable but, which in turn naturally led to a sharp increase in land prices and farmers also made substantial agricultural investments in irrigation systems, etc., on strength of this. As a result of the droughts which prevailed in the early eighties, farmers sank and equipped boreholes so as to obtain alternative water where there was insufficient irrigation water for tobacco production. In addition, nitrogen application was increased in order to increase production. These two factors, however, led to an increase in chlorine pollution, and subsequently an increase in the nicotine content of the tobacco. The drought also caused humidity problems in the curing process of the tobacco.

Concomitant with the above-mentioned circumstances, the tobacco manufacturers, phased out their purchases from Ohrigstad Valley for quality reasons (high chlorine and nicotine content) which led to the deterioration of the financial position of the irrigation farmers in the Ohrigstad valley.

The Special Agricultural Restructuring Committee (formerly Jacobs Committee) was instructed to investigate the introduction of a special assistance programme for this area in an attempt to prevent large-scale sequestration of the farmers.

This Committee subsequently recommended the following assistance programme:
- The introduction of a debt settlement programme for the purpose of reducing farmers' debt load;
- the consolidation of farmers' debts under the 20-plus-2-year scheme which will largely (virtually exclusively) have to be dealt with by the Agricultural Credit Board.

(b) (i) 36 applications for debt consolidation settlements were received; of these 15 were approved for debt consolidation to an amount of R1.8 million, and 11 for settlement to an amount of R1.6 million. 35 applications were received for crop production loans, of which 31 were approved to an amount of R1.6 million. Financial assistance totalling R5.0 million was given to farmers in this area.

(ii) 38 farmers are still farming in this area.

Yes

Initially the Tobacco Board compensated farmers from its stabilisation fund for the drop in the price which tobacco manufacturers were prepared to pay for Burley tobacco, but due to the continuing nature and extent thereof, this form of benefiting had to be abolished gradually. The position has now been reached where farmers...
no longer cultivate Burley tobacco and during the past year (on strength of a quota obtained from the Potometerus Tobacco Co-operative) they have switched to the production of dark, air-cured tobacco — an enterprise that is less profitable than Burley tobacco production.

The Tobacco Board has recommended to the Department of Trade and Commerce that the import duty on Burley tobacco be increased so that the ratio between the import duty and the average local prices (1990) can be restored.

The Department of Agricultural Development has appointed a committee which is now giving attention to the compilation of an agricultural development plan for the area. The proposals contained therein will be used as a basis for the structural adjustment of farming systems in the area where a suitable farming plan will be designed. Several investigations, undertaken in consultation with all interested parties, into the cultivation of Burley tobacco in the Ohrigstad Valley has already been launched. The purpose of these investigations was to identify problems which hamper the production of Burley tobacco. These investigations were undertaken in 1988/89.

On the grounds of the above-mentioned investigations, the Department has made R265,000 available in the 1989-90 financial year for research to try and solve the problems. The Tobacco Board contributed a further R112,000 in the result that R377,000 has already been spent on research during 1989/90. This research commenced in September 1989 and entails the following:

CULTIVAR TRIALS

to date Burley 64 has been the main cultivar used by producers in this area. It seems that this cultivar produces more nicotine with the same amount of nitrogen than other Burley cultivars. The exceptionally high nicotine content of tobacco was one of the manufacturer’s major objections. To determine which cultivar would do best in the area, the following cultivars were planted in trial plantings:

Burley 64
Buley 21
Basket 1702
Kentucky 17
Tennessee 86

NITROGEN LEVELS

Another problem experienced in the past was that the nitrogen levels applied by the producer were too high — a factor that was also partially responsible for the high nicotine content of the tobacco. Different nitrogen levels are applied in the trials in an attempt to find the ideal one.

CURING OF TOBACCO

Experimental curing sheds were erected in which the relative humidity (RH) could be artificially controlled. These sheds contain five different curing schedules compared with the control experiment where no control is applied. The latter naturally corresponds with that used by the producers.

Applications for financial assistance have been received since August 1989 and this reply gives the position to date.

US: permission for racial integration in hostels

4. Mr. A GERBER asked the Minister of the Budget and Local Government:

(1) Whether he has granted permission in terms of section 21(1)(a)(ii) of the Group Areas Act, No. 36 of 1956, to the University of Stellenbosch for members of all race groups to occupy hostels on the central campus of the University; if so,

(2) whether this permission was granted subject to certain conditions; if so, what conditions;

(3) whether his Department has ascertained whether the University authorities concerned have complied with these conditions; if not, why not; if so, with what result.

MINISTER: Mr. Chairman, the question in English, but I indicated to the hon member that the decision-making in this regard is a power and ultimately the responsibility of the University authorities. The issue that the hon member is now raising, in my opinion, falls within that. I should courteously like to suggest that the hon member consult with the rector, Prof. Mike de Vries, in this regard and discuss with him the handling of this issue by the university.

Mr. A GERBER: Mr. Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, can I ask him whether now says I should go to the rector if he laid down certain conditions that the university has to meet? Is his responsibility to see to the meeting of the conditions.

MINISTER: Mr. Chairman, there are specific guide-lines that I laid down. The hon member can freely discuss the issue further with the university authorities. I indicated in my reply that I accept the bona fides of the university authorities and that I have trust in them that they will handle this matter in accordance with the guide-lines and the stipulated assurances that were given in this regard. If the hon member has further questions in this regard he is welcome to have them put on the Question Paper.

Mr. A GERBER: Mr. Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply, can I ask him whether those which he indicated are guide-lines or conditions under which he gave permission that the Group Areas Act be contravened?

MINISTER: Mr. Chairman, it was part of the concession that I relaid to the University authorities, as I also said in my reply to this question. Logically, specific situations can develop that can be handled within the good discretion of the University authorities with these guide-lines in mind. This is also part of the concession given to them.

Mr. J J S PRINSLOO: Mr. Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister’s reply. May I put a question about the expressions “university community” and “community” — these are the people who must be taken into consideration — which occur in the first condition that he set? It was set as a condition for granting the permit. Does “university community” or “community,” as it is indicated in that condition, include the student community — yes or no?

MINISTER: Mr. Chairman, I answered very clearly in this regard. [Interjections.]

Mr. H D K VAN DER MERWE: You did not make it clear.

MINISTER: With respect, the hon member Mr. H D K Van der Merwe will not understand, because I answered the question in English. He must just allow me the opportunity.

[Interjections.]

I answered as follows to paragraph 2 of the question:

Yes. The university authorities must consult both the local community... and the university community, and the students’ freedom of choice regarding their housing needs must be taken into consideration.

I should like to regard this reply as sufficient.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! The time for questions has now expired. The remaining answers will be printed in Hansard. The hon the Minister for Agriculture asked me for an opportunity to give an explanation. I now grant him that opportunity. [See Question 10, General Affairs.]
INTERPELLATIONS

The sign * indicates a translation. The sign ‡, used subsequently in the same interpellation, indicates the original language.

The CHAIRMAN OF THE HOUSE: Order! Before we come to the first interpellation of the day, I wish to draw hon members' attention to the fact that the time available for interpellations is very limited and must therefore be very strictly adhered to. Accordingly I am not prepared to permit the time of any hon member who has the floor, to be wasted unnecessarily by interjections or unnecessary questions or in any other way.

I also appeal to hon members, when the Chair has indicated that their time has expired, to end their speeches immediately and not attempt to prolong the time allocated to them.

General Affairs:

Agricultural marketing boards: privatisation

1. Mr A A B BRUWER to ask the Minister of Agriculture:

What is his policy in respect of the privatisation of agricultural marketing boards?*

*BRIEF INT

*The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr Chairman, in replying to the enquiry about my policy in regard to the privatisation of agricultural marketing councils it is important that judicious consideration be given to the concept of "privatisation". The object of privatisation is to transfer, as commercialised undertakings and for a consideration, undertakings which form part of the public sector to the private sector. In this way the economy can be benefited in that a more effective utilisation of production factors and the optimal functioning of market forces can be made possible, while at the same time promoting investments in the private sector.

The Agricultural Control Boards are not financed from the government appropriation. They come into existence in terms of control schemes established at the request of agricultural producers for specific industries in terms of the Marketing Act, 1968. The legislature provided that the control boards could obtain far-reaching statutory powers for both the financing as well as the arrangement of matters pertaining to the marketing of the products concerned.

A control board may, for example, with the approval of the Minister, be empowered to impose levies, which are neither but taxes on producers, on a specific product, and to make them enforceable by law. The control board may determine prices for agricultural products, which are also enforceable by law. Such a control board may also impose prohibitions on the sale of produce, except if it is carried out in a specific way.

Seen against this background it is in reality not possible to privatise control boards. A control board is dependent on its statutory powers for its very existence and to be able to perform a function. A control board cannot therefore retain its statutory powers as a private organisation without Parliamentary supervision over such powers.

A control scheme that has served its purpose, and therefore has no right to exist any more, can of course be repealed, in which case the control board concerned ceases to exist. That is obviously not privatisation, but liquidation.

The Marketing Act and the various control boards provide stability for approximately 70% of the agricultural production in the Republic of South Africa in that the agricultural marketing councils themselves assume the responsibility of managing the arrangements for orderly marketing.

[Time expired.]

*Mr A A B BRUWER: Mr Chairman, the hon the Minister saw fit, as a result of the appearance of this Interpellation on the Question Paper, to issue a Press statement yesterday evening at 11:30 in connection with the question of privatisation. We can call it either privatisation, or liquidation, or commercialisation, but it is one and the same situation. That is why we are raising this Interpellation.

The problem arose that these various marketing boards found themselves in an uncertain situation as a result of the policy of this Government. These people have already accepted—one cannot blame them for doing so—that we are going to have Black majority rule in this country. In the view of this they decided, in the interests of what they represent, to try to negotiate the best for their producers in this capacity. That is why the co-ordinating committee of the marketing boards decided to advise the marketing boards either to liquidate, privatise or commercialise, whenever they want to call it, in the interests of the members that they represent.

The important point to take into consideration here is that the Government of the day, through its talks with the Xhosa-controlled ANC, has created a climate of uncertainty. [Interjections.] In the present political climate these marketing boards cannot function properly any longer, nor do they want to function as they are doing at present, because they now have to try to carry on their business in an extremely uncertain climate. That is why it has become clear that these people do not have a choice but to adopt the course of getting away from State control.

The hon the Minister must tell us what the function and the role of the Marketing Act still is if all these marketing boards have decided to move away from State control and to privatise or to do their business in a different way.

Mr W A TARR: Mr Chairman, when I studied the question, I actually could not understand why the hon member for Lydenburg had asked this question. [Interjections.] The only conclusion that I can come to is that he is trying to make politics out of this issue. [Interjections.] He is trying to win a few votes out there in the plenum.

Marketing boards are created in terms of the Marketing Act and therefore fall largely with some control exercised by the Minister, under the control of farmers and, to a lesser extent, of the co-operatives. In terms of privatising them, I do not see what mechanism thereon there can be as to how one would actually go about it.

This party has no problem with the Marketing Act at all. We do have certain problems with some of the hon member's comments. Certain boards have taken some of the schemes which certain boards have implemented in the past. For example, we do not believe a board should have the power to fix prices. [Interjections.] I think everybody in this House well knows the chaos that was created in South African agriculture by the fixing of prices such as the maize price, for example. There are many areas of agriculture still trying to recover from those disastrous situations.

Secondly, we do not believe—that is a general statement—that boards should be in a position to enjoy a monopoly situation. If one believes in free enterprise then farmers and consumers should have a choice as to who handles and markets their products. Then there is competition regarding levies and there is competition to get out there and sell their products as well.

I can give hon members examples of two boards namely Unifresco and the Citrus Exchange. They are both doing a wonderful . . . [Time expired.]

* The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr Chairman, it is very clear to me that the hon member for Lydenburg is very confused if he does not understand the difference between privatisation, deregulation and a liquidation.

* An HON MEMBER: That is why he is a CP. [Interjections.]

* The MINISTER: The marketing boards manage a unique instrument in South Africa, namely the controlling regulations according to which the producers decide what is important to do in their industry. This they can only do under the supervision of the authorities, with the objective of keeping the gap between the price received by the producer and the price the consumer has to pay as small as possible. That is why one must take careful note that these controlling regulations are confined to the most essential minimum.

