SERVICES SECTOR — OTHER


295
9.4 Priorities for Mental Health

Robbertze states 'The obvious way to proceed but this acknowledgment and acceptance of mental health, as much as the psychological component in the social and cultural context, is assisting in restorative practices.'

Buchan (*16) describes the problem of managing patients as outpatient visits. The aim has been to develop a system where patients can be managed as outpatients, to contact patients earlier, and to prevent doctors from certifying patients before a diagnosis is reached. All these require the existence of psychiatric clinics in general hospitals which, with the help of a psychiatric nurse, can manage outpatients and refer cases presenting at general hospitals.

Buchan describes the considerable problems facing diagnosis in a different cultural setting from that of the practitioner. 'Abnormally aggressive' or 'seriously irresponsible' are characteristics which require interpretation within each cultural context. In order to decide on admission or outpatient treatment, an accurate diagnosis is clearly essential. He felt that reasonable criteria for deciding on outpatient treatment could be evolved; that patients with thought disorder should be admitted, if necessary, to a general hospital; depressives could be treated on an outpatient basis. In discussion, Buchan agreed with Bührmann that hallucination does not have the same ominous significance among Africans as it would in White patients. Bührmann noted that patients undergoing hallucination, auditory and visual, who are wakened by nightmares and feel that they are being chased by wild animals might be recognizable as falling in the swazi group (those being called to assume the role of a diviner) and could be cured by taking action considered appropriate to this stage.

Robbertze also recognizes the role of indigenous healers and leaders of separatist churches in mental health care, emphasizing that it is wrong to adopt Western models as the solution for Southern Africa's very different problems. He regards the specialist-oriented multi-professional team approach as impractical in this context, impossible in terms of staff resources and powerless in the judgment of the indigenous populations, when compared to the work of the traditional practitioner and the separatist priest.

Schweitzer adds that an African mental health system should draw its orientation from indigenous customs and values without rejecting the advantages of western psychiatry. Such a development would be aided by the inclusion of pertinent anthropological and cultural studies into the medical and psychological curriculum (also recommended by Watts, *8); and by systematic approaches to dialogue with indigenous healers, research to improve understanding of their methods and efficacy of their treatment, and concern within the existing system over the patients' own explanations of their sickness.

10. THE COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDICAL CARE AND THE PRICE OF DRUGS

10.1 The Cost Effectiveness of Medical Treatment

The papers of Meiring (*19) and Sundgren (*24) dealt with this question. Meiring spoke of a developing conflict between medical practitioners on the one hand and 'society' (represented ostensibly by politicians, bureaucrats and economists) on the other. The conflict was aggravated by high medical costs, rising more rapidly than the consumer price index. He argues that confrontation between the medical profession and the public would be harmful to both. He therefore argues for more effective communication and co-operation between the profession and those empowered to act on behalf of the public. Co-operation should be based on the general acceptance of a cost-benefit approach to medical treatment. Doctors, administrators, and the public should be made more aware of costs and benefits of alternative treatments. Medical training and the mass media should be involved in this process.
areas, and Soweto," says Keith Beavon, Professor of Human Geography at Wits.

The plight of the city's hawkers and, more recently, flower sellers (also subject to hawking regulations) have long been a focus for Beavon, who has spent two-and-a-half years researching informal sector activity in the city.

Says Beavon: "It is desirable that standards are high, but also highly unrealistic. City Council obviously finds itself in a quandary situation — there has to be some sort of control over downtown trade, so operators in the informal sector can reasonably be expected to adhere to some sort of control; but one cannot expect the same requirements to be met by both the formal and informal sectors, or for the required standards to be the same."

Life is difficult enough for flower sellers who operate under hawkers' licences and are therefore obliged by law to move 25 metres every 20 minutes. But it is even harder for those who wish to obtain permanent stands. There are 23 in the city, and only 13 are covered. Since the beginning of this year, Johannesburg City Council has been allocating stands on a direct cash-in-hand tender basis, in an attempt to deal with the demand. However, predictably there has been increasing dissatisfaction with this system by flower sellers, some of whom are paying in the region of R3,000 to obtain a stand, the money tendered widely regarded simply as a "bribery" practice from which no other businessman in the formal sector suffers.

Harold Rudolph, PKP councillor, says: "The 2 m by 2.5 m stands are costing the flower sellers more per m² than the most prestigious offices in the CBD."

"There is an urgent need for a relaxation of the minimum requirements for trading in the CBD, its immediate surrounding..."
Hawkers fined repeatedly under by-laws

By SEAN O'CONNOR
City Editor

TWO elderly vegetable hawkers who have plied their trade in Johannesburg's West Street for more than a decade said yesterday they had been fined a total of R180 in two days this week for contravening municipal by-laws.

And they said that at the beginning of last month they were detained overnight by police; and after a court appearance had each to pay R20 admission-of-guilt fines for breaking a municipal by-law.

Mrs Johanna "Mamma" Modiba and Mr Isaac Kubeka, of Soweto, said they were also fined on several other occasions last month by municipal inspectors.

This has been confirmed by Mr Len Apatel, director of a welfare organisation which has premises in West Street.

"A Johannesburg city councillor, Mrs Janet Levine, said this week: 'The informal sector of the economy, one aspect of which is hawker trade, is a vital and necessary part of our economic development. The fines imposed on the couple amount to a batalistic victimisation.'"

Bill, Johannesburg's deputy traffic chief (operations), Mr Theo Olivier, said yesterday that the did not believe his department — which has a squad of hawkers inspectors — was guilty of victimisation.

"We have to enforce the law," said Mr Olivier, adding that about a year ago a delegation of hawkers, with their lawyer, visited the traffic chief and were warned that if they acted illegally steps would have to be taken against them.

Mrs Modiba and Mr Kubeka said yesterday that they had been fined in the past month for not moving their selling point every 20 minutes, and not selling their goods from a vehicle.

Mr Olivier confirmed that hawkers were compelled by
laws to move their goods every 20 minutes, and that they were to be confined to a vehicle and could not be displayed from a pavement.

Mrs Levine said it was "this type of harsh implementation of ludicrous regulations" that aggravated racial tensions in Johannesburg.

"Johannesburg's chief licence officer, Mr Cornelius Coenraad, said yesterday that hawker by-laws were being examined with a view to amending them.

"They are old, and certain things will probably be taken out and some sections streamlined," he said.

Mrs Modiba, speaking through an interpreter, said that after she paid an admission-of-guilt fine early last month she received three more, two for R20, and one for R30.

Mr Kubeka was also interviewed through an interpreter and said he paid R180 last week for fines imposed during April.

On Tuesday, Mrs Modiba said she was ticketed twice by municipal inspectors — the fines, R25 each. The first ticket was issued on the grounds that she had not moved her Selling point every 20 minutes, the second ticket because she had not been selling her goods from a vehicle.

And on Wednesday she received two more R25 tickets for the same offences.

"I have not got the money, and will have to make an appeal," she said yesterday.

On Tuesday, Mr Kubeka was issued with a ticket carrying a R10 fine for not moving his goods every 20 minutes, and on Wednesday he received another for R10 for the same offence."
Call for report about fined hawkers

By SEAN O'CONNOR
City Editor

A JOHANNESBURG management committee member, Major Danie Opperman, has requested an official report on West Street hawkers who are being repeatedly fined for alleged contraventions of municipal by-laws.

Disclosing this yesterday, Major Opperman, chairman of the city council's health and environmental committee, said he intended raising the question of West Street hawkers at today's meeting of his committee.

Major Opperman's request for a report on the situation follows disclosures last week in the Rand Daily Mail about the regular, and often weekly, ticketing of hawkers operating along the southern end of West Street.

The 'Mail' disclosed that two elderly vegetable hawkers were fined a total of R138 in two days last week by municipal inspectors for allegedly contravening municipal by-laws.

And on Monday this week, they were fined again — this time R60 each. At the beginning of last month, the couple, Mrs Joanna 'Mammy' Modiba and Mr Isaac Kubeka, both of Soweto, were detained overnight by police after a court appearance, had to pay R20 admission of guilt fines for breaking a municipal by-law.

They said last week they had also been fined on several other occasions last month by municipal inspectors.

Yesterday, Mr. Leon Ayers, a director of a welfare organisation which has its premises in West Street, said that when the couple were ticketed on Monday, they had been warned that they would be fined every day now by the inspectors.

In the past six weeks, Mrs. Molela and Mr. Kubeka have been fined for not moving their selling point every 20 minutes, and for selling their goods from a vehicle.

However, Major Opperman confirmed yesterday that the hawkers' by-law cases were being reviewed at present.

Mr. John Pearce, Johannesburg's traffic chief whose department runs a nine-man 'hawker squad', said yesterday: 'We do not victimise anybody in this city. We have the same standard of enforcement against everyone.'

He was answering criticism from Johannesburg city councillor, Mrs Janet Levine, who said last week the fines imposed on the couple amounted to 'blatant victimisation'.

Mrs Levine yesterday called on the city's management committee to impose a moratorium on further prosecutions of hawkers until the relevant by-laws had been revised.

The regular ticketing of the so-called offenders is to me cynical and lacking in compassion, and it is typical of the type of authoritarianism that prevails in the city council,' Mrs Levine said.

For publications obtainable from the Centre for Intergroup Studies, c/o University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, Republic of South Africa, 7700.

For publications obtainable from the Centre for Intergroup Studies, c/o University of South Africa, 7700.

Date: 
Signature: 
Cheque/Postal Order/Cash for R 
Available in English and Afrikaans (gratis).

No. 1, AFRICANER NATIONALISM by Professor J. Degema 
Every Saturday a group of men gather on the street to set up their barber business. SUE DOUGLAS talks to the men who cut hair to keep alive.

From the shadows, the leather-clad electrician stepped behind him and drew a blade across his neck.

"French or German?" inquired the barber briskly.

"German," muttered a gravelly voice in the folds of a garish floral tablecloth.

The clipper darted across his head in fast straight lines, leaving a muss of hair over the man's head.

German, stupidly named, as the electrician-nice-barber explained, is a cut with square edges. It's short and stubby with neat angles.

The Saturday-barber sped through his work — hurrying for the gaggle of other customers waiting their turn.

As he clipped away at the side-boards, he chatted to his customer and occasionally threw a comment in the direction of fellow barber-alien-the-nightwatchman.

The conversation was about the football on the radio. Kaiser Chiefs were playing.

The clippers wavered dangerously round the customer's head with every burst of excitement from the tiny radio.

But within five minutes the first customer was done. His woolly locks lay like black sheepskin in a cardboard box.

The next customer sat down.

Over the following few hours the three barbers saw about 20 customers.

Most Saturdays they see only men, they say, but the occasional woman visits the street barber.

Women's hair has to be done with different clippers. It is left at least 2cm long all over.

"We can't do any of those styles with beads or little knots and plaits though," says the electrician. "Apart from that, it seems you can have anything done."

"We do French cuts — that's the rounded one. And German with the straight line across the neck. Then there's English, which is cut round all over and you can have a beeper cut if you want."

The latter is created in much the same way as trimming a hedge. And the final product is a hairstyle that hinders forward like the peak of a cap — very 1950s-ish.

The barbers take great pride in their Saturday jobs. They are thoroughly trained and work with skill.

The kitchen-help was taught to cut hair in 1966 by his father, who also used to cut hair in the street at weekends — to get enough money to live. Inevitably, their work is illegal. Not that they do any harm. But occasionally the police stop by to say hello and cart them off to John Vorster Square.

"They let us keep our suitcases," says the nightwatchman, strangely in their defence.

Then after a fine of R5 or R10 they are freed again, to filter back to their street corner a few weeks later.

The fines. The hassles. Is it really worth it?

The R4 to R8 each that they earn for the day makes it more than just "worth it". They need the money they get on Saturdays to make the week's earnings stretch.

"If we get moved from here we will die," says the kitchen-help, begging not to be revealed by name.

In the week he earns R18. That has to support him and his family.

The average weekly wage of the trio is little more than R20.

The nightwatchman from Zululand gets paid in Johannesburg as a single man. But back home he has a family of four to look after.

In that light, the 60c they charge for a hair cut and the 50c for a beard-trim mean bread and butter.

And, of course, they won't lose their customers. At that kind of price they can undercut any barber's shop.

"It costs at least R1.20 at the shop," said one of the customers.

And what do you get? That's better at the shop? A little privacy from the stares of passers-by, perhaps?
A helpless hawker's plight

By Kathi Peacock
Crime Staff

She has no husband and supports her five children, who are all still at school. She has no other means of support besides the takings from her trolley.

Each morning Mrs Ngubeni is dropped at the bus terminus by a relative and she sits there all day—watched in blankets to ward off the winter chill. In the evenings Mr George Amirasakis, who owns a nearby restaurant, helps her pack away her trolley before she is collected and taken to her home in Zone Two, Meadowlands.

Mrs Ngubeni is desperate. She cannot afford to pay the fines and if she stopped hawking at the bus terminus she and her young children would have no other means of support.

“I can't walk, or do any other work and now I don't know what to do or where to go,” she said.

The traffic policemen do not stop the people without licences selling, but they worry me,” she said.

Johannesburg's chief traffic officer, Mr John Pearce, said last night his department was not waging war against hawkers in the city but over the years a workable policy had come into existence.

"It is our policy to act on complaints and we receive many about hawkers," he said.

Mr Pearce said licensed hawkers like Mrs Ngubeni (of whom he had no personal knowledge) would be fined by the traffic department if the terms of the licence were not complied with.

He said the department was sympathetic towards certain hawkers but frequently found itself in the uncomfortable position of being criticised by one sector of the community for not acting harshly against hawkers and by another for acting at all.

Mr Pearce said it was a standard requirement that licensed hawkers should move a certain distance every 20 or 30 minutes.

There was no provision for exemption to the rule. His men had simply acted in terms of the law in issuing Mrs Ngubeni with a warning notice.

2. Shenkin, B.N. on cit.

3. Hospital and Nursing 1

4. Snyman 1976 South Africa

5. Snyman Commission 1962
   (Report of Inquiry into
   and medicines) page 64.

6. Workshop on the Future of General Practice, August 1977
   University of Witwatersrand, Division of Continuing
   Medical Education.

7. Minister of Health, The Hon. Dr S. van der Merwe
   quoted in "The Star" 5.8.78


10. Wyndham, C.H. in press


More time for vendors

Mail Reporter

GOOD news for Johannesburg's pavement vendors is that the 20-minute limit on staying in one place is likely to be extended to 60 minutes.

Mrs Janet Levine, Johannesburg city councillor who has championed the cause of the city's hawkers, yesterday welcomed the move as "encouraging the spirit of co-operation".

Various council committees have recommended that the management committee approve the extension as a temporary measure until investigations into changing licensing by-laws is completed.

The controversial 20-minute limit has become a growing source of unhappiness amongst hawkers, who are repeatedly fined for not moving their wares at specific intervals.
Street vendors
will starve if
refused permits

THE fate of about 150 street vendors in Katlehong, Germiston, is in the balance, unless the local community council provides them with licences to continue selling in the streets.

The vendors, claimed only this week they are being harassed and arrested nearly everyday by the local East Rand Administration Board police for trading without licences and most of the time they end up paying R20 fines.

And yesterday morning, at the local offices of ERAB about 100 of the vendors held a meeting with Mr Alfred Hlongwane, chairman of the trading and licensing committee of the Katlehong Community Council, to discuss their grievances. The press were barred from the meeting, which started at 8 am.

In an interview with SOWETAN after the meeting, Mr Hlongwane said: "No decision was taken at the meeting and the matter was referred to the monthly meeting of the council which will be held next week for final decision."

"Our main problem at the moment is that most of the street vendors come from outside areas like Soweto, Thokoza and Vosloorus and each case will be treated on merit as this is a delicate issue."

WOMEN

The council will decide whether to grant the street vendors licences or not, he said.

Mr Hlongwane also said early this year the council granted about 20 street vendors temporary licences to sell in the streets until they were provided with proper market stalls which would be erected before the end of the year.

Most of the vendors are women who are bread winners at their homes. Those interviewed by SOWETAN yesterday said they feared that if the council refuse to give them licences, their families would starve and they will also lose their houses.
Street vendors may operate...
SERVICES SECTOR - OTHER

1982 - 1985
Public servants put pay demands to Govt

Public servants' associations have tabled their April pay demands with the Commission for Administration, which is expected to put them to the Cabinet in the next few weeks.

Most staff associations are understood to be demanding an across-the-board salary increase of between 12 and 15 percent and the reinstatement of their full bonuses, which were cut by one third last year.

Some associations have dropped original demands after being told that the Budget will be tight again this year.

It is understood that the Cabinet will probably be asked to approve an increase of around 10 percent.

But no proposals have yet been put to the Cabinet, according to a member of the Commission for Administration, Dr J du Plessis.

Mainstream public servants last had an increase in January 1984, when they received 12 percent.

Railway and postal workers negotiate increases separately but these are often related to public service rises.

Mr Frikkie Smith, president of the Post and Telegraph Association of South Africa, said yesterday that his association had a meeting with Dr Lapa Munnik, Minister of Communication and Public Works, at the end of October last year.

The association was now waiting for the Minister to report back on its demands. "Our discussions ran along the lines of 15 percent," he said.

The Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, meets the presidents of 10 railway unions in Johannesburg today.

The unions' umbrella body, the Federal Council of South African Transport Services' Trade Unions, tabled a demand for a 25 percent across-the-board increase last August.

Council chairman, Mr Jimmy Zirich, said the last time railway workers received an increase of 15 percent was in April 1985.

He said the Minister had previously rejected the demand for a general salary increase in January 1986 due to the economic situation. "He did not dispute the merits of our demand and was very sympathetic," said Mr Zirich.

He said it was unlikely that the Minister would make a pay offer today. The council would be meeting in February to discuss salary demands.
SHIPTOY companies promising top-flight training and claiming their students will be instantly placed in highly paid jobs are ripping off blacks desperate to qualify for white-collar positions.

Prominent among these are private training organisations which "guarantee" success for their pupils who want positions in the computer industry.

Useless courses

A government department, a computer-industry watching body and personnel-placement agencies warned this week that rip-off companies were making a fortune operating in Johannesburg and on the East Rand. Students, who often pay up to R1 000 for "useless" courses, take "diplomas" in subjects ranging from "computer science" to instrument reading and switchboard operating.

An East Rand personnel agency says the students, most of whom are family men who have saved up money in a desperate attempt to qualify for higher-paid jobs, are promised they will "walk into any computer job if they show their certificates.

Others are out-of-school youngsters who are looking for an entry to the "glamour" and big salaries available for qualified white-collar workers.

The Johannesburg office of the Department of Education and Training has launched an investigation into at least eight companies which it believes have failed to meet minimum standards in the training of black students.

The inspectorate would be kept on the run all day checking out these training companies.

Fly-by-night

"When we find companies which have not been registered, or made any effort to conform to the requirements of the relevant Act, we come down on them like a ton of bricks," the inspector said.

"But more than anything we need people who have had experience with these operators to come forward and tell us who they are," the regional director of the Department of Education and Training, Mr Jaap Strydom, said.

Problems have been in the past identified at training establishments offering courses as diverse as computer science and the teaching of computers.

Fly-by-night companies specialising in short office-routine courses have operated successfully in the Johannesburg area.

Officials catch up with them as they close down and open under a new name and continue to advertise in publications aimed at black readers.

Mr Strydom said that there were a number of reputable companies, however, who were operating without all the necessary permits and "normal training targets are not reached.

Normally this is a result of the granting of Group Areas permits without which the training companies cannot operate.

"But if the facilities of these training centres appear acceptable and if they can prove they have applied for a Group Areas permit, we won't close them down. ""We are negotiating with someone who feels we have an element of control over the quality of the service they offer.

"However, the people who operate these centres have not complied with the regulations, are in for a shock.

"We will move in on them without a qualm.

"It is our responsibility to make sure they produce a good product.

"Dr Donald Roode executive director of the Computer Cluster Council (CUC), said the computer industry wanted to be well aware of the rip-off companies.

"Some of these have been approached and had promised to improve their services.

"But positive action has been taken in that the CUC had established a basic examination for people seeking initial training to enter the computer industry.

"Legitimate training companies were applying their standards, which Dr Roode said would in time be recognised as "the only worthwhile qualification.

"Machine technician training was another area in which black students, in particular, were being ripped off.

Companies prey on blacks who want white-collar jobs

SUNDAY TIMES SUNDAY 30 AUGUST 1983

The death of the gold miner killed in the accident at the KwaZulu mine last week has taken the number of fatal accidents in the industry to 25 for the year.

Mr JAP Strydom ... they are in for a shock.

MR JAP Strydom ... they are in for a shock.

Problems

Ominter, a training centre for electronics technicians with operations in both Durban and Johannesburg, has experienced problems with a small group of students who refuse to attend a course believing they have already learnt the basics of electronics.

"Principal of the centre Mr Jeff Halling turned his back on a student with 1000 hours of instruction while some of the rip-off training centres charged up to R1000.

Problems

"Principal of the centre Mr Jeff Halling turned his back on a student with 1000 hours of instruction while some of the rip-off training centres charged up to R1000.
Blow for Umhlanga curio sellers

Mercury Reporter

THE Umhlanga Town Council banned African curio sellers from the beachfront because they did not have licences and tourists had complained that they were 'dirty and arrogant'.

The 25 women who sold curios on the boulevard which runs in front of most of Umhlanga's hotels have been there for years and the council has turned a blind eye to them. 'But when the complaints came flooding in we had to act,' Umhlanga's Town Clerk, Mr Brian Watson, said yesterday.

He said the sellers would be unable to obtain licences.

The boulevard is situated in the beach amenities reserve where no trading of any sort can take place except for the hire of beach chairs and umbrellas,' Mr Watson said.

He said he also had had complaints from Umhlanga's commercial sector, which was annoyed that the African sellers' wares were not confined to handicrafts but included items like shoes and hats.

'Several people have expressed concern about the sellers having to leave. While we're sympathetic, the bylaws don't allow them to be here and there has been no proposal to amend them,' Mr Watson said.

He said the council would welcome anyone who came forward with suggestions on how to legalise the matter.

None of the curio sellers affected by the ban were seen yesterday.
PE’s many job finders hit a snag — they need more work themselves

By SALLI KERNOHAN

PEOPLE finding jobs for people have hit a snag — they need more work themselves.

There are at present 12 employment agencies in Port Elizabeth.

When a new branch office of a large international company opens its doors for business later this month, the city will gain its 13th employment consultancy.

And the general consensus is that there are just not enough work opportunities and aspirant job applicants around to keep them all busy.

The current downsizing in the economy has resulted in several companies freezing staff complements.

The employees, too, are said to be sitting tight, afraid to resign in case they cannot get another job.

But this trend has not stopped employment agencies from mushrooming in the city. All hope there will be enough business to go round.

Several consultancies, however, have speculated that the "job game" is soon going to become a "cut-throat fight".

One personnel consultant alleged this week that some of the agencies were already "stealing" applicants from each other.

She claimed it was not unusual for a man or woman to be placed in a position and then to be telephoned by a different agency, offering them another job with better prospects.

Another consultant from the branch of a national concern commented that she felt it would be the "one-man shows" which would soon start feeling the pinch.

An industrial city the size of Port Elizabeth did not, she believed, need quite so many employment agencies.

When asked about the "stealing" of applicants from other firms, she felt this was impossible because records were confidential.

"The only way it could become a cut-throat game would be if individual agencies cut their fees and then they would lose money," she said.

The newest agency to establish itself in Port Elizabeth hopes to be operational before May 24, according to its head office in Johannesurg.

Mrs L Cozens, area manager for the consultancy network, said she had no doubt that there would be enough business for her branch office when it opened in Port Elizabeth.

"There is always room for someone who can provide a service at a competitive price," she said.

"We have done feasibility studies and we feel our service is so superior that we can be very successful in Port Elizabeth."
Hawkers ‘harassed’

THE director of Black Unity Express Bus Service, Mr Joseph Gomba, yesterday called for the immediate resignation of Atteridgeville/Santsville Community Council for “giving members of the public a raw deal.”

The call follows arrests of hawkers selling fruit and vegetables in the township.

Mr Gomba said the hawkers had applied for licences, but their applications were turned down.

“The community council should be blamed for this since they are the ones responsible in making recommendations when someone applies for a licence,” he said.

A council spokesman said not everyone could be issued with a licence.

Meanwhile, Kade-

Food & wood products, including furniture

think a box workers industrial union

Foresters United and Allied Workers Union

(PEAL)

Union

S.A. Farmers & Producers Union

(SAFU)

Textile, Clothing, Leather and Footwear

Metal Workers Union

South African Bottlers, Spinners, Spinners and Allied Workers Union

Metal Workers Union

General Workers Union of South Africa

Garment Workers Union (Western Province)

(ROGAP)

Garment Workers Union (National)

Artisan & Allied Workers Union

Artisan & Allied Workers Union (National)

National Union of Carpenters & Roofers Workers

Artisan Roofers Workers Union

Tobacco

Nuclear Workers, Engineered Breeder Reactors

Metal Workers, Building & Constructional Industrial Union

Weaver, Printers, Sweet Workers Union

S.A. Electrical Workers Association

S.A. Bottlers, Spinners, Spinners and Allied Workers Union (SANMSW)

South African Bottlers, Spinners, Spinners and Allied Workers Union (SANMSW)

Sweet Workers Union

Artisan Roofers Workers Union

xxv
Hawkers' licences

The director of Black Unity Transport Bus Service, Mr Joseph Gomba, says his company has sent applications for hawker's licences to the Pretoria City Council.

Mr Gomba said his company had made applications for 30 vegetable and fruit vendors in the township and would build store rooms where the vendors would operate from.
4 banned for two years

PRETORIA — Four people have been banned under the Internal Security Act from attending public gatherings for the next two years, and 10 have had their restrictions lifted.

The banned are Pravin Jannaes Gordhan, Maceriphath Naidoo, Immanuel Nathaniel and Aletta Maphalwa.

Restrictions have been lifted on Andrew Mandyf Mbili and Chargie Nqakala of Zwelitsha, Monde Collin Mkungwana of Mdantsane, and Kader Hassim, Lybna Tshabalala and Ntokozo Nkaba, Nkize Matsheba, Donald Mattera, Diliza Mji and Horiaus Mdielen.

employment agency
for domestic workers

By SALLY KERNOHAN
UNEMPLOYED domestic workers with hungry mouths to feed now have an answer to their plight — thanks to a newly-established employment agency in Port Elizabeth.

This North End agency caters mainly for domestic employment and will supply anything from temporary chais to full-time gardeners.

And with the mass unemployment in the area, it is providing work for many, who otherwise would be sitting on doors desolate for any type of job.

Since it opened its doors at the beginning of the month, the agency has been flooded with telephone calls from prospective employers and employees alike, according to a spokesman for the concern.

The spokesman said they were willing to supply chais, emergency domestic workers to help out while the employed one was on holiday as well as babiesitters.

"We have even been asked for a domestic worker to house-sit while the owners are away and look after their pets," he said.

Other spheres where they help with employment is for companies requiring domestic labour to make tea for the staff, as well as packers for the supermarket chains.

"For our babysitting service we are contemplating using pensioners and people on disability grants, who could do with the extra money to eke out their tiny incomes," said the spokesman.

"Each applicant is carefully screened and we can supply contactable references for every person on our books.

"Because we have all the applicants’ personal details, if the employer runs into difficulties while they are in their employ, we can trace the person involved with minimum difficulty, too," he said.

The spokesman said that often a call came in for a temporary domestic worker to help out in a home and, fortunately for the applicant, it often turned into full-time employment — especially if the previously employed worker never returned to her job.

He said each applicant paid a R1 registration fee with the agency and then remained permanently on their books.

If an employer required a temporary char for two days, their cost to the agency was R6. This amount would rise commensurately with the time the temporary worker was employed.

The employer was responsible for the char’s wages, food and transport costs — besides registering the worker with the East Cape Administration Board, whether in a temporary or full-time capacity.

If, however, an employer decided to employ the temporary worker in a full-time capacity for various reasons, there were no additional costs involved.

The spokesman said the prospective employer could interview applicants at the agency or they would make arrangements for the applicant to see the employer in his or her own home.

The greatest difficulty they had was placing unskilled labour.

Weather Forecast

FORECAST for the coast from Port Elizabeth to Port Alfred for the period ending 6pm tomorrow.

CONDITIONS: Fine and mild.

WIND: Moderate to strong, east to north-easterly.

EXPECTED TEMPERATURES:

Minimum 21°C

Maximum 26°C

TODAY’S CONDITIONS (2pm)

Air temperature 16.6°C

Pressure 998mb

Humidity 87%

Wind北westerly 23km.

THE MOON

New Moon June 21

First Quarter June 28

SUN

Sea temperature 14°C

High Water

Today 14.50am, 2.32pm

Tomorrow 2.26am, 2.57pm

Low Water

Today 7.59am, 8.11pm

Tomorrow 8.45am, 7.56pm

PORT ALFRED TO PORT EDWARD:

Fine and mild. Wind moderate to strong, east to north-easterly.

WILD LIFE PHOTOGRAPHERS’ MECCA

Young old, professional or amateur photographers get their pictures at the SEA VIEW GAME PARK. A big variety of wildlife in natural surroundings makes perfect subjects. The Park is situated on the GREENBUSHES/SEA VIEW ROAD.

Sunday feeding times as follows: Lions 12 noon, King Cheetah 3pm, Cheetah 4.30pm. Conducted tours into tame cheetah enclosure every hour. Picnic spots, tea room and walk through bird aviary will make your visit unforgettable.
Zulu crafts bring in cash

Mercury Reporter

The Vukani Association in Esikhawini, which markets African craftwork, has paid R120 000 to its members for their crafts during the past financial year, it was announced at the annual meeting.

The chairman of Vukani, Mrs Cecilia Mate, said this was a record and demonstrated how successful the nine-year-old association had become.

The association has more than 12 000 local Zulu members who earn an income from traditional skills in basketry, woodcarving and claywork.

Mr T. Cunningham of the Natal Parks Board emphasised at the meeting that the resurgence and growth of Zulu craftwork using natural resources had to go hand in hand with intelligent use and protection of indigenous grasses.

Nearly a third of Vukani’s products were sold direct to Europe and Germany, and many articles were on display in museums overseas.

Lowveld killer
For a King

a meal fit for a

coffee cart

down at

One hundred years ago coffee was a luxury. Today it’s a necessity. Coffee is no longer just a drink, it’s a way of life. From the humble street cart to the fancy coffee shop, coffee has evolved over time. But one thing remains constant - coffee is a must-have.

In 1928, the first coffee cart was a simple structure with a few chairs and a pot of coffee. It was a place where people could gather and enjoy a warm drink on a cold day. Over the years, coffee carts have become more sophisticated, with fancy designs and modern amenities.

But coffee carts are not just for coffee. They are a symbol of community and socialization. People gather around these carts to talk, laugh, and share stories. They are a place where people can connect and make new friends.

Coffee carts are not just a place to drink coffee. They are a source of income for the people who run them. Many coffee cart owners work hard to provide the best coffee and service to their customers. They are dedicated to their craft and are always looking for ways to improve.

Coffee carts have come a long way since their humble beginnings. They have evolved from simple structures to sophisticated and modern carts. But no matter how much they change, one thing remains constant - coffee is a necessity. It brings people together and provides a sense of community.

So the next time you see a coffee cart down at a street corner, take a moment to appreciate its history and the role it plays in our lives today. Coffee carts are a reminder of the simple pleasures in life and the joy they bring to our communities.
Every morning the flower market in City Deep blossoms into life as the flowers that opened up to create a harvest in the market are brought fresh to the market. These flowers, some of them from far-flung areas and some from local farms, are brought in early in the morning to be sold at the market. The market is a vibrant hub of activity, with vendors selling a variety of flowers to customers. The market is open from 6am to 9am, and visitors can find a wide range of flowers, from traditional flowers to more exotic varieties. The flowers are fresh and colorful, and the market is a popular destination for both locals and tourists. The atmosphere is lively, with vendors calling out their offerings and customers haggling for the best price. The market is a testament to the wealth of floral biodiversity in the city, and a must-visit for anyone interested in flowers. By Colleen Ryan

market place
in the
FLOWER POWER

The Star Thursday July 1 1982
Prospective buyers view the blooms at the market before bidding begins.
Give hawkers a new deal

By Gavan O'Connor

Johannesburg street vendors have been continually harassed by restrictive laws and little effort has been made by city authorities to understand or alleviate their problems, says a Wits University professor.

Professor Keith Bea- von, head of the depart- ment of geography and environmental studies, who has studied the problems of the city's hawkers, said this week that their treatment by the city had been increasingly harsh and a punitive attitude was needed.

There were two problem areas that need changing, said Professor Beaven.

Firstly, about 50 percent of hawkers were illiterate and were compelled to become hawkers because they had no other jobs available to them.

Secondly, hawkers had to work exceptionally long hours to catch commuters near railway sta- tions and bus termini.

"Changes have to be made in the form of a social experiment and must accommodate the needs of the hawkers," said Professor Beaven.

Hawkers were not allowed to sell in certain areas of the central city because they might cause congestion. But these areas border- ed on the railway station and the bus terminus in West Street, the heart of the hawker's operation. If they stayed beyond their limits, they were liable to be ticketed by traffic officials.

The laws were designed, said Professor Beaven, to prevent horse-drawn carriages from entering the central city to sell their wares, but this had already been issued.

**LICENCE**

It costs R11 to apply for a hawkers' licence and R30 for the licence depending on the goods to be sold.

A little profit was made and most lived a hand-to-mouth existence earning as little as R1 a week. If a chicken seller could earn up to R300, said Professor Beaven.

A plan had to be made for the hawker's areas set aside for them and lockers provided, where they could leave their goods overnight.

"The longer-term con- cern must be directed at the employment problems of South Africa because easing the working conditions of hawkers will not necessarily remove the causes from which they spring," said Professor Beaven.

University of Cape Town

Invites applications for the 1983 Post Graduate Diploma Course in Human Resource Management

The Diploma is designed to:

- Provide a solid education in:
  - Personnel Management
  - Training Management
  - Industrial Relations
- Provide a grounding in other functional areas such as:
  - Financial Management
  - Marketing Management
- Introduce visiting speakers, arrange study trips to training centres and to project work in order to relate theory to practice.

The Institute of Personnel Management will be required of the students as does attendance at local I.P.M. functions.

Registrations will also be considered from non

Institute graduates with suitable working experience.

Brighton

own "Briquettes"...a popular name for the local briquettes, especially in the area of Brighton, Sussex. The name is said to have been given because of the bright colors of the briquettes, which are made from blends of wood, coconut husks, and other natural materials. The briquettes are popular in the area for their durability and ease of use. They are often used for outdoor cooking and barbecues, as well as for indoor heating. Briquettes are also popular in other parts of the country and are a common sight in hardware stores and rural areas. In addition to their practical uses, briquettes have a cultural significance in some areas, with local traditions surrounding their production and use. Brighton is known for its bright colors and vibrant atmosphere, which may have inspired the name of these popular briquettes.
Hawkers face cop clampdown

THE Dobsonville Community Council is to clamp down on "illegal" hawkers operating outside the local men's hostel.

This came out at the council's monthly meeting held at its chambers yesterday. Councillors urged for concerted raids in and around the complex, claiming little had been done to curb "illegal" trading in the past.

Deputy chairman Mr TB Mashao said he had approached health inspectors on the matter and was told the council had not given permission for them to arrest the traders.

"The health inspectors are telling a lie. I spoke to them and they said it was a long process for them to arrest the people," chairman Mr Don Mmisi said.

The council's chief executive officer, Mr Alex Conn, said raids on the hostel would continue. He said in the past there had been leaks and the culprits had been warned before the raids.

"We are going to continue with the raids, not only on the old aunties who are trying to make a few cents, but also on people who deal in dagga and so on. The reason why we have not been raiding them is that there seems to be a leak. But we have arranged with the police, and we too won't know when they will raid. They will only let us know 30 minutes before they do," Mr Conn said.
Action taken against hawkers

EAST LONDON — Action against 27 hawkers has been taken by municipal officials during the past two days, the city’s director of management services, Mr Leon Deetlefs, said yesterday.

Mr Deetlefs said 16 hawkers were issued with summonses and 11 others taken to the Fleet Street police station and charged for allegedly hawking illegally.

He said the action was part of a regular, ongoing campaign to control illegal hawking in the central business district.

"People are being harassed by illegal hawkers in the CBD and we are taking steps to help curb crime in the area," Mr Deetlefs said.

"There are problems with handbag snatching and pickpocketing."

He said the main areas where municipal officials were taking action were in Buffalo Street and lower Oxford Street, the bus terminus area, the hospital area, Phillip Frame Road in Chislehurst and on West Bank.

"People are not allowed to hawk in the CBD and some legitimate businesses are suffering because of it. We go through the area from time to time, but it is like a never-ending cycle," he said. — DDR.
through the streets. The family had some kind of trouble with the police. They had been arrested and taken to the police station. The case had been pending for some time.

The police had been charged with brutality. Some family members had been beaten and insulted by the police. The family had been unable to find legal representation. They had been forced to rely on their own resources to defend themselves.

Mr. J. H. Opperman, the family's lawyer, had confirmed yesterday that the family had been in the company of the police when the shooting took place. Mr. Opperman had stated that the police had been acting in a provoking manner.

The circumstances leading to the shooting of the two men were still unclear. According to the police, the men had been shot in self-defense. However, the family believed that the police had been acting unprovoked and had no legal justification for the shooting.

The family had asked for an independent investigation into the matter.

The shooting had taken place in Khayelitsha, a township located on the outskirts of Cape Town. The area had a reputation for gang violence and drugrelated crime. The family believed that the shooting was related to their involvement in the drug trade.

The family had sought legal advice and had decided to pursue a case against the police. They had also contacted the South African Human Rights Commission for assistance.

The family had been left with several unanswered questions. They had no idea why the police had been acting in such a manner. They had hoped that the independent investigation would provide some answers.

The family had been advised to seek legal representation and to file a formal complaint against the police. They had also been advised to seek assistance from community organizations and to seek support from friends and family.

The family had decided to continue their fight for justice. They had not given up hope and believed that they would eventually find the truth.
The nucleus of this group of dancers was the original worker's committee formed when Mercia Wilsworth initiated Afrocrafts. When the business of meetings was over, their enthusiasm waxed into spontaneous dancing. Now Mrs Wilsworth plans to polish up this cultural art for performances in Grahamstown and elsewhere.

BY SALLY KERNOHAN
A woman who had hoped to create jobs for as little as R406 a person in depressed Grahamstown has had to temporarily shut up shop because of lack of capital.

Mercia Wilsworth, applied anthropologist, journalist and public relations officer, was confident the money she needed would be available.

But hitches in a trust fund to which she is heir has put her in a spot.

She had hoped to create 25 full-time jobs at Afrocrafts, which she opened so enthusiastically in mid-June. But she needed between R10 000 and R15 000 to do it — despite rent-free premises provided by Rhodes University, where she has enrolled for her doctorate.

Mrs Wilsworth is an expert on Grahamstown conditions. She has already gained a brilliant Master's degree, her thesis appearing in book form Strategies for Survival, printed by the Institute of Social and Economic Research.

Her conception of an authentic African art centre with music, diviners, dancing, and many ancillary crafts was generally acclaimed.

Mrs Wilsworth, had tested the market, so to speak, when she mounted a similar live exhibition during Grahamstown's festival time two years ago.

She gathered her "caste" and then drew in likely craftsmen, basket and mat-makers, knitters, women with crocheting ability and a toymaker.

Beer-tasting was to be part of the experience and musicians were to add to the authentic scene, all of which was to open with a flourish as part of the recent annual national arts festival.

"But they took eight weeks to get ready," said Mrs Wilsworth ruefully.

She planned to offer fees to exhibitors and performers.

But she found herself in a Catch 22 situation. She needed the capital to make the money she needed to provide materials for the local craftsmen and for "importing" goods from Sada, Lesoto and elsewhere.

"I never had enough stock. I did not have the money to advertise with meaningful impact. I was hoping to set up a show to rival the Congo Caves and the ostriches. I find people more interesting than ostriches anyway."

She said the local dancers could rival the mine dancers.

She expected resistance at first but hoped that by promoting the African image she could have provided a valuable tourist attraction in the City — already tourist orientated.

Mrs Wilsworth also attempted to encourage entrepreneurship "and get things going here". Hence the display during the festival of Cape Town's Image Dolls.

She said: "I've certainly not scrapped my ideas. If the capital is forthcoming, I shall get the show together."

She explained that it was by no means a charitable venture. "I'm a hard-nosed realist. I wanted to see this thing as a profitable venture making the profits from which I could live and plough back to pay adequately my crafts people — and train more," she said.

In the meanwhile she will get on with her doctorate, hoping to complete it by the end of the year.

"Meantime there is a chance of mounting an East Cape competition in conjunction with a national competition for young, as yet unknown, artists."

"We may be able to stage it early next year and again stimulate interest."
Now, slump hits job-finding business.

"Finding" a job is hard these days. It's not just a matter of finding a job, it's finding a job that pays the bills. The job market is tough, and the competition is fierce. It's not just the usual suspects who are having trouble finding work. Even the most qualified candidates are struggling to land a job.

"I've been looking for a job for months," said one job seeker. "I've sent out dozens of resumes, but I haven't even gotten a single call back. It's frustrating." 

But it's not just the job seekers who are feeling the pinch. Employers are also having trouble filling positions. "We're feeling the pinch," said one HR manager. "We've been trying to hire for months, but we just can't seem to find the right candidates." 

The economy is struggling, and the job market is no exception. It's a tough time to be looking for work, and it looks like it's going to be that way for a while.
Domestic workers' aid urged

Johannesburg — Labour laws guaranteeing minimum working conditions, unemployment pay and compensation for on-the-job accidents should be extended to domestic workers, the Government's National Manpower Commission has been told.

The NMC has been urged to consider extending minimum wage laws to domestic workers, and been told that research claims that most domestic are not breadwinners for their families are false.

The statements are made in a memorandum to the NMC by the Domestic Workers and Employers' Project (DWEWP), which is linked to the SA Institute of Race Relations.

The commission is probing the legal position of farm and domestic workers.

The DWEWP says in its memo that domestic are "the most vulnerable" of all the country's workers.

It attacks the claim that because domestic are "part of their employer's family", their relations with employers should not be controlled by law. It says research has shown that they are subject to "extreme exploitation".

An analysis of 120 cases handled by DWEWP's legal clinic showed that domestics' average wage was R6.04 a month, and that 52% of a sample of domestic who had come to DWEWP for help were bread-winners.

The DWEWP criticizes the exclusion of domestics from the protection of labour laws.

But it does not urge that they be included in the Labour Relations Act, which governs trade union rights, because it says that would "offer no significant benefits to domestic workers".

The DWEWP suggests that the Wage Act, which sets a minimum pay, could be extended to domestics, but adds that this may "arouse considerable opposition" and be difficult to enforce.

As short-term measures, the DWEWP recommends that domestics be included in the Unemployment Insurance and Women's Compensation Acts.

It also urges the NMC to include domestics in the Conditions of Employment Act, which is expected to be enacted in the next session of Parliament.

The bill governs minimum working conditions such as leave and working hours and the DWEWP recommends specifically that it grant domestics 1½ days off a week and three weeks' paid leave a year.

It suggests that they be excluded from a clause setting a maximum work week of 46 hours because this, too, may be difficult to implement and may attract opposition.

It suggests that it be compulsory for officials to give domestics a copy of their work contract.
Driving instructors given an ultimatum

Mercury Reporter

INDIAN driving school instructors are worried after having been told that the type of trucks they have been using for the past 12 years to carry out tests for the extra-heavy duty licence was no longer suitable.

They must either replace their fleet by the end of the month or close down.

Mr Ramchitrar Panday, chairman of the Natal Driving Instructors' Association, told the Mercury yesterday that his members were perturbed at the new ruling which had dealt 'a severe body blow' as some of them had recently bought new trucks, costing about R65 000 each.

He said that it was most unfair to ask driving schools to replace their fleets by the end of the month or close down.

He said he was seeking an urgent meeting with the Natal Provincial Executive Committee to convey the feelings of his members.

The ruling had come as a total surprise as it had been agreed at a meeting with senior officials of the Natal Provincial Traffic Department in Pietermaritzburg on June 9 that trucks with a carrying capacity of 12 000 kg could continue to be used for training and testing of drivers for extra heavy duty licences.

"Now the authorities want us to buy trucks with a mass of 25 000 kg," he said.

Mr Singaram Padayachee, the association's secretary, told the Mercury that it could become highly dangerous to allow a learner driver to handle a truck with such a huge mass load, especially when travelling downhill.

Requirements

Mr Les Farrant, head of the Provincial Traffic Inspectorate, said the class of vehicle used for conducting a driver's test was determined in the Ordinance.

He said they could not allow a test for an extra-heavy duty licence to be carried out in a vehicle which did not meet the legal requirement.

There was nothing sinister about this. The type of vehicle to be used for each driver's test was laid down in the Ordinance.

It appeared that certain instructors did not have the class of vehicle necessary to get a certain class of licence.

"It does not mean that if they had been using a certain type of vehicle for extra-heavy duty tests for 12 years they can continue to do so. They must comply with the law," he said.
Hawkers still sell in E1, despite ban
Province firm on extra-heavy truck licence issue

Mercury Reporter

NATAL’s senior MEC, Mr Frank Martin, yesterday reiterated that the Province would not allow the training and testing of truck drivers on vehicles that did not meet the required specification.

He was commenting on a protest by Indian truck-driving school instructors, who went on ‘strike’ yesterday by refusing to take clients for tests or make any bookings for extra-heavy duty licence at the Rossburgh testing grounds following a ban on the type of trucks they have been using for the past 12 years.

Mr Martin said if the instructors were refusing to train or test their clients, then their clients should look for other driving schools that would be willing to train them.

Mr Ramcharitar Panday, chairman of the Natal Driving Instructors’ Association, said he was seeking a meeting with Mr Martin to discuss the grievances of his members.

“We have been using trucks with a carrying capacity of 12,000 kg for extra-heavy duty licence for the past 12 years. We cannot see why the authorities now want us to get bigger trucks,” he said.

He said many of his members recently bought trucks costing R60 000 which were generally accepted by inspectors at the NPA testing grounds at Rossburgh.

“Now to expect members to dispose of these vehicles is unfair,” he added.
Hawkers accuse cops of harassment

ANGRY Soweto licensed hawkers have told The SOWETAN of harassment by police for selling to pensioners at their pay-out centres in Soweto.

They said they were forced to pay fines ranging from R50 to R100 after being arrested.

Mr Thamsanqa Ndlou of Emdeni South said that he was arrested several times, and when he tried to show the police officer his license he was told he would have the situation explained to him.

He added that he was taken to the Vocational Police unit in Dube where he was kept for five hours.

“A certain health inspector by the name of Mr Kobus was influential in my release”, he said.

He added: “These police officers are very unreasonable. They are just wasting our time and business, because the health inspectors have approved our products”.

Another licensed hawker, Mr Daniel Malinga of Senaonane said that he was arrested several times and fined R100.

“I cannot understand why I should be fined when I am licensed”, he said. A licensed woman said they were trying to help pensioners by selling to them, but “the police are just not interested in our story”, she said.

A Wmb police man, Mr Alpheus Mabatha, said they arrested hawkers because their licenses did not allow them to sell at pensioners’ pay-out centres.
Call to legalise hawking in Pontoon Road

EAST LONDON — Calls to legalise and control black hawkers in the city have been made following police and municipal action against hawkers at the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

The Chamber of Commerce and the Duncan Village Community Council have requested meetings with the city council to discuss the issue.

The matter is scheduled to be raised at Monday’s action committee meeting of the council.

The secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr Jock Allison, the chairman of the Duncan Village Community Council, Mr D. D. Makatala, the chairman of the council’s finance and general purposes portfolio, Mr Donald Card, and the director of the Border Metropolitan Development Corporation (Bomedco), Mr Ted Walsh, yesterday called for a controlled and legalised hawking system.

Since Thursday police together with municipal officials have arrested an unknown number of black hawkers selling goods in and around the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

The raids were preceded by a warning from the city’s director of management services, Mr Leon Deelers, that a special council meeting on October 4 had decided that the police and municipality should take action against “undesirables and unlicensed hawkers”.

Mr Allison confirmed that the Chamber of Commerce intended to take up the issue of hawking in the city with the council.

“This is the sort of informal business we sought to encourage — but with controls,” he said.

Mr Makatala confirmed that his council had also requested a meeting with the city council to discuss hawking.

“I am sure the majority of the city council is not disagreeable to hawking hawkers at the Pontoon Road bus terminus,” he said.

He said he appreciated the view of white businessmen in the CBD and would not object if hawking was confined to the bus terminus.

Mr Card said he would raise the issue at Monday’s action committee meeting.

He said a committee of ten, representing 48 named hawkers, had held discussions with him following the raids.

“They say they will do anything to legalise their position and will give any assurances the city council may require. I am satisfied they are genuine and that their need is genuine,” Mr Walsh said.

Mr Walsh said he was in favour of controlled hawking as long as it did not give rise to crime.

“Hawking is the first level of private enterprise, although few people seem to see it this way,” he said.

The acting Town Clerk, Mr Les Kumm, said no black person could be licensed to hawk in a prescribed area outside a black area without the permission of the government.

“As far as I am aware, we have got no such permission.”

He said blacks who hawked on behalf of white-owned firms, such as ice-cream vendors, could be licensed, although the council had banned licensed hawkers from the CBD and parts of North End.

The liaison officer for the police in the Border, Major Warren Brown, confirmed that police had arrested a number of hawkers at the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

However, he said he was not able to provide the number of arrests made.

— DDR

NOTE CAREFULLY

1. Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering.
2. Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.
3. Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.
4. Do not write in the left hand margin.

WARNING

1. No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.
2. Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.
3. No part of an answer book is to be torn out.
4. All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.
Correspondent - Our correspondent in New Delhi, while attending a meeting of the Planning Commission, reported that the government has decided to introduce a new policy to contain the growing problem of street vendors. The policy includes providing a fixed location for vendors, promoting self-employment, and setting up special zones for street vendors. The government is also considering the option of setting up a special authority to regulate the activities of street vendors.

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'Informal sector' boost urged

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — One of South Africa's leading bankers and businessmen, Dr Frans Cronje, yesterday made a strong plea for the encouragement of the "informal sector" of the economy.

Giving evidence to the President's Council's Committee for Economic Affairs, Dr Cronje said that was often lost of the fact that South Africa was a developing country and, economically speaking, to a great degree part of the Third World.

The committee's hearing yesterday was part of its investigation into measures which inhibit the efficient functioning of the free-market-oriented economic system.

Dr Cronje said although South Africa was a large extent part of the Third World, First World standards were applied to many aspects of the economy.

He felt that the following aspects should be investigated:

- The sometimes unnecessarily high and strict standards set by the Shops and Offices Act.
- Legislation which made it impossible for hawkers or the self-employed to do business in certain areas.
- Unnecessarily high building standards.
- "We must therefore as soon as possible investigate and try to remove the impediments that prevent people from creating work for themselves."

Dr Cronje called for more equal education opportunities and improved business and technical training facilities.

A publicity campaign to introduce the advantages of the free market system to "less sophisticated" members of the community would have little effect.

The black population would attach no credibility to such a campaign launched by the authorities if the large political obstacles in the way of a complete free economic system remained.
Mixed reaction to city hawkers

EAST LONDON — A Gillwell Street cafe owner, Mr. Peter Verdoukas, looked across the road to the Pontoon Bus terminus packed with hawkers and said: “I like to see all those people.”

Three doors away, another cafe owner, Mr. Jannie Buys, looked at the hawkers and said: “I would like to see them banned completely.”

The two businessmen were among nine in the area asked what they thought about the black hawkers.

The council decided on Monday night to apply for special government permission to license black hawkers.

At present blacks cannot be licensed to trade for their own benefit in a white area without government consent.

Mr. Verdoukas said the hawkers brought life to the area. “If (the bus terminus) was empty, it would be no good for business.”

Mr. Buys objected to hawkers making a living from a similar trade to his own but without any of the costs he paid.

“They don’t pay any rates, rental or anything. They are making a good living on our expense,” he said.

The owner of an electrical clothing business facing the terminus, Mr. Gavin Turner, said he did not mind the hawkers and he would like to see them legalized with proper controls.

“The hawkers are good for me. We deal with the black trade and they help attract the people,” he said.

Nearly the director of a large wholesale business, Mr. E. Jankelson, said hawking should be encouraged — but controlled.

“In principle I am not against hawking. The people have to earn a living. If controlled, I’m all for it.”

Up Caxton Street from the terminus, the manager of a furniture store, Mr. Clifford Boucher, said that “apart from the mess” he had no objection to hawkers plying their trade.

“I don’t think it’s right for them to stand in front of shops and hawk their goods. I think a place should be provided at the bus rank for them.”

The owner of a takeaway business further up Caxton Street, near Oxford Street, Mr. I. W. Foulkes, said hawkers should be either licensed and properly controlled or banned completely.

He said littering and hygiene should be controlled and that if hawkers were bound by the same rules as other businesses he would be in favour.

“They don’t get them stalling down there at the bus terminus? At least that will prevent street littering.”

The owner of a takeaway business in Union Arcade, Mr. Malcolm Cock, said he believed the hawkers rendered a service.

“I feel it is a case of live and let live. They are earning an honest living and they are creating our own job opportunities,” he said.

The owner of a cafe on Market Square, Mr. J. A. Piets, said the hawkers were not a problem.

“They don’t worry me,” he said.

The manager of a major supermarket in Market Square, Mr. Bob Goddard, said hawkers collected at the doors of the store and harassed customers.

“It is a nuisance and customers have complained about the hawkers,” he said.

He referred inquiries on the supermarket’s attitude to hawking to the company’s head office in Johannesburg, but yesterday no one was available for comment.

The chairman of the chamber of commerce, Mr. George Ormond, said the city council move to legalise the position of black hawkers was a good move provided there were controls.

Mr. Ormond said it was important to encourage black commerce and that hawking was a good way to start.

“Look at the position of many of our Indian traders today. Their forefathers started off as hawkers.” — DDR
INSERTS: Lean Thuy (ret), director of the Domestic Workers' Employment Project and (above), members of the board of the Domestic Women's Employment Association.

Caroline Solyve, chairperson of the South Africa Women's Right to Labour and Economic Empowerment, in her speech at the opening ceremony of the conference. The conference addressed the issue of human trafficking in the conference, which was held in Accra, Ghana. The conference was attended by representatives from various countries, including Ghana, Nigeria, and South Africa. The conference focused on the issue of human trafficking and its impact on the economy of the region. The conference was organized by the Ghana Labour and Employment Rights Association (GLEN) and the South Africa Women's Right to Labour and Economic Empowerment (SALWE).
Call for public support to fight hawker problem

EAST LONDON — Local businessmen have complained that hawkers are littering the pavements and obstructing customers from entering their Gladstone Street shops.

Mr A. Wolf, a clothing store manager, said two customers fell after slipping on left-over peels from hawkers.

"Luckily it was not serious, but someday something serious may happen."

He said each time a police patrol van came near the area, the hawkers would either drop their goods inside his shop or leave them on the pavement outside and run away.

Mr J. J. V. Drayton, a bottle store manager, said he had had to "chuck out" hawkers quite a few times. He said they were a nuisance, especially at the entrance to his store.

Mrs H. Wankel, a bridal boutique manageress, said hawkers left their litter "all over the place".

"I have seen hawkers actually washing their fruit, vegetables and meat in the drains and then sell them," she said.

Mr J. Rossouw, manager of a men's outfitters store, said the problem was "something terrible".

The city's director of management services, Mr L. Deetlefs, and the security superintendent, Mr C. J. van Vuuren, said the problem of hawkers "harassed the whole town."

The problem reached a peak during holidays, when children were sent to hawk.

Most hawkers operated from the Pontoon Road bus stop, Mr Deetlefs said. "We try our best to overcome the problem, but it seems nothing helps. When they see a van approaching they run away — leaving the goods behind," Mr Van Vuuren said.

"We must warn the public that they can also be charged under municipal regulations if they are caught buying from hawkers," said Mr Deetlefs.

"In the meantime, municipal security officials, in conjunction with the police, will try their best," he said.

The police public relations officer for the Border, Major W. W. Brown, said 32 hawkers had been arrested since last week.

"We found that since we've started taking action against hawkers, the petty-crime rate in the city has decreased — including bag-snatching and breaking into motor cars."

"Hawkers particularly seem to direct their actions against older people, by pushing their goods into the cars in parking lots. When they retract their packets, they take anything that is lying loose in the car with them — including handbags."

"Many businessmen phone us about hawkers being a menace by running into shops and epositing their goods, when they see a van coming. We deal with that every day," he said.

Colonel P. Wagener, divisional inspector for the police, warned the public not to buy from hawkers. "I have seen a hawker cleaning dirty apples with his saliva. I have also seen them washing their goods in drains and public toilets, and selling meat with flies running all over it."

"It seems as if it's only the SAP who try to fight the problem of hawkers — and it is a problem."

"One should ask oneself where the hawkers store these goods — in their houses?" he said.

Hawkers said they bought their food at markets, where they paid about R2.50 for a box of fruit. They said they made a profit of about R2 on a box.

"We are doing this to make money," they said. — DDR

Hawkers in Gladstone Street.
Hawker Witbank of a Life A Day In

By Len Masoko

NO LICENCE TO VEND

SOWETAN Wednesday, April 13, 1993
when I'm planning to build a home, the papers are the first thing I look for. I find the papers more interesting than the house. They tell me about the history of the house, the materials used, and the people who lived there. It's like a family tree for the house.

Mr. Lee's business

Mr. Lee's business is located on a small street in the heart of the city. He is known for his unique furniture designs. His customers come from all over the world. He has been in business for over 30 years and has built a loyal customer base.

Strategic

The strategic location of his business has been a key factor in his success. It is located on a busy street, making it easy for people to find his shop. He also has a unique marketing strategy. He offers custom furniture designs to suit his customers' needs. He also hosts events to showcase his work and attract new customers.

Easigas

Easigas is a company that produces gas bottles for homes and businesses. They have been in business for over 50 years and have a reputation for producing high-quality gas bottles. Their products are used in homes and businesses all over the world.

No Power

When I was young, I used to think that power was everything. I thought that if I had power, I would be happy. But now, I realize that power is not everything. There are other things that are more important, like family and friends.

Wildbank's

Wildbank's is a restaurant that is located in the heart of the city. They are known for their delicious food and friendly service. The restaurant has been in business for over 20 years and has a loyal customer base.

Joy Bank

Joy Bank is a bank that has been in business for over 100 years. They offer a wide range of financial services, including savings accounts, checking accounts, and loans. Their customers are loyal and have been with the bank for many years.
Street trade means survival in recession

How are they making out in Port Elizabeth's black townships, with unemployment running so high? Like people caught in this same situation the world over, they are taking in each other's washing and selling things to one another.

Weekend Post watched some of the street traders in action in New Brighton this week — making a few cents any way they could.

By Simon Bloch

Getting by in the recession means making a few cents a day for many in Port Elizabeth's black townships. Making them any way you can.

A myriad enterprises have sprung up on the dusty streets: barber shops, soup kitchens — their pots boiling and bubbling over small fires in the market — fruit and vegetable stalls situated at bus shelters and the rag trade where bits of cloth can be bought off blankets on the stony sidewalks.

Some survive by chopping up animals' heads and intestines. Others sell scrappy live chickens.

And, of course, with so few doctors located in the area, tribal medicine flourishes.

No one stands in a dole queue waiting for a handout. They get on with any job they can manage to make ends meet.

And they are proud to earn a living.

In contrast to the grim poverty prevalent everywhere, the market is an area where the community of high-spirited traders will do almost anything for cash.
Above: Cooking for the constant stream of visitors to the market is a lucrative trade.

Right: Short back and sides? A customer takes his seat in the shade of a parasol while the barber plies his trade. It's better than a room with a view. Cheaper too.

Perhaps it's not pre-packed prime, but this young trader doesn't lack customers. He even finds people to buy the head.

Anyone for sweets? The radio helps make pleasant the passage of time — and the trade will earn this man a living until the employment situation improves.
Domestic agency opens

Post Reporter

A GELVANDALE couple has applied for a licence to start a domestic worker hiring service.

Mr A Savahl, a factory owner, said he had applied to the Port Elizabeth City Council for a licence and hoped to start operating on Monday.

He said there was a big demand for domestic workers, often on a temporary basis. Since he had started advertising, he had received up to 20 inquiries a day.

He said he and his wife, Mrs S Savahl, carefully interviewed prospective workers and selected those most suitable. They would earn R100 a month.

He said domestic workers would be taken to the homes and taken to a bus stop once they had finished.
DESPERATE out-of-work blacks are paying a "mail-order company" in the belief that they will find well-paid jobs in America.

Hundreds of blacks have been to the office of "Overseas Appointments" in Voortrekker Street, Eikergrot, near Germiston, where they willingly pay R5 for a scrap of paper — and a short-lived dream.

For their fee they fill in a form, giving their name, address, education, working experience and the type of work they are looking for.

They are also issued with a cheaply produced photostat brochure which makes sweeping statements about glamorous jobs with international companies based in America.

The reader is told of the scores of highly paid opportunities — with overtime "sweeteners" and "heavy" bonuses — which are waiting to be taken up.

The "clearing house" as he calls it, is run by Mr Alan Day. He started advertising his business in newspapers about a month ago.

Since then he says he has had more than 1,000 applicants, all keen to part with R5 for a job with a salary beyond even their wildest dreams.

Mr Roger Daley, the American Consul for Consular Affairs in Johannesburg, said the chances of an unskilled person getting a visa to work in America was "close to zero".

Queue

"Although American companies do recruit overseas labor it is for senior positions and highly skilled people," he said.

When the Sunday Times visited the offices this week, there was a long queue of black hopefuls waiting with their R5 notes at the back door of the office.

Mr Day said he was the manager of "Overseas Appointments" and that it was a private company.

"We are only a mail-order house and provide information services," Mr Day claimed.

"We don't promise employment or claim that we will fix up their passports or work permits. How can we promise this?"

"All we do is provide the information and the contact. Most of the people who come to us have very little education and we help them put together an application form and type out a covering letter which we undertake to post to the various companies listed in our brochure."

Yet a glance at the long list of jobs claimed in the brochure to be available showed not one that didn't call for a reasonable education and specialist experience.

Mr Day said he did not give receipts for the payments.

"Everyone gets a form which is a receipt. If they bring these back I will return their money. If they ask for receipts we'll give them receipts.

"We have 10 guys in here a minute and it is difficult to issue all with receipts."

Lawyer

He said he had been in this type of business for a year and had consulted his lawyer first before entering the venture.

"I'm a millionaire. I make a small profit from the R5 fee.

"My administration costs play more staff, and to keep

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Desperate

He claimed he had applied for over 200 construction jobs for over 200 contacts. His wife had an interview with a construction company and R5 was as semi-skilled work.

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For those who are in dire straits, there are several resources available to help. The local employment office can provide assistance, including job search materials and training programs. Community centers and local churches often have programs to help those in need. Additionally, there are several online resources and support groups that can be accessed for more personalized guidance. It is important to reach out and seek help when in need.

Jobless Pay for US Addresses

By Jay Ashkenas
300 men marched to 'jobs' office

East Rand Bureau

About 300 men who paid R5 each to "Overseas Appointments" in Elandsburg, hoping to find work overseas, marched to the company's offices yesterday to demand their money back.

The men were among hundreds who flocked to the firm, managed by Mr Alan Day, hoping to get overseas jobs.

Eyewitnesses said the men walked in an orderly procession and were not aggressive.

At the firm's offices they told a company interpreter that they had come to demand their money back because they had heard the American jobs they had applied for were not available.

The interpreter told them that Mr Day was away but would be back in two weeks' time.

The interpreter later told a Star reporter that Mr Day was expected back at the office later that day.

A notice on the door to the firm read: "No more American jobs."

Two typists in the office appeared to have no work to do.
Meeting a need

The Legal Resources Centre (LCR) has scored a number of legal victories since its establishment four years ago. Some of these have affected the lives of thousands of people. Now, with the recent Rhikoto victory under its belt, the LRC plans to open in Cape Town.

According to the LRC's Geoff Budlender:

"The Cape Town office will employ four full-time lawyers and an administrative staff and will also run a fellowship programme in due course. At present the Cape Town budget is set at R250,000 when fully operational — a good deal of which has already been raised.

"A significant proportion of LRC funds comes from US Foundations such as Ford and Carnegie Foundations, but 25% comes from SA private sector donations. The total budget of the three centres is R860,000.

"There is continual pressure on the centre's professional staff. At present we're handling about 600 cases, annually in Johannesberg alone. This is in addition to the huge case-load at our Hoek St clinic. There are enormous numbers of people who cannot afford legal fees."

The Hoek St clinic, which takes on a wider range of cases than the LRC and does not usually litigate, acts as a referral agency. It conducts about 50 interviews daily. To meet these needs, the Johannesburg LRC employs 11 qualified lawyers and four fellows, while the Durban office employs four lawyers. The centre's staff are committed to further expansion as the need arises — given the availability of funds and suitable staff.

According to Budlender, the LRC handles three kinds of cases — cases testing the law and cases whose outcome affects many people because they touch on community issues.

"However, the bulk of our work concerns cases where the law is clear but people are being commercially exploited or are being harassed or obstructed by the administrative process, such as in unlawful hire-purchase repossessions. The big test cases are few and far between."

Nonetheless, the judgments in the Komani, Rhikoto and Dhuma test cases have all been watershed judgments with far-reaching implications. For example, the Komani case in 1980 established the rights of a person who had been in continuous employment with a single employer for 10 years (or more than one employer for 15 years) to remain in urban area, are still to be tested. Bureaucratic opposition to the Supreme Court decision means the ultimate effect of the judgment remains to be seen.

Another first for the centre was the reversal earlier this month of four previous decisions of the Natal Supreme Court in the case of Beauty Dhuma. The centre's credibility is so strong that after Dhuma had been found to be "idle" and "undesirable," the Supreme Court judge asked the LRC to represent her when the case went on automatic review.

One of the major developments over the last 18 months has been the LRC's involvement with community advice offices. Budlender says: "We now have an advocate and an attorney providing para-legals training, back-up and legal support to the advice offices. We are also publishing a manual for para-legals working in advice offices which is scheduled for completion later this year."
His only ‘crime’ is selling flowers

FLOWERS have been his life - growing, drying, buying, but mostly selling them. It has enabled him to house, feed and educate his family.

One of his children is in Standard 10, another in Standard 6 and the eldest is at the Peninsula Technical. And he is a rate-payer in Mitchells Plain.

Selling flowers was a tough life, but in the end, his hard work paid dividends.

Until recently that is. Now, top flowers vendor Abdul Karriem Carelse of Salisbury Way, Portland cannot guarantee that at the end of the day, he would be able to feed his family and it is not of his own doing.

"Flowers have been everything to me. It has been my own doing," he said.

CRIMINAL

"I have worked hard and I have worked honestly. The thanks I get is to be chased around as if I was a common criminal."

Mr Carelse was referring to the action being taken against hawkers at the Mitchells Plain Town Centre.

Shopowners and some shoppers have complained that the hawkers are a nuisance. Their presence apparently leads to vulgarity, littering and robbery.

Mr Carelse is a hawker at the Town Centre. He has been there for the past three years.

"It is not that I like hawking like that," he said, "but the authorities forced me to.

"More than three years ago they promised to provide stands for us at the Town Centre. We dutifully filled in the forms supplied but we have heard nothing since.

IGNORED

"They were quick to jump in when the big chains wanted to move in and simply ignored the small guys, like me."

"Not only are we left with unfulfilled promises but now we are being chased around."

Don’t let your friends drive drunk...

A R400 000 campaign to ensure that “friends don’t let friends drive drunk” has been launched to help combat drunken driving on South African roads.

It is being sponsored by South African Breweries and will run until the end of December.

The campaign is seen as a complement to anti-drunk driving measures planned as part of road safety week in 1986, makes a friendly appeal to all South Africans to help keep potential drunk drivers out of their cars by offering them constructive alternatives, like a taxi, a home or accommodation for the night.

It is to be backed by advertising on radio, in newspapers and on roadside hoardings, by posters and drip mats in clubs and bars.

A similar campaign which has been running in the United States for four years is reported to have had “very positive results.”

Abuse

According to the general manager of SAB’s beer division, Peter Lloyd, the company recognises drunken driving as the major manifestation of alcohol abuse, but feels programmes to combat abuse should address other aspects of alcoholism.

There is growing evidence in Europe and the United States that the friendly, educational approach - used with the deterrent effect on a fine in the background - has more meaningful effect.

"Many of these programmes have been sponsored by brewers in the belief that the liquor industry has a duty to help find answers to the problem in the face of a commonly held, but incorrect, belief that the industry is the problem."

In other countries, he added, brewer and governments had worked together for many years to overcome a problem either of them wants.

Azapo man’s passport held

THE president of the Azanian People’s Organisation, Mr Lyndon Mabasa, said last week that the police confiscated his passport after his return from abroad last month.

He had been on a one-month tour of several European and American countries, where he discussed the political situation.

wanted to photostat it to find out where I had been during my trip abroad."

"More than a week has passed and the passport has not been returned to me yet."

Mr Mabasa said his itinerary abroad included Canada where he attended the World Council of Churches Assembly in
Battleground begins

Traders unite to preserve thoroughfare

29/10/62

We mean business ... some of the protesting traders.

Mercury Reporter

The city council's management committee has decided to close this week that the proposed closure of the city's main thoroughfare, Western Freeway, would be a greater threat to the local traders than the proposed closure of the road. The council has been advised that the closure would cause a great deal of inconvenience to the traders and their business interests.

Mr. Ahmed, the mayor of the city, said: "The council has been advised that the closure of the road would cause a great deal of inconvenience to the traders and their businesses." He added that the closure of the road would be a greater threat to the local traders than the proposed closure of the city's main thoroughfare, Western Freeway.

The council has been advised that the closure would cause a great deal of inconvenience to the traders and their business interests.
The Boot?
Setting aside a square for a marketplace where hawkers and shopkeepers can display their goods — in a bid to ease the tensions between hawkers and shopkeepers.

But the hawkers may soon have to leave this bustling business centre if the City Council and Department of Community Development are going to continue passing the buck about who should erect suitable hawking facilities at the centre.

This is the view of Mr. Raymond Steyn, chairman of the Mitchells Plain Town Centre Merchants’ Association.

Mr. Steyn said this week that some solution had to be found soon to counter the growing concern that hawkers at the Town Centre have been causing local merchants.

Mr. Steyn was reacting to a recent letter in the Plainsman in which Mr. Lionel Abrahams of Portland claimed that hawkers at the Town Centre were a nuisance and that their presence led to vulgarity, littering and robbery.

The hawkers referred to are mainly concentrated in the area between the Metro cinema and the Central News Agency store on the east side of the Town Centre.

Defence

Mr. Steyn was also replying to another letter by an Eastridge man who came out strongly in defence of hawkers and hawking at the Town Centre.

Mr. Steyn said: “Personally, I am not unsympathetic towards people who work hard to make a living. But at the moment, the stands at the Town Centre are all illegal.

“I’ve tried to ease the problem by cordonning off, with rope, the area which has been set aside for hawking. That is the area where stalls will be erected. The cordon worked for two days, and after that, the hawkers were back on the paved sidewalks where they are not allowed.

“At the moment, they are causing problems in that many of the hawkers are selling goods that some of the mer-

Help me see things as they are!

Miss Zuraya Salle, 17, is desperately trying to complete her studies for the coming examinations, but she’s unable to do the reading she needs to because her spectacles were nabbed on Saturday morning.

Miss Salle says her specs were taken from the counter at the Cashworths clothing store in the Town Centre on Saturday morning. She is a casual worker at the store.

Anyone who can help Zuraya is asked to contact her at 31 7091.
Allow us to make a living — hawkers

Hawkers at the Town Centre have denied that they are giving local shopkeepers grey hairs that they are a nuisance, like a Plainsman letter writer, Mr Lionel Abrahams, claimed recently.

"We are simply trying hard to make an honest, decent living and we are providing a good service to the public," was the general opinion of three hawkers who daily sell their wares at the Town Centre.

I can't believe that someone living in Mitchells Plain can make such a statement on hawkers. Where does Mr Lionel Abrahams get his ideas from? Mr Rashad Sassman, of Ricelotte Street, Eastridge, asked about the controversial letter.

Mr Sassman is one of the "illegal" hawkers who pursue their business opposite the Clichy store every day. On certain Saturdays dozens of hawkers from all over the Peninsula stream to this end of the Town Centre to supplement their earnings.

illegal

They are branded illegal because their goods are displayed on the ground, something which does not meet municipal health requirements.

All these hawkers have said that they would be prepared to operate from properly erected stalls.

Mr Sassman said: "I have been hawking in Wynberg for 20 years and I have been here for about nine months. For the 20 years, no one ever complained about my business and the way in which I went about it.

"Now, all of a sudden, people are complaining. The police come here every now and then to tell us to pack up, but I've never been in the way of any shopkeeper, because I am not fighting the big businesses. I am just trying to earn my daily bread in an honest way."

POLICE

Mr Mossie Makan, of Beacon Valley, said: "My stand has been here for quite some time and we have had a number of problems with the police who come here to say we must move backward — off the paved sidewalk — and come here for free fruit.

"They never give us a reason for their actions. I'm starting to get used to it.

"I'm prepared to pay for a stall if the Council or the Department (of Community Development) erect it. I just want to make a living and I know that I cannot do that without also spending an odd cent to make things comfortable."

Mr Gasant Hoosen, also of Beacon Valley, felt the same. "I have been here for more than a year and so far I have not had any problems with shopkeepers."

In fact, I have a very good relationship with fellow hawkers and with the shopkeepers. One of the shopkeepers here told me he was proud of us because we worked honestly to make a living.

"We use the shopkeepers' telephones and converse with them freely. There are no hassles." — Mr Raymond Steyn, chairman of the Town Centre Merchants Association, said later that he did not know of a single Town Centre merchant who would give his blessing to hawkers.

Mr Steyn also denied the good relationships between different hawkers by saying that there had been occasions when hawkers drew knives on each other.

A case for the hawkers

Who cares if hawkers have licences when they have proved to be of greater service to the community.

This a point raised in a letter by Mr M Jacobs of Oberon Crescent, Eastridge, who strongly defended hawkers in a reply to an article titled "Control the Town Centre hawkers" in the Plainsman dated October 8, 1983.

The article highlighted a letter which a Portland resident, Mr Lionel Abrahams, of Portland, wrote to the Department of Community Development and the Town Centre Merchants Association.

In his letter, Mr Abrahams said: "The hawkers are often a nuisance and forceful. These conditions often lead to littering, vulgarity and robberies. Nobody is authorised to question their (the hawkers') presence on the conditions stipulated on their licences."

Mr Abrahams also called for an end to mobile shop businesses in Mitchells Plain.

Mr Jacobs said in his letter: "Mr Abrahams condemned the residents in Mitchells Plain by saying that it seems as if the Plain's residents don't want modern shop-
Police arrest hawkers

EAST LONDON — Police and municipal inspectors arrested 33 women and children yesterday in a swoop on illegal hawkers and fruit and vegetable vendors.

The raid concentrated on the Buffalo Street-Caxton Street-Pontoon Road area.

The police liaison officer, Major Warren Brown, said that several hundred kilograms of fruit and vegetables were confiscated.

He said the people who were arrested would probably appear in court today.

"We have been inundated with complaints from businessmen and members of the public claiming that the hawkers and vendors clutter up the pavements and swamp people as they go about their illegal operation," he said.

Major Brown said it was felt that strong action had to be taken to clean up the business "and we will be conducting raids more frequently." 

"I feel I should also point out that, while it is not an offence to buy from the hawkers and vendors, anybody who does so can be subpoenaed to appear in court as a witness."
City street hawkers

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Newtown traders
welcome them

By Colleen Ryan,
Municipal Reporter

In the shopping district of Newtown there are no supermarket aisles or computerised tills.
But there are many shops where the goods spill out of the front doors and where dresses and scarves and coats are hung outside the windows.
There are posters which advertise special offers and others which promise discounts, but most common are signs which say: "Hawkers welcome" or "Wholesale to hawkers".

Hawkers from all over South Africa, from Lesotho, Zimbabwe and Botswana come to Johannesburg to buy from the Indian traders. They buy colourful scarves, plastic tablecloths, clothing, jewellery, cosmetics and a wide range of foods.
Most of the country hawkers are regular customers who come once a month to the city to buy their supplies.

"I depend almost entirely on the hawker trade," says Mr Nanoo Govan, who runs a small shop in Diagonal Street.

PEDDLE THEIR WARES

He has been in business for 24 years and sells "soft goods", cosmetics, watches and jewellery. Many of his customers peddle their wares on the trains which run between Soweto and Johannesburg.

"When I started there were only three other hawk-
er shops in the area, but now there are at least
15," he explains.

At the hawkers Centre in Becker Street, a group of Sotho women are buying a selection of scarves. They are faithful customers who travel from Maseru once a month to collect their supplies.

Many of the hawkers who buy from Arun Morar's Diagonal Street shop are housewives. They buy sweets, popcorn, peanuts and cheese puffs and sell outside schools and door-to-door in Soweto, says Mr Morar.

Mr Gopal Daya has moved shop three times since he started selling to hawkers 29 years ago. He still has regular customers who seek out his Newtown shop for jackets and suits.

Like most of the traders, his biggest customers are hawkers.

Hats, scarves, shoelaces, peanuts . . . just some of the goods Mr Nelson Matlala sells from his pavement "shop" in Noard Street.

© Pictures by Clive Lloyd
Jo'burg to get five legal hawker markets

Municipal Reporter

Progressive Federal Party city councillor Mrs Rae Graham has been praised for her efforts in securing five 'legal' hawker markets in Johannesburg.

Mrs Graham had fought a hard battle to secure the new deal for the city's hawker community, said PFP leader Mr. Sam Moss, at this week's meeting of the Johannesburg City Council.

Trading will be permitted in selected areas at the Hoek Street Mall, the New Doornfontein bus depot and near the Westgate, Parade and Kazerne stations. The markets will be run on a six month trial basis.