Hon members must bear in mind that the Marketing Act is an enabling act so that the producers, as a group, can be afforded the opportunity of unilaterally making a diversity of arrangements in regard to marketing, as the hon member for Pieternorthberg North said, to enable them to act monopolistically in the market. While this is possible it is essential that this ability be limited by applying the powers in an accountable way, under the supervision of this Parliament. The Minister has the responsibility of accounting to Parliament for the fair implementation of these schemes.

I want to say thank you to the hon member for Pieternorthberg North for understanding privatisation and the Marketing Act. [Interjections.]
MR C UYS: Mr Chairman, this afternoon I had the privilege of receiving the Press statement released yesterday evening by the hon. the Minister. For the most part this afternoon I repeated here what he had said in the Press statement.

I agree with the hon. the Minister that, as matters stand at the moment, it is probably not possible to privatise the control boards, or marketing boards as they are now called, as such and still allow them to fulfill their present function, because after all the marketing board is part of the Government sector of South Africa. But it is possible to privatise the marketing function as such of a marketing council.

It is no use trying to split hairs here with one's choice of words. The popular word "privatisation", and this applies to the agricultural marketing boards as well, is doing the rounds. If hon. members were to read the latest Landbouweekblad they would see that the entire leading article is devoted to this issue. We also read in the Landbouweekblad that at its recent meeting, the Red Meat Producers' Organisation decided in principle that the Meat Board should be privatised.

That is why we have instability among our farmers as such, and they want to know what is going on and what the Government's standpoint is on the possible privatisation of the marketing functions of the respective marketing boards.

We know that, for various reasons, we do not have two marketing boards operating in the same way. I take it that the marketing of tomatoes and the marketing of wool are two entirely different things, which one cannot deal with in the same way. Unfortunately, however, I am not as close as the hon. the Minister, nor as objectionable. [Interruptions.] Our farmers are jealous of the retention of the Marketing Act and the functions of our control boards. [Time expired.]

"MR A A B BRLWER: Mr Chairman, I know the hon. the Minister to be a person who is fond of playing with words. [Interruptions.] The hon. member for Barberton has now spelled out very clearly to him what the problem is, and from whatever angle one is going to look at this entire question of the functioning of these boards, these people are present functioning in an extremely unfavourable climate when it comes to forecasting, because the climate in which they have to function is the present unstable political climate. What does the present political climate look like? No agriculturist can plan in this present political climate. We have been asking this Government for some considerable time now to tell us precisely what their plans are, for example the redistribution of agricultural land. We get no reply from them. [Interruptions.] How can these marketing boards function within such an unstable climate? [Time expired.]

"THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE: Mr Chairman, I can tell hon. members that the Press statement issued last night was made at the request of the Chairman of the Co-ordinating Committee of Control Boards, because he had found, in the sphere of operations of the boards, that there was a great lack of understanding of the situation, that there were expectations which were nowhere near the reality, and for that reason he asked me to issue this Press statement together with him.

There is no problem with the possibility that industries could decide to deal with their own marketing function. For example tomatoes are not dealt with by the board. The wool is sold on the national markets by the individual farmers themselves, while potatoes are in fact dealt with by a marketing board, and that differs from wool marketing, as the hon. member for Barberton in fact said. After all, we cannot deal with the interests of agriculture on a reserve basis, and then occasionally intervene on behalf of the farmers.

The last time we discussed matters in the Agriculture Vote, the hon. members of the CP saw fit, for political reasons, to walk out of this House. We then discussed this matter in depth. [Interruptions.] The Marketing Act continues to exist, but the application of the Regulations requires regular evaluation, and that is what is happening here.

 Debate concluded.

AVB: new commandos

2. Mr W C MALAN to ask the Minister of Law and Order: Hannes 2 415 "10

(1) Whether any action has been taken to date with regard to the establishment of approximately 50 new Afrikaner Wetsendewagte (commandos) if any; if not, why not; if so, what are the relevant details?

B1120E.INT

"THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER: Mr Chairman, I should like to reply to paragraph 1 and 2 as follows.

The increasing occurrence of so-called "vigilante" and under armed, politically-orientated groups in different parts of the country, is an understandable but alarming phenomenon.

This is understandable and even natural for people who are either panic-stricken or who want to seize political power in the country by violent means. Unfortunately one finds people from both categories in South Africa today.

My own, as well as the Government's, standpoint on the matter has been spelt out repeatedly—we find the existence of these groups unnecessary and unacceptable. South Africa and its inhabitants can do without such groups. The SA Police, supported by the SA Defence Force, as and when necessary, are the official security mechanism of the State that maintains law and order in an orderly and responsible manner.

Although circumstances are difficult and in a state of flux, the SA Police and the Defence Force are in control of the security situation in the country. Those who wish to seize power are not going to succeed, and those who are frightened will be protected by the SA Police and the Defence Force.

The Government and the SA Police welcome any form of assistance to combat crime, provided it does not disturb or threaten public order. Under no circumstances, however, can individuals or groups be allowed to act in such a way as to carry weapons in such a way that other members of the community feel threatened or to such a way as to give rise to confrontation. The maintenance of law and order is the task of the SA Police, who have been trained and equipped for it.

The Government cannot allow individuals or groups to carry out this task in an arbitrary manner. This is in conflict with all the principles of law enforcement and is not tolerated in any civilised country. We are also committed to the principle that in future political will be practised freely and democratically in this country. The existence and conduct of these groups are irreconcilable with and are completely detrimental to such a process of orderly political administration. There is even the greater danger that it could destroy such a process entirely. In the spirit of granting greater freedom to all people in this country, the Government has therefore chosen the road of discussion and persuasion.

For a considerable length of time now I have held discussions on a country-wide basis with representatives of various organisations and interested groups right across the political spectrum, and I have done so precisely in accordance with this pattern. I have done this in order to ensure the violence and promote peace and stability in the Republic. In this way I have also held discussions with representatives of the PAC—Amafrica—the UDF, the MDM, Cosatu, the ANC, Num, Inkatha, the AWB, the BBB, Blanke Veiligheid, the CP and many others.

I have conveyed only one message to these leaders and to their people, and that is that the violence, intimidation and incitement which lead to acts of violence, are unacceptable and have to stop as soon as possible. At the same time I spelt out to them that "vigilante" groups, "conscades", "task forces", "Boer armies", "Maraals" and such like do not, in what they are doing, contribute to peace and security in this country. [Time expired.]

"MR W C MALAN: Mr Chairman, the hon. the Minister's meeting with representatives of the AWB on 14 May will be remembered for the unusual frankness, the assurance from Mr Terre'Blanche that they want to establish a Boer army, and many subsequent statements that they are only establishing Boer commands within the framework of the old culture, and then especially the hon. the Minister's silence in the face of continuing commando activities.

The hon. the Minister clearly accepts his overall responsibility for the maintenance of law and order. We do not disagree with him in regard to his principles. As such he is also responsible for the protection of the freedom, life and property of all South Africans, including the AWB. No civil defence force or commando activities of whatever nature can be allowed, especially now in the defence of sectional interests.
Disputed bill on land sale to go ahead

By BARRY STREEK

A CONTROVERSIAL House of Representatives bill to provide for the sale of the land in the Mier area in north-west Cape is due to be debated tomorrow despite an assurance to residents that the proposal would be discussed with them before it went to Parliament.

The bill was withdrawn from the order paper earlier this year at the insistence of the chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Representatives, Mr Allan Hendrickse, after Mr Nelson Mandela had spoken to him about it.

Mr Hendrickse said then that this demonstrated the importance of the Labour Party because Mr Mandela had asked him to delay the legislation.

More than 900 residents of Mier, in the Gordonia area, have signed a petition opposing the Mier Rural Area Bill, which provides for the sale of their land.

At the end of February a 20-strong delegation from the area marched on Parliament to present their objections.

The residents of Mier, a so-called "coloured reserve", claim the bill will deprive all of them of their birthright to the land, which has been in the community for generations.

A delegation of residents met Mr Hendrickse and the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture, Mr Andrew Julies, on February 28, and presented their objections and made certain proposals.

According to their lawyer, the delegation was given the assurance that they would be consulted before any further steps were taken on the bill.

Gary's new school 'a challenge for farmers'  

By Winnie Graham

One of the most beautiful farm schools in South Africa is being officially opened today on Gary Player's farm, Blair Atholl, near Lanseria Airport north-west of Johannesburg.

The new school, the first of several to be erected nationwide, was financed by the Gary Player Foundation in partnership with a number of international companies.

Today's opening was due to be attended by top United States educationists visiting South Africa as guests of Mr Player.

Mr Mark Player, the farm school manager and Gary's son, said yesterday that two-thirds of South Africa's young black people were being educated in farm schools, not in the townships.

For this reason, the Gary Player Foundation had decided to try to raise money in South Africa and overseas to construct better farm schools.

He believed local communities, the Department of Education and Training and private enterprise should work together to enhance education standards.

"We need the help of everyone, both financially and materially," he said.

The foundation was started because his father received about 300 letters a week from worthy causes. Gary Player had decided to focus on education and do what he could for farm schools.

Role model

Mr Player added: "If people say 'See the expensive school Gary Player built on the hill', we will have failed in our efforts.

"But if the school can be seen as something of a role model and prompts other farmers to say: 'I can do the same on my farm', the publicity will have served a good purpose."

When Gary Player bought Blair Atholl in 1984, he inherited a modest farm school founded by the late Mrs Georna Goodman in the '70s.

The school served the children of employees on the property and surrounding farms. Initially established with 30 pupils in a disused garage, the school grew until a new venue was established in a barn.

The school continued to grow rapidly under the care of its principal, Mrs Anna Modise, until it became a primary school for 120 pupils and was subsidised by the Department of Education and Training.

An increasing demand for space led to the decision to expand the school again.

The Gary Player Foundation was established with its first task the establishment of a new school on the farm. The old school is being developed as a pre-school centre.

The new Blair Atholl School can accommodate about 280 pupils from Grade 1 to Std 5. It has excellent sports facilities.
Govt again shelves Mier land Bill

Political Staff

The controversial House of Representatives legislation for Mier, which provides for the sale of land in the remote Northern Cape community, has again been shelved.

The chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Representatives and leader of the Labour Party, Mr Allan Hendrickse, said yesterday that he had instructed that the Mier Rural Areas Bill be dropped from the order paper for the time being.

In a statement released by his office, Mr Hendrickse said he first wanted to discuss the proposed legislation with all interested parties.

A meeting had been arranged in this connection for this afternoon, the statement said.

A spokesman said representatives of the Mier community were expected to be at the meeting.

The Bill had been scheduled for debate this afternoon.

The Surplus Peoples Project (SPP) said in a statement yesterday that the residents of Mier had been horrified to hear the Bill was to be discussed today in the House of Representatives.

They had not been consulted and once again had to rush to Cape Town, more than a thousand kilometres away, in a desperate attempt to stop the Bill.

SPP said thousands of people could be dispossessed of their land if the Bill became law.
Moratorium on sale of Govt land urged

By Winnie Graham

Representatives of 29 rural communities have asked for a moratorium on the sale of all State-owned land.

The call comes at a time when the Government is advertising for sale a number of farms in the western Transvaal on Friday. The rural communities say the land belongs to them.

They want the sale of all trust land stopped “until a process of negotiation between the Government, the local communities and their political representatives can work out a way in which historical wrongs can be redressed”.

The Transvaal Rural Action Committee (Trac) met on Sunday to discuss the land issue and issued a statement later saying there would be no true solution to South Africa’s problems “unless a fair solution to the land problem can be found”.

Trac said the farms in the western Transvaal had belonged to African communities which were forcibly removed in the 1960s and 1970s.

“The Government left the land vacant for decades,” Trac said. “But now, before it repeals the Land Act and just as a new era is dawning, it is rushing to sell the land to white farmers. We ask why does the Government choose to sell this land which it expropriated from African people?”

The Government had recently announced a decision to sell all trust land not yet incorporated into the homelands but, Trac said, people who had historical and occupational claims to land did not have the money to buy it.

“We are concerned we will be dispossessed by land speculators, whether white or black. We, the affected communities, have never lost the deep desire to return to this land. We had hope as long as the land was empty.”