The hawker approached Mrs Graham for help about three years ago and she raised the matter at the council's budget debate in 1982.

"There are hundreds of people who have no other way of making a living," Mrs Graham said. "Hawkers serve an important social need and they are part of a whole strata of trading."

"Fresh fruit and vegetables and a variety of "soft goods" such as scarves, hats and pantyhose would be sold at the new markets."

"The scheme will be carefully controlled and numbers will be limited," she said. Hawker committees would allocate stalls to licence holders. Mrs Graham said the municipal by-laws would be amended to simplify licence requirements and to allow for the new trading areas."
INFORMAL SECTOR

New hawking deal

"Illegal" hawkers, who are continually harassed by the enforcement of petty regulations, may be heading for better times as a result of an experimental scheme being run by the Johannesburg City Council.

The pilot scheme, a brainchild of councilor Rae Graham, is intended to make black hawking a legal, permanent feature of the business scene through the provision of marketing areas with appropriate facilities.

Five market areas, the Doornfontein bus depot, Faraday, Westgate, Hoek Street and Kazerne, have been selected for the scheme. Hawkers will be able to conduct their trade under the eyes of traffic police and city health inspectors who will see to it they do not block traffic or disregard hygiene regulations.

Each of the five market centres has a small committee, not only to see to it that the traders observe the rules but also to decide on the number of who will be permitted to trade in each centre.

Permanent scheme

Says Graham: "The future of hawking by blacks in this city is now in the hands of the people involved in the experimental scheme. If the scheme, which began in June and ends in December, succeeds, we are going to put up permanent structures for hawkers wherever the need exists in the city."

She adds, "I believe there are about 3,000 families in Soweto who get their support from (illegal) hawking. Of course, they don't haw because they want to do something illegal; they are forced by circumstances, by unemployment, to buy and sell articles to maintain their families. If they are not legalised, who is going to employ them? Nobody, because they have no skills.

"There is no way in which industry and commerce is going to provide jobs for the expanding population. There's going to be hunger and starvation.

"In US, seven out of every 10 jobs are created by the small business entrepreneurs. We need to legalise our informal sector and provide them with facilities so that they can also be effective in the fight against unemployment."
Some of the hawkers who are upset about the action taken against them.

Hawking confined to certain areas

EAST LONDON — The problem of illegal hawking in the city had been solved and the situation would be monitored on a daily basis.

This was said by Mr G. Moore, municipal security superintendent, who headed a clean-up operation of illegal hawkers.

Mr Moore was approached by hawkers that they had been chased away from the city.

A spokesman for the hawkers, Miss Monica Mdumi, of Mdantsane, said municipal officials had arrived and taken their produce away and told them to stop selling.

"We were told the action was being taken against us because of our children who snatched purses and forced people to buy in the central business district," Miss Mdumi said.

Miss Mdumi also claimed the market at Wilsonia had refused to sell to them and they had been accused of intimidating other purchasers.

"We have children at school, houses to rent, hungry families to feed. Some of us are widowed and others are single," she said. She said they had pleaded with the officials and told them they would take their children away from the streets.

Mr Moore said: "Hawkers must be licensed and even in cases where areas are certain areas where they are not permitted to sell.

"In the area bounded by Fleet, Buffalo, North and Cambridge Streets the hawkers are not allowed to display their wares without a licence," he said.

He said on December 17, a traffic vehicle with a loud hailer and a Xhosa-speaking security officer told the hawkers to go there in a traffic vehicles and spoke to groups.

"On December 16, I went there a traffic vehicle and spoke to groups. "On December 19 there was a joint raid by the SAP and the municipal police. We used the traffic department and cordoned off the area.

"Police had two dogs for crowd control measures. Nobody was hurt in the incident and the produce was confiscated."

He said on December 21 he met a delegation of hawkers in the office of the acting town clerk, Miss A. Cronin, where an amicable agreement was reached.

"We told them about the complaints and that a significant amount of litter in the centre of the town was caused by illegal hawkers.

"As chief of security I have a lot of other things to do beside controlling hawkers. I react to complaints. If there are no complaints there are no problems.

"The hawkers should have exercised self-control and kept the area around the bus terminus clean — we even supplied them with garbage drums," he said.

He said after the meeting the situation improved slightly but soon deteriorated until on Tuesday, January 8, when he told the hawkers that it was impossible for him not to take action.

"On Wednesday the hawkers were given a deadline of 2:30 pm to remove their wares. "Since then there have been no hawkers in the city.

A sequel to that is a phone call we received from the market chief. The hawkers were boycotting the Wilsonia Market and intimidating other purchasers.

"We went out there and found a group of hawkers and warned them it was an offence to intimidate anyone from buying," Mr Moore said.

He said the hawkers told him they would purchase if they were allowed to take their produce to the bus terminus in town. This was refused.

Miss Cronin said she had invited tenders from private entrepreneurs to erect stalls. Town engineers had estimated that 28 hawkers would be accommodated.

"The hawkers have no acceptable facilities to wash their vegetables and fruit," Miss Cronin said.

The director of the Wilsonia Market, Mr J. Rademeyer said: "The market is a public place. Anybody can come and buy. My control is only at the market. I am not stopping anybody from buying. It is not true and unfounded that I have a certain licence to sell to them.

The hawkers are not buying because they cannot sell their produce."

— DDR ii
The community councillors who met East London city councillors on the question of hawkers yesterday (from the left) were: Mr Eddie Makebe, Mr Dazel Makatala, Mrs N. Sili, and Mr Michael Bukanil.

Hawkers appeal to EL city council

EAST LONDON — The city council is to take a crucial decision at its action committee meeting in two weeks time on the question of hawkers.

Yesterday city councillors met a four-member delegation from the Duncan Village Community Council who pleaded that the council give hawkers another chance.

A high-level campaign has been underway in recent weeks to clean up the town, with hawkers blamed for the acute litter problem in the city.

The meeting with the community councillors was preceded by a meeting with a six-woman delegation who called at the city hall and pleaded with the mayor, Mr Joe Yabek, to allow them to hawk as their families were starving.

Mr Yabek said: "It was distressing to see these women plead for the right to sell their wares. While we fully back the free enterprise system, the question of hawking has to be controlled and the women gladly accepted this."

The city council has called for tenders to erect stalls, which could be leased to licenced hawkers, at the Pontoon Road bus terminus.

"The hawkers and the community councillors, led by their chairman, Mr D. Makatala, were happy with this arrangement and I sincerely hope we will get tenders for this project."

"Something has to be done for those women who want to make an honest living," Mr Yabek said.

Mr Makatala refused to comment on their closed talks with the councillors yesterday, but said he was anxiously awaiting the decision of the action committee.

Mr Yabek said the women who approached him were fully aware that all hawkers would have to be licenced and that they could be confined to their stalls in certain areas. They would also have a proper place to store their wares.

"The women were happy with that arrangement and I just hope something can be sorted out on this matter," Mr Yabek said. — DDR.
EL bans pushcart vendors

EAST LONDON — The decades-old sight of the cookie and pie vendor with his familiar pushcart is to disappear soon from the streets of the city.

The Acting Medical Officer of Health, Mr. Jack Klaasen, confirmed yesterday that licences would no longer be issued to vendors with pushcarts.

The Chief Security Officer for the municipality, Mr. Graham Moore, confirmed that two of the city’s eight vendors had been taken off the streets and similar action would be taken against the rest.

He said the pushcarts had been returned to a bakery from where they had been removed without permission.

“The carts were not licensed and the vendors did not have licences,” he said.

Mr. Klaasen said, according to the public health regulations, food could not be sold in such a manner.

“The hardcarts are sub-standard and the bakery which owns them decided it was not worth putting them on the streets any longer.”

“East London must be the last place in South Africa to have them and we will definitely not issue licences for these pushcarts any longer.”

Mr. Klaasen said.

He said the action was taken against the two men after the bakery had informed the municipality that the pushcarts had been removed without permission and that it was not supplying the men with goods any longer.

Mr. Klaasen said the sale of foodstuffs from such carts had been stopped in all Western countries. The cart had been traced as the chief source of food poisoning.

“The temperature at which the food is kept in these carts is ideal for bacteria to breed in,” he said.

But yesterday the two men taken off the streets said they could not understand the new ruling as they had been selling “cakes, pies and peanuts for decades without any problems.”

Mr. Samson Dilsana, 55, said he had started with a pushcart in 1955 and had used the income to rear his seven children.

“I don’t know what I am going to do now. I know no other job,” said Mr. Dilsana who lives in Ziptupana.

He said only one of his children was married and the rest were still at school.

“I don’t know how I am going to keep them at school. This new rule is going to ruin me,” he said.

Mr. Stanley Saljini, 48, of Mdantsane, said he had been selling cakes and pies for 25 years.

“I have seven children and I have been rearing them on the money I get from selling my stuff outside a sweet factory where I have many customers,” he said.

“I don’t know what I am going to do now. My family is going to starve,” he said.

The municipality has taken a tough stand on all illegal hawkers following an council decision to clean up the town. Illegal hawkers were blamed for the acute littering — DDR.
Council recommends ban on hawkers in several areas of PE

Municipal Reporter

PROBLEMS caused by the large number of hawkers on Port Elizabeth streets have resulted in a recommendation that they be banned from certain areas.

This decision by the City Council's Community Services meeting yesterday still has to be approved by the Administrator.

In a report, the acting Town Clerk, Mr I S Terblanche, said complaints about hawkers had been received from ratepayers and the principal of the Otto Du Plessis High School.

Complaints included damage to fences, dumping of rubbish and health hazards due to the absence of toilet facilities.

In terms of the decision, hawking will be prohibited in Dyke Road, Algoa Park, St Leonard's Road, Algoa Park, Boekenboulevard Street, Algoa Park, Forrest Hill Drive and La Roche Drive.

In 17th Avenue, Walmer, hawking will be prohibited from Main Road to Buffelsfontein Road. The temporary site on the corner of Buffelsfontein Road will, however, not be affected.

Hawking will also not be allowed in 10th Avenue, Walmer, from Villiers Road to Heugh Road, in Humewood Road from Walmer Boulevard to the point known as the S-bend in Beach Road, and in Victoria Drive from Schoenmakerskop Road to 10th Avenue, Walmer.

Plan recommending improved security for residents at Port Elizabeth's old age homes were deferred by the Community Services Committee until further reports concerning the cost factor of fencing carports were received.

In a report, Mr Eddie Samuels, the acting Director of Housing, said that many elderly people were at risk and reports of vehicles being tampered with outside old age homes had been received.

He said that the provision of alarm systems to provide instant communication with the caretaking staff at all old age homes had been requested.

He also recommended that funds be made available for carports and fences at the Buffelsfontein Centre and for 12 carports at the Louis Dubb Centre.

The chairman of the committee, Mr Bernard Nagle, said that his committee had shown it's concern about this matter, and the City Engineer, Mr Arthur Clayton, would look into the cost factor.
Hawkers hoping for a reprieve

Post Reporter

FRESH produce hawkers, who have been barred from doing business at their popular site along Buffelsfontein Road, are hoping for a temporary reprieve.

Last night members of the Small Business Forum, hawkers and two representatives of the East Cape Agricultural Union discussed what facilities were needed at the site. It was decided that a deputation would see the Town Clerk, Mr. P.K. Botha, about introducing the facilities and possibly postponing the hawkers' eviction.

The forum established a special committee, under the chairmanship of Mr. Johan van der Westhuizen, to assist the hawkers in acquiring better facilities.

Mr. van der Westhuizen said the committee was not a pressure group against the Port Elizabeth City Council's decision to bar the Buffelsfontein hawkers from April 1.

The committee had, in fact, been established before the city council decision.

Mr. Andries Blignaut, a member of the forum, said it would not cost the municipality much to provide adequate facilities for the hawkers at the Buffelsfontein site.

One of the hawkers, Mr. Johann van der Berg, said people from as far as Greenbushes bought from them. He would like to see the provision of toilet, washing and refuse facilities.

Mr. Barry Lyle said many of the residents of the homes for the aged in Walmer frequented the hawkers' site, as it was conveniently situated and the produce was reasonably priced.

Shelters and a tarred stretch were also suggested as improvements.

A commitment from the hawkers to maintain hygienic conditions, once the facilities were introduced, was made.

The hawkers agreed unanimously that they were prepared to pay monthly rent for the provision of facilities and would even finance the necessary facilities.
Municipal Reporter

THE fate of hawkers who traded at the 17th Avenue, Walmer-Buffelsfontein Road intersection is to be discussed at the monthly meeting of the Port Elizabeth City Council's Community Services Committee this afternoon.

In terms of the committee's resolution in March, hawking at the site was prohibited from April 1.

However, the Town Clerk, Mr Paul Botha, reports that various representations have been made to him by the hawkers and by other representatives since the committee decision to bar trading on this site. Hawkers hope to continue trading there, he says.

A petition asking the City Council to reverse its decision was signed by 1,400 people and handed in to the Town Clerk's office.

The petition says the hawkers are rendering a highly valued public service and that prices are cheaper than those of many other retailers.

It also says additional refuse bins and regular inspection by department officials would take care of any health hazards in this area.

Mr Botha reports that a letter from attorneys acting on behalf of the hawkers has also been received.

On March 30 a letter containing a petition with 360 signatures and other letters from individuals in favour of the hawkers remaining at this site were also received.

Mr Botha says a delegation from the Small Business Forum met the committee chairman, Mr B A Nagle, and the Deputy Town Clerk on March 28 to discuss matters concerning the fresh produce trading facilities in Port Elizabeth.

Today a delegation of three people will meet the committee to discuss the importance of fresh produce supply points to the economy in the area. We need for proper facilities for such trading and the recoupment of funds by the municipality for expenditure on such facilities.
opened a keen interest in the marketing side of the business which used to be kept strictly apart from the financial aspect,” says Schnug who is currently participating in a marketing course to expand her practical experience.

Gibbeys is part of the Grand Metropolitan Group — the sixth largest company in the UK — thought to be one of the most avant-garde in the world’s liquor trade.

She sees her daily dealing on the forex

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**GEOFF BUDLENDER**

**Legal resourcefulness**

Geoff Budlender, new Johannesburg director of the Legal Resources Centre (LRC), is one of a generation of young lawyers who have played a significant role in changing the rules of the legal game. His involvement in a number of cases like the watershed Rihkoto and Khomani (pass laws) judgments, and others involving black rights, has fundamentally improved the lives of thousands of people.

Budlender (35) succeeds Arthur Chaskalson SC as director of the LRC’s Johannesburg office. Chaskalson becomes director of a new LRC national office, created in addition to its Johannesburg, Cape Town and Durban centres to cope with expansion. Indeed, says Budlender, the centre’s six years of existence have seen a risky innovation become part of the legal system.

“The LRC took root in the legal soil after its first few years, gaining acceptance from the courts and the profession’s organisations. Rules had to be changed to make it possible, because it was an unusual departure to have full-time salaried lawyers working without charge, and to have attorneys and advocates practising together,” he explains.

The Johannesburg office is the oldest and marginally the biggest of the LRC’s three centres. Does Budlender see the directorship as an important career step?

“The big step was to become the LRC’s first full-time lawyer at the beginning of 1979, when none of us knew how long the LRC would survive and in what form. Shortly afterwards, I realised that this work was a career decision, not a matter of a few years’ service before turning to something serious.”

Has he a professional do-gooder then? “I do what I do because I enjoy it,” Budlender responds firmly. “Anyway, one can work from charitable motives for only so long before succumbing to boredom or burn-out.”

The LRC is funded by a trust which collects money from corporate and charitable sources, local and overseas. “We get a fair amount from the US, from the Ford Foundation and from European development agencies. About a third of our R1m/year national income comes from SA business.”

Budlender is relaxed and informal, but careful and systematic in exposition. He outlines LRC achievements: the Rihkoto and Khomani decisions, which respectively established permanent urban residence rights of migrant workers who had worked for the same employer uninterrupted for 10 years, and the right of the families of people with urban residence rights to live with them.

Budlender adds: “the LRC also started the community advice offices which have sprung up in townships over the past three years, initiated and run by lay people to provide information on rights in areas like housing, labour, unemployment insurance, pensions and so on.

“We advise the staff of such offices, provide back-up and initiate litigation where necessary. It’s a major contribution, since legally establishing rights is only the first step — people must be aware of them and be able to enforce them when necessary,” he says.

Budlender’s own areas of specialisation are resettlement (“which spins off a wide variety of negotiations and litigation”), influx control and the vexed issue of citizenship.

The last two, he believes, will be key issues over the next few years. They are inextricably linked, in that rights to urban residence in SA are eroded by deprivation of SA citizens when homelands become independent. And, he adds: “When new influx control legislation is passed, the first test of it will land on our desks here.”

The LRC is trying to put a brake on its expansion. “If we were four times our present size, we’d still be overworked,” Budlender says, adding that the centre is trying to limit the cases it takes on to those which expand and enforce rights.

“We must spend more effort in identifying the type of cases it would be constructive for

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Schnug ... expanding while others cut back
market as the most crucial aspect of her work: “My fastest learning curve has been in this area. It is sometimes like playing Russian roulette and one has to be wide awake 24 hours a day to take advantage of, or limit, the risks involved.

“I’m lucky to have the support of my board for any decisions made, and I, in turn, keep them fully informed at all times.”

Schnug concedes that the liquor industry is facing its toughest time in recent history. “Increased taxes, high interest rates, gest and petrol hikes, political unrest and burgeoning unemployment are all shrinking consumers’ disposable income. But a positive attitude to recession can force companies to streamline their operations.

“Gibbeys, for example, has become lean, hungry and aggressive. We’re expanding while others are cutting back, and it seems to be working as we’re doing better than our competitors.”

Schnug regards herself as an “eternal optimist” — “Though an optimistic approach is obviously more productive and does wonders for the morale of fellow-workers, I do genuinely believe that we sometimes talk ourselves into recessions and down-turns.”

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Budlender ... a century’s worth of change in the past decade

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Financial Mail May 17 1985
us to take on and rely increasingly on other agencies to do the more routine work. Community advice offices take a good deal of pressure off us and I believe student law clinics will burgeon in the near future, which will make legal advice more widely available.

Budlender started out studying medicine before he switched to law. "A friend of mine was studying law and I found myself far more interested in his work than my own."

He was active in student politics in the turbulent mid-Seventies, serving as University of Cape Town SRC president and acting Nusas president. Both black and white student leaders of the time opted for law in disproportionate numbers, he observes, and have left their mark. "We've had a century's worth of change and development in the past decade." And he's clearly glad to be part of that process.

GE KORSTEN

Hear his song

GE Korsten, SA's Platteland Pavarotti, has many fans but his detractors tend to dismiss him as a boereliedjie balladeer. What few realise is that Capab's new director, also has extensive business experience which is, in fact, what secured his new job.

For Korsten (57) his career shift couldn't have come at a better time. After considerable soul-searching last year and with 30 years of applause still ringing in his ears, he decided that he'd quit next year while the going was good.

"My wife and I both thought I was a real outside horse in the application stakes for the Capab job," says the man who was unanimously appointed from among 12 other applicants. "But it's the ideal job at my time of life. I can still make an LP or two and do some TV work."

Korsten plans to retire at 65. In the meantime, he has plenty of time to make his impact felt on an organisation which has been riddled with personality clashes and where allegations of financial mismanagement have surfaced.

"I'm so excited about this job though everyone says it's going to be really rough," he says. "But I think that if you can get on with people, you can get on. It'll take some time for me to get into it but I have the advantage of having watched Capab's running from the other side. I have good people working with me and I know most of the guys."

Korsten will be overseeing a R12m entertainment budget covering opera, theatre, ballet and music. Though he's obviously thought long and hard about where he intends taking the organisation, he's not prepared to commit himself yet: "The theatre department isn't going so well so I'll be looking at its problems. It looks as though the music department might also need a push," is all he's prepared to say.

"I wouldn't mind a pop season. I don't see

tage of Capab's audiences."

One of eight children, Korsten came to SA from Holland when he was nine. He left school in Std 8 to get his wireman's certificate. So if the lights go out in the Niso, at least there'll be someone who knows how to deal with the problem.

Korsten's entree into light music was pure fluke. Having had singing lessons from the time he was 21, opera was always his passion. "My wife's father, a Dutch Reformed dominee, was on an orphanage committee and asked me to make an LP for charity with a church choir. Then the Federasie van Afrikaanse Kultuur Vereenigings asked if I'd make a record of Afrikaans songs which weren't boermusiek. So we got Mantovani backings and they sponsored it.

"One of the songs, Erica, became a hit and my career took off. Then Cavalier films made Kruger Millions and needed some songs. Soon I found myself in an ox-wagon singing My hart verlang na die Boland. Hoor LPs, 20 of which have gone gold, and five films. Yet for many years, his singing career was combined with a business career.

In 1961, when the Civic Theatre was opened, Korsten was granted a bursary to study singing overseas for a year. His wife and five children remained at home.

On his return, he had to choose between a career in business or singing. Korsten was the first SA singer to get a contract with Pact for 40 performances. "My clients would be looking for me and I'd be singing," he says. In fact, throughout his business career he was singing on the side.

Korsten says that his electrical contracting firm was one of Pretoria's largest. And Lumen Lighting, a second venture which he started with his brother, was sold to Abercom in 1971.

Now that he's combining his artistic and business skills once again; he's so excited that he's more than likely to break into song unexpectedly.
THE UNDERGROUND ECONOMY

The tonic for reform

It’s a R40 billion a year business. Like no other economic engine in SA, it will this year alone generate record figures for job creation, and achieve a major level of competitiveness. And there are two major fiscal effects — it should provide some drag on the inflation rate, and government will garner no taxes from its activities.

"It" is the underground economy — illegal business enterprise ranging from the informal sector to under-the-counter trade. No facts or figures are recognised in any official documents or statistics, but the simple truth is that the underground economy has exploded as never before.

A huge slice of SA’s entrepreneurial activity is not officially visible. Given steeply rising tax rates, the incentive to go “underground” must become increasingly attractive. Pretoria should recognise that acceptance and deregulation is in its interests — and that of the economy as a whole.

The implication is that if the tax system was working efficiently, and the concessions abolished, tax rates could be reduced by a uniform two-thirds. The Margo Commission on tax should take note.

The advantages of going “underground” are increasing parallel to the ever-rising tax burden. Researchers have found that this kind of operation is capable of providing large amounts of jobs quickly — it is not hamstrung by red tape and other constraints. Participation often requires little or no capital, and few skills, since these are usually acquired on-site.

All it needs is that government get out of the way.

Moreover, the underground economy serves consumers — especially in the low-income bracket — who find access to the formal sector difficult because of cost or limited shopping hours. It develops entrepreneurship and eliminates lame ducks; and that’s a process that traditional methods of development aid — such as those of the Decentralisation Board — are bad at doing.

Perhaps most important, the underground economy maximises opportunity for people who need it the most.

Compared to many Western economies, openings provided in SA for underground operators are considerable — and the reason lies in the huge mountain of race and business regulations. Business is affected by more than 500 statutes, ordinances and by-laws, which in turn have spawned thousands of regulations.

Examples of underground entrepreneurship unique to SA are found in contraventions of our numerous liquor laws, trading hours and areas; employment of unregistered labour; gambling; and trade in "illegal" goods. The glaring examples are thousands of illegal shebeens and seemingly unlimited numbers of "pirate" taxis.

The vital importance of the submerged sector has been recognised in many studies in a number of countries and the conclusions are highly illuminating. The International Labour Organisation, for example, has found that: "The informal sector provides income-earning opportunities for a large number of people. Though it is often regarded as unproductive and stagnant, we see it as providing a wide range of low-cost, labour-intensive, competitive goods and services… We therefore advocate a positive attitude on the part of government toward the promotion of the informal sector."

Judge Margo … can smile at possibilities

Manpower’s Reynards … informal is rich and diverse

Financial Mail May 24 1985
The more capitalist, the smaller the sector — because there is no need for it. Estimates in the US suggest that it contributes about 20% of GDP compared with more than 100% in Israel and Russia.

One observation agreed on by all students is that, regardless of its size and effectiveness, the economy as a whole does not operate as efficiently as it would without underground activity. Underground operators are often forced, for example, to bribe officials, so adding to costs. They cannot advertise to attract new consumers; and expansion, which should lead to greater efficiencies, is limited by increased fear of official observation.

Again, conversion to the formal sector can prove difficult: regulation raises the “cost of entry” for newcomers, thereby protecting vested interests in the short term. All the evidence on the underground economy suggests that an attempt should be made to measure and recognise the sector — perhaps particularly in SA where blacks have so many formal restraints against their entrepreneurial ambitions, and need, as opinion surveys have indicated, to be shown the benefits of free enterprise as a legal process.

Of much more immediate concern to Pretoria, of course, is the fact that with the steeply rising tax burden, and the proposed taxes to fund local authorities — the growth in the underground economy is likely to outstrip that of the formal sector. As this process continues, income earned by the formal sector will decrease — and so will government revenues. The next logical progression is to increase tax rates in the formal sector — the “soft target” — to generate the same revenues as before. But that will simply mean that more individuals will be driven underground, and the gaps will widen further.

Meanwhile, the results of official neglect are making themselves felt. Edgar Feige (see page 37) of the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Studies argues that the failure to recognise the underground economy has resulted in major bias in official economic statistics. He concludes that this failure has fundamentally distorted our view of economic reality. Unless, and until, the basic data upon which all empirical work rests is made as accurate as possible, all economic analysis is suspect to some degree.

For, as Feige argues, figures that fail to account for the wealth of the underground economy may explain — at least in part — why professional economists in recent decades have failed to come to grips with central economic issues such as unemployment, recession, inflation, and, most important of all, the phenomenon of stagnation.
THE SERVICES OF THE STREET

A great deal of underground sector activities go unrecorded in official economic statistics simply because they are "unrecorded." Conventional national accounting methods worldwide do not recognize jamps and pirate taxi drivers. Yet, like it or not, they are real components of any moderately free economic system. In his book "Defending the Undefendable," American Walter Brock argues the case for the unrecorded, saying "the failure to legitimise their activities means they make more profits than they would normally, and pay less, if any, taxes than they would otherwise do.

Brock describes familiar underground economic participants such as the slumlord (who gouges far too much rent for a sub-standard accommodation); the ghetto merchant (whose outrageous mark-ups are associated with advantageous selling locations); the ticket scalper (who speculates in limited-supply tickets); the "leg-sy" taxi driver (who makes money from government over-regulation); and even the blackmailer (who trades silence for another's gender — annually money).

Other players in the underground saga are the prostitute, drug pedlar, shoe polisher — and multi-millionaire tax evader. Often activity in the underground economy is simply a way of life: child-care; cooking; cleaning; waiters' tips; owner-occupied rental income; "do-it-yourself" activities; and consumption services provided by business. These activities are neither cash-based nor barter-based, or services which are not charged out for economic amounts, if at all.

Other examples of the underground economy, showing its richness and diversity, are given by "Hennie" Reynolds, chairman of the National Manpower Commission. There are subsistence farmers, bicycle-menders, street hawkers, "backyard" carpenters and mechanics, unregistered builders and painters, smugglers and street-corner vendors.

It's hard to see SA legalising dagga or prostitution — but the number of activities which should be allowed to emerge is as limitless as human need.

The importance of SA's underground economy should be realised by all. For the future, perhaps the most vital issue is to make as many inroads into absorbing the underground economy into the formal sector as possible. The economy as a whole would then operate more efficiently. Such absorption is not an impossible task and would have many benefits. But it should be recognised that the absorption can only be successful if four economic mechanisms are implemented — simultaneously.

Those, in short, are: privatisation (now recognised as part of Pretoria's economic policy); deregulation on a massive scale; the shrinking of government bureaucracies; and tax cuts. In a nutshell, the cornerstones of so-called supply-side economics.

Take the example of animal slaughterings, which comprise a significant part of the rural underground economy. In the formal sector, red meat slaughter is regulated by a pile of laws and a plethora of licensing, quota and health requirements. Pretoria has already sold some abattoirs, but the private sector is hardly rushing to buy them. Privatisation is simply not enough, as the economic viability of an abattoir may be severely hampered by laws. But if red meat marketing was deregulated, investors would be encouraged to buy.

In all probability, the abattoir would then become a taxpayer; and combined with the savings of taxpayer money previously used to run the unit, taxes could be cut. Furthermore, if health requirements were deregulated, the size of government would shrink: fewer inspectors would be needed, for example. That, too, would mean less tax.

That small example can be extended to almost any other known component of the economy. As tax rates fall, operators in the underground economy would "volunteer" to pay taxes — recognising that the lower cost of tax is outweighed by the advantages of becoming "respectable."

In the final analysis, the underground economy is conclusive proof that SA needs a new economic dispensation. The sooner the better — for it has been shown that one of the major advantages of government disengagement from business is depoliticisation of prices, wages, minimum standards, transport and so on. That is exactly the kind of tonic SA needs for its political and economic reform programme.

SA has become bad news for foreign visitors. Expected benefits from the weak rand have not materialised. To weather the recession, the industry is looking to the improvement and rationalisation of local hotels, and strenuous marketing of SA to South Africans.

Airways PR manager Nic Venter. Politics and Japan's sensitive trade links with the rest of the world seem to be the stumbling blocks. Southern Sun (SS) marketing director Bruce Hutchison confirms the US down trend: "Our New York man says the anti-SA campaign is biting hard, and times are tough. We can expect a drop of between 20% and 30% in rooms sold to US tourists this year." Some 80% of all US tourists visit SS hotels, he adds.

SATB assistant director (marketing) Sak-
It’s a dry, one-track existence

GENTLY, she asked: “What would you like to eat today?”

These humble words come from an elderly smous (an illegal seller in a train), Maria Madima, who used to live in Orlando West, but now lives in Winterveldt outside Pretoria.

She makes a meagre living selling an assortment of goods like oranges, peanuts and sweets on trains from Pretoria.

Sometimes she gets no response from the passengers; glued to their seats. She then makes a quick exit to the next coach.

But in other coaches, her passengers are keen to buy.

By the time the train arrives at Park Station, she’s done well — and boards the train to Soweto, where she continues her smousing.

Later in the evening it’s back to Pretoria — by train, of course — and on to Winterveldt.

Mrs Madima says she has never been arrested for her illegal selling.

“But I was once found and told to leave the job and stay at home,” she says — and then points out that she had no choice but to carry on with her "illegal operation".

Mrs Madima, who believes she is the only smous in the PWV area, was born 54 years ago in Natal and moved to Johannesburg with her husband John.

In Johannesburg, Mr Madima got a job as a driver in a timber company and she was employed at a steel-woof company at Steeldale.

The couple soon found a house in Soweto.

Mr Madima became very ill, however, and died in 1974 — leaving Mrs Madima with 10 children to support.

“I was miserable because most of our children were already attending school and they were forced to leave their schooling midway to go and look for jobs, so we could pay the rent,” explained Mrs Madima.

“The news was like a stroke that left me half-paralysed.

“I had to abdor the house and move with my three youngest children, leaving the rest of them, some working, to carry on with the responsibilities of the house.”

Mrs Madima still lives at Winterveldt with her three children — Victoria, 19, who’s doing Standard 10, Apollonia, 16 in Standard 8 and her youngest boy Moss, 13, still in Standard 3.

She pays R10 rent, whatever else she makes is spent on school fees and food. “It’s hard,” she says. “But I have no other way of earning a living.”
mission (KC) was an obvious one. In the wake of the hastily appointed commission, lawyers involved with the families instinctively turned to Nicholson for help. As director of the Durban Legal Resources Centre (LRC), Nicholson was already involved in the eastern Cape turmoil, acting as adviser, to the Black Sash.

Nicholson explains that the LRC is a registered welfare organisation which draws its funding from overseas church groups. It doesn’t charge for its work and essentially takes on public interest cases so “the positive outcome of a case helps not only the victims but others as well.”

Law Society Bar Council rulings preclude Nicholson from offering an opinion Judge Kammeyer’s findings. However, his contention before the commission was that the police — armed only with lethal weapons — seemed to be seeking a confrontation by approaching the Langa funeral procession. It was to be expected, Nicholson reasoned, that police would exercise greater circumspection on the 25th anniversary of the Sharpeville shootings.

The Kammeyer report is now public. Disciplinary wheels are in motion and perhaps some heads may yet roll. Nicholson believes there were positive aspects to the Kammeyer inquiry. He is particularly impressed by the promptness with which it was appointed. It was an act of faith, he says, which offers a rare ray of light on the sometimes blurred functioning of the rule of law in SA.

He is disturbed, though, that its appointment hasn’t fundamentally changed attitudes. People, he notes, are still being shot almost daily in township violence. In Parliament recently, a figure of some 400 shootings this year was quoted.

Many believe that Kammeyer should have come down heavier on the police as even he felt the tragedy could have been averted. Others are disturbed that headquarters in Pretoria are not being asked to shoulder at least some of the blame.

For Nicholson, the inquiry with its high public profile and deep social consequences brought its fair share of problems. But that didn’t deter him for a moment from participating. “It wasn’t easy,” he recalls, “preparing evidence for a complex case in a hotel room.” On most days he was up at 4am, having spent the previous night interviewing witnesses until the early hours.

But it was probably his sense of humour that helped him handle the strain of perhaps the most significant case he’s ever been involved in. However, for a man of Nicholson’s social commitment, the case hardly distinguishes itself from the more mundane, but no less important, matters of old age pensions he investigates on almost a daily basis.

Nicholson was educated at Michaelhouse, obtained an L.Lb at Natal University in Pietermaritzburg and practised as an advocate for 11 years — including a period at the Witwatersrand — before joining the LRC in 1983.

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**CHRISS NICHOLSON**

Defending victims

The choice of Durban advocate Chris Nicholson to lead evidence for the families of unrest victims before the Kammeyer Commission.

Nicholson … Kammeyer report hasn’t changed fundamental attitudes

What was it that drove him to give up a thriving practice and join a non-profit aid organisation? “I feel it’s my niche,” he says simply. “I prefer to be involved in assisting people who are victims of the social and political system than helping random clients who merely knock at my door.”

Nicholson says he feels strongly about what he calls the “injustices” in SA society and is intent on using his skills and legal training to root them out. It might, he concedes, sound a little too virtuous. But, he admits he “enjoys fighting cases when I know I have right on my side.”

Nicholson’s wife, Jill, a local Black Sash office-bearer, shares his views implicitly. Together they intend making careers out of assisting less privileged South Africans.

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**MARTIN WESTCOTT**

Corporate nanny

PE Corporate Services, one of SA’s largest management consultancies, has a client base of about 4,000 SA companies — including most of the top 100 — and is most influential in the fields of training and remuneration.

New group MD Martin Westcott stepped into the top slot shortly after Metboard’s acquisition of 80% of PE. “With the takeover,” says Westcott, “Metboard are asking us the kind of probing questions we normally ask clients. It’s a welcome opportunity to consolidate and restructure.”

Over the past few years, Westcott says, PE has evolved considerably: “We’ve grown 30% annually for five years now, to our present turnover of between R8m-R9m. Our philosophy is to seek to be the dominant force in those markets where we’re active, and we’ve achieved that in almost all cases.”

PE is about the size of a medium-to-large US consultancy, Westcott says, but the important difference is that a US consultancy would specialise in selling one product only. “Here we must be multi-disciplinary, because of market size.”

Consequently, the group has three management divisions. The first deals with remuneration and recruitment. It includes a large salary survey, remuneration consultancy and related services, including an exclusive recruitment business.

Next is what Westcott calls PE’s traditional business — management technique, which includes production management, and engineering and maintenance consulting.

The third leg is applied behavioural sciences and business strategies. “These use the human sciences — leadership, motivation and communication — as interpretive skills to consult on organisational strategies, industrial market research and so on. In each division, we handle pure consultancy, public and in-company training, sell educational material, and hold minor and major conventions,” Westcott explains.

Trade is flatter this year, he concedes, a
OWNERS of shebeens in Meadowlands and Diepkloof who have applied for licences are asked to attend a meeting of the National Tavern Association at the Pelican Club in Orlando East today at 1 pm.

The secretary of the NTA, Mr. James Kodisang, said applicants should bring their references as they will be required to fill a form to be endorsed by the Soweto City Council.

"If the council processes the forms quickly, then the 152 applicants can be given permission to rezone their premises within the next two months."

"In the past we had no problems dealing with Government officials in Pretoria but our applications have been delayed in the councils," said Mr. Kodisang.

The applicants will join a group of about 100 others, some of whom are legally operating, while others are just about to get permission to start operating.
Security industry cashes in on unrest

By Sheryl Raine

The threat of urban and rural terrorism and other security hazards is becoming a big business, and some local entrepreneurs are using the state of emergency to attract business.

Bomb threats, bomb recognition, emergency planning and security routines are being used in a marketing drive for the security industry.

One operator took advantage of the state of emergency in an advertisement published in The Star yesterday. In bold print the advertisement asked: "Are you prepared for a state of emergency?"

It went on: "Have you got a prepared contingency plan to cope with the very real threat of bombs, fire and smoke emergencies? If you haven't, get your bomb and fire emergency videos NOW."

The company offered two videos - one on bomb threats, the other on fire.

A more sophisticated project has been launched by two companies which have been prompted by continuing security problems to conduct a study of the local security industry.

The state of emergency had added impetus to the project, according to Mr Alan Lindner, a former military intelligence man and now a marketer with a company involved in the study.

"The whole climate is conducive to a worsening security situation and therefore the security market is bound to grow," he said.
Shebeen runners hold talks

A GENERAL meeting of shebeen owners called by the National Taverners Association will be held at the Pelican Club near Orlando Station tomorrow starting at 1 pm. Secretary of the T.A. Mr. James Kowang said all the members in Diepkloof and Meadowlands townships should bring their reference books as they will be required to fill application forms for the rezoning of their premises. They should contact him when they arrive at Pelican.

Other issues to be discussed will be:
• An African Bank — sponsored Europe trip for executive members. The trip was postponed in June and will be undertaken during September.
• The application for conditional operation for 40 members of the association.
• Discuss and determine the date of inspection of premises of 32 members.
**Stalls to hook the hawkers?**

The East London city council may have found a solution to its dispute with black hawkers — stalls at monthly rentals of R55.

Eighteen stalls will be built at the Pontoon Road bus terminus in the central business district.

The council banned black hawkers from the CBD after complaints by city businessmen.

Action Committee chairman, Donald Card, said his committee decided to give the matter top priority at its meeting this week.

The matter was last week highlighted by the Border Consumer's Action Committee who called on the council to stop harassing black hawkers who are merely trying to earn a living with the vegetables they sell in the city.

The stalls are expected to be completed before December.
Board running outlets at a loss

BEERHALLS GO PRIVATE

By NKPANE MAKOBANE

THE Orange-Vaal Development Board has resolved that sorghum beer outlets in its area be eventually handed over to the private sector to cut costs and ensure a fixed income.

Mr D C Ganz, the chief director of OVDB, said this had been decided because certain beerhalls and depots in the Vaal Triangle were losing money.

He said it was, however, not possible to lease a beerhall to a private person for his own account.

Only development boards are authorised to produce, pack, distribute and sell sorghum beer. It is illegal to transfer this authorisation to a private body.

"In order to overcome this problem, it was decided that black managers are appointed to manage the beerhalls and depots for their own accounts subject to certain conditions."

Damaged

"It must be pointed out that the board still remains the legal entity and will still be responsible for the cleanliness and orderliness on the premises," he said.

Mr Ganz said of the 173 applications to manage sorghum beer outlets, 21 were approved.

He said that in the Vaal Triangle managers had been appointed at all outlets.

Tenders for the board's bottle stores in the area have been allocated.

However, because these outlets were damaged during last September's riots, and pending ministerial approval, the transfer of the outlets has not been finalised.

Riots

Mr Ganz said in terms of Government policy, all liquor outlets owned by the development boards must be gradually phased out to the private sector.

It is expected he said, that the sorghum beer trade will be eventually phased out completely.

Following are sorgum beer outlets and their new managers:

Denyesville: Depot, Mr M Rabodia; Zam德拉 Beerhall, Mr E Lulama; Bophelong Beerhall, Mr P Mokoena; Boipatong Beerhall, Mr D Mpondo; Sharpesville A, Mr M Motsapi; Sharpesville B, Mr E Mokhe; Sharpesville C, Mr J Molele; Sharpesville E, Mr P Pito; Sharpesville F, Mr L Mancanya; Sharpesville H, Mr E Mohanoe; Mafube Beerhall, Mr G Gabusi; Hostel 1 Beerhall, Mr F Matima; Quaggafontein Beerhall, Mr L Mofoke; Kooperasie-stoor, Mr B Motsapi; Zone 14 Depot, Mr A Dhlamini; Zone 13 Beerhall, Mr M Mokoena; Zone 12 Beerhall, Mr L Flakosia; Zone 11 Beerhall, Mr Z Jokoza; Zone 7 Beerhall, Mr E Vilakazi; Depot 4036, Mr Z Jokoza; and Depot 7 B, Mr E Vilakazi...
INFORMAL SECTOR

Trapdoor or springboard?

While tinkers, tailors and established traders will benefit from programmes designed to help small business, hawkers may have little more to aspire to than a place in the shade.

The marginal people in South Africa’s urban economy, they peddle their wares from the shade of large umbrellas — which give some protection against the weather but none against harassment. Deregulation and access to market stalls would materially improve their working conditions, but there is a view that the informal sector will never offer them more. As long as they are part of it, they will only subsist.

Says economist Bee Thompson: “There are no expansion opportunities. They sell to the poorest section of the community and can only operate if they have no overheads.”

Thompson, who works in the research department of the Development Bank of Southern Africa, feels this is often overlooked by those who look to the informal sector to alleviate unemployment. “Too much is expected of it. It is seen as a vibrant little subeconomy, opening up all sorts of opportunities for people with vision. But it only exists because people are desperate. If you talk to them, you will find they would much prefer steady jobs.”

Says Keith Beavon, professor of human geography at the University of the Witwatersrand: “The term ‘informal sector’ to describe unemployment in a depression is simply a euphemism. Its existence is a symptom of a sick economy.”

Beavon, who has spent the past six years investigating the role of the informal sector, specifically of Johannesburg, does not see it as a way out of poverty for any but a small number of people. “Most are trapped in a poverty loop.”

Programmes to promote the informal sector are a short-term solution. “In the longer term you have to look at people who are forced to eke out an existence in this way.”

Ultimately there can be no free enterprise if there is no free entry for blacks.

David Webster of the University of the Witwatersrand’s Department of Social Anthropology believes the informal sector does little to benefit its participants. “Labour is more ruthlessly exploited by petty producers and small entrepreneurs than elsewhere. A 60-hour week is not uncommon and remuneration is frequently unconscionably low.”

Such benefits as there are, he claims, accrue to “monopoly capital.” An informal sector, providing only subsistence, assures them of “a stable and docile labour force — a reserve army of unemployed.”

Capitalists could reasonably argue that, as a more affluent community consumes more, and as unemployment has manifestly failed to create a stable work force, their vested interests lie in upgrading communities rather than fostering dependence. The immediate problem, says Bob Tucker, chairman of the Law Reform Project, which co-ordinates attempts to deregulate business, is what you do for those without any other source of income.

“They are probably 2m blacks unemployed. So it is people with entrepreneurial potential that he will concentrate on.”

“Entrepreneur” is an overworked word. To be an entrepreneur a person has to have specific qualities. “Identifying these qualities is the immediate problem. He believes he can recognize them when he is able to make personal contact, but on a large scale this is impractical.”

“What is needed is a test. So far I haven’t found one which copes with the problem of illiteracy and a low-level education.”

He has asked the National Institute of Personnel Research to assist and hopes to put together a package for 1986 that will provide role models for success, changing the perception of free enterprise among the black community.”

The immediate aim is to upgrade backyard business, putting it into small industry structures.

In the PWV industrial areas, various agencies help small business cut through red tape, arrange credit facilities and provide the services of a counsellor for costing, quality control, marketing and supply arrangements. And, to some extent, there is the opportunity to purchase a shareblock which gives ownership of the space they work in. But for real progress, blacks must be allowed to establish themselves in industrial areas now reserved for whites, says Foster, because proximity to markets is critical. He also believes the zoning laws should be altered so that householders from Houghton to Diepkloof could run table-top home industry operations. “The common law provides all the protection necessary against pollution, noise, and so on. People are entitled to peace and privacy but you don’t have to keep enterprise out of the suburbs to get it.” Perhaps the most interesting element of Foster’s strategy is his determination that risk be reflected in the interest rates charged.

He arranges the credit and then works out how the borrower will pay for it. “Subsidies are finite. A business must be able to pay the market rate for credit.” This is the test of viability and, in the end, the measure of achievement.
The process of becoming a legal and licensed hawker in Johannesburg is bureaucratic and cumbersome. The requirements are so complex that many poor and ill-educated hawkers could unwittingly break the law.

Many of them would be unable to satisfy the requirements of "lawful residence"—which means that they would be unable to remain in the area unless they were born there and had resided there continuously, or they had worked for one employer for not less than 10 years, or they had lived and worked there for not less than 5 years.

A minority of hawkers are licensed under the Black (Urban Areas) Consolidation Act 26 of 1945, but even they face harassment from the police.

One fruit seller in Joubert Street told me, "At the moment we have to pay a licence fee of R5 a month, but the authorities can put it up to what they like."

"If we are in the wrong location or are trading after hours the police can fine us R50, confiscate our goods, lock us up, or they find a reason to do so."

Like most hawkers the fruit seller has no alternative means of employment. He has been out of school for a year and still hoping to become an apprentice or a filing clerk.

There is little prospect of that happening as the requirements have got to pay his R33 rent, his water and electricity bills and his R2.50 taxi fare to work.

Hawkers try to sell either fruit, clothes or trinkets and bottles labelled "Gord's Gin" but containing home-brewed alcohol, often for very low profit margins.

During the recession their cheap clothing is treated as a fair alternative to the prohibitively priced items in the city's stores. This is one reason that hawkers are not allowed in Harrismith, Lingoel, Lenbert and Khotso street markets.

And that is just one of the long list of restrictions imposed on hawkers, which most of them are unaware of.

Even the licensed fruit seller was unaware that an applicant for a hawker's business has to advertise in the Press, in both English and Afrikaans, which costs about R5.

Hawkers are only too aware, though, of the "move-on" rule (laid down in 1919 of the Licensing and Business control by-laws).

This requires them to move 3½m to a new site every 60 minutes and prevents them from returning to any site within 24 hours.

The regulations were introduced in the earliest days of Johannesburg for the purposes of traffic control, and it seems rather inapplicable today.

Many of the regulations affecting hawkers go back more than 50 years when the problems of urban blacks were far less evident.

The control of hawkers from designated stands and the traffic control regulations date back to the Administrator's Notice of June 29, 1924.

Types of hawking and the areas of operation permitted go back to May 27, 1925. (Only the health regulations are more recent. They were introduced in 1972 and 1978.)

Supposedly, hawkers should be accommodated in fixed stalls which can be hired from the council for a specific purpose, such as the sale of fruit. However, the number of sites are limited—and have been for 27 years—and so there is excessive competition for stalls.

The hawker in Johannesburg can be divided into three categories: licenced, unlicensed and illegal.

He would be subject to such laws as the Basic Conditions of Employment Act, the Wage Act, the Health Act, the Income Tax Act and the licensing regulations.

All this is assuming that the zoning regulations would allow a butcher's shop to be set up—for example, there are no sites available in the black township of Guguletu.

The South African Building Development Corporation (SABC) believes that the informal sector—and hawkers in particular—should be encouraged. It points out that while a job in the industrial sector can cost R5 000 to create and in small business R3 000, a hawking job can be created for as little as R200.

The SABC believes that government is still reluctant to encourage black employment. Last September the SABC found an ally in Chief Buthelezi, who said to the Organisation of Livingston Producers that restrictions were effectively preventing blacks from retailing meat.

It was yet another example of the way in which blacks are excluded from the benefits of the free enterprise system, and explains why so many of them reject it.
Services Sector - Other

1986
Petrol-pump man robbed

ARMED robbers snatched R551 cash and a cash box from a Mitchell's Plain petrol-pump attendant.

Mr Charles Brewis, 38, is the 20th late-night pump attendant to be robbed this year in the Western Cape.

He was threatened by three men about 11pm on Friday while on duty in Eisleben Road.

Most of the victims have been confronted by three armed men.

Lieutenant Attie Lebhaber, police liaison officer, declined to comment on whether the same gang is suspected of being responsible for the robberies.

No arrests have been made, he said.
Louw refused city mixed race schemes

Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — The whites-only municipal pension and medical aid schemes were controverted by the Provincial Administration and the city council had no say in the matter, the director of personnel and management services, Mr Leon Deetlefs, said yesterday.

He was responding to inquiries why the municipality had the schemes on a racial basis while at the same time it purported to be an equal opportunities employer.

Mr Deetlefs said the municipality had applied to the administrator, Mr Gene Louw, to have the entire 2,500 staff complement on the same pension and medical aid schemes, but it had been refused.

Explaining the medical aid position, Mr Deetlefs said: "We took a ballot among our African staff about a medical aid scheme but the majority said they were not interested. Our coloured and Indian staff wanted medical aid and we got them a scheme with a company."

On the pension scheme, Mr Deetlefs said: "We have a pension scheme for our staff who are not white. This is also done through a company and the municipal contribution is the same for all."

MR Deetlefs said the municipality was fully entitled to call itself an equal opportunity employer.

"The pension and medical aid rules are directives from Cape Town in which the municipality has no say. As I said we did apply to have all our staff on the same scheme but it was refused.

"Nevertheless even through our staff are on different schemes, the municipality contributions for each of its staff members are the same irrespective of race, colour or creed," Mr Deetlefs said.

Soudwana Bay is the venue for the National Ski boat fishing tournament to be held from February 17 to 21 this year. The Border team hoping to improve upon its third place achieved in the 1985 tournament comprises from left, Roy Bovey, Malcolm Boucher (captain) and Paddy Hart.
Municipal employees back down

**Municipal Reporter**

THE Durban Municipal Employees' Society has backed down from the strong stand it took against the nature of the pay increase given by the Durban City Council in July last year and the size of the January 1986 increase.

The DMES went to the Industrial Court because it wanted the July increase of R25 a month for all employees changed to a percentage increase and wanted more than the 5 percent increase given with effect from January this year.

In response to this, the council reduced the January pay increase to 3 percent.

**Reinstated**

Mr. Dave Rogers, DMES chairman, said that for technical reasons the trade union had withdrawn its application to the Industrial Court and the council had reinstated the 5 percent increase.

This decision was ratified by the council recently.

Mr. Rogers said the DMES had objected to the R25 a month increase because it believed that employees should be paid according to their education and status.

Mrs. Sybil Holtz, Management Committee chairman, said the committee had given the fixed sum increase because it believed this would benefit employees at the bottom end of the pay scale.

She said the fixed amount increase was one of the suggestions made to the committee by one of the four trade unions to which municipal employees belonged.

"We felt that in terms of industrial relations it was what the council should be doing," Mrs. Holtz said.
Dispatch Reporter
EAST LONDON — The secretary of the East London Municipal Workers Union, Mr G. H. van der Walt, yesterday slated the East London municipality's assessment of itself as an equal opportunities employer.

Mr Van der Walt said he strongly disagreed with, and was “shocked” by, the assessment made by the municipality’s director of personnel and management services, Mr Leon Deetlefs, that even though municipal staff were on different benefit schemes, the municipality’s contributions for each of its staff members was the same irrespective of race, colour or creed.

“We (the East London Municipal Workers’ Union) are extremely disturbed about this statement. We can’t accept that general statements are being made like this when they are blatant distortions of the facts,” Mr Van der Walt said.

He said that a large gap existed between the municipality’s contributions to white and black employee benefit schemes and until this gap was rectified, East London’s municipality had “no right” to call itself an equal opportunities employer.

White municipal employees contributed nine per cent of their salary to the pension scheme while the municipality’s contribution was 21.4 per cent.

Black municipal employees contributed six per cent to a pension scheme, and the municipality’s contribution here was also six per cent — a gap of 14.8 per cent between the municipality’s contribution to the schemes.

Mr Van der Walt said all white municipal employees had to contribute to a compulsory life insurance scheme which covered the family of a male employee for five years after his death, or alternatively, covered the family of a female employee for ½ years after her death. The municipality’s contribution to this scheme was approximately 2.35 per cent and 1.18 per cent respectively.

“So, in fact, when the municipality’s contribution to both the white pension and life insurance schemes are added together, white municipal employees benefit almost four times as much as the black employee,” Mr Van der Walt said.

He added that only a very small percentage of black municipal employees could afford to contribute to the life insurance scheme.

Mr Van der Walt said that one of the municipality’s conditions of employment for all white employees was that they join the South African Association of Municipal Employees — a “whites only” organisation.

“Black municipal employees may or may not join a union, but they cannot join the South African Association of Municipal Employees,” he said.

“The East London municipality promised us and its employees that it would employ all its staff on an equal opportunities basis, but it has since shown very clearly that this is not the case,” Mr Van der Walt added.
Men snatch R1 400 in 26th garage raid

Staff Reporter

LATE-NIGHT petrol station robbers snatched more than R1 400 in the 26th such robbery in the Western Cape this year.

Three armed men threatened an 8th Avenue, Kensington, attendant on Wednesday night and fled with R1 404.

The attendant, Mr Skosana Matzikula, 35, was not injured, said Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, police liaison officer.

This year armed men have robbed late-night station attendants of about R3 000 and at least four attendants have been shot and wounded.

Several methods of stopping the robberies have been suggested by bodies connected to the petrol industry.

The Garage Workers' Union has said it supports the proposal that garages demand exact payments for petrol sold late at night.

Recently Mr George Beckman, chairman of the Western Province division of the South African Motor Traders' Association, said he felt most garage owners did not feel a need to act because only a small percentage of the total number of garages had been robbed.

"If three out of 1 000 have hold-ups, it is difficult to convince the remaining 997 until they, too, get robbed," Mr Beckman said recently.

Police have asked customers to pay with credit cards or the exact amount after hours to enable pump attendants to deposit cash in night safes.
All civil servants to get 10% pay increase

Mercury Correspondent

PRETORIA—Official sources here indicated last night that the Cabinet had decided on a flat 10 percent pay increase for all public-sector workers — government and provincial staff, the Post Office, Police, Prisons and Defence Force.

The information follows an angry clash at the weekend between officials representing 230,000 South African Transport Services workers and the Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman.

After Mr Schoeman told them they would be offered a 10 percent rise they were so angry they first of all stood up to leave, saying there was nothing more to talk about.

Called back

The minister called back the members and tried to explain the Cabinet's attitude, against a background of South Africa's serious financial difficulties.

But the workers' leaders remained unhappy with the offer, and went on to pass a motion of no confidence in the Cabinet.

Mr Schoeman had made the pay offer to the executive of the Federal Council of Transport Services Trade Unions and as a price offering the up them their 90 percent cut in service bonuses would be restored in the new financial year.

It was not enough, however, and after the meeting, federal council chairman Jimmy Zurich said since decisions on increases for transport services workers were apparently taken by the Cabinet, in future we will demand direct negotiations at Cabinet level.

The Transport Minister obviously had no mandate to bargain and negotiate with his trade unions, Mr Zurich added.

He dismissed the 10 percent offer as an insult to all rail workers.

We asked for 25 percent which would still have left a backlog when the huge increase in living costs over the past two years are taken into account.

Meanwhile Public Servants' Association president Colin Cameron seemed resigned to the rest of the public sector getting 10 percent increases.

We asked for an across-the-board increase of about 13 percent and so far we have had no indication from Government as to what the settlement is to be.

He hoped for a special treatment for workers in what he called areas in the Public Service with specific problems.

Post Office and Railways tariffs are expected to be raised again to finance the increases in the new financial year and to meet the bill for a 10 percent rise. Taxpayers would have to fork out nearly R700 million.
Farm labourers most exploited

Farm and domestic workers are the most exploited, oppressed and harassed members of the black working class in South Africa because employers take advantage of their employment contracts.

This is the view of the general secretary of the Black Domestic Workers' Association, Mr Terence Phiri, who called on the Government to implement legislation within the labour laws to protect thousands of these workers.

He was responding to the debate on the private members motion introduced by Mr Arend Poole (LP, Belhar) in the House of Representatives that a select committee be appointed to consider whether farm workers should be covered by the labour laws.

Mr Poole said farm workers had no protection under the labour laws, and this looked like legalized exploitation. They were excluded from the Labour Relations Act, Wage Act, Unemployment Insurance Act and the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.
R650 taken in two petrol station robberies

Staff Reporter
FOUR armed robbers fled with R650 today after holding up a petrol station attendant.

Mr Wellington Naukidiku, 28, an attendant at a station in Jakkalsvlei Road, Bonteheuwel, was robbed soon after midnight, said Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, police liaison officer.

Last night a Philippi pump attendant was robbed of R250 by two armed men, bringing the number of station attendants robbed in the Western Cape this year to 28.

Mr S Bondele, 27, was robbed about 7.45pm while on duty at a Lansdowne Road service station.

No arrests have been made.

• A 62-year-old Simondium woman is in a serious condition in Paarl Hospital after being beaten with an iron pipe.

Mrs Magdalena Klein, owner of Vredelust Farm, was attacked about 10.15am yesterday by a man who surprised her as she walked through her back door, said Major Frank Alton, Boland police liaison officer.

Mrs Klein was beaten on the head and arms.

Shortly before the attack she had chased two youths out of her garden, he said.

An undisclosed sum of money was missing from the house.

No arrests had been made, Major Alton added.
Parliamentary Staff

CAPE TOWN — Public servants will get a 10 per cent pay hike on April 1 and the the one-third service bonuses cuts introduced last year will be fully reinstated.

The increases — the first since January 1984 — will also apply to teachers and educationists at schools, technicians and colleges; the military, police and prison services; and personnel attached to provincial bodies and statutory councils.

Announcing the increases last night, the Minister of Administration, Mr Eli Louw, said it was "not an easy decision for the government to commit itself to extra expenditure, but it has appreciation for the sacrifices that the public servants made in the past years".

Coetzee
Talks on rural problems

By ANDRE JORDAAN - Business Editor

ELLiot — The difficulties facing farmers, the ageing of the white rural population and the lack of local authority financing are some of the issues being discussed at a symposium here on the development of the Region D hinterland.

The symposium has been arranged by the regional development advisory committee for Region D to compile a guide plan for positive action and development of the area.

Keynote speakers introduced various topics to be discussed yesterday:

- Movement away from towns and farms to the cities — Mr C. J. Nel, of Region 11 (Aliwal North) said the composition of the population was changing as whites left and black numbers increased.

- The average age of white farmers was increasing with less than one per cent being under 25 and more than 45 per cent over 50. Consequences of the population shift were a change in the types of services in the towns, the disappearance of entrepreneurs and consequent loss of job opportunities and lower living standards for blacks.

- Housing and education could not keep pace with the increase in black numbers and state aid was becoming an important source of income in these areas, Mr Nel said.

- Commercial development — Mr N. P. R. van der Watt, of Region 8 (Humanndorp) emphasised the need for positive marketing, objective analysis of possibilities and the identification of problem areas like inadequate aid and funding, unfair competition, inadequate infrastructure and inefficient bureaucracy.

- Education — Dr G. H. Craven, of Region 9 (Aberdeen) pointed to the backlog in the provision of school facilities for blacks and also a decline in the number of white schools and the disappearance of white farm schools.

Rural children were sent to city schools, while the rural schools depended on "imported" children from other areas.

Dr Craven said the nature of South African society today also meant that questions relating to race could not be separated from a debate about education.

- Agriculture — Mr J. Erasmus, of Region 12 (Cradock) said agriculture was an important decentralised activity and provider of jobs.

He said there had been a tendency to emphasise industrial and mining developments.

Agriculture was "hurting" at present, with a huge debt burden and an aspect to be investigated should be more favourable financing arrangements and ways of encouraging young farmers to stay on the land.

Other areas were the availability of and training of labour, bargaining between employer and employee, and the provision of housing for employees.

- Local authorities' lack of funds — Mr Cyril Manthe, of Beacon Bay, said this led to a vicious circle in which a lack of qualified staff, equipment and facilities hampered developments.

Mr Manthe also referred to lengthy delays in obtaining authority for projects from the first and the second tiers of government and to confusion and lack of co-ordination among local authorities since the new constitutional proposals.
Widman says PO pay figures are misleading

Civil servants to get huge hikes — PFP

CAPE TOWN — Not only Post Office workers, but the whole civil service would get a 21 per cent pay increase, Mr Alf Widman (PFP Hillbrow), said yesterday.

Speaking in the third reading of the Post Office Appropriation Bill, he said the ten per cent increase, together with the reinstatement of the three per cent salary cut and the bonus cheques, added up to 21.33 per cent.

If the minister, Dr Lapa Munnik, denied this, he should “get up in this House and tell me my figures are wrong”. The minister had attacked him for inaccuracies, said Mr Widman, but had not dealt with the inaccuracies in the budget that he himself had raised.

Among the most important were the R38 million deficit, the raising of postal tariffs from 12 to 14 cents and the framing of the budget in August last year, when the rand was worth almost ten US cents more than it was today.

Major Reuben Sive (PFP Bezuidenhout) said Dr Munnik had been “grossly negligent” in not explaining how his telecommunications service was going to meet the demands of the electronic revolution.

He said the flexibility and versatility of a country’s telecommunications network was becoming increasingly important.

If the minister avoided the electronic revolution and concentrated only on improving basic services and avoiding luxuries, he was “fast precipitating South Africa into becoming a banana republic”.

The new telecommunications were a product of computer programmes. Although voice traffic still accounted for the lion’s share of telecommunications services, some people said telecommunications ten years from now would consist mainly of data transfer. “I believe the phone company as we know it is dead,” said Major Sive.

“What we have today is a completely new telecommunications business; the business of information movement. That is why I say we who participate in the telecommunications debate must wake up from our Rip van Winkle sleep. This whole budget belongs to an era now gone.”

There was no question that the government-controlled monopolies would have to go but there was a lot of doubt as to how they ought to go.

Mr Brian Page (NRP Umhlanga) said the Post Office should consider “contracting out” certain operations where the facilities it had were not adequate for its needs.

He said the express postal system was ineffective and should be phased out or revised. Express deliveries now cost at least R1.80 an item and arrived no sooner than normal mail.

An express item he had posted to his bank manager in Durban had arrived there after a personal note he had sent at the same time had gone by standard mail. The manager’s reply, also sent by express post, had arrived back at Parliament after a bank statement sent by normal mail.

Mr Louis Stofberg (NRP Sasolburg) said the NNP had good reason to believe its members’ telephone conversations were being listened to by the government.

He said Dr Munnik was misusing his position to try to undermine the opposition.

In reply, Dr Munnik said the Post Office had not overspent on any item but had been forced into a deficit by forces beyond its control.

He said inflation, the exchange rate and factors had had today the Post Office’s poor results.

“Our department did not overspend on one,” said Sapa.

Mr Widman said the budget was based on too low a rand/dollar exchange rate. However, no one could say whether the rate would stay at its present level or fall again.

Dr Munnik said the Post Office was going to take expert advice on its financing system.

He added that experts had predicted the budget would only add 0.15 per cent to the inflation rate, or 0.2 per cent in the long term.

The Post Office intended installing about 50 additional telephones in Soweto in the near future.

He emphasised he would not allow installation to take place at the risk of assault on his department’s employees and the destruction of Post Office equipment in an unrest situation.

Replying to Mr Peter Soal (PFP JHB North), who had earlier accused the minister of giving big businesses a “death blow” because of tariff increases, Dr Munnik said someone had to pay for the increases in order for the Post Office to break “square”. In his speech, Mr Soal criticised the minister’s reasons for the increased tariffs, one of which Dr Munnik attributed to the rising costs of specialised equipment.

“If one goes through the list there is hardly an item that has not been increased,” he said. Big business concerns and other organisations were most affected.

“If one goes through the list there is hardly an item that has not been increased,” he said. Big business concerns and other organisations were most affected.
Govt and PFP clash again on civil servants' salaries

ORMANDE POLLICK
Political Correspondent

The South African Government and Opposition clashed again yesterday over salaries, with Mr Alf Widman, MP for Rivonia, charging that not only Post Office workers were to get a 21 percent increase but that all civil servants would.

The row was started by Mr Pierre Cronje, PFP Greystown, earlier this week during the Post Office budget debate but Dr LAPA Munnik had already said his figures were incorrect.

In a statement later, Mr Cronje said Dr Munnik had in fact confirmed his views which led to a heated reply yesterday by Dr Munnik who said Mr Cronje had to draw up a budget for anything the country would have to pray for mercy.

'He has created unwarranted expectations among civil service workers by suggesting the Post Office has broken ranks on the 10 percent increase,' said Mr Munnik.

Mr Cronje had taken a whole lot of figures, lumped them together and come to the conclusion that workers were getting 21 percent increases.

However, large sums of money which appeared on the salary bill were for specific purposes, such as achieving wage parity, and therefore went only to certain workers and could not be averaged out among all workers.

Other large amounts were on service bonuses for certain workers, and money was paid into pension and medical funds.

Mr Widman then said all civil servants were getting a 21 percent increase when the 10 percent increases, the reinstatement of the 3 percent cut and bonus cheques were taken into consideration.
Two stations
selling petrol
at discount

Staff Reporter

AT LEAST two local service stations have followed the Pick 'n Pay Hypermarket lead in selling petrol at a discount on a coupon system, and many more could follow.

Rocklands Service Station in Mitchell's Plain has begun selling petrol at a discount of 4c a litre in co-operation with the Wembley Supermarket next door, where coupons may be cashed against goods.

The service station manager, Mr A. Isaac, said they were 'the first to follow', the lead given by Pick 'n Pay chief Mr. Raymond Ackerman.

Catch fire

'Think it will catch fire,' Mr. Isaac said.

'There's been a lot of talk. Three or four service stations have approached us to find out how we've gone about it.

'People will be more aware and will be looking for this type of discount. I think maybe if you don't join in you will soon be out of business.'

Mr. Pierce Commerford, managing director of Rheville Motors, in Brackenfell, agreed.

'Raymond Ackerman managed to get this thing through and I agreed that what he is doing - getting a square deal for consumers - is good and I agree. But, he is going to get all the business and we'll get nothing.'

Attendants

So Rheville Motors is also offering petrol at a discount on a coupon system. These coupons are redeemable against goods (excluding petrol or services from Rheville Motors).

The difference is, these small service stations are keeping on their petrol pump attendants while the hypermarket offers on a self-service basis.

'We are keeping our people employed,' said Mr. Isaac, while Mr. Commerford said he was 'dead against self-service. You have to look at the human factor. About 40,000 blokes would be out of work if we all went self-service,' he said.
Two garages robbed

Staff Reporter

TWO petrol attendants were robbed of more than R1,000 at the weekend, bringing to 34 the total of armed robberies on Peninsula service stations since January this year.

Hundreds of rands were also taken in several other armed robberies at the Easter weekend.

A police spokesman said yesterday that Mr. J. Lombard Mbebe, 45, of Nissan Centre, Somerset Road, Green Point, was robbed of R50 on Saturday. The suspected robber was armed, but no shots were fired.

On Friday two men, one with a firearm, robbed Mr. Monty Dodwara, 40, of Rendezvous Motors, Voortrekker Road, Parow, of R500. No shots were fired and no one was injured.

A City Tramways busdriver, Mr. Norman Sampson, 35, was robbed of R40 by an armed man when he stopped at the Hanover Park terminus on Saturday morning. Two men, one with a firearm, robbed the owner of a mobile shop of R450 on Saturday evening.

Mr. Abraham Rosenberg, 19, was standing next to his shop in Mitchell’s Plain, when he was accosted. He was not injured.

On Sunday Mr. Melvyn Nicolaa, 41, was robbed of R70 and a wristwatch worth R70 by two men, one armed, when he was walking along Bird Road in Athlone.

A Kuils River man, Mr. Johannes Charles, 32, was surprised by two men, one armed with a sawn-off shotgun, who called at his home early on Monday morning. When he opened the door of his Mimosa Street home they threatened him and robbed him of R51.
Pump attendant fights off gun, hammer attack

Crime Report

A STRAND petrol pump attendant drove off five robbers with his knobkerrie after they threatened him with a gun and hit him on the head with a hammer.

Major Frank Alton, police liaison officer for the Boland, said Mr Caswell Lumbamba, 33, was on duty at Rola Motors in Main Road, The Strand, about 10pm yesterday when a car drove up. The five passengers asked for R5 worth of petrol.

When Mr Lumbamba had put the petrol in the car, the driver drew a firearm and threatened him.

The five forced him into a cloakroom, where he kept his money bag, and hit him on the head with a hammer.

"Mr Lumbamba grabbed his knobkerrie and let loose," Major Alton said.

His assailants fled leaving behind the money bag. Mr Lumbamba was not seriously hurt, Major Alton said.

*Pour response to bid to step up garage security, Page 5.*
Poor response on bid to step up garage security

Crime Reporter
A PRESS attempt is to be made to persuade Western Cape garage owners of the need for stronger security.

This year there have been 43 robberies at Peninsula garages in which thousands of rand has been stolen.

But a security seminar to be held on Saturday has had a poor response from garage owners - the group most in need of assistance, according to Mr George Beeman, chairman of the Western Province division of the South African Motor Traders’ Association.

The seminar at Goodwill Spa will be addressed by, among others, a senior member of the Murder and Robbery Squad and an insurance specialist.

Two attitudes
The question of security has been discussed by garage owners before but many do not want to step up measures to combat crime unless the competition does likewise.

It appears they believe that higher security might drive customers to the next garage.

Some garages have taken steps. Mr Beeman is to build a bulletproof lock for a cabinet and has employed security guards.

Others have agreed that one certain way to end the robberies is to insist that clients pay the exact amount for petrol - money which can then be deposited immediately into a safe.

But others say this will harm their trade - and ask why they should bother when proportionately there is little chance of their garages being attacked.

Dismissed
This argument is dismissed by the opponent of greater security. They say that unless all garages take greater care, robbers will merely move from garages where there is security to garages where there is none.

Another argument used by the opponents of greater security is that "the pump attendants are less likely to rob their customers". But police point out that this statement is difficult to prove, especially as owners tend to sack attendants after robberies before there has been enough time to investigate the matter fully.

Supporters of greater security say that attention should be paid to the instant deposit of takings in night safes which would cut down the chances of an employee stealing, if this was the case.

The seminar at Goodwill Spa will also deal with theft at the pumps and banking procedures.

Draft Bill gives uniformity to municipal polls

Staff Reporter
A DRAFT BILL on municipal elections is to be final stages of preparation and is likely to be published before the end of the parliamentary session.

It will probably be considered by a standing committee during the recess and go before Parliament during the next session, which starts in August.

According to Mr Len Dekker, director of constitutional promotion in the Department of Constitutional Development and Planning, the draft Bill provides uniform regulations for election procedures and regulations for councillors.

It complements the Franchise Act of 1914, which specifies who is eligible to vote in local authority elections.

Mr Dekker said it would be necessary for parliament to pass the legislation this year so elections could be held in 1984.

The draft Bill is believed to be based largely on the Transvaal municipal ordi,

Which is regarded as restrictive and gives the Administrator extensive powers in formulating the voters' roll and in the de-

JUMPED THE GUN

Although the draft Bill has not yet been published Goodwood Town Council appears to have jumped the gun by releasing a four-

page summary to councillors and the Press at its monthly meeting last week. The Ar-

gent's Tygerberg Bureau reports.

At the meeting the Mayor, Mr Louwripi Rothman, who is also chairman of the Divi-

sional Council of the Cape, criticized the pro-

posed legislation as unacceptable and said it was "being forced on the rest of the country by the Transvaal".

According to Goodwood’s summary, the first municipal elections will take place in 1986 or a date to be determined by the Ad-

ministrator; 

Any local authority with more than 1 500 voters must be divided into wards, each with at least 500 voters.
45th garage
robbery in W. Cape
Crime Reporter

A LENTEGER petrole pump attendant was held up by two men who threatened him with a gun and stole R30.

The attack brought to 45 the number of hold-ups at garages in the Western Cape this year.

Police said Mr Basie Dwagi was on duty at the Lentegeur service station about 4.30am yesterday when he was robbed. No shots were fired and there were no injuries.
A petrol pump attendant was abducted by an armed gang who robbed him while he was on duty at a garage near Paarl.

Police believe the gang struck again at a garage in Wellington shortly after releasing the attendant 5km outside Paarl.

A hunt has been launched for the gang and the getaway car.

Boland police liaison officer Major Frank Allon said the gang first struck at 10:30pm yesterday at Dal Josepha Motors.

The attendant told a car draw-up, and the driver asked for petrol. Three men got out and threatened him with firearms.

**SHOTS FIRED:**

They stole about R130 in cash as well as oil and soft drinks.

The attendant was forced into the car and was driven north direction. About 5km from Paarl he was told to get out of the car. As the car drove off, shots were fired at him but he escaped unhurt.

About 28 minutes later five men in a car drove into Dalvale Motors in Wellington. We believe it was the same gang," Major Allon said.

Two of the five men threatened the attendant and the gang escaped with about R900.

A petrol pump attendant on duty at a Manenberg garage was held up early yesterday by two men, one of whom had a gun.

The robbers escaped with R10.

It was the 51st hold-up at a garage in the greater Cape Town area this year.
Woman barred from selling koeksisters

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — A divorcee who sells koeksisters in Oxford Street to boost the family income has been ordered by the municipality to stop trading as she does not have a licence.

Mrs Marlene Davidson said the order from the chief health inspector, Mr Raymond Kriel, came shortly after the success of her operation was featured in the Daily Dispatch's Industrial Review.

"This is a real blow to me and I don't know how I am going to support my three children on the small maintenance I receive from my ex-husband. I also get a small social welfare grant," said Mrs Davidson who sells at least 1,000 koeksisters a week from her table in an alcove at a men's outfitters.

She said she desperately needed the R120 a week profit she made "otherwise we are going to starve".

Mr Kriel said yesterday he had taken action as Mrs Davidson was selling foodstuffs outside the confines of the law.

The ordinance states that she is not allowed to sell in the street and that the kitchen in which the foodstuff is prepared must be passed by us.

Mr Kriel said he had invited Mrs Davidson to see him tomorrow when he would try to sort something out for her.

"We will try to regularise her position and then she will be able to make koeksisters to her heart's content but she will only be able sell to home industries outlets," he said.

"But the home industries idea does not appeal to Mrs Davidson who is hoping 'to go legal' when the kitchen at her Evans Street home in Milner Estate has been completed.

'I telephoned the home industries people but they say they have women who make their koeksisters for them. Even if they did buy from me, it would only be a few because they do not sell many.

"The position of an able-bodied man to sell a lot of koeksisters. People don't go into the shops to buy. Mine is really a passing trade and I feel I am providing a service," she said.

The city councillor for the ward in which Milner Estate falls, Mr Phillip Rohrbart, said he sympathised with Mrs Davidson in the light of the recession and he would do all in his power to see that her position is regularised within the framework of existing laws.
Hawker control improved
— Levey

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — There had been a “100 per cent improvement” in the control of hawkers and the central business district seemed to be cleaner since the city council had banned hawkers’ runners from the CBD, the chairman of the retail sub-committee of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr K. Levey, said yesterday.

Mr Levey said he had received “only positive feedback” following the clampdown.

The manager of departmental store, Mr E. Lawrence, said he had seen a “definite improvement, although there were still hawkers in the area.

“There is less interference with customers, as the older and much better behaved hawkers are now the only ones operating.”

“There is still some running around on Friday and Saturdays, at closing time, and some runners still stand at the side entrance to the store, but on the whole there has been a genuine improvement,” Mr Lawrence added.

The manager of a supermarket, Mr Richard Fuller, said he could only describe the present situation as “fantastic, although older hawkers were still operating in the area.

“The runners used to block the front entrance and created a problem and pickpocketing took place nearly every day.”

Artisan’s anger

JOHANNESBURG

The Artisans’ Staff Association has “noted with anger” the recent increases approved to members of the cabinet, House of Assembly and senior civil servants, the association’s president, Mr Jimmy Zurich, said in a statement yesterday. — Sapa
Mayor calls for boycott of hawkers

"Council has turned a blind eye. We have not required licences from people hawking their goods in the residential area. We have allocated a prime site near the station where they may carry on their business. But they will not use it."

Dr La Trobe said the only stricture imposed was that they should not hawk in the central business district.

They pestered shoppers, blocked shop entrances and imported motorists from the minute they parked their cars, he said.

Dr La Trobe said the public should be aware of the facts.

Municipal health officials had found hawkers packing their produce into bags in the municipality's toilet block behind the market. "The toilet is virtually permanently damaged so there is the danger of contamination from raw sewage," Dr La Trobe said.

Hawkers had been licking fruit to give it a polish and their boxes smell of urine, he said.

Vegetables stolen from farms in Belmont Valley were also being sold. These, notably broccoli, could be contaminated with aflatoxin, a highly poisonous fungus.

If they were cooked and eaten before the required interval after spraying, the toxin could cause cancer of the liver.

Dr La Trobe said the South African Police were not keen to take action because when they made an arrest it was invariably followed by a stream of protest from the public.

"We have tried every possible means to solve the problem. Now, I am desperate. I can only appeal to the public not to buy from hawkers in the CBD."
DURBAN. — Chairman of the Ministers' Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amiechand Rajbansi, will receive a 'golden handshake' of twice his annual salary — R228 000 — and a tax-free monthly pension of more than R6 000 when he quits politics, according to high-placed sources in the House.

Mr Rajbansi will also retain his South African Airways golden pass which allows him free flights within South Africa for the rest of his life.

A senior member of the House yesterday confirmed the pension benefits, but added that all cabinet ministers received similar benefits on retirement.

He said Mr Rajbansi would be paid out double his present annual salary of R14 000 because he would have served two terms of office — as chairman of the executive committee of the now-defunct South African Indian Council and as a cabinet minister.

The chairman of the opposition Solidarity Party, Mr Ismail Omar, also confirmed that Mr Rajbansi would be paid two-thirds of his present monthly salary for life.

Mr Rajbansi was tight-lipped yesterday about his announcement to his party's caucus that he may quit politics.

Mr Rajbansi said the statements made by the "highly-placed sources" were "not correct", but declined to elaborate.