Trac stressed that the people could not buy back the land themselves because they were prevented from doing so by the Land Act. Furthermore, during the process of removal, they had lost their cattle, tractors and homes. People who were once prosperous farmers were now desperately poor.

“We believe we have a right to the land which was expropriated from us,” Trac said. “Anyone who buys it under the present conditions will not be regarded as the true owners. We believe, when the process of negotiation between the ANC and the Government is holding out a promise of true national reconciliation, no steps should be taken which would in any way entrench apartheid’s legacy of dispossession and suffering.”
ANC deputy president Mr Nelson Mandela yesterday called for the controversial Mier legislation to be withdrawn saying “we are shocked and horrified” that the bill had again been placed on the House of Representatives’ order paper.

The Mier Rural Areas Bill was withdrawn from yesterday’s order paper by Labour Party leader Mr Allan Hendrickse.

Mr Hendrickse, members of his cabinet and the House’s agriculture committee met a delegation from Mier, their lawyer, representatives of the Namaqualand Residents’ Association, UDF, the Western Cape interim united civics structure and the Surplus Peoples Project.

Yesterdays meeting adjourned without any undertaking by Mr Hendrickse to withdraw the bill, the Mier delegation said in a statement.

The legislation provides for the sale of the remote Mier area, in the Calvinia region, but it has been strongly opposed by residents.

Earlier this year, the legislation was withdrawn from the order after Mr Mandela spoke to Mr Hendrickse.

“We wish to express our solidarity and support for your just claims in this regard,” Mr Mandela said.

“Even though you are tucked away in the fringes of the Kalahari, we fully support you in your struggle.

“We call for this bill, which is aimed at dispossessing you of your birthright, to be withdrawn.”
Thousands wait for Govt clarity over land issue

Political Staff

CAPE TOWN — Hundreds of thousands of black people are waiting to see whether the Government will make it possible for them to return to land they were forced off years ago.

Their hopes were raised after the Government this week stopped the sale of land in the Western Transvaal. Black people were forced off farms around Koster in the 1960s and 1970s because the farms fell within "white" areas.

The land was due to be sold to white farmers on May 23, but was halted in view of President de Klerk's announcement that the Lands Acts of 1913 and 1936 were to be revised.

A statement by Minister of Agricultural Development Mr Kraai van Niekerk and Minister of Development Aid Dr Stoffel van der Merwe said that "no agricultural land which previously belonged to black communities, and had been expropriated at an earlier stage in accordance with the previous consolidation policy, will be sold henceforth".

The Cabinet discussed the implications of this turn in National Party policy yesterday. But the office of Acting State President Gerrit Viljoen refused to clarify the Government's intentions.

Dr van der Merwe's office pointed out that in terms of the present laws, the land could be sold only to whites. However, all sales of land taken from black people would be frozen until the position of the two Lands Acts had been clarified.

Lost homes

Access to land is going to be a key issue in the coming negotiations, largely because of the mass removals of people from their traditional homes.

One study conducted in the 1980s found that 4½ million people had been forced from their homes.

The removed people nearly always felt bitter because they lost their homes, land, access to agricultural land, stock, and often jobs.

People nearly always felt they were left materially and spiritually poorer by the forced removals.
beneficial and cost-effective use needed to be
found. Meyer said the SADT has 1m ha of
farm land available for the transfer to black
owner-farmers. It is currently being leased to
white farmers or used by the State Trust
Corporation and included “high-potential
areas.”

The policy had to be pursued “purposeful-
ly” and in co-operation with the farmers
involved. He suggested kibbutz-style settle-
ments in high-potential areas to maximise
the use of machinery and equipment. The
Land Bank and the private sector should be
involved in financing the scheme.

“Agriculture must play its role in the new
SA. This can only happen if there are also
farmers of colour. As a farmer, my best
security is the knowledge that I am building
the future together with these farming part-
ers. We must just develop the ability to
tackle such an imaginative scheme and allow
the light to be seen.”

What to do with SADT land has become a
problem for government. The 2m ha still in
the trust is the remaining portion of nearly
7m ha that has been bought by the SADT
since 1936 for homeland consolidation. The
balance has already been transferred to the
homelands.

But last week, Development Aid Minister
Stoffel van der Merwe confirmed that the
homeland consolidation policy has been
abandoned. Marais said the announcement
created a “whole new dimension” with which
the SADT now had to cope. But it remains
saddled with existing agreements concerning
land transfers and still faces an increasing
demand for land. These issues will have to be
negotiated with all interest groups.

Marais also confirmed that the rental
charges to white farmers, who lease
543,000 ha of SADT land that hasn’t yet
been transferred to the homelands, have
been increased to market-related levels — in
one case by 900%.

He said he would also give “urgent atten-
tion” to the problems facing white farmers
whose land had been earmarked in terms of
previous policies for purchase by the SADT
and eventual incorporation into homelands.
It was estimated that R450m was needed to
complete the purchasing programme, but
only R48.5m was provided this year.
Within 10 years, commercial marketing of biotechnologically improved cash and food crops is expected to become commonplace. These include cotton, potatoes and soybean, all important in SA.

Two workers at international agricultural chemical company Monsanto developed the capability in 1982.

Today, biotechnology, or the transplanting of a gene from one organism to another, has the potential to reduce crop growing costs.

For example, in cotton, two traits are being explored — insect resistance and tolerance to Monsanto's Roundup herbicide.

A gene from a widely used bacterium, Bacillus thuringiensis, is inserted into the genetic structure of the cotton plants, which then produce a protein lethal to certain insects.

The advantage is only the target insects are affected and not other, beneficial insects, animals or humans. Traditionally, weed control has been a major problem for cotton farmers. Monsanto believes it is well on the road to dealing with this pest as well.

When a gene from another plant is placed into the cotton, the treated plant produces increased quantities of an essential enzyme — EPSP synthase.

In non-treated plants, this enzyme is rendered non-active by the company's herbicide and the unwanted plants die.

The extra quantities of EPSP synthase enable the treated plants to grow normally despite the presence of the herbicide.

Farmers with biotechnology treated cotton benefit by being able to use the Roundup herbicide to eliminate weeds while the cotton plant deals with insect pests.

Healthier, more prolific crops will result — and cotton is noted not only for its value in textiles, but also as a source of vegetable oil and meal.
Fighting ignorance on the country’s farming fields

THE Agricultural and Veterinary Chemical Association of SA (Avocass) is mounting a comprehensive effort to ensure that everyone marketing or applying agricultural chemicals does so within recognised safety guidelines.

The initiative is the most wide-ranging chemical education effort undertaken in SA.

**Thrusts**

Written examinations, videos and on-the-job training form the main thrusts in this attempt to educate a broad cross-section of people involved in selling, giving advice on or applying potentially harmful pesticides and herbicides.

Avocass executive director Gerry Maritz says the programme is designed to address as wide a market as possible.

"We want to reach company sales representatives, co-op managers, farmers and their labourers.

![Gerard Maritz](image)

GERARD MARITZ

"The more people who are properly informed about the do's and don'ts of agro-chemicals the better for all South Africans," says Maritz.

More than 1 000 agro-chemical advisers and sales staff have written a series of examinations Avocass instituted last year to ensure they are knowledgeable about pesticides.

Further examinations in May and August, which will be written at four venues around the Republic, will add another 200 to the total.

Maritz says farm labourers have also been pinpointed for intensive training through a programme Avocass has developed with the Beeskop Training Centre near Potchefstroom.

"The training course will run for a week on various farms. Initially, it is being offered to farmers on the Highveld, but we hope to make it national.

Our aim is to give farm labourers an insight into the finer points of pesticides. They are the people at the sharp end and so more than anyone else need to be versed in safety, storage and application procedures," says Maritz.

In conjunction with the marketing arm of the SABC, Avocass has made a video available for sale to anyone interested in improving their pesticide knowledge.

The video is being marketed because of the excellent reaction to an eight-part pesticide series Avocass screened on TV's Agriforum programme in July and August last year.

**Message**

Says Maritz: "Through our three-pronged approach of examinations, videos and on-the-job training we believe we can get an important message across to the many thousands of South Africans regularly involved with pesticides and other agro-chemicals.

There is no substitute for education in the battle against ignorance and misuse of these essential yet potentially harmful products."
Debts still crippling farmers

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — Farmers are still buckling under accumulated debt and soaring interest rates, agricultural authorities said this week.

The large number of sequestrations last year caused serious concern and there are few indications the rate will drop significantly this year.

At the end of last year, farmers' total debt was R147bn. They paid R1,565bn in interest to commercial banks, the Land Bank and other financial institutions. Last year commercial banks held more than 25% of farmers' loans.

The SA Agricultural Union said many farmers would find it difficult to continue farming unless interest rates eased and the cost price squeeze in the industry relaxed. Much would depend on the coming summer season. With favourable growing conditions, many of the struggling crop farmers could survive.

Another indication of the plight of farmers was last year's debt to asset ratio of 23.5% (1992: 24%).

If the escalating prices of inputs did not slow down and if interest rates remained at current high levels, the debt burden could rise to R158bn and beyond by the end of the year, authorities warned.
Farmers get huge bonuses

BY DIRK TIEemann

SENTRAALWEST: Co-operative paid its members a bonus of R69-million in the 1989-90 year out of R64-million profit.

The bonus has increased by 172% from the previous year's R18-million. The cash portion of the bonus is R115-million as opposed to R18-million the previous year.

Profit to the previous year was R57-million.

Payouts

Bokomo co-op members received only a R1-million bonus last year. Members claim that profits in the past four years totalled R94-million, of which they received only R25-million in dividends.

Co-ops, worried about the well-being of their members, must be concerned at the huge farming debt.

The co-ops increased their total assets to R111-billion in 1988. Cheap Land Bank funds were used to supply members with finance and equipment.

Total farmers' debt last year was R147-billion and is expected to rise to R15-billion if input prices continue to rise and interest rates remain high.
Farmers angry over SADF camp in their own backyard

TOEGANG VOORBEHOU
SADF
ADMISSION RESERVED

Sthmdrift farmer Konng Scholtz Jrn chats to Bushmen soldiers at their new home

Picture: TERRY SHEAN

Between February 20 and March 18 this year, 3918 men, women and children were flown to Kimberley and transported to their new home at Schmidtsdrift. A spokesman for SA Army Headquarters in Pretoria said the organisations which informed the government of the Bushmen were not known to the military until recently and consequently not briefed on the situation.

The spokesman said the Bushmen community was under strict military control and that no negative comments on the resettlement of the Bushmen had been made.

The spokesman said the Bushmen had been resettled on May 22 in which no negative comments on the resettlement of the Bushmen had been made.

The spokesman said the Bushmen had been resettled on May 22 in which no negative comments on the resettlement of the Bushmen had been made.
Outcry as farmer closes school

"I don't know what will happen to the children. The parents are struggling to find accommodation for them. The schools are far from each other — too far to walk," she said.

Ms Nomvula Manyati, who lives on a nearby farm and has two children at the school, said she earned R4 a day and could not afford to send them to school further away.

Her daughter, Nondazi, who dreams of becoming a nurse, now fears her education will come to an end.

Workers said since Carter took over Winterton, he imposed a heavy hand on them. No visitors were allowed, and if the farmer argued with a worker, he simply fired him, they said.

They pointed to the remains of a clay house which, they said, Carter had demolished after ordering the occupant, Mr Sebuzile Kali, to "pack up and leave the farm".

Regional director of the Department of Education and Training, Mr Bill Stade, said discussions to solve the "impasse" were underway. — PEN
Call for coast guard to be formed

A COAST GUARD should be established to rationalise all activities relating to the sea under one body, the Western Province Marine Conservation Society said yesterday.

The society's chairman, Mr V P Kabalin, said it was obvious that with South Africa's extensive coastline the country's fishing resources were not being effectively protected.

He cited the example of the stranded Taiwanese trawler An Hung 1 on which tunny, seals and penguins had been found after it had apparently used gill nets while fishing in South African waters.

CPA fishery control officer Mr Daniel Brink confirmed yesterday that the captain and the fishing master of the An Hung 1 would appear in court today on charges of fishing with illegal gill nets.

Mr Kabalin said that with the emergence of a new South Africa, the society felt that it was vital to establish a coast guard.