He said the "poison letter" row or family pressures had nothing to do with his announcement.

But in political circles, Mr Rajbansi's move was strongly speculated to be a tactic to draw sympathy from NPP loyalists and Nationalist political quarters, while serving to alleviate increasing family pressure on him to opt out. — Own Correspondent and Political Reporter

Thankful for his tankful

Staff Reporter

A MOTORIST was given a nasty scare — and a "free" tank of petrol — when he found himself in the middle of an armed robbery at a Kraaifontein service station yesterday.

The motorist, a bearded man driving a white Renault, pulled into the petrol station while four robbers — one pointing a firearm — were holding up two pump attendants about 6.10am.

The gang ordered one of the attendants to fill up the man's car, the owner of Kraaifontein Motors, Mr J Barnard, said yesterday.

Quickly

Then, not allowing the attendant to demand a nasty scare — and a "free" tank of petrol, they told the motorist to drive away, He did quickly.

Mr Barnard said the robbers had then locked the two attendants in their cubicle before entering the building.

Inside, they threatened Mr Jan Verkler, 31, and forced him to hand them the keys to the safe.

Taking the weekend's takings of R10 000, they made their getaway in a Peugeot.

Police said the car had been reported stolen in Sea Point in July.
Plea for hawking sites in the CBD

Municipal Reporter

HAWKING sites similar to those established last year in Buffelsfontein Road should be established in Port Elizabeth's central business district, the Chamber of Commerce has urged.

This appeal is made in a letter to be tabled at today's monthly meeting of the City Council's Community Services Committee.

The Town Clerk, Mr. Paul Botha, reports to the committee that because of the economic climate and as a result of ministerial appeals, the Traffic Department is lenient on itinerant hawkers and peddlars in prohibited areas.

"Action was taken only when there were complaints, he said. "Numerous requests have recently been received from people wishing to enter the hawking trade and it is felt that certain of the prohibited areas within the city could be deplored.""

The committee will be asked whether it is in favour of this or whether it has any other suggestions.

A letter from the Chamber of Commerce said businessmen in the CBD had made representations pointing out that the activities of hawkers had become more of a problem recently.

"The chamber certainly does not believe that, in these recessionary times, it would be appropriate to take harsh action against hawkers but, at the same time, it has to take cognisance of the views of its members."

The chamber recommended that an investigation be conducted to establish suitable hawking sites in the CBD in consultation with the chamber and hawkers.

An appeal has also been made to the committee by the National Botanic Gardens Council for the establishment of a botanic garden in Settlers Park. This request was refused recently and a site in the upper Baakens Valley was proposed instead.

The rent and instalment arrears position in municipal housing schemes is improving, it is reported to the committee.

The holding of a motorcycle rally at Jonst Park is also on the agenda with the Traffic Department reluctant to recommend that the rally be permitted.

The Beach Hotel is opposed to the opening ceremony of the summer season being held on the lawns in front of it but the Parks Department recommends the venue be retained.
Request to limit hawking

EAST LONDON — The city's 320 licensed hawkers have requested the municipality not to issue any more licences.

This was confirmed yesterday by the chairman of the action committee, Mr Neville Randall.

He said the city council had been told that there were approximately 80 unlicensed hawkers in the city, and they were "making things difficult" for the licensed hawkers.

"We have listened to their complaints, and I will now report back to council and see what can be done about the matter," Mr Randall said. — DDC
Hawking under council spotlight

By GAVAN O'CONNOR
Municipal Reporter

HAWKING in Port Elizabeth enters the spotlight again this afternoon when Mr Carl Coetzee, president of the Chamber of Commerce, discusses the establishment of a hawking site in the Central Business District with a City Council committee.

Numerous requests had been received from people wishing to become hawkers, it was reported to last month's meeting of the Community Services Committee.

Because of this it was felt some areas in which hawking was prohibited could be de proclaimed and the committee was asked whether it had any ideas or suggestions.

Simultaneously the chamber wrote to the council saying representations had been made by businessmen trading in the CBD who pointed out that hawking had become more of a problem recently.

"The chamber certainly does not believe that, in these recessionary times, it would be appropriate to take harsh action against hawkers but, at the same time, has to take cognisance of the views of its members," the letter said.

It recommended an investigation to establish suitable hawking sites in the CBD and Mr Coetzee offered to talk to councilors and officials.

Illegal and unlicensed hawkers trading in opposition to licensed hawkers and businesses needed control, the council said in 1976 representations for proclamation of areas from which hawking was prohibited.

This was contained in a report by the Medical Officer of Health, Dr J N Sher, and the Chief Traffic Officer, Mr Andy Augustyn, to this afternoon's committee meeting.

"These illegal hawkers with their misdemeanours such as pillaging, damage to, and littering in buildings, pestering motorists to buy their wares and begging, cause the public to be suspicious of the legal ones," the 1976 representations said.

The joint report added that it was appreciated that political, economical and other circumstances had changed dramatically and that it had to be borne in mind that the control of hawking entailed more than licensing, such as hygiene and aesthetics, which could not be overlooked.

"It is also appreciated that the State is in favour of deregulation, particularly as far as the small businessman is concerned," the report said.

With the high unemployment it was only natural that people should try to make a living.

Nevertheless, trading should take place in an orderly manner and if illegal hawking could be controlled, in any other way, prohibited areas would not be necessary, the report concluded.
Now hawkers on the warpath

Hawkers, who for many years have been harassed by the authorities while trying to sell their wares in the central business districts of South African cities, have finally come together to form an association that will fight for their rights.

Called the African Council of Nyangas and Hawkers Association (ACNHA), the new organisation also represents inyangas who also have been struggling for recognition by the authorities, employers and medical aid societies for a long time.

Formed in May this year, ACNHA already boasts a membership of 8,700 and it is expected that by the end of the year its membership will exceed the 10,000 mark.

Mr Lawrence Mavundla, general secretary of Acnha, told the Sowetan in an interview recently that his organisation had held many meetings with the Johannesburg City Council in a bid to have the city’s by-laws which restrict hawking in the central areas, abolished.

Representations, he said, were also made to the State President Mr P W Botha and Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis.

He said through ACNHA’s efforts, hawkers in certain places in Johannesburg have been provided with shelters under which they now do their business.

“That, however, is not enough. We want more space to be made available for hawking in the CBDs,” Mr Mavundla said.

He said: “The significance of hawking is that it creates jobs for many people who find themselves in the streets due to the economic recession and widespread retrenchments.

“What the authorities are not aware of is that by prohibiting hawkers from operating in the central areas they are persecuting the economy, instead of boosting it.”

On the question of inyangas, who boost a membership of 5,000, Mavundla said: “We don’t have serious problems in that area.”
PE deals fairly with vendors - Town Clerk

Post Reporter

CONCERN by the Consumer Council that city councils were unnecessarily clamping down on street vendors, was unwarranted as far as the Port Elizabeth City Council was concerned, the Town Clerk, Mr. P.K. Botha, said today.

He was responding to a Consumer Council statement that city councils were acting counterproductively by clamping down on hawkers.

Mr. Botha told the Evening Post the local council's policy in this regard was clear.

"We do not take any action against street vendors unless a substantiated complaint is brought to our attention. We never take the initiative," he said.

According to Mr. Botha, the council preferred to act in a positive manner and encourage free trade. The Consumer Council's concern did not apply to Port Elizabeth, he said.

"We try not to discourage such trade, especially in these hard times," he said. "Our policy is formulated. We do not act without good reason."

The Consumer Council saw the clampdown by councils as discouraging.

It added that street vendors provided for themselves and their families and should not be discouraged.

Vendors had shown they could render a valuable service to the community.

The council also slated traffic departments for allowing traffic officers to confiscate the goods of these entrepreneurs instead of concentrating on the responsible task of ensuring a free flow of traffic.
Hawker's fate undecided

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

October this year.

Mr Justice W R Vermouten reserved judgment when the 63-year-old Mr Sam Kunana had made an urgent application declaring that the seizure of his goods and their destruction was unlawful.

In papers before the court Mr Kunana argued that he was entitled to get his goods which included oranges, apples and other vegetables back because he depended on them for a living.

He submitted that the money he received after selling the goods was used to support his six children.

"I need the goods back because I have to support my family," he said.

The city council had argued that Mr Kunana traded unlawfully which was why his goods were confiscated on October 16.
The Hoek Street Mall has a new lease of life

Now the hawkers also have a place in the sun

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's hawkers are finally gaining recognition, but it has been a long haul from the days when the Cinderella salesmen first traded a couple of apples for a penny with the gold diggers on the Witwatersrand a century ago.

In the last seven years they have seen the relaxing of city's by-laws, the allocation of hawkers' markets and recently the opening of the first fixed stalls in the Hoek Street Mall.

Today there are 800 licensed hawkers in the city: 295 whites, 181 Asians, 68 coloureds and 237 blacks.

The lot of the black small traders selling anything from boiled mealies to fruit, hats and sunglasses has been a twin battle against official harassment and the elements as they doggedly hung on, trying to eke out an honest living.

Their cause was taken up by people like councillors Mrs Janet Levine and Mrs Rae Graham and Professor Keith Beavan, head of the department of geography and environmental studies at the Witwatersrand University.

The first success came only in 1979 when the city's management committee agreed in principle to allow trading areas for hawkers.

A year later Prof Beavan referred to the "crisis situation" that black hawkers were experiencing.

Heated the harassment the hawkers suffered at the hands of the authorities, pleaded the easing of by-laws forcing them to move every 20 minutes, thatting of red tape to get licences and an increase in the number of fixed stalls.

In 1981 the 20 min was peaked up to an hour and the hawkers were not allowed to return to the same place for 24 hours, but it was only a small recognizon of the hawkers' rightful place in the economy.

Councillor Rae Gran took over the fight and pleaded repeatedly in council for the rig of the plethora of regulations governing hawkers. "Unrealistic controls had failed to allow a controlled situation to emerge" she said.

"They weren't ask for handouts, they only wanted to be allowed to make a decent living. But they were being fined out of existence" said "Ma Graham" as she was known to the street vendors. She formed the Hawk's Markets Committee who backed her efforts to hammer the council into establishing the fixed trading markets.

In 1984 four legal markets were agreed to: in Hoek Street Mall, at the New Doornfontein and Kazerne bus terminuses and at Faraday Station.

The growing body of people comprising South Africa's informal sector had by then gained the attention of the President's Council and the Small Business Development Corporation.

"We have been using First World legislation to regulate a Third World," said Mr Johan Naudé, head of the SBDC's interest promotion, when Johannesburg announced its first moves to deregulate street vendores last year.

According to a council spokesman the licence fees of between R10 and R60 depending on the kind of goods sold, would fall away when the regional services councils were established.

Mrs Graham is now pushing for them to be licensed. She has pointed out that the cost of setting them up in business is minimal compared with the R10 000 needed to create just one job in the Northern Transvaal.

"Hawkers are the end product of a long line and they must be encouraged to the hilt," she said.

Mrs Ethiel Kumalo sells a "muti" which when burnt calls up a punter's forefather who hand out tips on the day's racing certainties.
Carrybags selling at between 70c and R7.95 are a vital part of the hawkers’ business. Mr. Ephraim Radebe works from 7 am to 8.30 pm every day and shelters under an umbrella from the sun or rain.

Pictures by Ruvan Bethoff.
USED CAR MARKET

The chaos spreads

The agony of the new car market (see Lead) is spilling over into SA's R2 billion-a-year used car trade. A shortage of good stock is pushing up prices strongly and causing more headaches for potential buyers.

And, unlike as it sounds, some dealers charge that the cut in interest rates is actually adding to their difficulties. The problem is that the whole second-hand car market has been seriously distorted by the soaring cost of new cars.

Sales of second-hand cars have "rocketed," says Terry Sewell, marketing director of Wesbank subsidiary Sewells and author of Fair Profit from Used Vehicles. He tells the FM that sales of used cars are running at 26 000-30 000 a month. When new car sales fall, as they did in November to just over 13 000, something has to give.

The problem comes to a head when potential new car buyers, who have seen their chosen model drift beyond their reach because of across-the-board price hikes of 30%-35% this year, opt to buy a low-mileage used car.

This has brought a whole new market into the showrooms just when the owner who normally trades in after two years is deciding to keep his car for another year, again because he feels new cars are too expensive.

"We're being squeezed from both ends," says McCarthy Group joint MD Dudley Saville. "Demand is strong but we have few vehicles coming onto the market." This is pushing up the price of used cars to unprecedented levels. He reckons the price of a good 30-month-old popular small Japanese car has been increased by some 30% by exceptional demand.

Fellow MD Theo Swart says the interest and mortgage rate cuts are adding to the problem by putting more money into potential buyers' pockets. "Previously undecided buyers will now come into the market. But there's a shortage of good used cars. With new car sales running at low levels there have not been enough trade-ins to build up second-hand stock."

Cargom Motors marketing director Clive de Kock says that in normal times the smoothly rising price of new cars pulls the used car price up gently with it. But motor manufacturers' big increases in the last few years have heightened the expectation of a seller of a two-year-old model. He demands a higher price from the dealer and the gap between new and used car prices begins to narrow.

Grobler reckons that while the ratio of used car to new sales was 1:1 until a few years ago, it's now up to 2:1 and sometimes even 2.5:1. He says: "Dealers are offering higher trade-in values just to get the stock."

But this quickly translates to an even higher selling price." This becomes a new benchmark.

He says in some cases good used cars are becoming an appreciating asset: "In fact, the high level of demand for used cars has persuaded some dealers to open new car sales floors with the sole aim of getting their hands on good trade-in vehicles."

And Grobler forecasts: "This structural change in the whole car market could force finance houses to extend their funding to cars that are six or seven years old. They currently limit finance to cars that are four or five years old."

STREET TRADING

Cold comfort (29C)

A tough Supreme Court has dashed the hopes of Johannesburg's unlicensed hawkers by backing Johannesburg City council's seizure of a hawkers' produce.

Although there's still the possibility of an appeal, vendors who refuse to quit the streets are considering whether to sue for the cost of lost produce.

As is the council's Transvaal Licensing Ordinance which empowers it to confiscate an illegal vendor's wares. Then, with the passage of time, the goods are declared unfit for human consumption in terms of health regulations and destroyed.

This is exactly what happened to Samie Kunama, an Alexander father of six, when he was hocked for the sixth time in Jeppe Street on October 16 and summoned to appear in the Magistrate's Court.

Kunama, 53, one of the city's estimated 450 illegal hawkers, admitted his guilt but was unable to pay the R100 admission fine to secure the immediate release of his apples, oranges, bananas, and peanuts worth R130 with profits.

The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) tried to get the council to return the highly-perishable evidence. But when this failed and the produce was destroyed Kunama applied to the Supreme Court to have the council's actions declared unlawful.

The court ruled that to do so would set a precedent and the situation "could become intolerable."

The verdict is "a big disappointment," according to a spokesman for the SBDC which was pinning its hopes on forcing the council to change its approach to the ordinance. Down but not out, the SBDC is considering an appeal and will continue "its efforts to free hawkers in the CBD."

According to the secretary general of the nationwide African Hawkers Association, Lawrence Mavundla, Kunama's case highlights one of the main problems of illegal hawkers - the time it takes to get a licence. Kunama applied for one in May and has yet to receive it.

Unlike many others he was able to pay the R90 licence fee.

Mavundla believes the only solution to the problem is do away with licences. "Licensing does not give the council control over trading because so many hawkers cannot afford a licence," he says.

"We have been talking with the council since June and have even appealed to the State President and Chris Heunis. We are aware that they are still looking into the matter."

In the meantime, Mavundla says his organisation will back Kunama if he sues for damages in the Magistrates' or Small Claims Court. Kunama says he will be back on the streets with his wares, with or without a licence.

WEBSTER BOWS OUT

The transport scene loses one of its most colourful characters at the end of the year when Jack Webster, CE of the Public Carriers' Association (PCA), retires after more than 10 years in office. He will be succeeded by his deputy, Ian Most, but will continue to act as a consultant to the PCA.

During his regime, Webster saw the PCA (originally the Professional Hauliers Association) progress from a small organisation representing a few leading hauliers into a national body with over 400 member companies.

He organised hauliers into a strong national body, and convinced government of the need to overhaul transport regulations affecting his members' operations. He also made a considerable personal contribution to the National Transport Policy Study (NTPS), which will see the end of the controversial permit system.

Webster was born in Leeds, England, in 1919, and the plain-speaking Yorkshireman did not always go down well with the South African authorities — but they had to concede he was usually right.

He has written over 40 papers on transport subjects and has served on many committees looking into the transport industry.
A new look for hawkers

South Africans visiting Europe are usually impressed by the busy, yet relaxed atmosphere of its cities. Street markets and musicians add flavour to the otherwise grim, concrete jungles. This could be the new face of SA.

Although hawkers have somehow remained an integral part of our business community, they have for a long time not been accepted by the formal sector (Business December 19). The Prinsho Commission in 1962 found the concept of hawking to be defunct and decided that the activities of hawkers should be restricted as far as possible.

Hawkers are subjected to a mass of regulations, some of which are almost impossible to control. For example, they have to pack their stock and move 25 m every hour and may not return to their original site within the next day. They are also confronted with a complicated licensing system, which very few understand and even fewer meet.

But there may be light at the end of the tunnel. The Johannesburg municipality has decided to relax hawking laws and it proposes that hawkers be allowed to trade on one spot for two hours. How much further the authorities are prepared to take deregulation remains to be seen. And when the provisional decision gets formal approval, is yet another matter. But it's promising that other suggestions still have to be discussed, probably in late January.

Nigel Mundy, chairman of Johannesburg's CBD Association, says practical attitudes to hawking have relaxed considerably — but the law still lags.

The economic recession and the abolition of influx control means more people are seeking jobs in cities, and hawkers provide for themselves without burdening taxpayers. It's often argued that the informal sector is not an avenue of capital accumulation and self-sustaining growth. This might apply in a wealthy country where there is food for everyone, but in SA there's still the problem of people supporting themselves.

However, one must distinguish between a goal and the means of getting there. To compare the situation in SA with that in Europe is not fair. Mandy points out that although hawkers in Europe seem to be subjected to minimum regulations, they are controlled by a code of conduct which has evolved over centuries.

Hawkers add colour to Johannesburg, but the consensus is that some regulation is necessary to ensure that narrow city streets are not cluttered.

At the start, at least, they'll have to be allocated special trading areas — Mandy suggests the Kerk Street mall. They should also be allowed free trading at bus and train terminals where they'll serve commuters.

The relationship between the informal and formal trading sectors has not been a happy one and they must be introduced to each other with care. Shopkeepers feel hawkers are seducing their customers. But the Small Business Development Corporation's Jo Schwenke says this fear is unjustified. Hawkers cater for different markets and buy stock from local shops.

Hawkers draw people into the city and, at the same time, help to keep the area safe and clean, says Schwenke. They like a lucrative site to which they can return and become known.

They're unlikely to allow loiterers on the site as this will discourage customers.

Hygiene can cause problems as hawkers have to transport goods over great distances. But this could be solved by providing storage areas, which, admittedly, could be difficult; and by scrapping the "moving" regulation. Consumers could also minimise this risk by buying only packaged foods.

While South African society has not yet been exposed to an active informal trading area and it would not be wise to throw them in at the deep end.

Perhaps it would be best to ease them into accepting hawkers as an exciting and cheap alternative to expensive shopping centres by promoting trade in the quasi-structured and pleasant environment of street markets.

After all, wouldn't it be pleasant to see tourism promoted by exposure to the country's colourful cities and markets instead of the lions (never mind the townships), which most tourists never see anyway?
ECONOMISTS are still uncertain about South Africa's economic prospects in 1987, but one thing they are unanimous about is that there will be no immediate recovery that will be enjoyed by all. As the uncertainty persists, Sowetan writer Nat Diseko spoke to some people who have found some sort of personal answer to financial problems.

WHEN the recession really started biting four years ago, there were relocations, communal and the resulting unemployment caused people to start looking for alternatives to earn a livelihood. With the hope of ever striking a job fading with every passing day, many retrenched people took to the streets - in the townships and the city - to try their hand at hawking.

In 1983, the Johannesburg Licensing Board received a whopping 2,434 applications for hawker licences, an increase of 324 on the 1,199 applications of the year before. It is not only Africans who apply for hawkers' licences but people from the other race groups as well.

At the end of 1984, the 4,434 applications for hawkers' licences indicated a downturn in demand, but it picked up to 7,711 applications by the end of 1985. Significantly, more whites applied for hawkers' licences than members of other race groups. There were 2,965 applications by whites out of a total of 7,711.

In Johannesburg, especially on the city fringes, there are many hawkers to be found on the pavements, selling fruit and vegetables, while others sell a miscellany of goods ranging from paper-carriers to drawings and trinkets. Former stage and recording star Sammy Brown is one of the many hawkers to be found selling their wares on the city's streets.

Crest

About 15 years ago he was riding the crest of success with his talents very much in demand. Not anymore. Today Sammy Brown employs his golden voice to draw the attention of passers-by to his cigarette stall on the pavement just outside the Johannesburg Station.

He said he had hit on hard times because of the recession. With singing engagements few and far between, he sells cigarettes as a stop-gap.

He said: 'You can't depend on a one-off hit and sit down to wait for the royalties to trickle in. You have to do something in the meantime.'

Mr M J van der Merwe, the secretary of the licensing board, said that in the past obtaining a hawker's licence was more difficult because a prospective hawker had to advertise his intention in the newspapers before a licence could be granted.

"We made successful representations to the provincial authorities and this requirement has fallen away. We try to make it easier for people wanting to become entrepreneurs to obtain licences." Mr van der Merwe said.

Stalls

A city council regulation that hawkers move from one point to the next every hour has been the bane of many hawkers' lives. This month six new stalls for hawkers have been opened in the Hoek Street Mall so that hawkers do not have to move every hour from one point to another.

The Small Business Development Corporation, with the co-operation of the city council, has put up some shelters free of charge for hawkers. The SBDC is also considering giving people loans to get their enterprises off the ground.

Mr van der Merwe said he saw a hawker as an independent businessman who should be enjoying better status in society than a man who works for somebody else.

An old hand at the trade, Mr Peter Ndlovu (52), a father of six, decided to eke out a livelihood out of hawking as far back as 20 years ago.

He was having difficulty finding employment because of the scarcity of regular employment. What added to his problem was that he was fighting a losing battle trying to find his way out of the tangle of alias control red-tape.

"Initially I made sandwiches and sold them at railway stations. But selling a hawker's licence was very difficult so I had to give that up. "I decided to sell my fruit and sandwiches on factory premises and this worked out well. With a small business grew in leaps and bounds and today it is well organised and I am able to feed my family," Mr Ndlovu said.

Retrenched

Today he has a small van for making deliveries and employs three helpers.

Mr Samuel Mahlasela (33), who was retrenched three years ago, said: 'I had survived on odd jobs. He said that he has to bring up two children aged ten and six alone.

Mr Mahlasela is looking after his family by selling goods on the pavement for a photographic studio that specializes in ID and passport photographs.

Hawkers are prosecuted by the Traffic Department if they contravene the city by-laws, thereby causing the problem.

The Small Business Development Corporation, along with the city council, has put up some shelters free of charge for hawkers. The SBDC is also considering giving people loans to get their enterprises off the ground.

The Media Council

The South African Media Council is an independent body established to deal with serious matters affecting media reporting and comment.
'Illegal' Main St hawkers barred

By MICHEL DESMIDT

HAWKERS have been barred from operating "illegally" in Main Street and some have been charged after police received complaints from the public and shopkeepers.

Port Elizabeth's Chief Traffic Officer, Mr. Andy Augustyn, said hawkers positioned on the pavement outside a large department store had been asked to leave last Tuesday and Wednesday.

Numerous complaints had been received from shopkeepers and pedestrians about hawkers obstructing the sidewalk.

The Eastern Cape police liaison officer, Major Eddie Everson, confirmed today that "a number" of hawkers had been charged for infringing provincial and municipal bylaws.

They had the option of paying a R50 admission-of-guilt fine.

Main Street was closed to hawkers, but his department had a "lenient" attitude to them and took action only on complaints.

Shopkeepers were angered by hawkers positioning themselves at shop entrances and had asked for their removal.

Consideration was given to the fact that for many people, hawkering was a livelihood, said Mr. Augustyn.

"But they can't sit in front of concerns that sell similar goods and which pay rent and rates and operate under expensive conditions."

The manager of two Main Street clothing shops, Mr. John Mowbray, said he had complained after hawkers had sold in his shop, interfered with sales staff and became abusive when asked to leave.
Sites for PE hawkers being studied

By DENISE FORTH

The Port Elizabeth City Council is studying alternative sites for mobile hawkers in the central business district, according to Mr P B Botes, city manager.

Mr Botes said the complaints he had received from hawkers and the public department of health were concerning the lack of hygiene in the area.

We have never been accommodated and the situation has become a hazard, he said.

Good is being unpacked and exposed in public places and is a health hazard.

The Port Elizabeth Trading Standards and the department of health have acted against hawkers after complaints, but the trade and and the department has been charged with neglect.

The problem has been discussed by the Community Council and the city council, and it was agreed that the next step should be again to identify the problem.

We are trying to identify the places where we can open formal trading areas and we are discussing the legalities of this

The manager of the Small Business Development Corporation, Mr Willie Poulos, said hawkers also played a definite role in the economy.

It was dynamic and it was going somewhere to put under pressure to put "the hawks" on them, instead of forcing them to move from one place to another.

The council was inventing ways to keep the" hawks" in a microspace system to enable people such as hawker to have a small business for a short period of time.

Cleaning their streets
Fruit flies in frantic fracas

By: ROBERT HOUWING
Weekend Argus Reporter

TRAFFIC was disrupted today while fruit, vegetables and wooden crates flew "like rocks" in Klipfontein Road, Rylands Estate after traffic police confiscated goods from angry hawkers.

Witnesses said that "at least a dozen" traffic police in four vans moved in about 11am and snapped up goods from about 10 fruit and vegetable sellers.

Irate hawkers protested and goods were flung about in the chaos. About an hour after the incident, the side of the road was littered with broken crates and squashed fruit.

Hawkers said between them they lost several thousand rands in confiscated goods their only income—and they believed that the traffic police action was "provocative".

- A spokesman for the Traffic Department, Chief Inspector W D Löw, said that the operation was "not a raid—just a normal law enforcement exercise".

"It is a long-standing dispute. Shopkeepers are up in arms because, they say, the hawkers take over the pavements in front of their shops."

Inspector Löw said that pavement hawking was prohibited in parts of Klipfontein Road, which passed through Rylands and Gatesville. He did not know if any hawkers were arrested or whether charges would be laid.

Hawker Mr Ismail Daniels said that no warnings were issued. "They just snatched our stuff—I spent more than R1 000 on goods at Epping Market today, and almost all of my stuff has gone. I have 16 children to feed."

Fruit and vegetable salesman Mr Ebrahim Patel denied that there was friction between hawkers and local shopkeepers. "Everyone generates business for each other."

"If any law has been transgressed, why do no charges arise?"
Crusade for PE hawkers not over

THE rejection of six proposed hawking sites in Port Elizabeth's central business district (CBD) has not ended the crusade by two city councillors to get Market Square opened to vendors.

The issue is to be revived when it is discussed at the next City Council meeting on February 26. This was confirmed today by the Town Clerk, Mr Paul Botha.

Yesterday, the council's Community Services Committee rejected proposed CBD sites for hawkers and calls by two city councillors that Market Square be opened to fresh produce vendors.

The committee chairman, Mr J Nel, said the six sites were unacceptable because hawking in Main Street had upset traders, caused congestion and had raised the concern of the Health Department.

Mr Nel said the council would not unilaterally decide where hawkers could trade but rather make recommendations in consultation with them.

The Deputy Mayor, Mr Solly Rubin, who together with Mr Harold Davidson is championing the hawkers' plight, said he was 'seriously disappointed' by the committee's decision.

Mr Rubin said the council should not unilaterally decide where hawkers could trade but rather make recommendations in consultation with them.

He said he favoured a natural setting similar to Art-in-the-Park and the flea markets held on the Parade in Cape Town.

As a counter to the "weight of facts" against the scheme, vendors should be allowed to operate on a small scale for a trial period to gauge public reaction and the possible success of the venture.

Mr Harold Davidson said he had presented the committee with examples of successful flea markets established in Cape Town and Johannesburg. He felt PE could emulate them.

Mr Davidson said arguments that lack of support for the Buffelsfontein vendors' site justified the non-opening of Market Square for hawking was invalid because the site was 'not where people wanted it.'

Keeps on the square would bring vibrancy to the city and 'give a sense of economic buoyancy,' he said.
THE MINISTER of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, David Curry, yesterday made a passionate plea to the City Council to stop "hounding" city hawkers from the streets of the Mother City.

Speaking at a seminar yesterday hosted by Wesgro and the Cape Times, "Build a Better Cape", and attended by 200 people, Curry said: "We find that the traffic cops hound the hawkers who sell their fruit on the streets of Cape Town."

"I want to appeal to the City Council not to prosecute these hawkers. These people are self-employed. We must carry them high because they are independent, not hound them," Curry said to approving applause from delegates.

Discussing the housing problems of greater Cape Town, Curry said that low cost housing accommodated the "poverty of people". Housing should accommodate the "aspirations of people", he said.

Townships like Alexandria near Johannesburg were permanently occupied by security forces because of the socio-economic conditions prevailing there which promoted unrest. Commenting on the 21st anniversary of the destruction of District Six, Curry said that the area was declared a slum area, and had then become a white area.

However, he added, District Six created more slums without solving the problems of the people.

Curry told the seminar that the R2 000m Blue Downs housing project providing 40 000 housing units near Kuils River also had the potential of a major industrial complex.

This major housing complex could also provide Cape Town’s ailing building industry with a much needed employment boost, he said.
New move on hawkers

Municipal Reporter

PROPOSALS enabling hawkers to enjoy greater street trading opportunities within two months are being drawn up, the City Council said yesterday.

The announcement came in a press release defending the council’s traffic police raid on hawkers in Klipfontein Road, Rylands, last Saturday.

The council “and all ratepayers” could not allow “disorder”, nor could it allow pedestrians to be “forced into the streets and possibly killed”, the press release said.

The hawkers had ignored an earlier agreement that they would keep to official hawking sites, it said.

Mr Herman Marais, the Small Business Development Corporation’s public relations officer, said: "We believe what happened has once again emphasised the need for continued deregulation and the provision of infrastructure to informal traders."
New plan to create more street-trade opportunities

Staff Reporter

A PLAN to ease the street trading problems of hawkers has been promised within two months in the wake of anger over city council raids on street sellers in Kipling Road, Athlone.

The plan to create greater street trading opportunities, which forms part of the council’s drive to deregulate small industries, will be tabled about April.

The raids, after complaints from shopkeepers at the Gatesville shopping complex, resulted in an “unpleasant incident which included the throwing of vegetables and fruit”, said council spokesman Mr Ted Doman.

Official hawking sites, originally accepted by the hawkers, had apparently become unacceptable. They spread to pavements in front of established businesses and the council took action.

SERIOUS

Shopkeepers had complained about the “unsavoury behaviour” of hawkers.

Mr Doman said the council was serious about making it easier for the small businessman, including the hawker, to operate legally.

The Small Business Development Corporation expressed “disappointment at the disruption of hawking activities” in the raid. The corporation suggested that “disorder in business areas would have to be endured in future in the interests of job creation”.

Mr Doman said this view “ignores the effects of these hawkers’ activities on other traders who have permanent premises”.

Hawkers and established businesses could work side by side. He cited the example of city centre hawkers who “operate without interference, as long as they don’t become a nuisance”.

It's a cat-and-mouse

Health Department's store rule a blow to licence hopes

HAWKERS trading in Port Elizabeth's central business district (CBD) stand little chance of ever getting a licence unless they have proper storeroom facilities.

It is illegal for hawkers to trade in the area with or without a licence — but even if the law was changed, few, if any, would be likely to meet the health requirements required for a licence.

Port Elizabeth's municipal licensing officer, Mr T. Eksteen, said it was absolutely essential for all hawkers to have a "decent, clean" storeroom for their produce before a licence to trade could be issued.

Licences cost R10 a year and were seldom refused if conditions were met, he said.

Health inspectors visited storerooms, which had to comply with municipal regulations, before licences were granted.

It took about three weeks for a licence to be processed.

Mr Eksteen said most of Main Street, especially the CBD, was a prohibited area for hawkers — licensed or unlicensed.

Those who contravened the municipal bylaw relating to hawking in prohibited areas faced a R20 fine.

Captain Peet Grobler, SA Police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, said illegal hawking was a matter for the Traffic Department.

The police, he said, would only intervene in certain cases, as when hawkers caused a public disturbance.

Acting Chief Traffic Officer Mr John Jonker said his department acted only when a complaint was received.

However, if hawking took place in the vicinity of a shop entrance, it was a matter for the police.

Traffic officers sometimes removed fruit and vegetables belonging to illegal hawkers, but the goods could be reclaimed later, he added.

These women depend on the money from their potato and tomato sales for a living. Their favourite spot is also in Main Street.
HAWKERS in Port Elizabeth’s central business district are caught in the middle of a seemingly insoluble situation.

They sell fruit, vegetables and basketwork in the area where hawking is illegal as they seek to eke out a living and perhaps save their families from starvation.

And even if the Port Elizabeth City Council decides next week to allow hawking in the area, the hawkers will still be illegal — because it is highly unlikely that any of them will meet the requirements to get a licence.

Weekend Post reporter RAYMOND HILL investigated the situation for this special report. COLIN URQUHART took the pictures.

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Hawkers chased from pillar to post

Sunday 6 February 1988

Miss Gladys Johannes dearly wants the opportunity to sell her fruit and vegetables near the City Hall, where business is reportedly brisk.

“I have no licence and I’m afraid of being fined and chased away by police and traffic officers,” she complained.

Miss Johannes, of Someto, Port Elizabeth, has seven children. She must support them on her earnings — just a few rand a day.

Her friends told her how they had been victimised for hawking in the central business area, and their tales have scared her from operating there.

She and her family will have no food without money from her sales.

Her “beat” is the Valley area, where her regular customers are kind towards her.

“Please help me to get a licence to hawk,” she pleaded.

Somebody gave me an application form to fill in. But it was the wrong form. I want to get a licence so that I can sell my goods in town every day and make more money without being caught,” she said.

Miss Leonora Nyakata, 46, has six children, including four schoolchildren.

Her “stand” is on the pavement in Main Street, a few metres away from the City Treasurer’s Department.

She was recently summoned to pay a R50 fine for illegal hawking. “Fifty rand is too much. I haven’t got it. I will just have to go to court and plead with the magistrate to give me a chance,” she said.

She earns between R10 and R30 daily, and life would be a “bigger battle” if she was forced to leave the city centre.

“There is no money in the townships for hawkers like me,” she said. She has debts to pay and her rent is R30 a month.

Miss Nyakata spends R30/70 on bus fares every week and gets up at 5am daily in summer and winter to go to the market for her produce.

“I worked in a factory in Deal Party for two years. But when I lost my job there, I started to sell fruit and vegetables to feed my family.

“I feel nervous every time I see a policeman and just pray that I don’t get caught again,” she said.

Mrs Rebecca Monqo, 36, of New Brighton, has 13 children, including eight stepchildren, whom she supports with the money earned from basket sales.

Recently she paid a fine of R50 for hawking without a licence. “I take up to R70 a day from my sales. But I do not know exactly how much my profit is,” she said.

Miss Eugenia Piyo, 50, of Kwambele, said officials had refused to give her a hawker’s licence unless she had a proper stall. She takes up to R50 a day at her spot in the central business district.

“The police have removed my fruit and vegetables a few times already because I do not have a licence,” she said.
licensed street sellers

Council juggled with problem for past three years

Weekend Post Reporter

THE fate of Port Elizabeth's illegal hawkers will be discussed again at a meeting of the Port Elizabeth City Council next week.

The subject was debated at length during a meeting of the council's Community Services Committee on February 10 when it was decided to refer the matter to the council's monthly meeting in the City Hall on Thursday at 5.30pm.

The controversy goes back to 1984 when municipal officials took action against hawkers at the corner of 17th Avenue and Buffalofontein Road, Walmer.

The decision to move hawkers further away from the road was criticised by residents.

Later, the Community Services Committee made a concession, allowing hawkers to trade in the area at certain times only.

In February 1985 the council banned hawking in various other areas, including the length of Forest Hill and La Roche drives.

The reason given for the banning was problems of hygiene.

The Midland Chamber of Industries criticised the ban, saying there was high unemployment in the city.

Hawker with a difference Mr Hennie de Wee "re-shapes" palm leaves by hand into beautiful designs and tries to make a living by selling them on the pavement in Main Street.
Opposition towards the banning grew, and Mr Andrew Savage, Progressive Federal Party MP for Walmer, added his voice against the council's treatment of hawkers.

Former city councillor Mr Peter Sullivan said laws preventing hawkers from operating without a licence should be relaxed until the economic situation improved.

Walmer residents drew up a petition with at least 1,000 signatures, appealing for the ban to be lifted.

In 1986 the council provided proper facilities for hawkers to trade off Buffelsfontein Road.

But attention has since been focused on those in the CBD area.

Then the "hawkers brigade" was boosted by the Christmas season, and the authorities turned a blind eye until complaints were received from the public.

Hawkers were then turned away from the CBD, and the PE Chamber of Commerce proposed allowing them to trade legally in Market Square.

Now everybody is waiting for the next round of the hawker debate.
In Main Street, Port Elizabeth, hawker Miss Leonora Nyakata — who constantly fears arrest — serves a customer during the lunchtime rush.

Basket-seller Miss Rebecca Monqu has become part of the Main Street scene — but her future is uncertain.
Mr Solly Runi

Use the square, Rubbin says. Let the hawkers use the square.

Port Elizabeth's Deputy Mayor, Michael Desmit

The hawkers are not to be made welcome.

The sale is more vibrant if the square is not open to them and they take the place to trade.

The city council is going to allow hawkers to trade in the city.
they have dropped the requirement that vendors move on 25 m every hour or face prosecution and they are now prepared to licence vendors for static trading in specially demarcated areas.

According to Johannesburg Planning Director Cornelius Cronje the city now has four designated hawkers trading pitches, the Hoek Street Mall, Kasrion bus terminus, Faraday railway station and the New Doornfontein bus terminus. All are equipped with basic amenities such as tables, stools, refuse bins and shelters. Demand for trading positions has been such that more are likely to follow.

Progress in Durban has been slower. So far Durban has declared only one, unofficial, hawker trading site — between the Beren Road railway station and Russell Street. Chief Town Planner Garth Williamson says the hawkers’ response is being monitored.

In effective deregulation, however, Natal could well be in front. The provincial ordinance governing street trading has been amended to allow any local authority to designate fixed hawkers trading areas if they see a need.

A spokesman for Williamson’s department says the approach has been calculatedly cautious. The idea is to have proper regulatory and administrative systems in place before additional areas, which have already been indentified, are opened up to hawkers.

Another problem arises in fixing appropriate licence fees. Durban accepts that many of the smaller traders will remain marginal operators living a hand-to-mouth existence. For them the current R10 a year licence fee is probably appropriate.

But street trading operations in high profile locations and operated by offspring of the formal business sector is another matter. Durban encourages such activity, especially around the Workshop shopping centre and along the beachfront.

Cape Town has got around the problem by charging kiosk vendors on its St George’s Street mall what it considers are market related rentals. The vendors, who are apparently prospering, seem quite happy to pay.

Durban will probably follow a similar policy of grading small business trading opportunities and attaching to them what it considers an appropriate licence/rental fee — if only to cover the cost and maintenance of the services it provides.

But arriving at an equitable charge for what is essentially unexplored commercial territory is proving a little more difficult than expected. Hence the incremental approach.

As one official says: “A delicate balance has to be struck between arousing accusations of unfair competition from established traders and being equitable in developing opportunities for small business and job creation.”
City delays decision on hawkers

Municipal Reporter

THE Cape Town City Council is waiting for reports from its deregulation committee before attempting to resolve the wrangle between illegal hawkers and established businesses in Klipfontein Road, Rylands.

The conflict reached a head early last month when the traffic control branch took "conventional law enforcement action" against hawkers, including confiscating their goods.

The branch's action was attacked by the Small Business Development Corporation, which said this type of "drastic action" was "not acceptable".

"Confiscation of trading stock of such a small undertaking is a serious blow endangering the livelihood of the trader and his dependants," the corporation said in a statement.

But Cape Town's traffic chief Mr.

Harry Attwood has hit back.

In a report to the city administrator, Mr Attwood said areas on the northern side of Klipfontein Road had been set aside for hawkers after consultation with hawkers, traders and the local management committees.

However, many hawkers continued to trade on the pavement on the southern side of the road.

"Obstruction"

Besides breaking the law, these hawkers spread out on the relatively narrow sidewalk and force pedestrians to walk in the roadway, thereby endangering themselves and other road-users, as well as obstructing the entrances to shops," Mr Attwood said.

"It is fashionable today to use the term 'deregulation', and while this branch has recommended the elimination of a number of regulations it must be stated clearly that there will always be a need for hawkers to register, particularly where informal markets and other fixed stands are provided to avoid an area being monopolised by a 'fat cat hawker'.

The council's utilities and works committee, which considered the two reports, decided to wait for the council's deregulation committee to make its recommendations.

A council spokesman said perishable goods confiscated from hawkers were kept in the traffic branch's fridge overnight before being sold at a market. Any unsold items were condemned.

Non-perishables were sent to the council's store at Ndabeni and were sold at periodic council auctions.

"In terms of the municipal ordinance, the money (from the sales) is for the account of the council," he said.

Membership

100
27 335
3 650
15
31 100
Rubin to raise hawking problem again soon

Post Reporter

THE issue of controlled hawking in Port Elizabeth’s central business district is likely to be raised again at the next City Council meeting, says the Deputy Mayor, Mr Solly Rubin.

The council has failed to make any decision on the hawker "problem" and the status quo remains.

Mr Rubin said CBD shopkeepers were justifiedly upset with the present situation and the council would have to address the problem again.

He favoured the Market Square being used for its original purpose – including the licensed hawking of vegetables, flowers and leather goods.

Mr Rubin suggested that hawker representatives be consulted before any decision is taken.

"If I was a hawker, I would not accept just any site allocated to me."

"I would take my business where the market was."

The Buffelsfontein hawking site, he said, was a "total disaster". A store and toilets had been erected at a cost of R50 000.

But the area was used by a handful of traders only because it was poorly situated.

Licensed hawkers could be identified by an armband and a number and, from an established base like the square, they should be permitted to sell their goods in offices around the city, but not stockpile their wares on the pavement.

"In Europe, litter left by hawkers is cleaned up with a powerful hose."

"The same could be done on the market square in Port Elizabeth."

At a meeting on Monday, the Wards 2 and 4 Civic Association favoured designated sites for hawkers in the CBD.

Mr Patrick Becker, chairman of the association, said the council seemed incapable of doing anything on the matter.
Heaven sent for hawkers

Staff Reporter

IF HEAVEN is a rented space past which about a million potential customers pass every day, the city's long-harassed hawkers are about to reap their rewards.

SA Transport Services, doing their bit to "build a better Cape", are already renting property to 104 hawkers at Cape Town station alone and are ready and waiting for more "ideas from the public".

Keen to be seen to be helping out, a SATS team took the Minister of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture, David Curry, on a crack-of-dawn tour of local stations yesterday.

According to SATS PR man Jannie van Zyl, Curry was impressed and undertook to do what he could to see that hawkers currently exposed to the weather would soon be under cover.

Hawkers at Mitchells Plain station are paying R100 a month to SATS, while those at Cape Town pay R25 a square metre a month. With 109 square metres leased already, SATS isn't doing too badly either.

And at the new flea market in front of the station, business is booming.
Vendors and platform performers create an ethnic kaleidoscope

Park Station — the hub around which Jo’burg revolves

By Sol Makgabathane

Pirate taximen, hawkers, shoeshine boys and thousands of passengers jostle each other at Johannesburg Station, the busiest railway station in South Africa.

You can buy anything from vendors — whose wares range from an Afro comb to a shoehlook, from a gum haunting to a can of Coke, from a pair of sandals to a packet of biscuits, from a bead pendant to an "I Love Soweto" sticker.

Safety-cum-musical hats sporting sombrerios display apolitical signs in English for "their" stranded porters back home in the country areas to see their folks after 11 months picking gold in Gauteng.

They wear tight-fitting dungarees and high-buttoned shoes, carrying tape decks blasting out Brenda Fassie.

Up near the ticket window a guy blocks your way, giving you the old one about just being out of jail and can you please help him with a train fare home. If you've been in Johannesburg long enough, this would be the 50th person to come with that story.

"He takes theiliko me Park Station" (we repair shoes here at Park Station) declares a huge sign on the cabin of portable shop near the men's privy.

Beide the newspaper stand a chair of blind singers, its leader jingling a ball, plaintively in tones a tune warning people of this world to mend their sinful ways.

People gather around and occasionally toss a coin into a plate. Train number 2027 to Soweto is delayed at platform no. 5 whereas announcement over the PA system and some of the listeners crowding around the blind choir suddenly disengage and disappear down the platform.

Some passos to newly arrived from the sticks stand near the automatic photo machine wondering just how does a machine take photographs on its own. Do the TV people hire such machines to film soccer matches? No, a passer-by lectures them, these are movie cameras while this one takes still photographs.

"What are still photographs?"

"Like the one in your glasses."

While you are still watching this exchange, an overweight school teachers lady, sticks a pair of green sunglasses on your nose and produces a mirror for you to savour your improved looks.

"Nice, eh? You want them? Only R3."

You duck away after giving him a mild chaste.

Outside, you are swamped by a flood of hawkers who peddle goods such as wallets, nail-clippers and herbs.

"What's that one for?" you point at what looks like dried beetroot.

"This one, my boy, is not for young people like you. It is for old men. Have you heard of univalvular baldness? This is the one. This one here (what looked like a bar) is for growing your hair. And that one there (it looked like a twist) is for those who want to do well at school." It is when you pass next to the toas that you hear the strangest destinations: Madadeni (Newcastle), Mabopane, Mabane.

"Are you going to England?"

"No, to Kentucky just across the park."

The Star Tuesday March 24 1987 9M
Hawkers' future to be decided in PE Council today

Municipal Reporter

THE future of the Buffelsfontein Road hawkers will be decided by the Port Elizabeth City Council's Community Services Committee this afternoon.

Three options, one of them being closure of the site, are suggested by the Director of Markets, Mr J H D McKenzie, to the committee.

Another option is that the entire site be leased on a 28-day basis, and the last is that a pensioner be appointed to control the issuing of permits, orderly trading and cleanliness.

In his report, Mr McKenzie says the purpose of the Buffelsfontein hawking site was to legalise the activities of hawkers to provide a more suitable and hygienic hawking area and to eliminate traffic congestion.

It consists of a tarred area with 18 marked parking bays for trucks, toilets, refuse facilities and public parking.

Permits to hawk there cost R130 a month or R8 a day for each site.

From July 1, 1986, to March 31, 1987, only 32 monthly, and 168 daily, permits had been issued, giving an average income of R600 a month.

Income would be R17 200 for the 1988-89 year while expenditure would be R26 590, Mr McKenzie says in his report.

'To make the Buffelsfontein Road hawkers' site a viable undertaking, all 18 stalls will have to be let on a monthly basis throughout the year, and this, I am afraid, is highly unlikely,' Mr McKenzie adds.

He says that any such hawking site would always be a burden to ratepayers and a problem to control.

For this reason, none of the larger cities or towns provided hawking sites.

'I believe it is unfair for council to subsidise these hawkers - why not subsidise other types of retail outlet?' he says.

Mr McKenzie says a major problem is caused by hawkers using the site without having obtained permits.

Control over the hawkers would include ensuring that they adhere to the conditions printed on the permit, including that no fruit or vegetables are off-loaded from vehicles for display or packing.

'It appears that the type of hawker making use of the site does not want to be controlled in any way,' he says.

Another problem was that the store room for refuse containers was mainly used to store produce overnight.
Pump attendant shot dead in
Philippi service station hold-up

SHOCKED: Mr Terence Lockay sits near the body of the sailor stabbed to death in a parking lot on the Foreshore.

BY STEPHEN WROTTLESBY
Crime Reporter

A PETROL pump attendant was shot dead on the forecourt of a Philippi garage today in the latest in a spate of attacks at service stations.

A colleague, fired as the gunman fired shots in the air. About R60 was stolen.

Mr Lockay ran for help and saw the seaman being stabbed in the stomach. When he returned the seaman was dead.

A murder docket has been opened. No arrests have been made.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Detective Warrant Officer Harold Rossow at 46 7324.

EASY CASH

A police spokesman said the spate of attacks on petrol attendants showed robbers viewed garages as a ready source of cash.

11pm on Saturday Mr Alwes Moyowa, 37, was approached at the Mitchells garage where he worked by three men who threatened him with a gun. The man stole R260.

11pm on Sunday three men robbed Mr David Frederick R120 at Klipfontein Motors in Klipfontein Road, Manganese.

About 11pm on Sunday Mr Mathews Lembi, 10, was robbed of two tins of oil by four armed men who attacked him at a Landsdowne garage.

Mr E Miyole, 45, was attacked by an armed man at an Athlone garage about 3am on Monday and robbed of R100.

Early yesterday police thwarted a hold-up at a garage in Rasttridge after a tip-off.

At 10:45pm yesterday, Mr Albert Sintiga, 45, was held up by two armed men at a Survey Estate garage and robbed of R150.

Twenty minutes later an attendant at a garage in Voor- trekker Road, Kensington, was robbed of R100.
Hawkers sue Minister

THREE Mohlakeng street hawkers have issued summons totalling R20 000 to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr. Adriaan Vlok, alleging that they were shot at by policemen while selling their wares in the township last year.

Two of the women are claiming R5 000 each for injuries sustained and the other, who was seriously hurt, is claiming R10 000.

The three are Mrs. Sophie Ntsolengoe of 397 Mathjje Street, Mrs. Nesta Mashiane of 1015 Phokompe Street, and Mrs. Margaret Mlambo of 247 Chaka Street.

A lawyer representing the three yesterday confirmed that summons "have been issued."
Council discord over carts for EL hawkers

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Three-wheeled steel carts with rubber wheels may soon be a feature of the city — together with shoe shine stands.

The city council agreed in principle last night to the Small Business Development Corporation's (SBDC) innovation that will lead to better control of hawkers and eradicate the major littering problem allegedly caused by hawking.

A sample of the cart was presented to the city council before last night's meeting and during discussion on the matter in council, two councillors objected to the new carts being introduced.

The councillor for environment and culture, Mr. Patrick Kay, recorded his dissent and said the hawkers' would cause bigger problems when they were put on wheels.

"The hawkers have been inflicted on the public without control and I foresee more problems," said Mr Kay.

He was supported by Mr. Eric Whitaker who said all attempts to control the hawkers had failed.

Mr. Donald Card, who had discussed the matter with the hawkers, said he did not want the wrong message to get out about the carts.

"The hawkers will have fixed areas and will not be allowed to push the carts all over the streets," he said.

Earlier the manager of the SBDC, Mr. P. Strumphier, told council about the carts and said the corporation was willing to assist hawkers in securing the carts which could easily be handled by one person.

The council also agreed last night that the administrator be requested to approve an increase in the R65 000 loan to build the hawkers' stalls in Pontoon Road.

The over expenditure on the stalls has pushed the amount up to R70 000.
Council rethinks status of hawkers

THE existence of most of the city's hawkers and informal sector business operators as "fugitives" could end if the Cape Town City Council accepts the recommendations of a municipal inquiry and legalises street trading.

Council officials Miss Amanda Young and Mr Simon Nicks investigated the informal sector two years ago at the request of the former city engineer, Mr Jan Brand.

They recommended that the council promote street trading by deregulating hawking, adopting a new management approach towards traders and helping to finance them. Miss Young told a forum on hawking organised by the Small Business Development Corporation and the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce this week.

She said the council had been advised to allow street traders to have permanent stalls, discard regulations which required them to wear white overcoats, simplify licence requirements and turn areas from which they were prohibited into zones where they could trade freely.

Miss Young said the recommendations would change the council's existing management policy of controlling and accommodating street traders.

Promotion

"We would like to see the promotion of street traders and more street markets established."

"We would also like to have a street trading manager, whose duty will be to promote, look after and control street trading," she said.

She warned that if the council would have to maintain some existing regulations such as those governing littering.

Mr Nicks said a recent survey showed that there were 175,000 unemployed people in Cape Town. This figure could be as high as 700,000 by the turn of the century.

Of the city's unemployed, 40 percent lived in townships on the Cape Flats. Some were street traders and they earned between R60 and R160 a week. Wealthier traders took home about R1,000 a month.

The study had shown the largest concentration of street traders in Klipfontein Road, Athlone, where 125 were counted.

Sixty were counted in the city centre, he said.

It was clear from the study that the street traders needed to live close to their businesses and that they needed shelters, he said.

Former chairman of the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce, Mr Philip Krawitz, said the free enterprise system was important for peace, stability and for everyone to acquire wealth.

Hawking opened a route into free enterprise and had to be encouraged, he said.

"It is no use giving people the crumbs off the table. We must learn to share the cake with them," he said.
Council bid to quieten down city’s buskers

IF the City Council has its way, street musicians playing in the city centre may in future have to tootle, strum and drum just a little more quietly — or at least without any electronic aids.

A recommendation from the City Planner, Mr David Jack, that the council control the hours during which buskers may ply their trade and that they do so without the assistance of amplifiers — unless otherwise specifically allowed to, was yesterday considered by two council committees.

However, the Utilities and Works Committee decided against Mr Jack’s original proposal to limit the hours during which street musicians in the Cape Town municipal area would be allowed to perform.

Instead, the committee passed a recommendation that the playing of street music would be approved as long as buskers did not use amplification equipment without the approval of the City Administrator.

A second proposal, that bands of four people or more should be restricted to open areas of the city such as Greenmarket Square and Thibault Square, was accepted by the committee.

The proposals will be forwarded to Cape Town’s CBD Association, the Merchants’ Associations of Mitchells Plain, Wynberg and Athlone, the Chamber of Commerce, the Afrikaanse Sakekamer and the ratepayers’ associations of Sea Point, Muizenberg and Camps Bay for their comments.

The Amenities and Health Committee, which controls busking on Greenmarket Square and which late yesterday also considered Mr Jack’s proposals and recommendations, decided to maintain its 12.45pm-2pm allocation for all musical performers on the square.

The recommendations will go before Exco later this month for ratification.

Mr Gerald Mongazi, of Langa, one of the city’s regular, full-time buskers, said yesterday he did not wish to be limited to any particular playing times as even though he usually only played between 1pm and 2pm, there were times when he needed to perform for a longer period to earn enough money for the day.
‘Sell and run’ hawkers may get own trading sites

By DENISE BOUTALL

HAWKERS, who at present live a kind of “sell and run” existence between customers and law enforcers, could be on the way to acceptance by local authorities in the Eastern Cape.

The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) plans to provide stalls to hawkers and help identify sites where they can trade without harassment, thus enabling them to save the money they currently pay on fines as part of their small profits.

Mr Danny Mansell, newly appointed senior manager of the SBDC in the Eastern Cape, has held discussions with hawkers and local authorities in various towns.

Now his proposals have been accepted by the municipalities of East London, King William’s Town, Stutterheim, Queenshain, Cradock and Port Elizabeth.

Mr Mansell said there were about 5,000 hawkers in the Eastern Cape, 2,000 of them in Port Elizabeth.

They have an average turnover of about R20 a day from which they clear about R5 profit. In general they spend R30 a month on fines.

In spite of such modest beginnings many of them would become entrepreneurs.

“More than 80% of our loans are made to people who started their business careers as hawkers, taxi drivers or shebeen owners,” said Mr Mansell.

The hawking issue has come to the forefront in many towns and cities, but was particularly acute in the Port Elizabeth because of the strict application of the regulations.

“Hawkers are part of the economic reality,” Mr Mansell said.

“If they don’t get an opportunity to improve themselves they will continue to operate in conditions which neither they nor the community find acceptable.”

The SBDC had begun manufacturing mobile lock-up stalls and, once hawking sites were identified, it might also provide permanent stalls if these were acceptable to the municipalities.

In addition the SBDC would provide a back-up facility in the form of a lock-up area where stalls could be left at night and where food could be packed.

It would try to find sponsors for the stalls and if this was not possible would rent them at R15 a month.

The stalls were already being bought by hawkers trading in the townships.

Mr Mansell stressed that the SBDC was working closely with hawkers’ associations and everything that was done had to be acceptable to them.

The corporation also made loans available to hawkers. They could borrow up to R200 to be repaid within eight weeks.

In Port Elizabeth there were already 120 hawkers who were partly financing their activities through such loans.

The SBDC was negotiating the allocation of hawking areas in the various towns and cities with the local authorities and the hawkers.

In East London three sites had been found.

Permanent stalls would be installed at the bottom of Caxton Street and mobile units would operate in the Frere Hospital area and along the bus route below the Oriental Plaza.

Mr Mansell said he hoped people in Port Elizabeth would come forward with ideas for sites.
Move to stop petty hawking prosecutions

Staff Reporter

A CALL to halt prosecutions for petty hawking offences in Cape Town is to be made to the Attorney-General by the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC).

It follows allegations by fruit and vegetable hawkers of a “crackdown” on their operations, in spite of the city council’s already advanced moves to legalise hawking in the central business district.

In the past six weeks 13 hawkers have been prosecuted. Two were acquitted.

The hawkers complain they have been arrested and jailed and their vehicles and wares confiscated for contraventions of a municipal regulation for which the maximum penalty is a R30 fine.

Proceeds

In some cases hawkers have been arrested on Friday afternoons and kept in jail over the weekend, awaiting trial on Monday or Tuesday.

Their fruit and vegetables have been confiscated and sold when they have been convicted. The proceeds go to the city council.

The legal advisor on deregulation for the SBDC, Mr Herman Marais, said the corporation intended making representations to the attorney-general to halt prosecutions for petty hawking offences.

“We find this particularly strange at a time when South Africa needs to promote self employment.”

One is especially concerned about the fact that people are being locked up for an offence which carries a maximum penalty of only R30. We feel this generates disrespect for the law,” he said.

“Confiscation of trading stock of such a small undertaking is a direct blow to undermining the livelihood of the trader and his dependents.”

Licensed “rand-a-bag” hawkers Mr Nazeem Mohammed, left, and Mr Mogammat Daniel, who recently spent weekends in jail after being arrested for not wearing white coats and trading in a prohibited area.

According to court records, licensed hawkers have been locked up and their stock confiscated for:

- Not wearing white coats;
- Not carrying licences;
- Parking in prohibited areas;
- Not selling from a “barrow”, i.e. the vendor steps across the road to make a sale, or if he displays his goods on the edge of the pavement; he is off limits.

Licensed “rand-a-bag” hawkers Mr Mogammat Daniel and Mr Nazeem Mohammed recently spent weekends in jail after being arrested for not wearing white coats and trading in a prohibited area (next to the main post office). Both are married men. Each has three small children.

When they appeared in court the following week they were fined R10 for the first offence and R30 for the second.

Mr Daniel, a second-generation hawker, said hawkers had been “locked up” since his father’s day. He had hoped, however, that this would stop in the light of the council’s recently announced plan to legalise hawking in the CBD.

Traffic Chief Mr Harry Attwood denied a “crackdown”.

He said hawkers would not be allowed to trade in “prohibited areas” even after a relaxation of the regulations.

“They have been arrested for this offence for as long as I have been here and until the law changes this will continue to happen,” said Mr Attwood.

When hawkers were arrested they were taken to Caledon Square and handed over to the police, he said.
Hawkers scatter as goods are taken

Municipal Reporter

HAWKERS scattered in Rink Street at lunchtime yesterday as two officials of the Port Elizabeth Traffic Department confiscated their goods.

The incident was witnessed by Mrs. Anne Grossmann, who said she was "baffled" at the sight of several adults running down the street streaming after a Traffic Department vehicle and a motorcycle stopped next to their position on the pavement.

Mrs. Grossman said the hawkers grabbed what they could of their goods and the officers loaded the rest into their van.

She spoke to the Traffic Department and was told that complaints had been received from businesses in the area, who said the illegal hawkers were taking trade away from them.

"They are just trying to make enough money to put food in their children's bellies," she said.

The Acting Chief Traffic Officer, Mr. Henne Bason, confirmed today that complaints were received regularly from doctors and various businesses in Rink Street.

"We have to respond to complaints of this nature, but it's a very sensitive situation. We have sympathy with hawkers' problems," he said.

The only obvious solution is to confiscate their goods. They vanish.

The goods that were confiscated were handed to the South African Police for disposal, Mr. Bason said.

The City Council has been unable to reach consensus on the best way to solve the hawking problem, though the Small Business Development Corporation intends to present proposals for a solution before the end of this month.
12 hawkers arrested

EAST LONDON — Approximately 12 hawkers were arrested yesterday by the East London City Police for various offences.

The superintendent of the city police department, Mr. Graham Moore, said the arrests had not been as a result of any special drive by his department.

"There is nothing out of the ordinary in the arrests," he said.

"The Department of Health is very strict with people hawking foodstuffs without a licence."

"The people arrested were charged at the Fleet Street police station and their goods confiscated as evidence. They will appear in court soon," Mr. Moore added. — DDR
Hawkers bitter at confiscation of their stands

Confiscated stands — says he has been "forced" to display his produce on the ground.

Hawker Mr. Ranga Naidoo — at Bogerheads with the Port Elizabeth City Council over the weekend.

Week-end Post, July 4, 1983
Medical payment shock for the elderly

BY GLEN DILL

THOUSANDS of shocked pensioners arrived at Transvaal hospitals this week to find that their free medical services were free no longer.

Out of the blue, they found that every prescription and visit to the hospital will now cost R2 each. This will mean a charge of at least R4 a month for pensioners who make regular visits to provincial hospitals.

"My wife and I have been getting free medical attention and drugs since 1972. It was the one service we believed we could rely on as we got older," said a furious Mr. George Trokie, 76, of Brakpan.

"It's a disgrace. What have we worked for and paid tax for all these years?" "We're getting a pension rise in October of R20. What's the point of giving with one hand and taking back with the other?"

Another pensioner, a 75-year-old from Bez Valley, Johannesburg, who did not want to be named, was equally angry.

"Everybody was so shocked at the Johannesburg Hospital on Thursday. They couldn't believe they would have to pay in the future."

Reserve

"I have to see a doctor for my blood pressure and a specialist for my ulcer every three months. On top of that, there are prescriptions for three different pills every two months."

"That's quite a few rand every month that I just can't afford. And, like everything else, the cost will no doubt go up. This year R3, next year R4.

"I didn't have any money on me when they suddenly asked for R2 for my regular prescription this week. So I walked away without my medicine. Luckily I have a few pills in reserve."

The Administrator of the Transvaal announced the charges last Friday - but few people appear to have heard the news.

Mr. Danie Kirsteins, who has special responsibility for health on the six-man, multi-racial Executive Council of the Transvaal, said he believed R4 was a small sum.

"The council decided on these charges because there is plenty of unused medicine lying around. "If people have to pay, they'll tell the doctor if they've still got pills."

"As far as paying to see the doctor is concerned, some old people regard a trip to the hospital as an outing. "We haven't got the funds to see everyone for a little cold."

The Bez Valley pensioner said the council's attitude was callous.

"First, R2 is a lot of money to anyone on a pension of R168."

Wrong

"Also, we have to take our empty packets and bottles back to prove we've finished them before we get more."

"As for a trip to hospital being an outing, that's ridiculous. You have to wait around for two hours to see the doctor, then another hour and a half to get your medicine," she said.

Mr. Laurie Starfield, director of the Johannesburg Association for the Aged, said he disapproved of the arbitrary method of introducing the charge, and considered it very wrong to depart from the principle of free health care in this manner.

"We deeply regret the new charges and feel they're an unfair burden. The province's gain must be minimal in comparison to the sums it spends."
Job agencies report rise in business

MORE jobs appear to be available this year than last. Employment agencies have been busier between January and June than in the same period last year.

Increased emigration of executives and professional staff over past years has left many top positions open. But there is also greater demand for skilled secretarial and clerical staff.

Colin Katz Associates reports a 62% rise in placements of financial managers, marketing directors, engineers and professional staff, compared with the first six months of 1986 — despite a 74% hike in agency fees.

Drake regional controller Willy Jansen says orders for highly qualified technical staff, skilled secretaries, word-processor operators and insurance staff have increased considerably, but the rise has not been as high as the corporate profit rise.

Kelly operations MD John Dawkins says orders are up more than 50% from last year, and the increased demand applies across the board to, among others, credit controllers, accountants, sales staff, secretaries, bookkeepers and receptionists.
Health hazard warning

Go slow by most of 1 200 city dustmen

A WORK-TO-RULE by most of Cape Town's 1 200 dustmen is expected to affect refuse removal in almost every suburb of the municipality and will carry with it a health hazard, the City Engineer, Mr Des Riley, warned yesterday.

Mr Riley told a press conference that in some areas refuse would be removed only once a week, instead of the usual twice a week, for the duration of the work-to-rule.

He warned that less frequent removals could lead to a health hazard.

Rubbish will still be removed at least once a week.

Dustmen began the work-to-rule this week because of widespread dissatisfaction with the council's annual pay rise offer. The offer, a 10% increase, has been rejected by their union, the Cape Town Municipal Workers' Association (CTMWA).

Members of the public were advised yesterday to put out their rubbish bags on collection day just inside their properties, instead of in the streets, "because of the health hazard".

Placing the bags off the streets may slow down the dustmen even further.

The acting chairman of the executive committee, Mrs Eulalie Stott, and the chairman of the utilities and works committee, Mr Jack Frost, appealed yesterday to householders to ensure that dogs — regarded as the main culprits in ripping open refuse bags — were "kept off the streets at this time".

The CTMWA is still engaged in pay-rise negotiations with the council, and the union is not officially supporting the work-to-rule. The negotiations are due to resume on Tuesday next week.

The secretary of the CTMWA, Mr John Ernstzen, is in Johannesburg on union business, and his assistant, Mr Henry Kannemeyer, said the union had not organized the work-to-rule.

"People are not happy with council's 10% offer," Mr Kannemeyer said. Mr Riley said the work-to-rule was "well organized," but would not speculate on who had organized it.

Mrs Stott said the council's 10% offer would bring the dustmen's minimum wage up to R2.56 an hour, with an extra allowance of 10c an hour. They officially work a 46-hour week.

Suburbs affected

This means the minimum is about R112.62 a week now, and it is understood that the dustmen are seeking a R50 a week increase.

Mr Riley said that before the work-to-rule, the cleaning staff had worked so fast that they could go home early.

Suburbs in which refuse removals have already been affected include Claremont, Mowbray, Ottery, Bonteheuwel, Eastridge and Westridge in Mitchells Plain, and Muizenberg, Wynberg and Athlone. In the latter three, the backlog had been removed, Mr Riley said.

Working to rule means the dustmen return to their depots for lunch, as the council provides lunch on the job. This is "tremendously time-consuming," Mr Riley said.

Before the work-to-rule dustmen often used to run behind compactors, collecting refuse "on the trot".

The head of the cleansing department, Mr Tom de Bruin, said union members had behaved "very responsibly" and in such a way as to avoid friction and animosity.

He said all the council's cleansing staff received more than the laid-down minimum wage.
Under a tc

FOCUS ON CAPE TOWN’S PROSTITUTES

QUOTE: "This kind of life is a gamble, either you win or you lose."

"He’s been away for two years," said Mary, 24, as she sat beside her husband, John. "I never thought he’d leave me, but when he did, I was heartbroken."

"She left him two years ago because of the way he treated her. She says she never wants to see him again."

"He didn’t even say goodbye," said Mary. "I feel like I’ve lost my whole world."

She sat for a moment, lost in thought, before continuing. "I’ve never been in this kind of situation before. I don’t know what to do."

"We need to find a support group," said John. "I don’t want her to feel alone."

"I agree," said Mary. "I need some help."

THE MARINE TAXI SERVIC

TAKING A TAXI RIDE INTO THE NIGHT

"I was happy with the taxi service," said Mary. "But I’ve heard mixed reviews."

"I’ve used it a few times and it’s always been fine," said John. "But I’ve heard that some drivers are unreliable."}

"I’ll make sure to give it another try," said Mary. "I don’t want to give up on it just yet."
Mourned, 'forgotten in a week'

HUNDREDS of prostitutes in Cape Town believe they are misused and exploited. For most, it is a job they take very seriously. They work from nine to five—nine at night to five in the morning—and don't believe in demanding the equivalent of a night's wages publicly when they receive it. They esteem themselves as providing a service.

Most say they don't do it because they like it, but because unemployment forces them to. It is a job for men; a profession they say, that no one else would take. The same is true of their boyfriends.

The flood of seamen dwindled after Suez Canal

While some women are well educated, others are illiterate, and take good care of themselves. But most, especially, with weekly medical check-ups, are oblivious to the dangers of diseases such as AIDS. Under the French system, many of these women are gentle and friendly, and just want to be left to make the lives of the seamen easier.

Some don't survive. According to an acquaintance of a woman who worked as a companion for two years and became a nurse, if a seaman is sick, she makes sure he gets the proper medical attention.

The influence of the dock workers is so strong that many women who say they would be asking for double if they worked the same.

Drugs should be stamped out...not prostitution

SINCE the Suez Canal "relief" of 1965 and the more recent extensions, the flood of seamen in Town is dwindled.

Now, the docks, once as "a white elephant" are occasionally manned by Taiwanesse crews and the presence of most of the profiteering dock workers in the area has lessened.

Women gather to work here and haggle and they often work in the presence of male dock workers. They are not afraid of them and do not work for very long.

However, there are those who feel they have a right to protection against exploitation. According to a spokesperson for the Seaman's Union, the need for free and full sexual release is not respected in their work. They feel that prostitution is illegal and that men should not be allowed to work in such conditions.

Many people believe that those who feel are correct, but do not want to go public with their feelings. Some say that it is better to live with these conditions than to work in other countries where conditions are worse.

The ideal of womanhood—"the true woman"—must be protected, according to the spokesperson. He said that women should not feel they are being taken advantage of and that they should have the right to work in a safe and healthy environment.

The spokesperson said that many women feel that prostitution cannot be stamped out, but that conditions can be improved. He said that there has been enough talk about prostitution and that it is time for action to be taken.

The spokesperson also said that many men feel that they are being exploited and that they should not be forced to work in such conditions.

Taiwanese seamen outside a city club.
Hawkers: request refused

EAST LONDON — The city council has turned down a request from the Greater East London co-ordinating committee for representation on the hawkers' ad hoc committee.

The committee asked that its commercial and development sub-committee be permitted to participate in the activities of the hawkers' committee as it was felt it could make a positive contribution to the committee.

The council said the Central Business District Association already enjoyed representation on the hawkers' committee and the same representatives were members of the co-ordinating committee. — DDR
Hawkers may get stands in city centre

Staff Reporter

HAWKERS may soon be allowed to lease stands in the centre of Cape Town.

The city's utilities and works committee yesterday approved a recommendation by the city administrator that hawking sites be granted under permit at R3 a square metre.

Similar stands at the Mitchell's Plain Town Centre are also planned.

If the principle of raising fees for hawking stands is approved, suitable paved sites elsewhere in the municipal area could be converted to "reserved stands".

The recommendation has to be passed by the executive committee and the full council.

Illegal

Hawkers operating illegally in the central business districts of Cape Town and Mitchell's Plain needed to be accommodated and legalised, said a report from the city administrator.

Throughout the municipal area, official hawking sites existed on a "first come, first served" basis, the report said.

"The system has worked well enough except that in some areas control of the use of stands has been usurped by monopolistic hawkers."

However, changes to the traffic by-law covering hawking were envisaged in the light of the council's policy plan on street trading.

Charging fees and allocating sites to specific hawkers would cover administrative costs "and cause the hawker to develop a sense of responsibility for his stand as well as encourage him to ward off would-be intruders."

In the Cape Town CBD, 22 sites are earmarked for hawking.

A proposal to close Old Klipfontein Road in central Athlone has been approved by the committee but discussions with interested parties will have to be held first.

This follows recent clashes between hawkers and the council's law enforcement arm, culminating in a row over a council raid on "illegal" Klipfontein Road hawkers.

The city planner reported that hawker stands would be located in the road and front footways.

Killing: Woman held

The Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH. — A woman has been arrested in connection with the death of Mr Trevor Alexander Marshall whose body was found in the kitchen of his flat this week.

Mr Marshall, 28, had been stabbed in the heart.

The woman is expected to appear in court tomorrow.
Rini promotes self-help housing

Dispatch Reporter
GRAHAMSTOWN — The Rini council has made available 300 sites for self-help housing in Makana's Kop extensions two and three.

At this juncture the sites will be available on 99-year leasehold terms, officials said.

The R2.5-million scheme will be administered and supervised by the Cape Provincial Administration.

The town clerk, Mr Koos Celliers, said: “We have asked for informal tenders for materials because we can buy cheaper in bulk.”

These would remain in safe-keeping for intending home-builders to draw on as they need them, he said. This would ensure against the theft of materials from the building sites.

Mr Celliers said housing remained a pre-occupation of the council.

The council also hopes to sell off Fingo Village properties.

“The administrator must determine the selling price,” Mr Celliers said.

He urged that the Group Areas Act be relaxed in terms of four properties now occupied by coloured families. Rini councillors have no objection.

The properties in question were granted or transferred to heads of households between 1856 and 1901.

They belong to intestate estates and awards must be made to the next-of-kin to wind up the estates. Rini councillors’ sanction, however, was required before the matter could be submitted to the administrator.

Rini also holds the title deeds of a further 58 properties expropriated during the 1970s when the area was proclaimed for coloured and Indian groups.

Ultimately these could be sold back to the original owners or sold by public auction.

“The administrator must determine the selling price,” Mr Celliers said.

A format of a draft agreement of a lease between occupier and lodger had also been drawn up, he said.

“This will provide a formal basis for leasing for an indefinite period.”

The terms require a lodger to pay R5 a month for a room and R10 a month for a room.

Escom has also applied for 40 sites to help their employees build houses.

In the meantime, various manufacturers of building materials have donated materials for a show house which has been erected adjacent to the Makana’s Kop clinic.

The house was built departmentally.

“The aim is to show people what they can get from the suppliers: bricks, flooring, different finishes and so on,” Mr Celliers said.

He said the Cape Provincial Administration would probably use the show house as offices while the Zenzela (self-help) project was underway.

Council plans hawkers’ shelters

Dispatch Reporter
GRAHAMSTOWN — The Rini council is prepared to build shelters for hawkers — if the Hawkers’ Guild will tell it where to construct them.

Several approaches to the guild have brought no response, it was revealed at a council meeting.

It was decided to go ahead and build one on a site in Englan Road.

The site had been occupied by the Grahamstown Area Distress Relief Association (Gadra) and other welfare organisations, until it was burned down during unrest.

Gadra and other welfare organisations now have premises within the grounds of the Day Hospital, in Cobden Street.

The town clerk, Mr Koos Celliers, said the R3 600 structure would be steel-framed with a roof of corrugated iron welded on.

The site will be open. Within will be a concrete “table”, from which hawkers may sell their wares.

The structure had been designed for maximum security and hygiene, Mr Celliers said.

It would be big enough for between two and three hawkers to utilise, he said.

“Unless we get some response from the hawkers, we will look at other sites traditionally used by them, for building more shelters.”

The Rini council is trying to acquire an area of approximately 100m on the north east of the townships for recreation uses. It is a triangle of land enclosed by the existing and new roads to Fort Beaufort, and the East London road. It is not suitable for housing as the sewerage works are sited there.

Rini councillors plan to use the new B.B. Zondani community centre in Fingo Village, as a revenue office for the convenience of Fingo Villagers and residents of other adjacent townships.

This will enable them to pay their rates at a more convenient point.

The “office” will be open on certain days between certain hours, to maintain security, Mr Celliers said.

The Rini administration took over the electricity trading account from the Grahamstown municipality from July 1.

Mr Celliers said: “We will now send out accounts and collect, although we will still buy Escom power from Grahamstown.”

Only when a master plan for the townships is effected and funds are available, is it likely Rini will build a sub-station, when they could buy directly from Escom.
Pietersburg's escort agency is in business

JOHANNESBURG — Pietersburg's first escort agency, with the exotic name of "Pandora's Box", opened for business this week with a temporary permit and four young women on its books.

The agency has met with considerable opposition, but one of the owners, Mr. Vonnie Mare, said today all necessary conditions had been fulfilled — including the controversial medical tests for Aids and keeping a register of clients.

He said many telephone inquiries indicated that there was a demand for the services offered by the agency, but further publicity was needed to place the operation on a sound business footing.

The agency will initially charge R175 for the services of an escort.

The young women employed by the agency will receive fixed salaries.

The agency is waiting for a decision on its application for clearance to operate permanently.
Car-hire baby run by women wants Hertz

By David Carter

IMPERIAL Car Rental, the baby of the business run mainly by women, thought it had acquired the SA operations of Hertz this week.

Imperial told Business Times the deal had been clinched. But Sage, the partnership in the transaction said "complications arising from conditions precedent" were threatening to collapse.

Hertz is the biggest car-hire firm in the world and has been No 2 in SA, after Avis. Sage's wholly owned subsidiary, Union & London, has owned Hertz in SA and paid a royalty for use of the name.

According to Imperial, it was to take 60% of the merged company against Sage's 40% and it would be in the driving seat of the enlarged operation.

4 000 cars

Both parties agreed that if it went through, Carol Scott, managing director of Imperial, would be managing director of the merged company. Bill Lynch, also of Imperial, would chair the board. Noel de Villiers, managing director of Hertz, would also be a director.

It has not been decided whether the company will be called Imperial-Hertz or Hertz-Imperial.

The combined company would have 4 000 cars, sales of R60-million a year and shareholders' funds of R17-million.

Imperial claims it would have 38% of the market -- slightly less than the 40% it estimates that Avis controls.

The transaction was entirely between SA parties and no money would leave the country. The Hertz name would stay for 10 years at least.

The deal would be a great victory for Carol Scott and her mainly female team.