He added that the society had information that foreign and local trawlers have been catching protected fish species using heavy steel 'bobbins' which enabled a trawler to fish over reefs.

'This destructive method has been outlawed in most of the world because of the damage done to the reefs as well as the effect on linefish resources,' he added.

About 25 to 40 tons of fish were removed from the An Hung 1 yesterday. The fish, which was rotten, was buried on state property near Guns Bay. Health officials observed procedures.

WALL OF DEATH ... Sea Fisheries research assistant Mr Stephan Swanson at a piece of the gill net and some of the seals, penguins and marine life found on the stranded Taiwanese fishing trawler An Hung 1.
Commission of inquiry into stuck trawler

BY BRONWYN DAVIDS

President F W de Klerk yesterday appointed a one-man commission of inquiry into the stranding of the Taiwanese trawler An-Hung 1 near Gans Bay, which had illegal "wall of death" gill nets and catches on board.

The appointment follows a request from the Minister of Environmental Affairs, Mr Gert Kotze, who felt that delays in dealing with salvaging of the vessel may have caused major damage to marine life.

According to a spokesman for the Department of Environmental Affairs, Mr Neil Du Bois, the terms of reference for the one-man commission will be formulated soon.

Heavy swells yesterday prevented salvagers from working on the An-Hung 1 which still has about 28km of "wall of death" gill net equipment on board. The nets reach a depth of about 30-40m.

Mr Du Bois said salvagers secured the gill nets to the trawler, so that it did not fall into the sea where it could cause more damage to marine life.

"The salvagers could only get within one-and-a-half metres of the An-Hung because four metre-high waves were breaking over the trawler," Mr Du Bois said.

About 40 tons of gill-netted tuna is still in the holds. On Tuesday, about 55 tons of spoiled tuna were removed from the trawler and buried on state property close to Gans Bay, according to Department of National Health specifications.

Mr Du Bois said the oil pollution threat had passed: "Only one or two tons of oil are still left on the trawler. The oil is in the flooded engine room and other flooded compartments. It will be skimmed off — but it is a time-consuming job and it could take up to a week to complete."
By Claire Robertson, Pretoria Bureau

Tvl farmers tell of green, ugly drought

They're calling it the cruellest drought, those farmers in the far Northern Transvaal who are battling through the ninth year of pitiful rainfall.

Rain falls on some farms while on neighbouring ranches the cattle grow thinner — and in the midst of the drought the veld on even some of the worst-hit farms looks tantalisingly healthy and green after late rains in May.

But for those living in the rainshadow of the Soutpansberg mountains, the grass will die back before long if the pattern of the last nine years repeats itself, says Mr Hannes Buitendag.

His farm, Kingskloof, lies 50 km from the Limpopo River in the Waterpoort district.

"This is what we call a 'green drought'. A bit of rain falls, and the grass looks green and growing, but it dies before the winter.

"We have automatically cut down on feed for the cattle," he said yesterday, describing this as "a very bad season".

He expects the income from his cattle ranch to drop by 20 percent this year.

West of Waterpoort, near the still-flowing Mogalakwena River, "the earth is bare in many parts, without enough grazing for even a buck," says Van Rooyen Moulder of Aden, a cattle farm.

Mr Moulder said this "very ugly drought" was the worst he has experienced in his 28 years in the district.

"Every six weeks the Glen Alpine Dam lets us have some water. We'll have enough water until September, but this doesn't help with the grazing lands.

"Some farmers tried to irrigate pastures and crop fields but this is just too expensive. Most have just given up."

His annual R15,000 income from the farm is expected to drop this year, he said.

According to Dries Bruwer, president of the Transvaal Agricultural Union, in some places the Limpopo River has not flowed at all this season.

Mr Buitendag said yesterday that farmers along the banks of the river which forms the border with Zimbabwe had had to dig for water recently.

According to Mr Bruwer, the Northern Transvaal "has been hit by the most serious drought this past summer and the area is expecting the lowest harvest in a very long time."

"The financial position of the farmers is weak and demands urgent attention and action.

"Disaster areas again received no rain and the water situation is worrying."

• Conditions in the central Transvaal were fair to good, with cattle in good condition although grazing was beginning to deteriorate, said Mr Bruwer.

The Eastern Transvaal was "very wet after good rains. Rivers are full and some are in flood, while the position of dams is also good. Some areas have had serious hail damage."

• Conditions in the Western Transvaal were favourable, rivers were full and "with a few isolated exceptions suffering from drought, good harvests are expected," said Mr Bruwer.
Special fund to help farmers

THE National African Federated Chamber of Commerce and Industries (Nafo), is to establish a special fund for black farmers to acquire land at affordable prices.

At its 8th agricultural conference held at Magoebaskloof in Venda, the delegates agreed that the greatest obstacle to agricultural and rural development was the unequal distribution of land.

That situation, they said, should be rectified by the government's repeal of all discriminatory legislation relating to land.

The conference also agreed that policies and strategies be formulated to enable black farmers to compete on an equal footing with their white counterparts through access to efficient and effective extension and information services.

Delegates demanded the establishment of a single agricultural department for all farmers irrespective of race.

They pointed out that permanent and sustainable rural development based on agriculture was impossible so long as the edifice of apartheid remained in South Africa.

Credit facilities at preferential or low interest rates should be made to black farmers.

In that regard, approaches should be made to the Land Bank, Jan Steyn Fund and other financial institutions.

"The impact of farmer support systems is minimised by institutional, financial and management problems," Nafo's Agricultural Manager, Mr Steve Mokoena said.

He said that these problems could be ameliorated by involving people (farmers and others) in planning, implementing and evaluat-
Call to ban ‘death wall’ nets

By BRONWYN DAVIDS

The “wall of death” gill nets mean disaster for the fishing industry, according to a leading environmental group.

A report by the Dolphin Action and Protection Group says the use of these nets not only has disastrous implications for the future of the fishing industry throughout the world, but also for the marine ecosystem.

The group says gill netting should be banned because it “rapidly depletes the commercial fishery of target species”.

The report indicated that the practice is wasteful as some 40% of the catch drops out of the net on hauling. While 20% to 50% of the target species are injured by the nets, they escape before or during hauling.

The survival of non-commercial species, including marine mammals, birds and reptiles, is also at risk.

As well, “ghost” nets (vast breakaway pieces of up to 17km long) drift in the oceans, ensnaring any animal in its path.

Mrs Nan Rice, secretary of the Dolphin Action and Protection Group, said: “There is only one way to stop Asian countries from fishing with drift/gill nets — make it as difficult as possible for them to operate and impose maximum fines when such vessels violate territorial waters and legislation.”

Mrs Rice said her group had doubts about whether Taiwanese trawler owners would heed a government ban on gill net vessels entering South African waters.

“Notwithstanding promises made by the Taiwanese government that they are doing their utmost to phase out the use of gill nets by fishing vessels, and the United Nations’s recommendations that there be a moratorium on high-seas gill netting by June 1992, our group believes that gill netting by Taiwanese vessels will not lessen and could possibly increase,” said Mrs Rice.

She said her group had been given assurances by Mr Louis Chou, vice-consul in charge of fishing matters, that the Taiwanese government had banned gill net fishing in the Atlantic and there had been a decrease of gill net boats in the South Pacific.

The Taiwanese government had ordered that all Taiwanese-registered vessels over 100 tons are not to use gill nets.

Mr Chou was asked by the Dolphin Action and Protection Group to release a press statement about these regulations to the three daily newspapers but this was not done, she said.

“Enforcing these regulations would be difficult because the Taiwanese fishing industry is a powerful lobby,” said Mrs Rice.

The Dolphin Action and Protection Group monitored vessels which visited Tabie Bay and found that they had offloaded catches of gill netted tuna in Puerto Rico where there were five tuna canneries.

Another vessel acted as a refrigerated transport carrier which took on gill netted catches from other vessels.

As a result of these investigations, two major local chain stores have stopped buying canned tuna which was caught in gill nets.
Referendum planned on farmland sales

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The Transvaal Agricultural Union (TAU) is to hold a referendum later this month among white farmland owners and lessees in the province on the controversial issue of the possible sale of land to other races.

Last month the TAU’s general council decided no agricultural land should be made available to other races.

According to a spokesman the TAU is to broaden the test of views on the issue through a referendum on June 23.

The decision follows one by the SA Agricultural Union that government should first get the views of organised agriculture before the question of making white-owned land available to other races was placed on the negotiating table.

The spokesman said the TAU’s general council viewed the issue in an extremely serious light. This was the reason for the referendum.

Meetings, he said, would be held in all district agricultural union areas on referendum day.

Voting would be stringently controlled to ensure an accurate and reliable assessment of the views of white farmland owners.
New questions:

Transkei: imports from RSA

1. Adv C H Pienaar asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

(1) Whether Transkei has taken any steps during the past six months in respect of the importation of goods from the Republic of South Africa which was allegedly in conflict with an agreement relating to trade between the Republic and Transkei; if so, (a) when and (b) (i) what steps and (ii) what products are affected by these steps;

(2) whether the South African Government is taking any steps to enforce the agreement concerned; if not, why not; if so, what steps?

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

(1) and (2) According to available information, Transkei has not taken any steps during the past six months in respect of the importation of goods from the Republic of South Africa which is in conflict with an agreement between the Republic and Transkei. More than six months ago Transkei did however impose restrictions on the importation of sorghum beer from the RSA for a period of six years. Proclamation number 9 was issued by Transkei in this connection and was published in the Special Gazette of Transkei on 23 September 1988. This action is regarded as in conflict with the spirit of the Customs Union Agreement by the Department of Trade, Industry and Tourism, which is the body responsible for the administration of the Customs Union Agreement. The question of the sorghum beer has enjoyed the attention of this Department and the Department of Trade, Industry and Tourism since the issue of the relative proclamation. In the last six months, the matter was discussed with Transkei on various occasions at high level. It was for instance discussed on 7 December 1989 with Gen Holomisa during a meeting with the RSA Minister of Finance and the RSA Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Since then various Diplomatic Notes have been sent to Transkei in this connection while various discussions have taken place with Transkei at the level of officials. Transkei maintains that Transkei has not acted in conflict with the letter and spirit of the Customs Union Agreement. It is now being considered to withhold R1 million from the amount which has to be paid over to the Transkei as budgetary aid until the matter has been ironed out. [Handwritten: 5/190]

Transkei also undertook other actions which according to the Department of Trade, Industry and Tourism are regarded as in conflict with the spirit of the Customs Union Agreement. These actions are:

- 7 December 1988:
  - A ban has been placed on the purchase of school books from a supplier in the Republic of South Africa;

- 1 January 1989:
  - Withdrawal of license from RSA speculators in wool, hides and skins in Transkei;

- 13 February 1989:
  - Transkei demands from insurers who do business in Transkei that they should register in Transkei;

- 11 April 1989:
  - Proposed restriction on the sale of full grains from the RSA.

Also in regard to these actions discussions are being held with Transkei in an attempt to resolve the questions.

Interim orders in respect of four cases

2. Mr P C Cronje asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether he will indicate what circumstances gave rise to the interim orders granted in respect of four cases, particulars of which have been furnished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply if not, why not; if so, (a) what were the circumstances, and (b) what are the names of the persons involved, in each case?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

No.

The cases of Sihwele v. the Minister of Law and Order, as well as Swan v. the Minister of Law and Order must still be heard by the court.

Therefore, I do not consider it advisable to furnish information which may possibly anticipate the judicial process.

The cases of Mmambou and others v. the Minister of Law and Order and Zandi v. the Minister of Law and Order were heard by the Natal Provincial Division of the Supreme Court, Pietermaritzburg. The court record of these cases is at the disposal of the hon member at the Registrar of the Court.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

3. Mr M A Tarr — Law and Order. [Question standing over.]

TPA: alternative government structures in Black areas

4. Mr D G H Nolte asked the Minister of Planning and Provincial Affairs:

(1) Whether, with a view to negotiation, the Transvaal Provincial Administration intends granting recognition to alternative government structures in Black residential areas; if so, what role will democratically constituted Black local authorities in residential areas falling in the above-mentioned category play in the negotiation process; [Handwritten: 5/190]

(2) whether it is the intention to take steps in respect of Black townships the local government bodies of which are no longer functioning or virtually no longer functioning; if so, what steps?