Miss Scott started Imperial Car Hire for Percy Abel-Kooper's Imperial Group in January 1976 with one office, nine cars and a staff of two.

The same year the team grew to 20 eager women.

Miss Scott says: "The market place was crowded and people said we were crazy. But we came in aggressively and worked hard -- 17 hours a day 365 days a year.

"From the outset we were a people-oriented company with a strong team spirit and an outstanding sales side. The only way we could beat the opposition was through superior service."

In eight years, Imperial's market share grew to 10%. It was 10% only five years ago. Before the merger, there were 35 offices, a fleet of 1 700 cars and a staff of 400.

By 1982 the company had achieved an operating profit of R712 000. In 1986, its best year, Imperial made R3.4-million before interest and tax. Recession and a fall in tourism caused operating profit to drop to R2.4-million in 1988. But the six months to December, Imperial had made R1.6-million and was heading for a record.

Mr Lynch is the only man in the top team envisaged by Imperial, but Miss Scott assures the men from Hertz there will be no sex discrimination once the deal and cars -- and fewer offices. Miss Scott says competition will intensify because Avis and Imperial-Hertz would be roughly the same size. She pleads that standards of service will not be allowed to fall because of the increased size of the company.

On average Hertz and Imperial keep cars for only 20 000km, or seven or eight months. A merged firm would buy more than 4 000 cars a year.

Large sum

Imperial has represented Europcar in SA. It is not clear yet whether South Africans booking hire cars abroad through the proposed merged company would go to Europcar or Hertz. The plan was to use Hertz, but Europcar offered a large sum to maintain the link.

Imperial shares were issued at 275c, but bright prospects and rumours of this deal have lifted them to 60c. They could go higher.

Grinaker gets half Condecor

ANCLOVAAL's Grinaker Holdings has bought a 50% stake in Condecor, one of the Cape's fastest-growing development and construction companies.

Grinaker, a heavyweight in civil engineering, construction, building, mining, precision concrete and electronics throughout South Africa, sees the Condecor link as an extension of its move into the housing market in Natal and the Transvaal.

The group is established in Western and Southern Cape
Car hire giants ready for battle

BATTLE lines are being drawn in the car hire sector following the Imperial/Hertz merger.

Industry sources said yesterday that an all-out price war between market leader Avis and the newly emergent group was imminent.

Fleet totals are now seen to be fairly evenly matched, with the Hertz/Imperial units numbering in excess of 4 000 compared with Avis's 4 500.

Hertz chairman Noel de Villiers, who is to take a seat on the new board, said the conglomerate would engage in a head-on marketing confrontation.

"Without any question, our aggressive approach will probably inspire the competition to react in a similar fashion. But have no doubts, the winner in the long run will be the customer."

While the opponents, grided for the fight, observers said the only cloud hovering over the merger was possible Competition Board intervention.

Sources said yesterday that as far as they were aware no formal approach had yet been made to the board for its approval.

Reacting to the green-light announcement from UAL Merchant Bank, Imperial group shares, of which Imperial Car Rental is a wholly-owned subsidiary, moved down 20c yesterday to close at 610c. A previous high saw the share at 700c late last month. Market sources said the share had seen heavy profit taking ahead of the merger.

Meanwhile, figures released by the Bureau for Financial Analysis at the University of Pretoria showed that June's total revenue for the industry took a huge leap of 45.6% compared with June of the previous year.
Agency's grand promise to job seekers falls flat

BY BONGANI HLATSHWAYO

OVER 100 work seekers who had been employed by the SA Employment Representative Council, an employment agency, are up in arms over its president, Junior Nguni's, failure to pay them their salaries or secure them jobs.

Nguni claims that the company is bankrupt because it has incurred a loss of R14 000.

"We only have R3 800 at our disposal, so we have to divide it among all the workers," said Nguni.

The agency, founded in May, caters for the unemployed. In return for a registration fee of R9, work seekers receive identity cards, bearing the name of their company.

The company's policy stipulates that as soon as a person is registered, he automatically qualifies for a full salary at the end of the month.

Things came to a head at the end of July when those registered were supposed to get their pay. They were informed that some company officials had disappeared with money belonging to the company, so they could not receive their salaries.

Attempts by the workers to have a word with the president have proved futile as he allegedly refrains from attending meetings to discuss the conflict.
imperial in driving
seat as Hertz quits

The merger of Imperial Car Rental and Hertz has become a takeover by Imperial—and a disinvestment by Hertz.

Initially it was to be pooling of interests. The parties were trying to decide whether to call the company Hertz-Imperial or Imperial-Hertz. Now, because Hertz US could not give Imperial a cast-iron guarantee that it would permit the same to be used in the long term, Imperial will take the Hertz fleet and personnel and go it alone without the name.

Imperial Car Rental chairman Bill Lynch says: "We were reluctant to change our name, only to be obliged to change it again some time in the future."

Mainstream

Mr. Lynch is not altogether sorry about the outcome. "If you are in Europe or the States, in the mainstream of international tourism, an international car-hire name counts for a lot. But in SA, we are off the beaten track. In Imperial we have shown that a SA company can take on the big international names and win. I really don't think we need the name and that much."

The SA character of Imperial could become a strong marketing advantage, particularly if UN's public opinion continues to be hostile towards this country.

Mr. Lynch says: "I also do not believe the internationals can teach us much on the operational side."

Imperial believes Hertz will steer American customers visiting SA its way. Imperial will continue to represent Europcar in SA.

The listed Imperial Group will have 60% of the combined operation and Sage's wholly owned subsidiary Union & London the balance.

Eventually, says Mr. Lynch, the car-rental arm of Imperial will be listed. Imperial Group holders will be able to subscribe on terms still to be decided.
Hertz: about to disinvest?

AS THE merger of car rental giants Hertz and Imperial goes ahead, Hertz's US parent has backed away from giving a firm commitment on the continued use of its name in SA.

The move, which is being seen as a prelude to an official disinvestment announcement by Hertz, will leave Avis as the only major international car hire company in the country.

Weekend media reports quoted Imperial chairman Bill Lynch as saying: "I really do not think we need the name all that much. I don't believe the internationals can teach us much on the operational side."

Industry sources said Imperial, which has been negotiating with Hertz with a view to pooling the companies' operations and fleets, would now have to decide on a new name.
By AYESHA ALLIE

DESPERATE job seekers are being charged an "illegal" R9 fee by a Bellville firm to register for "possible" employment on the Mossel Bay oil-fromgas project due to come on line only in two years time.

The firm, South Coast Employment Agency, operates from an office of Skinner and Partners in the Boston Hotel, Centre, Bellville.

It has been established that the firm - not listed as a business on firms and the local authority in Mossel Bay - is under investigation by the Department of Manpower.

Job seekers who had registered with the company can demand their money back, according to the Department of Manpower.

Mostly jobless people, who say they are responding to newspaper advertisements, crowd the firm's offices between 9am and 11am hoping to be part of the expected boom in Mossel Bay.

"Yellow"

They pay R1 which is believed to be for registration with the company and are given a yellow card by the Skinner and Partners stamp on it.

The R9, according to the secretary in the office, is for the job application form. For the payment of a white receipt, also unsigned, is for R1.

SOUTHOUTHERN "applying" for jobs this week were told there was no guarantee of a job. The fee paid was not refundable.

When asked what the payment was for, the secretary said it covered stationery costs.

A Cape Town spokesperson for the Department of Manpower, Mr. J A Vasser, said he had already informed the company that it was illegal to charge people who made applications for a job.

He had told the company that they had the right to charge only R1 for registration.

Jobless ripped off

From page 1

Mrs L R Jungle of the Department of Manpower in Bellville, said the company had been warned before about charging unemployed people a fee to get a job.

Jungle said the department was "well aware of the company's activities. "They've charged people before who complained." She said people who had paid R9 should complain and they would be able to get their money back.

The Mossel Bay refinery contacted said it had no contract with South Coast Employment Agency.

A spokesperson for Moss Refineries, Mr. R S Jakobs, said, "did not instruct any company in Cape Town or anywhere else to look for unemployed people."

"I don't know anything about employing people for the Mossel Bay project," he said.

A spokesperson for the Mossel Bay Municipality, Mr. R Lotter, said the firm was long-term plans to start a gas and oil project that would "only take place in a year or two."

"We've never called anyone to apply for work as we don't have any," she said.

Help people

The manager of the firm could not be reached for comment after several attempts.

He was not available when the offices were visited and did not respond to telephone enquiries.

"An office secretary, however, said the firm was "legal" and aimed to "help people obtain jobs."

She said the Department of Manpower was "aware" of the firm's activities. She confirmed that recruitment was for the Mossel Bay project.

Court bid to free retarded detainee

AN URGENT application to the Supreme Court for the detainment of a mentally retarded child is being prepared, attorneys confirmed this week.

Nawaldine Toorpe, 18, a standard V pupil at Bonelvlei Primary School, sustained brain damage after an accident as a child, has been held under the Emergency Regulations since August 11.

The district magistrate this week confirmed a diagnosis of "mild retardation". He had submitted this finding to the police.

Nawaldine was detained near the Elandsrivier buttocks while on an errand for his mother, Mrs Janinie Toorpe.

Nawaldine was detained for 14 days in May, but four other cases appeared in court on a charge of public order, but charges were dropped.

The police refused to comment and referred to the registrar of the Emergency Regulations which states "no person shall be entitled to any information relating to or about a detainee."

Release 'imminent'

Already been visited by legal advisers to discuss the 'imminent' release.

According to well-placed sources, the release is "imminent". Unlike rumour last year of the release of reprehensive Nelson Mandela, speculation this year is for a real release.

The 1979 action by State President C J de Klerk to order the release national of President Mandela has been admitted that the United Nations "administered by South Africa" has been set in motion" her this for the release of Manik.

"Turn to page 2."

IPS — PAGE 23
Illegal charges to job seekers

SOUTH REPORTER

A BELLEVILLE employment company has until Friday to refund illegal fees it charged job seekers.

By then the company, which illegally charged unemployed people R10 to register for jobs, must prove to the Department of Manpower that it has returned all job seekers their money.

A spokesperson from the Department of Manpower, Mr. J. A. Visscher, said between 200-300 job seekers "registered" for work, according to the company, Skinner and Partners.

The department believed that the figure could be much higher.

Job seekers responded to advertisements by Skinner and Partners, for people to register with them for employment at the Mossel Bay Project.

A SOUTH investigation found that job seekers had to pay R10 to "register" for possible employment.

A reporter who posed as a job seeker was told R1 for registration (which all employment agencies charge) and R9 for stationery expenses.

Mr. H. Skinner of Skinner and Partners, refused to speak to SOUTH. He said he had already spoken to the Department of Manpower.
Uniforms suggested for PE hawkers

Municipal Reporter

NEW suggestions to improve hawking in Port Elizabeth city centre — with pavement, trolleys, uniforms and even mini-loans to buy stock — came before PE's Community Services Committee today.

They are made by the Small Businessmen's Development Corporation (SBDC) and have the support of Mr Carl Fischer, the city's Director of Administration.

In a comprehensive report, the SBDC says that hawking, which has lately become a controversial issue, has changed its pattern in PE, and mini-hawkers who trade from places where there are many pedestrians are popular.

The SBDC feels that the by-law forbidding trading in the CBD (which is not strictly enforced) should be reviewed and suggests the use of hawker carts at certain sites in the CBD area and parking bays marked on the sidewalks.

The SBDC suggests that hawkers be given uniforms which will give them a better appearance and simplify their identification.
New Bill to curb escort activity

Sunday Times Reporter.
PARLIAMENT this week took the first step towards tightening the restrictions on escort agencies—while the identities of a string of men were being protected in a Johannesburg court as they gave evidence in a sordid "sex-on-credit" case.

The Immorality Amendment Bill, introduced in Cape Town, is aimed mainly at escort agencies and provides for substantial increases in fines, as well as a review of protection under the Act to men and women.

It appears that once the new Bill becomes law, identities of witnesses will no longer be protected.

MIKLOS BAKO.

In the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court, this week a string of men, from all walks of life, including a company director, a teacher who serves on a community committee, a Stock Exchange employee, an analytical chemist and leading business and professional men appeared as State witnesses in the trial of agency boss Mr. Andreas Bako and his son Miklos, who were charged with procuring women for prostitution.

The men told the magistrate their lives and marriages "would be destroyed and their businesses and reputations irrevocably damaged" if their names were made public for having sex with escorts.

Many of the men testified they "did not even know the names" of the escorts.
Portable latrines a listing first

MYNKAR Holdings, which operates 2,000 portable latrines nationwide apart from manufacturing them in KwaZulu, will seek a listing on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

It claims to be the first such company in the world to seek a listing. The listing is scheduled for November after a private placing of R10 million shares aimed at raising R21 million, says chief executive Peter Brown.

By Udo Rypstra

"Our turnover has increased by 230% in steady increments from R2.29 million in 1983 to R7.35 million in the year to June 1987. "It is a result of increasing ecological concern over sanitation and trade union insistence which in recent years has led to management of mining houses ensuring a dramatic improvement in underground sanitation standards," says Mr Brown.

The capital raised will go to expansion, particularly of the Mynkar group's hiring and sales network and to repay borrowings for building up its delivery fleet.

Mr Brown says: "We have an unprecedented order book, primarily consisting of underground sanitation for mining houses. The group has selling and hiring operations in Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, Welkom and Glencoe, centre of the Northern Natal coalfields."
Hawkers call soon echo to Square may

Crowds used to flock to it.
...but now it's for the birds

The Market Square today. Only the pigeons visit it regularly. The tops of two of the old Jetty Street buildings can be seen protruding above the bricks.
Domestics get pittar from the black 'madlai'

By SERUTHU SERUTHU

SOME black domestic workers employed by a growing middle-class in the Mangaung community earn salaries well below the breadline.

The workers, employed by prominent township figures who hold respectable positions in Bloemfontein or in the township, earn as little as R45 a month.

Some of the "madams" contacted for comment were reluctant to speak while others denied that they had servants in their employ and prefer to call them "relatives who help."

I spoke to several workers who said they were very unhappy at their place of employment, but because of the scarcity of employment, they could not leave.

A 32-year-old mother of three told City Press that she earned R60 a month and was provided with meals three times a day for a four-day week.

She said she was also given old clothes for her children.

One nursing sister - who did not want to be identified for professional reasons - said she had two domestics.

One did washing and ironing twice a week and she paid her R60 a month while the other was paid R40 a month for cleaning and cooking for the family.

Others said workers coming from the settlement area of Botshabelo were very expensive as they had to be provided with food and transport.

Some prominent Mangaung personalities said they had tried hard to get domestics from Mangaung to help with the house chores but many were not willing to work for a black person.
RENTAL RACES

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<td>Truck systems</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4.1</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.0</strong></td>
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The move appears to make sense — particularly in the medium term, when the market is expected to adapt to the effects of substantial rises in new vehicle prices. Imperial’s car rental division is growing rapidly. Divisional pre-tax profit jumped to R3.1m (R0.7m) in 1987.

The truck systems division, which, joint MD Bill Lynch estimates, generates about 80% of its pre-tax profit from truck rental and transport contracts, increased pre-tax earnings to R2.9m (R1.2m). By my calculation that means 60% of group earnings came from the rental last year compared with the year-ago 38%.

The merger of Hertz with Imperial’s rental division was also an opportunistic move. Imperial will own 60% of the equity of the enlarged business, with Union and London Finance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sage Holdings, holding the rest. Lynch says the enlarged Imperial car rental division is slightly smaller than market leader Avis. “Avis has about 40% of the market and we have 38%,” he says. Adds Lynch: “Logically, if our rental business continues to grow at a reasonable rate we will soon be number one.”

The R18.7m which Imperial raised through its pre-listing share issue seems to have been put to good use. Debt-equity ratio is down to only 0.16, radically better than the 1.26 of 1986. With only four months between the listing and the year-end, the full impact of the R7.5m reduction in total debt should only be felt this year. After tax, at a rate of 48.6%, shareholders’ income nearly doubled to R4.4m (R2.3m) and could have been higher had interest paid not risen to R3.6m (R3.1m).

Lynch says turnover will reach R300m this year, representing a 37% growth rate after last year’s 30% jump to R219m (R160m). The higher turnover includes the contribution from Hertz’s car rental — 40% of earnings from the enlarged car rental division will go to Union and London Finance.

He expects earnings from this division to reach R6m, although the 140% increase in fleet vehicle sales suggests a higher figure. So Imperial should get at least R3.6m from its car rental division in 1988 against R3.1m last year. Recent acquisitions suggest that growth in the truck systems division might continue strongly in the short term. Last year it acquired 100% of Nationwide truck hire and 96% of Loudbodies. Lynch says that last week the group acquired a Pretoria truck building and refurbishing business.

Imperial’s traditional motor business will probably be more subdued than the rental side, though it has performed creditably enough. Pre-tax earnings rose 28% to R2.9m (R2.2m). “We had a good year,” Lynch says, “and Toyota continues to sell well through us, despite a temporary fall in car market share.”

As next year’s EPS will be on the full 14m capitalisation issue, the bottom line will have to grow by 22% to keep up with the increase and by a faster pace to sustain a real growth rate. This must put pressure on the group to perform in the short term. Management seem capable of doing this and investors apparently agree. At any rate, Lynch is forecasting taxed profits will grow by 50% this year.

31/87 Flm (2)
Rental boosts sales

The booming car rental business looks set to underpin the improving fortunes of the motor industry.

Fleets are already over 30% larger than they were a year ago and the big three — Avis, Imperial and Budget — are budgeting for a further 30% growth in the coming year.

Between them they will be spending around R280m over the next 12 months on augmenting their fleets. This augurs well for the vehicle manufacturers, all of whom stand to benefit to a greater or lesser extent.

Carol Scott, MD of the now merged operations of Hertz and Imperial, says her organisation will spend R68m-R69m on purchasing 3 800 units in the coming year.

"Normally in this business you get troughs and peaks, but right now it is just a succession of peaks," she says. "We have to gear up to meet it." Scott says Imperial has close ties with Toyota, but that the budget will be spread across all the manufacturers.

Budget MD Pieter du Plessis says while he has not finalised the budgets for the two companies in the group — Budget Rent-a-Car and Budget Auto-Loose — the combined spend on fleet replacement over the next 12 months will not be less than R60m.

But it is Avis which is going to be the real big spender, with R148m earmarked for fleet renewal. Again operations director Keith Oliver says all the major manufacturers will benefit, though he adds: "We do have a special relationship with Volkswagen."

"At the end of the day it is the customer that dictates what vehicles you buy, and as customers' tastes cover the full spectrum of vehicles on the market, you have to provide that spectrum."

According to Oliver the rental market is so buoyant that even the usual dip in winter did not materialise this year.

National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA director Nico Vermeulen says while the rental sector only constitutes about 7.5% of overall vehicle sales (estimated at R3.5 billion this year), it is nonetheless an extremely important slice in the overall sales cake.

This view is confirmed by VW public relations manager Ronnie Kruger, with whom Avis recently placed a R55m order for 3,000 units. "The really important aspect of the rental business, quite apart from the sales themselves, is the marketing aspect. If you can get a fair slice of the business, your vehicles are being exposed daily to hundreds of potential buyers." Total car rental revenue is currently running at around 40% above last year. The general credo of trying harder is obviously paying dividends.
Hawkers throng Mitchells Plain rail concourse

Staff Reporter

A 12-YEAR-OLD boy is one of countless stallholders who make a living by selling anything from clothing to fruit and vegetables on the concourse of the Mitchells Plain station.

Daily, and especially at weekends, the concourse — a main pedestrian thoroughfare — houses many stalls, where commuters and shoppers can buy a vast array of goods.

The boy, Jeffrey Waterboer, said he had been forced to leave school in Std 5 because his father worked out of town and rarely gave him mother money.

With the R50 he earns weekly as a fruit-and-vegetable hawker, his mother cares for five children.

Jeffrey said he started work at 8am and continued till about 10pm. He had been hawking for a few months already, he said.

Mr Herman Manuel, 31, a father of three, said he was happy that he was allowed to hawk at the concourse after years of frustration.

He earned enough money to care for his family and provide a "loaf of bread and a candle".

"It is difficult to find work. Things were different when I left school, they now work with computers," he said.

Earlier he had hawked at the Mitchells Plain town centre, but traffic officials and police had harassed hawkers and confiscated goods. They had lost a lot of money, he said.

Mr Manuel said hawkers on the concourse were a great help to the public because they acted as a deterrent to criminal elements.

Mrs I Dreyer, who has three children, said that when her husband had become unemployed, they decided to set up a stall to make a living and now sold children's clothing.

Their hawking business ensured that they could at least eat every day, she said.

Mr John Davids said he had opened a clothing stall because he had no choice when he became unemployed. He now earned a living, he said.

Mr Faldie Lovell, of Eastridge, Mitchells Plain, one of 10 children, said his father's ill-health had forced him to find work.

He now sells spices at the concourse daily to earn money for the family. He would like to do other work but has been unable to find any, he said.

Mr M Patel, chairman of the Mitchells Plain Traders' Association, said the association had initiated the project because hawkers at the Mitchells Plain town centre were a problem as they sold the same goods as shop tenants.

After discussions with the City Council, SATS and the traffic police, the Informal Traders' Association had been established to ensure that hawking was controlled, he said.
Office workers protest after hawker moved

By JOHN YELD
Municipal Reporter

OFFICE workers in the Thibault Square area are upset over action by traffic officials who removed "their" hawker and confiscated his goods before setting up another hawker on the same site.

More than 120 people have signed a petition in protest, according to Mr. Jakes Fennie of the National Institute for Social and Economic Development. The institute's offices are in the BP Centre, which overlooks the square.

However, Cape Town's traffic chief, Mr. Wouter Smit said the hawker was not licensed and had been operating as an agent for an employer for "no more than two weeks".

Temporary hawking sites had been allocated while the city council considered deregulation and street trading, and the Thibault Square site had been allocated to a licensed hawker who had been waiting "for quite some time".

The site was, in any event, temporary as the square would be redeveloped soon, Mr. Smit added.

"Joined the fray"

Mr. Fennie said last week's incident was seen by several people including a "very senior director of BP" and that there was "quite an outcry".

"Accusing the traffic officials of taking the law into their own hands", Mr. Fennie said the Small Business Development Corporation had "joined the fray" and the Cape Town Chamber of Commerce would do the same.

He said: "It seems something has to be done about this. Most of the hawkers had lived in District Six all their lives and the man who had been moved had been trading in the city centre for many years, he said.

"We hope to see something happening in the centre of the city. Disciplinary action will have to be taken against officials who played relations", he said.

However, Mr. Smit said the whole of the central business district had been a "hawker-prohibited area" for many years.

But he said: "We have allocated certain sites to hawkers in the CBD on a temporary basis while we are looking at deregulation over a much wider front."

The hawker who was moved was employed by a man who asked not be identified.

The employer said the hawker, known only as Anthony, had been in possession of a valid hawker's licence, although "not for long."

"He had been working in Thibault Square for "four or five months" and had been ticketed by traffic officials twice, once for R200 and again for R30, the employer said.

The street trading policy report is being referred to city council committees and is likely to reach the full council next month, a spokesman said.
EIGHTEEN street hawker were arrested in central Johannesburg yesterday and are to appear in court on charges of carrying on a business without a hawker's licence.

Most of the hawkers had their wares confiscated by the traffic department's 'hawker squad'.

A spokesman for the traffic department in City Deep said: "As long as the hawkers break the law, our people will arrest them."

Lawrence Mavunla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), said that since the beginning of October, 800 hawkers had been arrested in the city. Two hundred had been convicted of trading without licences.

He said his organisation was to appeal to President P.W. Botha to scrap all laws restricting hawkers from selling their wares in city centres.

He said: "We will make representation from city council level upwards.

"Hawkers, like the informal business sector, are an integral part of the main stream of the country's economy:"

"By scrapping laws that impede people from striving to make an honest living, Botha will not only be assisting the hawkers but would be instrumental in the creation of more job opportunities."

Mavunla said Achib was organising a conference early next year to discuss restrictions on hawkers.

His organisation had a membership of more than 12 000 hawkers in Johannesburg, Pretoria, Maritzburg, Durban and Port Elizabeth, he said.
Hawkers' meeting

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business will hold an urgent meeting today to discuss problems faced by street hawkers.

The meeting, which starts at 9am, will be held at Khotso House in Johannesburg. Officials of the Congress of South African Trade Unions, National Council of Trade Unions and independent trade unions have been invited.

Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of Achib, said since last month about 800 of their members, all street hawkers, were arrested by the police in Tembisa and Johannesburg.
Hawkers call for help from business

SOPHIE TEMA

BLACK Johannesburg hawkers — who paid out more than R1m in fines last year — have called on trading companies and business people to support them against harassment by local authorities and the restrictions imposed on them.

At a meeting yesterday, hawkers set a December 1 deadline for trading companies and business people to submit a declaration of intent to the hawkers' organisation — the "African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business" (Achib).

They have also called on businessmen and traders to urge local authorities to deregulate all restrictions imposed on hawkers.

Harassment of hawkers continues unabated. Last week 18 were arrested for "carrying on businesses in the city without licenses", and 700 people were arrested in Tembisa last month for selling soft-drinks without licenses.

Achib president Lawrence Mavundla said the organisation had a membership of 12 000 and contributed R6,8bn a month to the growth of the country's wealth.

He said Achib would call on all local authorities to allow hawkers to trade freely in all four provinces. Achib is organising a meeting early next year with all local authorities in the PWV area to discuss harassment and restrictions.

Mavundla called for the formation of "deregulation committees" to examine the restrictions and to pressure for them to be lifted. One has already been formed.
By KURT SWART

Some Athlone residents face possible removal following the City Council's plan to redevelop the business centre and widen a main road.

The Council is reviewing proposals to extend the business area south of Klipfontein Road as far as Boyd Avenue.

The area's civic association has opposed the proposals: "We feel the scheme deftly involves people losing their homes," a spokesperson for the Greenpoint Civic Council said.

"We've been consulting residents and business owners and they reject any developments that involve expropriation.

Residents in the area formed a similar group in April 1979 when about 150 families were issued with eviction notices by the Department of Community Development for the planned "upgrading" of the area. The civic took the matter to court and in September 1982 the department was found to be unlawful.

Warned: As a compromise the council offered to expropriate the affected areas and residents would have the option of using their premises as shops.

Five properties on Louisena Road have already been expropriated to make way for the extension of Jan Smuts Road to Tshwane Road. Residents in Louisena Road were not supported by the move, Mrs Patricia Harris said: "We were warned by the council when our family bought the property nearly 40 years ago that we would have to move one day, so we are not really unhappy about it."

Praying: Mrs S D Parker who owns three shops in Louisena Road said: "I'm praying that we get another house in Athlone. I don't want to be moved again."

Michael Pitman, a Councillor for the City Council, said: "I'm negotiating for a good price and don't want to spoil my chances. I'm happy, but what can I do?"

Another Councillor for the City Council, the Town Planning Branch, said: "Councillors are in the process of reviewing existing development proposals for the Athlone Central Business District and some of which do not have community support - in particular the Boyd Avenue extension proposal.

Council would like to satisfy the community demands and, if possible, would like to come to an agreement with local organisations on what should be done.

"We at Town Planning are very sincere in our dealings with the public and we wish to avoid any conflict."

Representatives of the City Council's Town Planning Branch met with business owners, residents and Lawrence residents, moving the area into a pedestrian mall. Street vendors would have an area to sell their wares. The hawkers would pay a nominal fee for their use.

"If the council creates such spaces we could also work for them."

"If the council creates such spaces we could work for them."

"If the council creates such spaces we could work for them."

Hawkers: "If the council creates such spaces we could work for them."

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MANY MORE IN-STOR
Hawkers organise to fight harassment

Hawkers are to fight all the apartheid laws that restrict them in their business, because they considered themselves as part of the economic mainstream in the country, a meeting decided yesterday.

This decision was taken at a meeting called by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, held in Johannesburg yesterday.

The hawkers' president, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, said they were often harassed, assaulted, their goods confiscated by local authorities in an attempt to stamp out their business.

The meeting, which was characterised by chanting of freedom songs and shouting of slogans, heard how hawkers have been restrained from trading in the Central Business District (CBD) and how their business was hampered because of the Organisations like the United Democratic Front and the Azanian Peoples' Organisation.

Mr Mavundla said that they intended to meet all city councils in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area to explain their problems to them.

“We see ourselves as being part of the economic mainstream and creators of jobs. We also intend to consult lawyers who will brief us as to what measures to take in order to fight these laws,” he said.

Mr Mavundla also accused big companies of hampering the progress of the hawkers making in the city.

“We seek to forge links with trade union movements in the community organisations,” he said.

An executive member of the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) Mr Caesar Kgampepe said black hawkers needed to fight for their rights because they were made by the political situation in this country to be where they are.

He said the organisation had itself in fighting for hawkers selling rights and other problems.

Many other speakers at the meeting, mainly women, described how they were harassed, kicked, arrested and their goods confiscated by local authorities.
Our Problems Need African Solutions
The association is seeking national support to improve products to increase the quality of the products available. The association is also considering new ways to market members' products and to improve the association's overall image.

According to the association's president, Mr. Lawrence Mugwenu, the association aims to improve the quality of products available to the public. The association believes that this will help to increase sales and revenue for members.

Mr. Mugwenu also said that the association is looking into ways to increase member participation and involvement in association activities. The association is also considering the possibility of expanding its membership to include more businesses and organizations.

The association is currently working on a new marketing campaign to promote its members' products. The campaign will focus on highlighting the high quality and variety of products available from association members.

In addition to its marketing efforts, the association is also looking into ways to increase member participation in association activities. This includes organizing more events and workshops to encourage members to get involved.

Overall, the association is working hard to improve the quality and availability of its members' products, and to increase member participation in association activities. The association is committed to providing its members with the support and resources they need to succeed.
Bill won't put end to prostitution — agencies
With 20 men to one woman in Wolcott's Trading Township, sex-role is big business. Here men peer through broken windows at the "trees" available in the local women's hostel.
HAWKERS at their meeting in Johannesburg yesterday.

HAWKERS - Help us

HAWKERS have called on the black community to take action against the police

By JOSHUA

HAWKERS at their meeting in Johannesburg yesterday.
The small guys send their warning to big business

The Economy

The Weekly Mail, December 4-10, 1987

...stop buying your goods. Restrictions on us of the sort....
Johannesburg — It is business as usual at the Romance Escort Agency in Johannesburg today.

The agency's owner, Mr Andras Bakó, and the manager, his son, Miklos, were acquitted yesterday in the Johannesburg Regional Court on charges of procuring.

The Romance Escort Agency was believed to be the first Transvaal agency to have its management charged with procuring women to have sex with clients, alternatively, assisting to procure and attempting to procure.

Despite the acquittal, Mr Andras Bakó is willing to sell up.

"If someone offers a very good offer for the agency, I'll consider it," a relieved Mr Andras Bakó said at the end of the 12-day trial.

He said the entire matter had been very stressful.

In delivering his judgment yesterday, the magistrate, Mr J J Lather, noted that a number of clients testified that they took escorts from the Romance Agency and had sex with them at other venues.

The magistrate noted that the two accused had, on the evidence of these witnesses, taken no active steps to bring about intercourse between the clients and the escort.

While the two might have suspected that the escorts were being taken out for sex, "acquiescence" could not be construed as an active step, as defined in the Act.

Then there was the police action towards the end of January last year, that culminated with the arrest of the two accused and the laying of charges against them, Mr Lather said.

However, the court was not satisfied beyond reasonable doubt that the evidence regarding the police action could be relied on, the magistrate said.

The defence team earlier pointed out to the court that the transcripts of tape recordings allegedly made during the police action had not even been handed in to the court as evidence.

The magistrate noted that sexual intercourse was not an essential ingredient for a conviction on a charge of attempting to procure.

However, the evidence regarding the police action, where the escorts undressed and were taken into custody before anything happened, was unsatisfactory, Mr Lather said. — Sapa
Grooms attack guards with bricks, pangas

Own Correspondent

DURBAN. — Friction between the grooms and security personnel at Summerveld racehorse training grounds turned into a full-scale battle at the weekend when 650 panga, brick and stick-wielding grooms attacked the sleeping quarters of the grounds' security guards.

The attack on the complex of 16 rooms took place about 11pm while most of the 40 inhabitants were asleep.

Police eventually used teargas to disperse the crowd.

During the 30-minute rampage, windows were smashed, doors were broken down and furniture was hacked to pieces.
A FEW municipalities want to set up projects such as the trial one for fresh produce hawkers in Port Elizabeth.

They have approached the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) for advice on this, after the success of the windy city project.

The SBDC’s Naas Meyer said yesterday reports had been sent to local authorities as far away as Nelspruit to advise on introducing hawker carts in trading areas.

He said many businesses had praised the SBDC for tackling unemployment in Port Elizabeth by trying to upgrade hawking.

Objections

The three-month trial project, introduced two months ago, had overcome many hawking problems — including the blocking of shop entrances, pedestrian traffic hazards, the display of goods on dirty pavements and littering.

But a map survey showed some shopkeepers still objected to the CBD hawkers.

One objection was that hawkers did not pre-pack their fruit and vegetables at the storage depot where they kept their carts, but at their trading spots in Main Street.

Meyer said the hawkers (all women) could not pre-pack at the central storage depot in Strand Street because they could not push a fully-loaded cart up a steep side-street. They also did not have enough time to pre-pack at the municipal market because they had to get to the CBD for peak trading hours.

He added they would lose a lot of sales by pre-packing away from their trading site.

Pre-packing lasted between 30 and 45 minutes and, as produce was sold at the same time, this matter could not be considered a major irritation to shopkeepers.

Meyer said the SBDC had not received a single complaint from the public about hawker littering.

Members of the CBD Fresh Produce Hawkers’ Association were committed to cleanliness, he said.

They were aware misconduct could jeopardise the future of the project.

Association members had to adhere to a strict code of conduct and faced disciplinary action from the executive committee, said Meyer.

Overheads

Asked if the hawkers posed unfair competition for shopkeepers who paid rates and taxes for their facilities, he said there was no specialist fresh produce shop in Main Street.

As licensed traders, hawkers had overheads to cover, including rent for the carts and storage space. Further expenses included an insurance premium and transport charges to and from the market.

Meyer reminded irate CBD shopkeepers that hawkers were trading illegally in Main Street before the SBDC project was implemented.
Traders make a plea

Many hawkers, whose goods have been confiscated during police raids, have called on authorities to stop harassing them because they want to earn an honest living. The call was made by more than 1000 traders who formed the Siphamandla (Give Us Strength) Hawkers Association in Durban, in order to fight against harassment of their members.
Call to arms

Empty threats? It may look like the tail trying to wag the dog, but hawkers insist they have the power to sway big business. Their first task, however, may be to persuade big business of their existence.

Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businessmen (ACHIB), is threatening a boycott of suppliers by his 13 000 members if they don’t show more support for the informal sector.

If his members — most of them in Natal and Transvaal — take action, the country’s estimated 150 000 other hawkers won’t be far behind, he asserts.

Mavundla says: “Our membership spends R81m a year at wholesalers. I would say the total 150 000 hawkers in SA spend in the region of R1 billion.”

ACHIB is demanding that hawkers be consulted before wholesale prices are increased on the goods they trade. It also wants the private sector to investigate hawkers’ problems and pressure government to remove the Group Areas Act and trading restrictions that hamper hawkers.

Under pressure

“Local authorities are harassing us only because they are under pressure from shopkeepers who see hawkers as a threat to their business,” Mavundla asserts. “But what is free enterprise if it isn’t competition? Harassment of hawkers continues unabated. In Tembisa alone, 700 people were arrested last month for hawking without a licence. Until big business co-operates with us, we will boycott their products, starting with Coca-Cola and Colgate Palmolive.”

Although the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) describes ACHIB as a “relevant organisation,” big business is hardly quaking in its boots thus far. Colgate won’t comment, but Amalgamated Beverage Industries, the local manufacturer of Coca-Cola, is bemused. Says MD Alex Reid: “I don’t know anything about
Street Vendors

No Respite for Business

[Image]
Buying rental

Long-term rental schemes are helping individuals to claw their way back into the new car market. McCarthy Group joint MD Theo Swart says private motorists are becoming a significant factor as a result.

Government is still dragging its heels on re-introducing private leasing, so car traders have taken matters into their own hands through rental schemes, says Swart. “The schemes are proving extremely popular with private buyers, who have only to convince the bank that they are a good credit risk.”

Cars can be rented for as little as R300 a month. A full-maintenance contract may include all services and repairs, tyres (in some cases), battery and exhaust system. No deposit is needed, and the rental period generally covers three years or 60 000km, with GST payable on monthly rental.

Full-maintenance rental differs significantly from full-maintenance leasing, where GST has to be paid when the vehicle is bought and again at the expiry of the lease (unless the car is traded in).

If a car is leased, it can be taken over by the lessee. In the case of rental, the vehicle remains the property of the rental company.

Says Swart: “For the hard-pressed individual who can’t afford to pay up front, but is nevertheless still a good credit risk, this is the perfect alternative.”

All big vehicle manufacturers provide, through their dealers, an assortment of financial packages. These offer a variety of full maintenance leases or rental schemes, with certain optional exclusions to reduce monthly repayments. Some even have provision for insurance.

Swart says that in 1982 the split between private and fleet customers was roughly 50/50; this year, fleet customers accounted for over 70% of sales. “It is good to see the pendulum beginning to swing back.”
Too late to rent

Holidaymakers hoping for a last-minute hire car over Christmas are likely to be disappointed.

The big three rental companies — Imperial, Avis and Budget — are almost booked out for the whole of the holiday season.

Booking has been heaviest in coastal centres but in the eastern Transvaal, too, it is practically impossible to rent a car at the moment.

Avis MD Tony Langley says that despite having boosted its fleet from 4 500 vehicles a year ago to 6 000 today, the company still cannot meet demand. “We are completely sold out in the Cape and very nearly in Durban.

“We simply cannot meet demand anywhere on some models, particularly kombi-type vehicles. Industry growth is nothing short of phenomenal.”

Langley adds that the number of transactions now being handled by Avis is running at more than 30% ahead of last year.

Imperial head Carol Scott says her company has 1 000 vehicles in Cape Town and all are booked to the end of the holidays. She adds: “The main reason is that, while Cape Town has become arguably the most popular holiday spot for this time of the year, people are no longer prepared to drive there. They would rather fly and rent a car at the other end. “This doesn’t apply to the same extent in Durban, but we are very busy there, too. We are also extremely busy in Port Elizabeth and George.

In fact, we’ve got a real bumper season coming up.”

Budget has also shown enormous growth. According to marketing development manager Russell Shleis, the company has recorded 60% more rental days this year than last year and has had to expand its fleet to cope.
cause stir in city centre

First hawkers' trolleys

First hawkers' trolleys
Jobs rip-off agency closed

BY AVESHA ALIE
Informal sector could be economic solution

The community, the market, the need to create jobs, and the informal sector offer opportunities to provide jobs and income for the poor. The informal sector is driven by the need for income and the lack of formal sector jobs. It provides a means for individuals to earn a living and support their families. The informal sector is an important source of economic activity, particularly in developing countries.

The informal sector provides employment opportunities for people who do not have access to formal sector jobs. It is particularly important for young people and women, who are often excluded from formal sector employment. The informal sector is also important for people who have been displaced by conflicts or natural disasters.