The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS:

(1) With a view to resolving the problems of Black local authorities, the Transvaal Provincial Administration does not refuse to hold discussions with any institution or group. The Province holds these discussions in the presence of or in collaboration with the city council, town council or town committee concerned. The Province acts as mediator in order that negotiations and dialogue may take place at local level.

(2) With regard to those Black local authorities where councillors resign and the local authorities can no longer function as there is no quorum, administrators are appointed in terms of section 29A of the
Bill 'keeps tabs on insemination'

Effective control of the use of artificial insemination for the improvement of the livestock population was one of the most important aims of the Livestock Improvement Amendment Bill, the Minister of Agriculture, Jacob de Villiers, told the House of Assembly yesterday.

Introducing the Bill, he said this was done by the registration of people who were adequately trained to provide insemination services to the farming community.

"The aim of this amendment is precisely to scale down on the registration qualifications for inseminators and at the same time make provision for additional trained people — semen catchers."

The establishment of the Advisory Board for Animal Production, which provided the Minister with valuable livestock industry advice and controlled the national performance and progeny testing schemes, were also important parts of the Bill.

The Bill also ensured that animals which came into the country with circuses, for show jumping, racing and other shows were subject to an empowerment order.

Control of artificial insemination material entering the country was a further aim of the Bill, he said.

Penalties had been increased drastically. — Sapa.
By CHRISTINA SCOTT

DURBAN — Six farming communities have launched a "give our land back" campaign after years of concerted state efforts to clear Natal of "black spot" settlements.

About 160,000 people clinging to inherited freeland farms, hemmed in by white farmers since the 1913 Land Act, have been in limbo since forced removals were officially stopped five years ago.

The ending of forced removals was followed by the introduction of "forced voluntary removals", according to Association For Rural Advancement (AFRA) fieldworker, Mr Richard Clacey.

Each landowner wants the expropriated title deeds and mineral rights and a notice in the Government Gazette reprieving all threatened areas. But restoration of the land and a guarantee that boundaries will not be redrawn to fit inside KwaZulu are no longer enough, a community representative said.

A protest memorandum of the farming communities said:

"Some of us have had our land stolen by a stroke of the government's pen. Others of us have seen our families and tenants driven into resettlement camps while we waited in a state of insecurity about when we would be forced to follow suit.

"All of us have had to face bullying officials, threats and intimidation. Some of us have stood helplessly by as government officials have destroyed our schools and churches.

"All of us have been deliberately denied any help with the development of our community.

"All this has been done by a government which we have never had the opportunity to elect."

The men of Mtiwane's Kop, Steincoalspruit, Roosboom, Stoffelton Stephmore and Cornfields were kept waiting for an hour on Monday before they could deliver the memorandum to Development Aid ministry officials in Pietermaritzburg.
Farm land issue of concern

GERALD REILLY

PRETORIA — The issue of the possible redistribution of land, particularly farmland, under any new dispensation is causing acute concern in the agricultural industry, according to authorities.

Yesterday SA Agricultural Union (SAAU) president Nico Kotze said questionnaires had been sent to the SAAU's affiliates asking whether the status quo in land ownership should be maintained or whether amendments to the system were necessary.

Affiliates have also been asked to comment on private land ownership and communal or state ownership.

Other issues to be raised include the purchase of land in a free market system, and nationalisation or expropriation of land aimed at re-allocation.

The response to the questionnaire, Kotze said, would be evaluated at a meeting of the SAAU's general council on August 1.
Ondiswini Hospital 387 6 14 33 259
Orthopaedic Services 9 76
Provincial Medical Rehabilitation Services 1 1 6
Provincial Medical Supply Centre 24 58
Port Shepstone Hospital 234 5 19 29 157
Regional Laboratory Services 35 39 517
Richmond C H C 17 1 1 7
R K Khan Hospital 671 21 72 123 402
R K Khan C H C 17
Regional Laundry Durban and Coastal 8 268
Regional Laundry Northern Natal 4 108
Regional Office 550 1 28 69 374
St Andrew's Hospital 132 1 4 10 54
St Apollinaris Hospital 246 3 6 15 106
Stanger Hospital 262 3 18 37 180
Taylor Bequest Hospital 129 4 12 98
Toogood C H C 38 2 6 19
Underberg C H C 17 1 7
Usher Memorial Hospital 108 3 6 14 101
Umzinto C H C 17
Utrecht Hospital 33 1 2 6 36
Vryheid Hospital 152 3 8 23 137
Wentworth Hospital 493 20 37 48 430

TOTAL 12 548 492 1 189 1 626 10 257
(2) yes,
(a) Ondiswini 107
(b) St Apollinaris 11
TOTAL 118 3 1 5 17
(3) (a) none,
(b) (i) and (ii) fall away.

Notifiable diseases: cases

461. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development: How many cases of each notifiable disease were notified in respect of each race group in 1989?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT: Number of notified cases of all the notifiable medical conditions in the RSA (excluding TBVC), 1989

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Condition</th>
<th>Indian</th>
<th>Black</th>
<th>Coloured</th>
<th>White</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cholera</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Typhoid fever</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paratyphoid fever</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuberculosis (all forms)</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>44 520</td>
<td>17 197</td>
<td>697</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plague</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthrax</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brucellosis</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leprosy</td>
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<td>33</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diphtheria</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meningococcal infection</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>358</td>
<td>41 414</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

473. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education: How many (a) primary and (b) secondary schools for Blacks were located on farms in the Orange Free State Region in 1989?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

(1) How many (a) primary and (b) secondary schools for Blacks were located on farms in the Orange Free State Region in 1989?

(2) how many pupils were attending such (a) primary and (b) secondary schools as at the latest specified date in 1989 and 1990, respectively, for which figures are available?

474. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education: How many (a) teachers and (b) administrative staff were employed by each of the provincial education departments as at 31 December 1989?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE:

Cape Province/Natal: school attendance/absenteeism

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 18 on 28 February 1990, the 1989 statistics relating to school attendance and absenteeism for the Cape Province and Natal are available as yet; if not, why not; if so, what was the daily average (a) number of pupils attending (i) primary and (ii) secondary school. and (b) percentage absentee rate at (i) primary and (ii) secondary schools, in (a) the Cape Province and (b) Natal in that year?
‘Freeze out gill netters’ call

By GRAHAM LIZAMORE
Weekend Argus Reporter

The quickest way to stop gill netting is for all countries to refuse to provide facilities to fishing vessels carrying the nets.

Authorities would have to monitor refrigeration companies that were storing tunny or any other fish caught by the internationally condemned “walls of death”.

It was also vital for fisheries inspectors to inspect the holds of all fishing vessels entering Cape Town for bunkers or provisions.

These views were expressed by South African fishing industry spokesmen in anticipation of severe penalties for illegal fishing in South African waters to be announced in this session of parliament.

The Fisheries Act is expected to include a minimum fine of R250,000 and a maximum of R1 million and confiscation of any foreign vessels fishing illegally in South African waters.

In terms of the original Bill it is an offence for any vessels to have the “wall of death” gill nets on board “without a permit”. This is seen by observers to be a loophole for the government to allow Taiwanese fishing vessels into port.

Dwindling stocks

Fishermen say the blame for dwindling stocks of tunny in the South Atlantic must be laid squarely at South Africa’s door because it is supplying gill net trawlers from Taiwan, with vital fuel and provisions.

Of the 120 South African tunny boats in Cape Town harbour, at least 25 are up for sale less than three years after Taiwan started exploiting the South Atlantic with the highly efficient “walls of death”.

Standing accused with the government are the refrigeration companies which, sources say, this year alone stored almost 2,000 tons of tunny caught by the Taiwanese fleet.

A tunny industry spokesman, Mr Richard Ball, of Hout Bay, said while the industry would welcome stiff penalties, gill netting in the southern hemisphere still posed the biggest danger to fishing.

Tunny followed migratory paths, so foreign vessels using drift nets could decimate the South African-bound shoals.

Mr Ball said South African fishermen had seen their catches dwindle significantly over the past three years and felt that gill nets were largely responsible.

He said various approaches had been made to the government about these nets.

Considerable benefit

“Our feeling is that unfortunately there are a larger number of local concerns that derive considerable benefit from foreign vessels.”

He pointed out that the tunny was a migratory fish and fishing activities anywhere on their migratory path could have an effect on the South African fishing industry.

He said it was vital that the international community made it as difficult as possible for gill netters to operate anywhere.

This, he said, would require an arrangement between Seychelles, Mauritius and South Africa.

He believed that because Taiwan was a good trading partner and had absorbed a lot of South Africa’s gold, the gold, coal and steel industries were benefitting at the expense of the local fisheries.
Farmers let loose dogs of war!

FARMERS are living in a state of siege as armed gangs rampage through isolated Natal farm areas picking on elderly people as soft targets.

But furious farmers are beginning to hit back - hard. They are adopting a direct-to-kill policy and banding together to put up money for bounty as well as operating "buddy systems" on two-way radio sets.

Vicious guard dogs are also being brought in to help.

And this week, full terror: Atlantis-cum-Higgins became an instant hero in the Richmond district when he helped an elderly couple fight off four armed attackers, despite being shot three times during the battle.

Higgins's owners, Mr Olaf Andenungsard, 74, and his wife, Jean, 56, were awakened on their isolated farm in the Natal Midlands by their dogs barking in the early hours of Tuesday morning. As they lay in bed they saw dark shapes scurry across their bedroom ceiling and realized intruders were already inside their home.

Seven years ago, the Andenungsards were held up on their farm by five armed men, all of whom were subsequently arrested.

This time, they were prepared.

Mr Andenungsard armed himself with a shotgun and his wife grabbed an automatic pistol.

"I screamed Higgins, who we always keep chained as he is too dangerous to run free with the other dogs," said Mrs Andenungsard.

"We crept through the house and by my husband covered the corridor a little way off."

The intruders came back, and the Andenungsards used their two-way radio to send out an SOS. Mrs Andenungsard called: "Shots. Help us, we're being shot at!"

Thebethled couple could hear gunfire on both sides of the house as they waited for help to arrive. Higgins, who was fighting a battle of his own in the back of the house, barked out three shots before he was managed to free himself and flee.

In another room, the intruders tried to make the Andenungsard's and Higgins's body signal the police with a red light. The police saw the light and arrived just in time to save Higgins and his owners.

Arrested

The couple's son, Karl, who is a vet in Johannesburg, had heard about the incident and arrived to help with the investigation.

The police discovered that the intruders had been attempting to break into the Andenungsard's farm and had managed to free themselves and flee.

Gates

The intruders had driven over the tarmac road behind the house and tried to break in with a crowbar. Their car was then set on fire by the police.

Meanwhile, another neighbor, Mr Bruce Blandford, had come along the back route to the farm but had driven off with his lights on.

He stopped to open the gate at the rear entrance to the farm and entered the smoke-filled car.

He approached the car and shouted at the occupants to identify themselves. When they did not do so, he opened fire. The driver died of a shot in the car and two in the car.

But when Mr Blandford approached the car after illumination, he found it had been stolen.

When the police arrived, they found that the intruders had managed to free themselves and flee.

Three teenagers who were arrested in connection with Mrs Blandford's murder after farmers offered a £10,000 reward for information.

Three black men were arrested in Chatsworth on Monday night in connection with the death of Mr Andenungsard.
New fertiliser war rages

FARMERS have scored R42-million this year on fertiliser— and bigger earnings are in the offing. The benefits follow Agriland Fertiliser’s new formula, which forced Big Three Kynoch, Sime Fertiliser and Omnia to cut prices.

Agriland managing director Steve Gray says that by the end of the year farmers are set to earn R82-million because of the price cut.

"We expect the farmers to make R82-million this year," says Mr Gray. "This is because they have been able to buy the new fertiliser formula at a lower price than before."
No reason to deny unused land to blacks — Schwarz

PETER DELMAR

THERE was no reason why unused and unoccupied land could not be used to resettle black farmers in the same way that poor whites were resettled in the 1930s, DP finance spokesman Harry Schwarz said at the weekend.

Addressing a Rotary International conference in Sun City, Schwarz said a settled black agricultural community could be created on unused and unoccupied land through help with agricultural education and the co-operative use of machinery.

He said black political leaders realised political power would not satisfy empty bellies. That was why the ANC and PAC working documents on economics dealt with programmes of land redistribution and nationalisation.

The nationalisation and privatisation debate, he said, was a false and irrelevant one. The real issue was how to uplift, educate and employ people, while closing the wealth, income and skills gaps. "Nationalisation will not solve this. It may place existing wealth under the control of other people, but in itself it will produce no new jobs," Schwarz said.

Merely confronting capitalism and socialism was meaningless, as most people did not really know what these systems implied.

There was also not much point in talking about a mixed economy as it depended on the mixture. What was needed was to look at problems, taking what was good out of the system and producing the right recipe for SA.

The State had a role to play, Schwarz said, but not the dominant role. Private enterprise was essential; but could not be let loose "in a 19th century capitalist jungle without rules". Certain social services had to be provided, but they should not become a socialist crutch which prevented initiative.

Schwarz said that with a successful policy of inward industrialisation, even if those not employed in the formal sector earned as little as R500 a month, the country's growth rate would increase by over 2% per annum.

SA had vast internal markets available if purchasing power was created — as it could be by inward industrialisation. With the application of economies of scale, SA could also become a major exporter.

Concerning social services, Schwarz said there had to be a plan with a timetable linked to the growth rate, to eliminate discrimination in the provision of state services.

Whites would have to realise that until services for blacks caught up with those for whites in real terms, the level of services could not be increased.
The MINISTER OF PLANNING AND PROVINCIAL AFFAIRS:

(1) None. The expropriation of land is not the function of my Department.

(2) No. The rest of the question falls away.

(3) The Department is well aware of the necessity of identifying land north of Durban for development and urbanisation and investigations in this regard are in progress and a meeting will in time be held with the parties concerned.

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) Whether it is the intention of the Government to compile a voters’ roll of all South Africans over the age of 18 years if not, why not, if so?

(2) Whether this is to be done concurrently with the 1991 census, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that it will be done?

The MINISTER OF MINERAL AND ENERGY AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES:

(1) What is the latest planning of his Department in respect of the La Mercy Airport?

(2) Whether he has received any representations regarding the alternative utilisation of the land for this airport, if so, (a) from whom and (b) what was the (i) nature of and (ii) response to the representations?

(3) Whether he will make a statement on the matter?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1) Yes;

(a) Mr J E Popham

(b) (i) no application for authority was received

(ii) unknown;

(2) no.

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT:

(1) The Department of Transport is currently appointing a multi-disciplinary planning team which will investigate the airport system in the Durban area and make proposals regarding the possible upgrading of Louis Botha Airport and/or the bringing into use of an airport at La Mercy.
The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT

The Minister of Agricultural Development proposed the following amendments to theown...
They did not take the trouble to check the facts. What are the facts? Even if I were to have proceeded with that advertisement, at the moment there is a court case pending. I received instructions...

"Mr S P VAN VUUREN: Why so advertise?"

"The MINISTER: The court case took place afterwards."

Even if I wanted to proceed with that advertisement, I would not be able to, because this side of the House respects the law. We shall wait until things have sorted themselves out. That is the one point.

The second point is that hon member himself does not know what the facts are in regard to these farms in his constituency. There are many problems involving the two farms which were proclaimed and were transferred to me by the State’s Department of Land Affairs.

At the present moment—let us examine the facts—the one farm is registered in the name of the Republic of South Africa and the other is still registered in the name of the Magappa tribe. [Interjections.] That is the second fact and also the reason why I cannot go any further, but hon members want me to take the matter further. If I did so, I would be creating expectations that I could not satisfy, just as the CP starts arguments with its promises, its empty promises. In other words, I have facts, and I am dealing with the circumstances on the basis of the realities of the situation as I see them.

If we go further, we see that a splinter group began to settle in the Swartland area under the pretext that they were caring for the cemetery there. Hon members know what the first court judgment was. We opposed it in court, and they appealed, and some time or other the appeal...

"Mr A B B RUWER: Mr Speaker, as the saying goes: ‘Die zep is uit die mou en die kraai is uit die buite’ [literally, ‘the zep is out of the mou and the kraai is out of the buite’]..."

This hon Minister gave certain undertakings—they are recorded in HANSARD in black and white—that there was still quite a substantial portion of land which had to be passed on to Whites and which was in the process of being sold to them. Does the hon the Minister now want to tell us that he did not know about this problem with the land at Koster and only discovered the problem after the land had been advertised? Surely that is ridiculous!

The CP is here to serve the interests of the Whites of this country. [Interjections.] This hon Minister is here to serve the hon the State President who, in turn, is here to serve the interests of the ANC, which ultimately means that they are here to serve the interests of the Xhosas of this country. [Interjections.] They have said that they are not going to negotiate any further, unless an end is made to the sale of land to Whites. [Interjections.]

I now want to speak to the hon the Minister very seriously indeed. His hon colleague in agriculture has already been rejected by the farmers, but the farmers still have a modicum of confidence in this hon Minister who must supposedly serve their own affairs interests in agriculture. Now, however, this hon Minister is leaving these farmers in the lurch like this. I really want to appeal to the hon the Minister. If he does not want to suffer the same fate as his hon colleague in agriculture, he will have to stand up for the interests of the White farmers of this country, because his is a so-called White own affairs portfolio. He is not permitted to serve the interests of any group in this country other than the White farmers.

"Mr S P VAN VUUREN: Mr Speaker, I know about pet crows, and I can tell hon members that a crow is a very intelligent bird, but I cannot imagine... [Interjections.]

"Mr SPEAKER: Order!

"Mr S P VAN VUUREN:... how the hon the Minister..."

"Mr SPEAKER: Order!

"Mr S P VAN VUUREN:... got his first name.

"Mr SPEAKER: Order! Can the hon member not hear the Speaker?

"Mr S P VAN VUUREN: No... [Interjections.]

"Mr SPEAKER: Order! With all due respect, I am being quite serious. The other day I had to deal with an hon member who had a hearing problem, and I take that into consideration. I am quite serious about that. If the hon member has a hearing problem, he should just tell me and I will hear it in mind, but if he does not, I am asking him for his co-operation.

"Mr S P VAN VUUREN: Mr Speaker, I do not have a hearing problem, but the Nats over there are making such a noise..."

"Mr SPEAKER: Order! Let me then tell the hon member that when the Chair addresses him, he must pay attention.

"Mr J W MARIE: Mr Speaker, on a point of order: The Chair has given a ruling that hon members may not be referred to by their nicknames, Christian names and...

"Mr SPEAKER: Order! The hon member was not in the process of referring to a specific hon member. I was listening to him. The hon member for Ventersdorp may proceed.

"Mr S P VAN VUUREN: The fact of the matter is that the hon the Minister is not really in touch with what is going on in his own department and has very little idea of what is happening there. He spoke about problems on the farm Swartland, but it is not one of the farms advertised! [Interjections.] That just goes to show that he does not know what is going on!

The fact of the matter is that since 1983, during the referendum, the Government has been hoodwinking people in an effort to convince them to cast a yes vote, because there would supposedly be own affairs. The guarantees given by the Government have fallen like leaves from a tree.

I want to put it to the hon the Minister that this guarantee of his about minority rights being protected will fall from the trees like those promises the Government made. Instead of looking after the interests of the farmers—after all, he is the own affairs Minister—he has the interests of the ANC at heart. [Time expired.]

The MINISTER OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT: Mr Speaker, again people are... [Interjections]... rummaging around in a heap of incorrect facts trying to put matters right by emotive attacks. [Interjections.]

The fact remains that we have land that has been advertised, which went through a process with which we cannot proceed. Must I go on creating expectations, as the CP does? [Interjections.]

My actual point in being in mind the history underlying the Black land transferred to my department, what is involved is not simply a process of taking the land and alienating it. [Interjections.] A lengthy process has to be undertaken and we were engaged in that process. [Interjections.] The only relevant land being dealt with by my department comprises approximately 13 000 ha. 6 000 ha of which comprise the Mathope and the other the Magappa land. There are problems involving this land. Even if we were to proceed with this advertising campaign, as the hon member for Lydenburg wants us to do, even if I were to go ahead and advertise this land as land which has been earmarked for White farmers, if the courts were to rule against me, as has already happened, what would I have achieved? I would have achieved the very opposite of what I had wanted to achieve. [Interjections.]

Circumstances in South Africa have changed, and it is time for the CP to take note of the fact that we are dealing with a new South Africa and that the old South Africa lies buried under our feet, that the old South Africa is a thing of the past. [Interjections.] It is not use trying to ignore this palpable truth by making interjections. [Interjections.] Hon members must become actively involved and try to solve the problem so that White farmers... [Interjections.]

"Mr SPEAKER: Order! It has apparently become a habit or a custom for hon members to try to shout one another down during interpellations. I am not prepared to tolerate this. An interpellation is a debate like any other debate, and an hon Minister must be given a fair chance to reply. I am therefore asking hon members to abide by these rules. The hon the Minister may continue.

"The MINISTER: I am therefore proceeding with the altercation with the alteration of the Black land which the Blacks have no claim to and which has not been earmarked for consolidation. There is one piece of land in regard to which activities have virtually been finalised and which we shall be proceeding with because the work was done in the previous two years and the allocations have already been made. I am referring to a distribution of land between my department and the Department of Justice. [Time expired.]

Debate concluded.
OMNIA AT THE CROSSROADS
By IAN SMITH

THE Swiss-based founding chairman of the Omnia fertiliser group has flown to SA to preside over a vital board meeting this week.
Dr “Joe” Winkler will hear arguments as to whether the group should diversify or continue to grow in its chosen fields.
“I have an open mind, and will be listening carefully to my fellow directors,” he said.
Omnia, the smallest of the “big three” in South Africa’s R13-billion-a-year fertiliser industry, has done remarkably well, despite the recent drought, floods and a vicious fertiliser price war.

Stable

The year to December 31 saw record sales and profits. Turnover jumped 39% to R383.2-million, net income rose 48% to R83.2-million and earnings 55% to 66.6c a share.

Omnia is confident it can maintain its 25% share of the local fertiliser market. About 16% of production was exported “very profitably”, said group managing director Neville Crosse.

There is also hope that agriculture has moved into a more stable era, improving prospects in the longer term. But the group’s tentative moves to diversify, all prompted by markets or raw materials, have proved a useful hedge against the vagaries of farming.

Omnia has about R42-million in retained earnings, and decisions will be made soon on the direction in which the group will move.

Omnia moved successfully into explosives through Bulk Mining Explosives because its facilities are common to both fertiliser and explosives production.

Its takeover of the SA arm of US-based Cargill and Citgo/Geigy’s seed operation in 1985 led to the formation of Carnia Seed.

“This takes us into the high-tech area of agriculture in the development and marketing of improved varieties of seed for a number of crops,” said Dr Winkler.

A small trading operation acquired in the Cargill deal was transformed into Omica Trading, which became the biggest grain trader in SA last year.

Omnia Farming Enterprises was set up to gain first-hand knowledge of farmers’ problems and to demonstrate the effectiveness of fertilisation.

“We are very happy with our diversification, but we are not certain that we want to go further in this direction,” said Dr Winkler.

Clerks

He believes that Omnia’s profitability compares well with its giant competitors — Kynoch and Sasol.

Not bad for a company registered in 1953 by Dr Winkler and his partner Willem Marais, who met when they were clerks working for Anton Rupert’s fledgling Rembrandt group.

The initial capital was 2125. Market capitalisation today is nearly R133-million.

The share is standing at 330c, close to its 360c high. But Mr Crosse reckons that it is still underrated.

POISED FOR GROWTH . . . Omnia’s founder Dr Joe Winkler (standing) and group MD Neville Crosse
— Injured right toe and leg on hospital premises;
— alleged negligence in the repair of a subtrochanteric fracture;
— corrupted drain left during operation;
— patient underwent an unrequested tubal ligation during a gynaecological procedure;
— allegation that negligent treatment resulted in amputation of finger;
— allegation of negligent treatment of orthopaedic injuries;
— alleged negligence in intubation resulting in neck/oesophageal injury;
— patient pregnant after second sterilisation;
— operation conducted on left knee instead of right knee;
— infant died as a result of lack of oxygen during transfer from one hospital to another;
— alleged negligence as a result of possible mishandling of blood for transfusion;
— alleged negligence after patient was admitted for pathology of the pancreas;
— alleged unnecessary operation during childbirth;
— during an operation to his foot, patient suffered burns necessitating amputation of a toe as a result of a faulty theatre light;
— depressed patient jumped from a hospital window resulting in paralysis. Claim for alleged negligence;
— second degree burns caused by a warming pad used on the patient;
— premature discharge after a motor accident resulting in paralysis;
— tissue damage as a result of faulty placement of intravenous needle;
— alleged negligence as a result of Cesarean section. Wound failed to heal satisfactorily;
— incorrect removal of a salivary gland instead of a lymph gland;
— patient died due to internal haemorrhage.

(2) (a) Minister of National Health and Population Development,
(i) and (ii) no amount was paid over,
(b) Administrators,
Cape Provincial Administration,
(i) no,
(ii) Yes, 5 cases —
R2 500.00,
R2 500.00,
R4 000.00,
R2 000.00,
and R185 000.00.

OFS Provincial Administration,
(i) no,
(ii) yes, 1 case — R450.00,

Transvaal Provincial Administration,
(i) yes, 1 case — R69 181.85,
(ii) yes, 4 cases —
R5 000.00,
R1 523 241.00,
R6 000.00,
and R69 000.00.

Natal Provincial Administration,
(i) no,
(ii) yes, 3 cases —
R10 000.00,
R4 500.00,
and R2 500.00.

Spare capacity for additional pupils
482. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Education:
Whether there is any spare capacity for additional pupils in any of the (a) farm, (b) other primary and (c) secondary schools falling under his Department; if so, how much in each of these categories in respect of each departmental region?

(a) The areas which are defined in Schedule 1 to the Development Trust and Land Act, 1936 (Act 18 of 1936) as Areas No 14 and 16 (Natal).
(b) Approximately 1,500 hectares of Area No 14 forms part of KwaZulu, namely the farms Greenhill 8438, NE 2 — 14352, Buckland 7508, Buckland 5615, GR 19, Kilkenny and West Lynne No 2. The handing over of the rest of the area is subject to consultation with the inhabitants of the area and the Government of KwaZulu.
(c) Unknown.
(d) The matter has been referred to the Commission for Co-operation and Development for further consideration.

Walmer Township: secondary education
516. Lt-Gen R H D ROGERS asked the Minister of Education:

(a) How many children requiring secondary schooling are there in Walmer Township, Port Elizabeth, and (b) how many pupils are there in Standards 4 and 5 in the primary school in this township?
(b) Whether there are any plans to build a secondary school in this township; if so, when; if not; why not?
(c) Whether there are any alternatives for children requiring secondary education in Walmer Township; if so, (a) what are these alternatives and (b) what is the estimated cost per pupil in each case?
(d) In respect of what date is this information furnished?

Whether, with reference to certain information that has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, it is the intention to hand over to KwaZulu any of the area collectively known as the Stoffelen—Stepmore freehold complex; if so, (a) which areas comprise the complex, (b) which areas are to be handed over, (c) how many persons are affected and (d) what progress has been made in this regard?

The Minister of Development Aid:

Yes, depending on the views of the inhabitants of the area.

Stoffelen/Stepmore freehold complex
491. Mr W U NEL asked the Minister of Development Aid: Whether there are any unused classrooms in any of the (a) farm, (b) other primary and (c) secondary schools falling under his Department; if so, how many in each of these categories in respect of each departmental region?

The Minister of Development Aid:

Estimated number of unused classrooms in:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1955</th>
<th>1956</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>J G Strijdom</td>
<td>886 43 126 188 707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ana Letsky Nursing College</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johannesburg</td>
<td>1 914 288 697 683 2 211</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B G Alexander Nursing College</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Johannesburg Laundry</td>
<td>124 8 16 30 95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kalafong</td>
<td>1 442 102 293 243 707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon Nursing College</td>
<td>45 1 10 15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mamelodi</td>
<td>128 8 16 30 95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kele de Haas</td>
<td>431 8 27 49 257</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kempton Park</td>
<td>288 7 49 55 329</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clerksdorp/Thepong</td>
<td>1 207 34 119 148 795</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ishegong Nursing College</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Transvaal Nursing College</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Transvaal Laundry</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cook Freeze Factory and P W du Plessis Laundry</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawdium</td>
<td>51 2 24 13 99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenasia Hospital</td>
<td>106 2 16 9 120</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lenasia Clinic</td>
<td>35 2 1 4 93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis Trichardt</td>
<td>28 1 4 4 35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lydenburg</td>
<td>80 2 10 12 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medunza Dental Hospital</td>
<td>10 27 152 60 118*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middelburg</td>
<td>311 4 30 43 290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalpruit</td>
<td>1 698 49 129 169 563</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natalpruit Nursing College</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nic Bodenstein</td>
<td>112 2 10 16 111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nigel</td>
<td>84 4 10 15 70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Transvaal Region</td>
<td>405</td>
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<tr>
<td>Northern Transvaal Region: Oral Health Services</td>
<td>2 5 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discoverers Memorial</td>
<td>126 4 43 24 133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health: Eastern Transvaal Region</td>
<td>380</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastern Transvaal Region: Oral Health Services</td>
<td>3 9 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paardekraal/Leratong</td>
<td>1 688 36 136 156 773</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leratong Nursing College</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Kruger Memorial</td>
<td>396 10 59 53 260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phalaborwa</td>
<td>52 3 8 13 58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pietersburg</td>
<td>736 20 59 100 569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Piet Retief</td>
<td>173 2 6 19 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pretoria West</td>
<td>311 10 21 48 276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richtonie</td>
<td>169 3 22 16 50*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rob Ferreira</td>
<td>382 12 36 39 243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sibie</td>
<td>72 2 6 9 64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sannichof</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schweizer-Reneke</td>
<td>53 1 9 8 52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Health: Central Transvaal Region</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Transvaal Region: Oral Health Services</td>
<td>23 43 73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Soweto Community Health**

- Centre: 12 12 29 223 765
- Kos Beukes Clinic: 102
- Chawelo Clinic: 136
- Diepkloof Clinic: 112
- Jabuva Clinic: 49
- Meadowlands Clinic: 75
- Meadowlands West Clinic: 10
- Orlando Clinic: 49
- Phomolong Clinic: 54
- Punville Clinic: 40
- Senoane Clinic: 33
- Dadi Clinic: 30
- Zola Clinic: 30
- Dobsonville Clinic: 10

**1957**

- Standerton: 152 3 16 22 123
- Sterkfontein: 406
- Suid-Rand: 198 17 47 39 260
- Sybrand van Niekerk: 166 3 12 27 201
- Tembisa: 850 28 108 182 596
- TPA Central Hospital Stores: 29 3 7 8 39
- Van Velden Memorial: 18 6 3 45
- Waterkloof: 1 162 31 132 169 784
- Verennings/Sebokeng: 724 23 72 108 420
- Far East Rand: 47 1 13 8 56
- Voortrekker Memorial: 60 2 9 77
- Warmbad: 1 13 4 3 26
- Waterkloof Boven: 577 16 23 36 112
- Westport: 198 3 6 12 30

**1958**

- Western Transvaal Region: Community Health: 276 7 25 42
- Western Transvaal Region: Oral Health Services: 1 7 6
- Willem Cruywagen: 226 6 39 36 266
- Witbank: 364 7 40 45 222
- Witbank Care and Rehabilitation: 495 4 9 27 66
- Zeerust: 78 1 5 12 72

**TOTAL**

- 33 921 1 882 5 134 5 831 26 122

* Quota General Assistants in total in respect of hospitals marked* = 1990

(2) no

(3) falls away.

**SAAT: farm properties in OFS**

486. Adv CH Pienaar asked the Minister of Development Aid: [for what period, and (c) at what rental, in each case?]

(2) whether any of these farm properties are being leased out; if so, (a) to whom, (b) Yes.

The MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AID:

(1) Yes.

(2) Yes.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>(a) Lessor</th>
<th>(b) Period</th>
<th>(c) Rental</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Harrismit 1. Portion known as Brakvlei 154 of Honinghof 1026, Portion known as Gesknek 1547 and Klerksvlei 387</td>
<td>J S S Ballot</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 30-6-90</td>
<td>R 6 000 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Remainder of Honinghof 1026 and Remainder of Stillefontein 766 of Klerksvlei 387</td>
<td>J S S Ballot</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 30-6-90</td>
<td>R 9 150 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Altcar 622, Stockbridge 619, Oldenburg 384</td>
<td>J S S Ballot</td>
<td>Negotiations regarding expropriation not yet finalised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Cummor 5. Remaing Portion of Steenkoppie 389</td>
<td>Dr H J Wessels</td>
<td>1-3-90 to 28-2-92</td>
<td>R 2 600 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Remainder of Portion of Subdivision 2 of Grootpan 1830</td>
<td>J E Odendaal</td>
<td>1-7-88 to 30-6-91</td>
<td>R 2 700 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Remainder of Gedachtens 999</td>
<td>P Retief</td>
<td>14-2-90 to 13-2-91</td>
<td>R 2 550 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Portion 1 of Kleinvei Subdivision 1 of Stryffontein 258, Portion of Rietvlei 765 of Initium 718, Good Luck 1624, of Initium 718</td>
<td>P J C M Hattingh</td>
<td>1-1-90 to 31-12-92</td>
<td>R 5 400 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Vaarwel 649</td>
<td>H J Liddell</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 30-6-90</td>
<td>R 14 442 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Bestervalley 192</td>
<td>Keyter Boordery</td>
<td>1-1-90 to 31-12-90</td>
<td>R 4 950 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Initium 718</td>
<td>O J and M S Buthelezi</td>
<td>1-2-90 to 30-6-90</td>
<td>R 5 279 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Remaing of Portion of Subdivision 1 of Liziel 1042, Artidly 1876</td>
<td>G van Zyl</td>
<td>1-4-89 to 30-6-90</td>
<td>R 5 250 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Welvaart 1043, Polda 1040, Remaing of Toekomst 1041</td>
<td>W Zietsman</td>
<td>1-1-90 to 31-12-92</td>
<td>R 34 500 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Subdivision 3 (of 1) of Grootpan 1830</td>
<td>P W Michau</td>
<td>1-1-88 to 31-12-90</td>
<td>R 45 800 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Remaing Portion of Gilbert Farm 552</td>
<td>C L Retief</td>
<td>1-9-89 to 31-8-91</td>
<td>R 900 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Moosheer 674, Remaing and Subdivision 1 of Sebastopol 108, Platkop 1411, Sefcerno 299, Martinique 1379, Subdivision 1 of Rietvlei 703, Brakfontein 28, Jacobsvlei 121</td>
<td>G F H Greyling</td>
<td>1-1-90 to 31-12-92</td>
<td>R 11 250 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Witkraai 630, Bergisels 1468 of Initium 718, Portion 1 of Onveerde 1466</td>
<td>F P S de Jager</td>
<td>1-10-89 to 30-10-90</td>
<td>R 30 700 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Portion Kroonberg 1531 of Comelia 710, Remaing of Alma 1511 of Klerksvlei 387, Acoo 1051</td>
<td>F P S de Jager</td>
<td>1-10-89 to 30-9-90</td>
<td>R 22 750 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>E Botha</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 30-6-90</td>
<td>R 23 900 pa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property</th>
<th>(a) Lessor</th>
<th>(b) Period</th>
<th>(c) Rental</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>19. Portion of Subdivision 4 Malimia 621 (19 ha)</td>
<td>R Motsoneng</td>
<td>1-9-89 to 31-8-90</td>
<td>R 350 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Portion of Subdivision 4 Malimia 621 (37 ha)</td>
<td>E Botha</td>
<td>1-7-88 to 30-6-90</td>
<td>R 1,400 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Remaining Portion of Comelia 710 and Remaining Portion of Onveere 1466</td>
<td>J C H du Toit</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 31-8-90</td>
<td>R 18 300 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Three Fountains No 269, Greenlands 1245</td>
<td>C J Meerder</td>
<td>1-2-90 to 31-1-91</td>
<td>R 5 100 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Remainder of Klerkspruit 387</td>
<td>Col R F Crowther</td>
<td>Negotiations regarding expropriation not yet finalised</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Remainder of Elandsriverdrift 189, Subdivision 1 (Diepvlei) of Vaalkop 1712, Diepvlei 1644 of Nierspruit 194</td>
<td>F J de Jager</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 31-8-90</td>
<td>R 25 600 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Subdivision 1 of Elandsriverdrift 189</td>
<td>F J de Jager</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 31-8-90</td>
<td>R 9 050 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Subdivision 2 of Nierspruit 194</td>
<td>L R Lehapi</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 31-8-90</td>
<td>R 5 400 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Subdivision 1 of Nierspruit 194 (368, 6077 ha)</td>
<td>J de Jager</td>
<td>1-11-89 to 31-8-90</td>
<td>R 3 900 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28. Remainder of Marydale 108</td>
<td>Mount Paul Boordery</td>
<td>1-11-89 to 31-10-90</td>
<td>R 9 500 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29. Subdivision of Nierspruit 194 (224 ha)</td>
<td>J Mphuti</td>
<td>1-7-89 to 31-8-90</td>
<td>R 5 900 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30. Geduld 489, Tweeckopjes 442, Nieuwerf 371</td>
<td>A J Jordaan</td>
<td>1-5-89 to 30-4-90</td>
<td>R 8 600 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31. Subdivision 2 of Maanhaar 854</td>
<td>Agriqua</td>
<td>1-10-89 continuously</td>
<td>R 2 600 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32. Wynstok 855</td>
<td>Agriqua</td>
<td>1-10-89 continuously</td>
<td>R 6 000 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33. Subdivision 1 and Subdivision 2 of Elandsriverdrift 189</td>
<td>Agriqua</td>
<td>1-10-89 continuously</td>
<td>R 3 300 pa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34. Remainder and Subdivision of Nierspruit 194 (478 ha)</td>
<td>Agriqua</td>
<td>1-10-89 continuously</td>
<td>R 4 650 pa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Bethlehem**

1. Remainder of Groenndraai 737, Portion of Tumasiehoek 1345 of Welgedacht 189, Portion Bo-die-Wolke 1344 of Welgedacht 189 | J H Naudé | 1-7-89 to 30-6-90 | R 8 200 pa |
2. Portion 1 of Groenndraai 117 and Portion 1 of Groenndraai 737 | J H Naudé | 1-7-89 to 30-6-90 | R 5 300 pa |
3. Subdivision 1 of De Kamp 1294, Lizbon 1423, Afrikanerhoek 1357 of Subdivision Voorspoed 772 of Groenndraai 117, Remainder of Vlakvlei 290 | J C M Naudé | 1-7-89 to 30-6-90 | R 32 800 pa |
Nurses: applications not accepted

495. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

Whether any applications to train as nurses at institutions for the training of (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Indian and (d) Black nurses were not accepted in 1989, if so, (i) how many, and (ii) why, in each case?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(a), (b), (c) and (d) Yes.

(i) During 1989, 45 172 persons applied at institutions for training as nurses of which 2 598 reported for training.

(NB Records are not kept according to population groups.)

The number of applications received does not reflect the actual situation as often one person applies to more than one training school. There is no way to verify these numbers.

(ii) Definite guidelines are applied when selecting the candidates. The number of candidates accepted also depends on the availability of funds for posts, clinical facilities, accommodation and other infrastructural restraints.

Many candidates were not suitable for nurse training because of inadequate educational qualifications. During the past two years, the colleges of nursing and universities experienced that selected candidates do not report for training. In some instances 25% of selected candidates did not report for training.

As records are not kept according to population groups, the information cannot be given in the format requested.

Typhoid

497. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development:

How many (a) cases of and (b) deaths as a result of typhoid were reported in respect of each race group in each province in 1989?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT:

(a) Notified cases of typhoid fever in the Republic of South Africa by population group, 1989 (as on 25 May 1990):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Population Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Indian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cape</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natal</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange Free State</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transvaal</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(b) Notified deaths as a result of typhoid fever in the Republic of South Africa by population group, 1989 (as on 25 May 1990):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Orange Free State</td>
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<td>Transvaal</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Notifications received by the Department of National Health and Population Development.
Land reform on the cards

By MATHATHA TSEDU

There was no way in which a black government could survive in a post-apartheid South Africa without having redistributed the wealth, a Soweto businessman said at the weekend.

Addressing the 21st annual meeting of the Lebowa Chamber of Commerce (Lebococ) at a Potleletjeng hotel, Mr George Nqoba said financial institutions such as banks and strategic industries would have to be state-controlled to safeguard the interests of the people.

Programme

Speaking at the same conference, the deputy head of the economics department of the ANC, Mr Tito Mboweni, said the organisation was considering a proposal for a Land Claims Commission (LCC) which would work towards a land redistribution programme.

Mboweni, who arrived in the country from Zambia on Friday on a temporary indemnity, said the ANC was primarily an organisation for the liberation of black people and could not, therefore, be expected to ignore their land hunger.

ANC’s thinking about setting up a body to deal with agricultural claims

He said the LCC would work out a land reform programme that would result in:

* The abolition of racial restrictions on land ownership and usage.
* Implementation of an affirmative action programme which would take into account the status of victims of forced removals, and
* take full cognisance of the need for food production in the economy.

The ANC, he said, wanted a mixed economy where private capital and state ownership would survive side by side.

The present trend in government policy of privatising the state sectors of the economy was unacceptable to the ANC and should be stopped and reversed, he said.

He said while blacks formed about 80 percent of the population, 86 percent of the assets listed in the Johannesburg Stock Exchange were owned by six white conglomerates. Black business owned a mere one percent of productive assets throughout the country. This imbalance was unacceptable.
Mier's battle for land rights

By ANDREA WEISS
Staff Reporter

Mier is an unhappy potential battle ground — nestled as it is amid the red
shores of the Katutura on a tongue of land between Ya
mba and Botswana.

It represents an understanding the passing of a Bill
already through the second reading — which will allow the red
characters of the communal land to be taken by
individual farmers with the right to buy private land.

In a move to support the Bill, the Freedom Charter was
introduced by Nelson Mandela, who promised:

The Bill has been supported by the African National
Congress, which has agreed to the Treaty of
1959, which is a guarantee of the rights of the
black people.

"Extremely unhappy"

The Bill has caused a
deep rift in the community, as
the Church of Christ in the
area who explained:

"The people who support the
Bill are the people who have
never been consulted and those
who say they are in power.

Spokesman for those
opposed to the Bill is Mr.
Johannes De Klerk, chairman of
the Righteous Association (formerly the Bavskoolker-
ssenists), who summarised the situation:

"We are very unhappy about this law because
we are not consulted and we do not agree.

Our people will not be able to live. Only
promises on paper will not be enough.

The weaker man will be com-
pletely annihilated."
Not only would it remove grazing rights from the majority but it would also lay down a law against any claim which does not have approved plans and which is not in the interests of the community. A game farm, having the same potential as the Kraal, would be a far more effective use of the land. There is a game farm in the Kraal which is run by Mr. and Mrs. Steenkamp. They have been running it for the past 10 years and have done a lot of work to improve it. The Kraal has a lot of potential for game farming and it would be a shame to lose it.

The Kraal is also facing another problem: the lack of water. The Kraal depends on rainwater but this year has been very dry. The Kraal is also facing a problem with the Kraal River. The Kraal River is drying up and the Kraal is losing water. The Kraal is also facing a problem with the Kraal River. The Kraal River is drying up and the Kraal is losing water.

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State faces land distribution poser

By GRAHAM LIZAMORE
Staff Reporter

THE inequality in the distribution of land had to be addressed as a matter of urgency to help stem the flood of people to the urban areas.

Dr Philip Frankel of the Centre for Policy Studies at the University of the Witwatersrand said the government would have to give serious consideration about making under-utilised rural land available as well as making funds available to help blacks buy land in the rural areas once the Land Acts of 1913 and 1936 are repealed.

South Africa was a land of gross inequalities particularly in so far as land, education and wealth distribution was concerned, he said.

"Because of the inequalities of land ownership in the rural areas the migration has been to the cities where unemployment, inadequate infrastructure and poverty are now becoming rampant," he pointed out.

He said it was not enough to remove barriers to the purchase of land in the rural areas.

Recently the government had been selling land in the Transvaal that had previously been confiscated in terms of the Land Act from black people.

However, in terms of the Land Act black people were not allowed to buy back land which they had owned.

Dr Frankel said State intervention would become a matter of necessity to address the inequalities that occurred as a result of apartheid.

Echoing his views, Mr Gerrie Bezuidenhout of the South African Chamber of Business in Johannesburg said he believed land and housing were major problems that would have to be looked at during negotiations between the government and black leaders.

"There is not enough land to develop black housing," he said.

Mr Bezuidenhout said although South Africa was facing major problems, people were beginning to recognise these problems.

Big debate

He said the big debate would not be about objectives but on the means that would be used to achieve these ends.

"We have to find ways of getting the country going again," he said.

Referring to the homelands he said it was difficult to say whether they would be allowed to remain in the "new South Africa" but it was important that uniform labour legislation be implemented in all areas of southern Africa.
Land for all in SA the aim, chamber told

THE ANC's economic programme had to seriously address the land question, delegates at the 20th conference of the Southern Transvaal African Chamber of Commerce and Industries, were told in Johannesburg yesterday.

A member of the ANC's department of economic planning, Mr Tito Mboweni, said their proposals were for reform which would include the redistribution of land to all South Africans.

Referring to agricultural production, Mboweni suggested there should be a combination of different productive forms. For example, there should be small-scale family units, co-operatives, individual farms of different sizes, state farms and joint ventures between the state and private enterprise.

He said the current situation in which productive economic activity was dominated by few conglomerates was unacceptable.
minded farmer would find it hard to answer
with an unequivocal "No." They point out
that this referendum allows no room to sug-
gest options or adjustments. CP supporters
are believed to dominate the union and there
is, therefore, concern that the party will use
the simplistic referendum to argue against
any land reform at all.

Union president Dries Bruwer, also CP
MP for Lydenburg, dismisses the criticism.
He says the 80-member board of the union,
of which he is chairman, took a unanimous
decision that "we are not in favour of people
of other races being able to buy property in
white farming areas in the Transvaal." But
the 10-member executive committee (which
Bruwer also chairs) decided to go to the
members for a final decision. Bruwer says
voting is open to all 22,000 farmers in the
Transvaal.

There will be an estimated 250 polling
booths at co-ops and farmers' associations;
proxy votes and postal votes will not be
allowed, mainly because of the expense, says
Bruwer.

This will make voting difficult for
absentee landlords, part-time farmers and
institutions which make up a significant
number of farm owners in the province.

Bruwer denies that CP thinking dominates
agriculture in the Transvaal — and says he
could counter with allegations that organised
farming in the western Cape is Nat-con-
trolled. "This is not politics," he says. "It's
an important and sensitive issue of concern
to the farmers — and remember that I was
voted into parliament by farmers."

Union executive manager Johan Hartman
says the idea of the referendum came after
President FW de Klerk's request for the
views of organised agriculture on the ques-
tion of farmland ownership, before placing it
on the negotiating table.

"The request was handed down to us by
the SA Agricultural Union. I don't know
how the other provinces and bodies intend
dealing with the matter. We felt every farm-
er in the Transvaal should be given a chance
to respond," Hartman says.

Some farming bodies are already distanc-
ing themselves from the referendum. Pretor-
ia District Agricultural Union chairman Jo-
han Krüger says the wording of the question
makes the whole exercise futile. "If the union
was sincere in its efforts to determine white
farmers' attitudes to land ownership by non-
whites, its purpose would be better served by
a scientific attitude survey that would test
farmers' views on various aspects of land
ownership."

Krüger also feels a number of statements
made in a Transvaal Agricultural Union
circular, advising members on the referen-
dum, are highly questionable. "They are
trying to win over farmers to their point of
view by saying things like the value of agri-
cultural land will decline with changes in
land ownership, and that there would be an
increase in squatting."

Krüger is also unhappy with the voting
procedure, which he says could be abused
and possibly allow landowners to vote more
than once.

Shawn Harris