The informal sector is not without its challenges. It is often associated with poor working conditions and low wages. It also tends to be informal and unregulated, which makes it difficult to provide adequate social protections for workers.

Despite these challenges, the informal sector is a significant contributor to economic growth. It provides a source of income for millions of people worldwide, and it is an important source of jobs for young people and women.

We believe that the informal sector offers a solution to the problem of unemployment and poverty in our communities. By providing employment opportunities and supporting the growth of the informal sector, we can help to create a more inclusive and prosperous society.

We encourage our readers to explore the potential of the informal sector and to support its growth. Together, we can create a more prosperous and equitable society for all.
Vendors told to trade in old GST form for new one

The Commissioner for Inland Revenue has declared that sales tax registration certificates issued to any vendors in terms of Section 12 of the Sales Tax Act 1975, in Form prescribed prior to June 1 this year will no longer be valid with effect from December 1.

Vendors or hawkers not in possession of the relevant computerised sales tax registration certificates will not be in a position to claim exemption from sales tax when buying stock for trading purposes.

A warning to retailers, and importers was issued this week by the Associated Chamber of Commerce of South Africa advising them about the validity of sales tax registration certificates.

It states that they will not from December 1 if this year, be in a position to claim tax exemption, until they are in possession of a new certificate.

Furthermore, in terms of Section 15 (3)(c) of the Sales Tax Act, any person who, with a wrongfully intent to avoid bearing tax payable on purchases or imports, makes use of a registration certificate, which is no longer valid, commits an offence.

Vendors who have not yet obtained their new certificates are urged immediately to call personally at the offices of their nearest Regional Board with their old certificates, or possibly VDI, and possibly obtain their new computerised printed certificates at the same time.

Surety that such vendors were told to ensure that they are acquainted with the new requirements so that sales tax is charged on sales to customers and holding the new registration certificates.
Ultimatums to City Council in Peacock Hill

Weekend Post, December 18, 1979

In Peacock Hill, residents are issuing ultimatums to the City Council, demanding action on a variety of issues. The community is concerned about a range of problems, including

- Environmental concerns
- Housing issues
- Agricultural practices
- Economic development

The residents are calling for immediate action to address these concerns, threatening to take further steps if their demands are not met.

The City Council is scheduled to hold a meeting next week to discuss these issues, with residents planning to attend and voice their concerns.
Agency had range of escorts, court hears

By Bruce Anderson

Ex-police women, university students, air hostesses and women who had boyfriends in the police force were among the women who worked as escorts at the Romance Escort Agency, said agency owner, Mr. Andras Bako (48), in his evidence in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Mr. Bako and his son, Mr. Miklos Bako (27), gave evidence in their own defence. They have pleaded not guilty to charges of procuring women for sex.

Earlier, a defence application for the discharge of the State case against the two men was refused by Magistrate J J Truter.

Part of the State evidence was that Mr. Bako senior had pulled off an escort's "hoob tube" in front of a client and said that the woman in question had "nice boobs". Mr. Miklos Bako said it was "inconceivable" that his father would act in such a manner in front of a client, because the escort agency was high class and most of the escorts would leave the agency if they were treated in this way.

Under cross examination, Mr. Bako senior said he did suspect intercourse was taking place between escorts and clients. But if he had to dismiss every woman whom he suspected of having intercourse with a client, he would have to dismiss a lot of women.

The magistrate said it appeared from the escort agency register that there was a "considerable" demand for the type of escort service offered by Romance. He said, "It appeared the women were 'only too willing to have intercourse with clients'".

The hearing continues.
SERVICES SECTOR

OTHER

JAN - DEC 1988

The third area of abstraction, wages...
Conference told of harassment by the police

‘Cut red tape so hawkers can make honest living’

By Sally Sealey

Hawkers were not asking the Government for handouts but rather for the abolition of the myriad of laws affecting their efforts to make an honest living, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), said in Johannesburg on Friday.

He was addressing an Achib conference attended by 200 hawkers, city councillors and senior members of the traffic department.

MOBILISATION
Achib is an umbrella organisation that promotes the interests of street vendors, hawkers and informal business in central business districts.

It was founded in 1986 and there are at least 13 000 members in the PWV area, of whom 4 000 are in Soweto.

Mr Mavundla said Achib stood for black economic freedom, and believed that real political equality could be achieved only through the economic mobilisation of blacks for the purpose of securing a redistribution of economic opportunities and development.

Rising unemployment had led to at least 1 million blacks participating in the informal sector throughout South Africa, he said.

These people were blocked from entering the mainstream economy by trading restrictions, a lack of finance and inadequate representation.

Obtaining a licence to operate legally was often a difficult and costly process, so most hawkers operated without one and were subject to constant police harassment and steep fines.

Mr Mavundla said his organisation was approached by hundreds of unemployed people every day, but it was becoming increasingly difficult to encourage them to fend for themselves.

Hawkers were constantly harassed by local authorities and “our goods are confiscated and sold by the Johannesburg local authorities who are adding to their budget at the expense of the poor”, he said.

UNEMPLOYMENT
It was only when you made people self-sufficient that the unemployment problem would be solved, Mr Mavundla said.

But hawkers would not be discouraged. “We are people who want to make an honest living; we want the local authorities to give us back our dignity and get rid of the red tape restricting our businesses,” he said.

Deregulate our economy — prof

The need to deregulate South Africa’s hamstrung economy was more urgent than in any other parts of the world, a Wits legal expert, Professor Louise Tager, told 200 hawkers, Traffic Department officials and city councillors at Friday’s Achib conference.

“Deregulation is the means whereby socio-economic apartheid will be dismantled”, she said.

This message was given special poignancy a few hours later when local authorities carried out a mass raid on hawkers in the Johannesburg station area.

The hawkers were each fined R100 for “doing business without a licence” and their goods were confiscated.

“The main resistance to deregulation comes from those groups who have vested interests,” Professor Tager said.

“The vested interest group which impacts most adversely on hawkers and street vendors is the retail traders.

“They oppose the deregulation of the laws affecting street trading on the grounds of unfair competition but it is really the hawkers who are subjected to unfair competition.”

Professor Tager said the need to obtain a hawker’s licence was a restriction on the hawker’s right to enter the marketplace.
Hawksers ask for their share of the economy

And some speakers at the conference where the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) met city councils and the private sector laid the blame for over-regulation squarely on the private sector as the "protected party".

Job Creation SA director Ian Hetherington said: "Originally many of the regulations were deliberately and openly imposed to stop blacks competing with whites in business. Many of these blatantly discriminatory regulations have been removed in recent years.

"But a new, subtle discrimination has taken their place. This is to make it increasingly impossible to start a business legally — in other words to raise the barriers to entry." Citing the established private sector, the unions and government as the big vested interests in over-regulation, Hetherington said: "We need their help to remove these barriers.

He said for the private sector the result would be a bigger domestic market for its goods and services; for the unions there would be the possibility of alternative jobs for retrenched union members, and also a larger group of workers from which to recruit members and for government more economic activity and, therefore, greater tax collections and less need for welfare expenditure.

Professor Louise Tager, of Wits University, said: "The tendency is to blame government and other legislative bodies for over-regulation. We should not overlook the fact that through regulation established business enjoys a substantial measure of protection from competition.

"The main resistance to deregulation does not come from government but from those groups who have vested interests. Everyone supports deregulation as long as it does not affect them. The vested interest which impacts most on hawkers and street vendors is the retailer traders." She said they opposed deregulation of laws affecting street trading on grounds of unfair competition saying they paid rent, rates and taxes while hawkers had no overhead.

Tager said: "Hawksers must not be looked upon as a health risk and a nuisance — they must be accepted as important members of the local business community.

"Achib's" deputy-governor Professor J-A Lombard said the basic mistake was the assumption that economic activity would continue to depend mainly on the behaviour of the white population.

"The exclusive population of the First World system is not expanding. Moreover, per capita consumption in that stationary population has, on average, reached the level where more expansion tends to lead to expenditure in the rest of the world rather than in SA.

Achib president Lawrence Mavunda said hawkers did not want hand-outs, they simply wanted to be left alone. "Hawksers are harassed, arrested and have their goods confiscated and yet these people help in fighting unemployment. In Johannesburg we have 1,900 hawkers who in turn employ four or five people each."

He called on other local authorities to follow the example set by the Johannesburg City Council in lifting some of the restrictive by-laws and on the private sector to help in promoting informal business.
Hawkers may soon get new trade venues

Municipal Reporter

Hawkers in Johannesburg may soon be allowed to use poorly patronised parking garages as venues for fresh-produce food halls, particularly those near major bus terminuses or taxi ranks.

Addressing a conference on "Deregulation — the City Councils and the Private Sector" in Johannesburg last week, the town clerk, Mr. Manie Venter, said these outlets would attract custom from people who used public or private transport.

Outlining council policy, Mr. Venter said it was felt the further development throughout the city of so-called "peoples' markets" or street markets should be supported.

"In the long run, market forces determine the number of traders who operate profitably in any area."

NEED FOR CONTINUED CONTROL

Emphasising the need for continued control, he said it was wrong to depart from established procedures, allowing total freedom to trade indiscriminately and behave in conflict with the needs of others.

"If a free-for-all situation developed and people traded where and when they liked, this would not be in the interest of established hawkers or even newcomers, and could have a serious effect on local economies," he said.

Mr. Venter listed changes which had been made to laws governing street traders and itinerant hawkers, and improvements which had been embarked on over the past 10 years.

These included the establishment of four permanent pitches at Hoek Street, New Doornsfontein, Tredegar and Kazerne. The Hoek Street venue had been extended with the help of the Small Business Development Corporation in 1988.
Leaving us alone - Hawkers
New respectability

Though much has been done to liberalise trading, total deregulation is still a long way off for Johannesburg's street hawkers.

This emerged from deliberations at the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businessmen's (Achib) first major conference last week.

The Johannesburg town clerk, for one, insists that hawkers should not be allowed to trade on pavements outside business premises, unless they pay a fee to store owners concerned.

"If the amenity of access to business premises is destroyed or impeded, then the value of such premises would fall, and so would the proceeds from property tax. The authorities would then have to look elsewhere to make good the loss of income," he warns.

Hawkers, it emerged, are unhappy about the amendments to the by-laws relating to the...
100 HELD IN WEEKEND RAID

HAWKERS PROTEST

By Josuha

Protestors have been held over the issue of a report on the National Council of Urban Development. The report, entitled "Jobs and Development," has sparked controversy among urban dwellers. The National Council of Urban Development (NCUD) has been tasked with addressing the issue of unemployment and job creation. The report suggests measures to improve the job market, including the creation of new jobs and the reduction of unemployment. However, the report has faced criticism from various groups, including the National Union of Workers (NUW) and the National Federation of Small Businesses (NFSB). The NUW has criticized the report for not addressing the issue of wage theft, while the NFSB has expressed concern over the potential impact on small businesses. The report has also been criticized for not addressing the issue of gender inequality in the job market. The NCUD has stated that the report will be revised based on feedback from stakeholders. The report has been presented to the Cabinet, and a final decision will be made on its implementation in the coming weeks.
THE Heek Street area, where Johannesburg hawkers have been charged for failing to move every two hours, was demarcated for them and regulation did not apply there, SBDC's head of 'business development' Johan Naudé said yesterday.

Naudé was reacting to repeated traffic department swoops that resulted in some hawkers paying fines for not observing the regulation, while others were fined for trading without licences.

"After meeting African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla, traffic department PRO Eric Hill said on Monday: "We acted after shop-owners in the area complained that the hawkers constituted unfair competition, because they did not pay rent, pedestrians complained that the hawkers blocked their path and motorists complained that because of this, pedestrians crowded the street, blocking traffic."

"The traffic department has a duty to enforce the law."
Hawkers, have to move on.

8/09/18
ASSOCOM SAYS OMONS LOOK GOOD

JOHANNESBURG — Assocom's business confidence index (BCI) has shown a further upward shift in January from 97.3 in December to 98.7 in November.

"This reflects the reappearance of economic growth which is gaining momentum under the continuing bear trend on exchange rates," said Assocom vice president John Lawrenson.


"By the end of last year the economic upturn had gathered considerable momentum, especially if the activities of the informal sector are taken into account. Both corporate and consumer credit demands are rising." 

"It seems as if the South African economy has moved into the next phase of the economic upswing, in a perverse way, investment and savings have stimulated a measure of growth through the new stock shortages and a slight increase in unemployment." 

"Assocom believes inflation this year is likely to remain at about the same level as in 1987. Economic policy had an even more important role to play last year. All big questions now is not so much South Africa's economic performance in 1987 but rather whether it will be sustained into 1989. There will be a greater need this year to keep the economy on an even keel. The success of such a policy will, in time, bring long-term business planning and underpin confidence," Assocom said. — Sapa

PORT ELIZABETH — Mr. Keith Butler-Wheelhouse, has been appointed chairman and chief executive officer of Delta Motor Corporation, the company announced yesterday.

In addition, Mr Len Abrahamson — who has been a non-executive director of Delta Motor Corporation since its inception — has been appointed deputy chairman of the company.

These appointments — both effective immediately — follow the death last year of Mr Bob Price, who was the first chairman of the newly founded South African company.

Mr. Butler-Wheelhouse, a former director of General Motors South Africa, became Delta's managing director when a South African management team took over control of the company on January 1, 1985.

After a meeting with the late Mr. Price, he was guided Delta through a successful first year of operations. — DDC

98PC ANGLO STAFF SHARE OFFER:

BOSBOK ARMS
MONTH END SPECIALS:

PORT ELIZABETH — Mr. Keith Butler-Wheelhouse, has been appointed chairman and chief executive officer of Delta Motor Corporation, the company announced yesterday.

Delta's new chief

Bosbok Arms

Just arrived

Lee Reloading Equipment
At Best Prices

Prices C.O.D. Excluding G.S.T.

CASA ITALIA BUILDING
Battling Road, Beacon Bay

Sugar prices

LONDON — Raw Contract:
South African 10.70 10.60 10.50 10.90
South African 11.70 11.60 11.50 11.90

Avis, AA deal

Johannesburg: The Automobile Association has announced its Avis, the country's largest car rental company, will be purchasing the AA's car rental contract.

The AA announcement, which took effect on January 1, entitles the association's 500,000 members to special rates as well as a variety of exclusive special offers, in South Africa and internationally, including the facility of acquiring Avis credit cards.

All Avis fluctuations will automatically be linked to free use of the AA's breakdown and car rental services.

Avis managing director, Mr. Tony Langler, said his company would be working closely with the AA in its efforts to provide a range of services for the AA membership.

In addition, the AA members will be given the opportunity to test new models when they are introduced, and to acquire cars when they are released from the Avis fleet.

Mr. Peter Elliott, AA director-general, said the AA had been influenced in its decision to appoint Avis by the range of additional benefits that Avis could offer AA members.

Other considerations had been the size of its fleet — currently running at around 8,000 cars and the spread of the branch network, which includes some 85 outlets in business centres, major suburbs and holiday resorts and at all airports throughout the country.

The fact that Avis is able to provide its services internationally as well as in South Africa had been another consideration, he said. — Sapa
About 300 Johannesburg hawkers this week demonstrated in protest against harassment by traffic department officials.

The demonstrations followed a short meeting held by the hawkers at Khosa House in search of a proper solution to their plight.

Recent incidents in which authorities raided and confiscated hawkers' goods have occurred in the past two weeks.

The first raids occurred on January 15, when most hawkers had gone to the conference organised by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses.

At this conference Achib had complained about the harassment of hawkers by the authorities.

The second incident occurred on January 22 when about 100 hawkers were arrested and taken with their confiscated goods to the City Deep market.

Some of those arrested in the second raid had valid licences.

At the Khosa House meeting, Achib accused shop traders of direct involvement in the harassment of hawkers.

The harassment of hawkers, which had been going on for over 60 years, would not end unless hawkers united, Achib said.

Achib's president Lawrence Mavundla said the authorities should not divide hawkers by providing shelter to some and leave others without.
Council to act against illegal home business

By Shirley Woodgate
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg’s planning department is planning to get tough on businesses which are being illegally conducted from private houses.

Commenting on the move, which is likely to have a far-reaching effect throughout the city’s suburbs, Mr Eddy Magid, who chaired Tuesday’s meeting of the planning committee in the absence of Mr Hennie Schoeman, who was ill, said:

“I have called for a report on the powers that are available to us in order to penalise people who illegally conduct businesses from their homes.

“The officials have been asked to consider handing out spot fines or some sort of penalties retrospective to when the illegal activities started.”

Mr Magid said illegal businesses were rife in residential areas.
Call for Bill of Rights for hawkers

JOHANNESBURG

The Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) appealed yesterday to the government to introduce a special “business charter” in the form of a Bill of Rights to protect small entrepreneurs in the informal sector from harassment by bureaucracy.

The appeal came from the general manager of the SBDC, Mike Smuts, who urged the establishment to guarantee street traders and hawkers freedom to operate without red tape hassles.

The recommendations came after a fresh wave of official action against street traders in the Johannesburg city centre.

Mr Smuts expressed particular concern over recent enforced removals of several black hawkers and traders from the Hoek Street Mall, which the SBDC helped to launch as a market reserved for informal-sector operators.

Harassment of the informal sector was still occurring, in spite of recommendations by the Economic Affairs Committee of the President’s Council that needless regulations and red tape should not be allowed to be obstacles to black entrepreneurs setting out to launch their own business enterprises.

“There have been voices of encouragement at parliamentary level and several obsolete regulations have disappeared,” Mr Smuts said.

“But there are still many incidents of harassment by bureaucrats at municipal level using antiquated by-laws to order the removal of street traders on one excuse or another – such as causing litter problems, or stepping across a particular invisible boundary, or offences under obscure traffic laws.

“Sometimes there is also harassment by vested interests inside the established formal sector which recent competition and cause hassles to street traders who venture into what they regard as their own sales territories.

“They fail to see the longer-term benefits of a strong informal sector to the entire economy and to their own businesses.”

“It is, both tragic and farcical, that harassment is allowed to continue,” Mr Smuts said. – Sapa
Avis is AA agent

THE Automobile Association has appointed Avis its official rental contractor.

The appointment, from January 1, entitles the AA's 850,000 members to special rates and offers here and abroad. Avis rentals are also entitled to free use of the AA's breakdown service.

"We will work closely with the AA to develop new insurance travel packages," says Avis managing director, Tony Langley. AA members will be able to test-rent almost new models and will be able to buy cars when they are retired from the Avis fleet."
saga of Johannesburg's street traders could be a precursor of things to come.

According to the city's head of traffic and security, John Pearce, 312 hawkers were arrested between January 1 and February 5 — compared with a monthly average of 240. The reason: a sharp increase in complaints of illegal trading from established traders.

Typically, African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businessmen (ACHIB) president Lawrence Mavundla says while the private sector claims to support hawkers and free enterprise, it continues to harass them setting up shops near their outlets. It makes use of outmoded regulations enforced by the traffic department to harass them.

What makes it worse is that hawkers' goods are often confiscated, causing personal loss. Head of business development at the Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC), Johan Naude, says hawker squads have the right to confiscate goods to use as evidence in court — but in most cases goods are perishable.

CBD Association chairman Nigel Mandy maintains hawkers' business should be centred on transport interchanges. "They shouldn't intrude on the prime retail areas and make them untidy. Cities all over the world restrict hawkers' movements. But I do think the authorities are often over-zealous in their prosecutions. It would be much better if this could be settled by negotiation."

Some improvements could be on the way. Acting chief licence officer Cathy Filimalter says the licensing department is trying to deregulate. "We have made representations to abolish the rule requiring hawkers to move every two hours and to allow them to renew their licences rather than apply for a new one every year."
Car rental firms launch price war

By Magnus Heystek
Finance Editor

A price war has broken out in the highly competitive car rental market after Budget Rent-a-Car, smallest of the so-called "Big Three", yesterday announced a daily flat rate scheme available to local customers for the first time.

Budget Rent-a-Car immediately responded with a similar scheme. Imperial-Hertz said it would be "turning the midnight oil" before a rival move was made.

Flat rates - referring to a flat rental irrespective of distance travelled - have until now been available only for rental periods longer than four days.

In making the announcement, Budget's Mr Plesis added: "The fact that it is common in Europe, and the US South African rental firms have often been guilty of using this concept we feel is not a sound business practice."

Mr Plessis said that the flat rate concept was based on the fact that there are higher rental costs associated with short rental periods and that it was unfair to charge more for renting for shorter periods.

Budget's package price is R295 per day for all distance travelled, with only the first 80km charged at R30 per day. The rental period is daily, and the customer pays with 48 hours of the car being dropped off.

Avis and Imperial-Hertz have responded with similar schemes. Imperial-Hertz charges R295 per day and Avis has a R290 per day package for distances of up to 40km, plus R30 per day for every additional 40km.

"We have been forced to respond," Imperial-Hertz's MD, Mr Langley said. "This is a move that will appeal to holiday makers as well as business customers."

Mr Plessis said that the move would benefit "everyone" and that the cost of the scheme was offset by other factors, such as reduced maintenance costs.

But Avis's Mr Langley said that the move would simply be a "smoke screen" and that Avis would be launching its own scheme.

"We will be launching our own scheme," he said. "It is not a problem for us."

Mr Plessis added: "This is a move which is designed to give us a competitive edge in a market which is saturated with car rentals.

"We are not only trying to increase our market share, but to keep our customers happy as well."

Mr Plessis is chairman of Motorvia, the holding company, which gained control of loss-making Budget Rent-a-Car in 1996. The company has since been turned around to profitability and now controls about 20% of the local market.

Avis has control of roughly 45% percent, while recently merged, Imperial-Hertz controls just over 30 percent.

Avis MD, Mr Langley, said last night that his company had no option but to offer a similar scheme in order to protect market share.

"The unlimited rate really pays off for the customer who travels more than about 80km per day. From that point on, he is effectively getting a free ride," Mr Langley said. "We will particularly appeal to holiday makers as well as business customers."

Mr Plessis added: "Our fixed rates have certain advantages for rental firms as costs were controlled. It did however tend to have a negative impact on the lifespan of the car."

A spokesman for Imperial-Hertz, Mrs Maureen Jackson, hit out at the announcement, calling it an effort on the part of Budget to increase market share.

"The US car rental industry went through a similar price-cutting phase several years ago and left a number of casualties in its wake."

"It's also incorrect to compare South African conditions with those in Germany, for instance. The distances travelled in South Africa by car renters tend to be far greater, making such a scheme quite risky."

"It is strange that the announcement of flat rates comes at a time when the car rental industry is going through a period of phenomenal growth, with customers being turned away daily due to a shortage of cars," she said.

Mr Plessis, however, stressed that the rates charged by his company were commercially viable, adding that his company had already placed orders for an additional 3,500 new cars, with eight branches being added to its national distribution network.

Mr Plessis said that the car rental industry was conservatively estimated to be worth about R400 million per annum, was experiencing exceptional growth, with demand far outstripping supply.

This comes after a lean period of nearly four years during which Budget had to be rescued from insolvency by Motorvia and Santam Bank and also resulted in US giant Hertz withdrawing from the South African market and its acquisition by Imperial Car Hire.
PORT ELIZABETH — Volkswagen SA are expecting a large slice of the R80m replacement and expansion scheme announced by Budget Rent-A-Car.

The order, which VW estimate to be in the region of R20m to R25m, will be the second from a car-hire firm within the past year.

While the car rental company on Tuesday declined to give details of how their orders would be split, a spokesman from VW said dealers had indicated that 1,000 out of a total of 3,500 vehicles would be purchased from them.

Budget's executive director, Mr. Louis de Waal, said the order would be divided among VW, Samcor, Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Toyota and the Delta Motor Corporation.

He declined to give a breakdown of the order or to comment on VW's claims that the order from Delta was for the new Kadett Cub.

The cars, of which 2,500 would replace the company's existing fleet and 1,000 would be new, would be purchased according to availability and demand, he said.

VW's general manager, public affairs, Mr. Ronnie Kruger, said the plant was working at full capacity and turning out 380 vehicles a day.

Late last year the Uitenhage plant received a boost, with an order worth R50m from Avis.

— DDE
JOHANNESBURG — A price war has broken out in the highly competitive car rental market after the smallest of the three largest rental companies announced a daily flat rate scheme.

The market leader Avis immediately responded to Budget Rent-a-Car's move with a similar scheme. Imperial-Hertz said it had not yet made a final decision.

Flat rates — a fixed rental irrespective of distance travelled — have until now been available only for rental periods longer than four days.

The Budget managing director, Mr Pienkes du Plessis, said: "The bulk of our business comes from the business sector and we feel that a daily flat rate will benefit them."

Budget Rent-a-Car controls about 20 per cent of the local market; Avis roughly 45 per cent; and recently-merged Imperial-Hertz just over 30 per cent.

The Avis managing director, Mr Tony Langley, said his company had no option but to offer a similar scheme.

A spokesman for Imperial-Hertz, Mrs Maureen Jackson, said the move was an effort on the part of Budget to increase its market share.
**VEHICLE RENTALS**

Thin end of the wedge?

Banks and finance houses have joined forces with the motor industry in a tug-o'-war with the Registrar over the future of recently introduced car rental schemes.

At this stage, the battleground is a point of principle over disclosure of financing details, but vehicle manufacturers and dealers fear it may extend to a broader assault by government on the whole rental system.

Officials of the Association of General Banks and Finance Houses, Motor Industries Federation (MIF) and National Automobile Dealers Association (Nada), met representatives of the Registrar of Financial Institutions in Pretoria last week to discuss rental schemes. Banks handed over a detailed submission, which the Registrar is now studying.

The argument is over interpretations of the Usury Act and how much detailed disclosure institutions should be required to make to Pretoria when financing rental deals. Institutions argue that, apart from cost, a car rental is no different from TV or any other rental agreement and, therefore, falls outside the Act.

The Registrar disagrees. A spokesman says there is a difference between operational and financing contracts. In the case of a TV, the deal is between supplier and customer; car rental schemes constitute a full financial package involving three parties — customer, supplier and bank.

The spokesman says the Registrar has nothing against car rental agreements per se, only the lack of disclosure. But, according to a senior banking official: “If there were full disclosure, that would be contrary to the whole essence of rental business. We are fighting a point of principle here.”

And he rejects the notion that the Act is needed to protect buyers from unscrupulous finance houses. “This is a competitive business. There is no question of trying to make a killing.”

Vehicle manufacturers and dealers, however, fear it may go deeper than that. They say some government officials have expressed unease at the level of private vehicle rentals and suggest curbs are being considered. Government's main fear is that rental agreements, which need no deposit, may put vehicles within reach of people who realistically cannot afford them.

Banks and dealers alike reject this, claiming finance houses are best qualified to decide customers' creditworthiness. The motor industry, with some justification, is concerned that any curbs could threaten the growth the industry has enjoyed lately.

The weakened rand and soaring prices previously put cars beyond the reach of nearly all but the fleet-buyer. Rental options have brought the private buyer back into the market as a significant force. To remove him, it argues, would be to send the industry back to the depths of depression.

Theo Swart, joint MD of the McCarthy Group, says: “Private rentals have given the industry the injection it needed. It would be sad if the government were to remove rental options from the motor industry. By increasing sales, it has contributed to jobs and growth. The motor industry is the second biggest employer in the country. It plays a significant role in the economy. It would be crazy to throw all that away.”

If rentals are allowed to remain, expect the industry to press for further financial packages to be accepted — particularly private leasing. At present, car leasing agreements are acceptable only if they can be charged against income tax, effectively restricting agreements to companies and certain professionals.

“We had private leasing before, then the government stopped it,” says Swart. “I see no reason why it shouldn’t come back.”
THE National Manpower Commission has recommended that it be prohibited for personnel and placement agencies to charge job-seekers.

The acceptable method is for the employer to pay a fee to a personnel agency for the supplying staff.

Colin Katz of Colin Katz Associates says it is already not permitted by law to charge the job-seeker.

A spokesman for the Association of Personnel Services (APS0) says a maximum of R1 registration fee plus 7.5% of the first month's salary or part thereof may be charged. APSO recommended to the Commission that the system of charging the work-seeker be scrapped to avoid the exploitation of unemployed blacks.

Voluntary

APS0 membership is voluntary, and Mr Katz believes there are many fly-by-night agencies who charge a registration fee of R50 or more with the promise that they will find work for the unemployed.

They operate for a short time in the black market, make a lot of money and disappear.

Promises are tempting to the black work-seeker. Mr Katz says that as many as half of the companies looking for staff specify "whites only". He says that many companies, from small to large, not only South Africans, but also some multinational, pay lip service to the concept of equal opportunity for all, but continue to turn away blacks.

Jennie Closlie, general manager of Anglo Personnel Services, says that her firm is able to place black graduates, but often encounters resistance from the employer.

"We believe that if a man is qualified to do the job his colour should not matter. We try to educate these employers who insist on whites." It is inevitable that SA will draw increasingly on the pool of skilled blacks entering the job market.

Mr Katz says his company has more blacks on its books than in the past, but it will be a slow process before total acceptability of all colors in the work place can be achieved.

Criterion

Mrs Closlie says that business has never been so healthy.

"We had a phenomenal 1987. We have a balance of job-seekers and employment opportunities."

She says married women with children are also being tempted back to work.

Christo Constantaras of The Personnel Concept says that in the three professional fields in which his company operates, employers do not specify race.

"Skills, not colour, are the criterion.

"The Personnel Concept concentrates on the engineering, accounting and computer professions."

Mr Constantaras says, however, that although employers may accept all races in principle, some of them pay blacks less than whites.

Women may also be subjected to pay discrimination, although the practice is not rife.

Education

Mr Constantaras says that a well-qualified black work-seeker can be funny and difficult to place even though job offers are made.

Another problem faces those who have been educated at black universities. Although the standard of education may be as high as that given by other universities, commerce and industry are slow to accept the fact.

It is not the black job-seeker's fault that his degree does not have the same credibility as from a white university, and he understandably believes he is the victim of continued discrimination.
THERE has been a vast increase in the number of new dealers in the informal business sector in recent months, according to the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib).

Achib has registered 378 new members since January this year.

Council president Lawrence Mavundla said the organisation now had more than 150000 registered hawkers and vendors in the country.

Mavundla said although hawkers had no formal recorded wages or salary income, they had become part of the job-creating machinery and contributed R1bn to the country’s economy.

Rashid Alli, executive member of the Small Business Advisory Services (SBAS), said members of the informal sector stood between a struggling population and economic disaster in the country.

He said: “Thousands of work-seekers have come into the job market and almost half of the black population are young people under 19.

“Therefore, with hundreds of work-seeking adults and their dependents, that means between a quarter and half of the population have no recorded wage or salary income.”

Alli said: “The informal sector has about 100000 black-owned taxis — each one a small business; 150000 hawkers and vendors; 50000 small shopkeepers, 7000 or more small manufacturers — many of the backyard type — and several thousand small builders who promote employment for the jobless.

“There are also at least half a million black-owned businesses — mostly small and some technically illegal according to one or more of the hundreds of rules and regulations which restrict them from economic freedom — providing jobs for the unemployed.”
THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business is to hold a general meeting for all its members at Khotso House, Johannesburg, at 9am today, to establish a formal organisational structure.

At the meeting, members will elect a new executive committee; officials to run the seven branches of Achib has already started in the Transvaal; representatives to negotiate with...
Diluted

An increase of 36% in issued shares hindered Imperial's interim performance at bottom line. Though earnings rose 50% to R4.2m (R2.2m), EPS rose only 36% to 30.2c (21.9c) in the six months to December 25. Still, considering the group has had to work on rationalising certain divisions, this is a creditable performance.

Joint MD Bill Lynch tells me the main surge came from Imperial's expanded rental division after it acquired major competitor Hertz. The acquisition effectively doubled Imperial's market share. Says Lynch: "During the last three months of 1987, our com-

bined turnover grew about 75%, well ahead of the 46% increase mentioned for the market as a whole. Rental division earnings contributed about 30% of the group total."

The motor division was hampered by scarcity of new cars and the used car business was not as buoyant as a year ago. "There seems to be an element of buyers switching back to new cars," Lynch says. The division's turnover increased by about 30%.

He says the truck division enjoyed even stronger turnover growth. "It was dynamic and up about 70%." But this increase includes contributions from acquisitions Nationwide and De Jongh's Engineering.

"Overall," says Lynch, "we maintained a healthy divisional balance." Though the interest bill fell against the comparable period in 1986, year-end debt/equity has risen to some 40% (last year's listing cut Imperial 100% gearing to insignificant level). Lynch does not see the present debt level a problem.

"If interest rates should climb rapidly, and we don't expect this, we have short-term capacity to correct the situation."

Imperial has a balanced business mix with its rental business usually doing well in recession. And there must be more opportunity to streamline after acquisitions. Lynch says the new car business could keep growing for another couple of years.

At 375c, the share is well up on the 275c pre-listing issue price a year ago. Imperial has yet to show the really strong EPS growth which has recently been characteristic of the motor industry. It could come through in the second half.

Dave Edwards
Vehicle leasing set for R450m

Business Times Reporter

THE full-maintenance and long-term vehicle leasing market — worth R800-million a year — is expected to grow to R1.2-billion in the next five years.

Plinio du Plessis, executive chairman of Motorvia, the largest vehicle transport company in SA, and holding company of Budget Rent a Car, says the recently formed subsidiary, Budget Autolease, entered the long-term leasing market in July 1987 and is showing profits.

"We expect this area of the business to make a major contribution to the growth of the group," says Mr. du Plessis.

"The full-maintenance leasing business in SA is in its infancy. In the UK and the US, full-maintenance leasing accounts for 20% and 30%, respectively, of new car sales. In SA, it accounts for only 6% in SA."

Budget Autolease has vehicles worth more than R12-million on the road under a full-maintenance leasing scheme. Motorvia, accounts for about 60% of the vehicle transport market — moving 30,000 vehicles a month. Its main suppliers are Toyota, Volkswagen, and Simonian.

A national computer network — running off a mainframe at the group's head office in Parktown, Johannesburg — has been developed to control and co-ordinate the operations of Motorvia, Budget Rent a Car, and Budget Autolease.
THOSE
FOR

As the tension between the police and South African Police
and the rights of the oppressed, we need to stand up for our
rights and voices to be heard. We need to fight for our freedom.

BY PHANGISILE MTHSHALI

TRADERS RIGHT
A FIGHTER FOR
WOMAN
Hawkers urged to fight for rights

PRESIDENT of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, has warned hawkers to fight for their rights because they contributed to the economy of the country.

Addressing the annual general meeting of the council in Johannesburg this week, he urged members to remain united in their fight against harassment, arrests and confiscation of their merchandise.

Mr. Mavundla said if members did not pay their subscription fees they would have no control over the officials who ran the organisation.

He said some members approached the organisation only when they had problems. Members did not pay their subscription fees.

"Our duty is to do what is right for our community. But if we have to meet the conditions of all the different companies, churches and political organisations who fund us, we will lose our credibility," he said.

See page 10.
MANPOWER MIRROR  by JULIE WALKER

The other side of black agency coin

little education. They do not know what a curriculum vitae is. Many of them have not worked for several years and have eight children to support. They are penniless."

Pretoria is particularly bad for employment, and many companies are unwilling to accept qualified black staff, insisting on white employees.

"We feel sorry for blacks and try our best to place them, but their expectations are often unrealistic. We may suggest an employer and say that the job offered will pay R200 or R300 a month. That is realistic for someone with neither experience nor qualification, but he wants much more."

"We have school-leavers who want R500 a month. They wonder why they cannot find a job."

Drivers

Mrs Stander says her company placed 88 job-seekers in the first seven weeks of 1988. She says some employers also have high unreasonable expectations.

"We have a flood of drivers. But some employers want them to drive to Durban and back in a day for R300 a month. That is not on. Many say they will not take card-carrying trade union members who may be politically inclined, yet still require leadership qualities. They try to avoid the trouble-causers."

Kwa-Moshomong, which means place for work, says it distributes leaflets to potential employers who phone when they need workers.

Costly

Mrs Stander says some black employment agencies charge a registration fee, but specify that once placed, the candidate must pay between 7.5% and 20% of his salary for the first three months he works.

The administration of work-seekers is costly. A five-page application form must be completed.

"Many of them do not understand all the words and we are obliged to employ staff who speak black languages to assist with the filling-in of the form. These are then photocopied.

"We obtain a credit-rating for the candidate. Such a clearance costs R350."

"Our consultants telephone prospective employers. It can take days to get even a nibble."

The average starting salary varies — drivers can expect R450 to R500 a month. Other workers may have to accept as little as R300 a month."
IT'S A BALL FOR CAR RENTERS

CONSUMERS ARE LAUGHING

BY WID RYDER
Legal guide for laymen

The Transvaal Law Society has published a leaflet to guide people who feel they have grounds for a complaint of unprofessional conduct against their attorney.

"Lawyers are entrusted with asserting or defending the rights of their clients before the courts and thus have a high standing in the community," says the president of the society, Mr. Cyril Jaffe.

"It is therefore fitting that, like doctors, they should try to ensure that no member of their profession is allowed to sully that standing by unprofessional conduct."

COUNCIL'S POWERS

The leaflet says the disciplinary powers of the council of a provincial law society are limited to reprimanding attorneys or imposing fines of up to RZ 200.

However, if the council feels that the attorney concerned may have been guilty of more serious unprofessional conduct, it will instruct its attorneys to start proceedings against him in the Supreme Court, to have his name removed from the roll or have him suspended from practice.

The leaflet also says: "If the conduct giving rise to a complaint is likely to form the subject of civil or criminal proceedings, the council will usually not adjudicate on it until those proceedings have run their course."

NO JURISDICTION

"The council does not have jurisdiction to investigate complaints of alleged incompetence or negligence. However, complaints of gross incompetence or gross negligence may form the subject of a disciplinary inquiry."

"Furthermore, a council has no jurisdiction to award compensation if an attorney has been negligent."

"The council can and does investigate complaints regarding the ethical behaviour of attorneys over whom it has jurisdiction."

The leaflet is available free of charge from the Law Society of the Transvaal, P O Box 1493, Pretoria 0001, or telephone the society at (012) 322-7296.
Achib calls for jobless to take up hawking

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) has called on all unemployed to look to hawking as an employment option rather than accept hand-outs.

Achib was reacting to Operation Hunger's estimate that it would have to feed 1.2 million people this year because of the high unemployment rate and lack of opportunities for unskilled workers.

THEO RAWANA

Achib believes many people can be absorbed into hawking, earn a good living and start a cycle of entrepreneurship within their families. Achib general secretary Nomsa Makan said: "It takes only R135 to set up as a hawker and this money can be paid back within a week."
91 AIDS cases

PRETORIA — Out of a total of 91 South Africans, mostly homosexual or bisexual men, diagnosed as AIDS cases, 59 have died, the Department of National Health announced yesterday.

REPORTS: Owen Correspondent and Sapa-Pool

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Achib general secretary Nomusa Makanzi said: “It takes only R135 to set up as a hawker and this money can be paid back within a week.”

Ccawusa still split into two factions

ALAN FINE

ONE of the two factions in the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers’ Union (Ccawusa) refused on Sunday to take part in the Johannesburg branch AGM, confirming that January’s court agreement has not healed union divisions.

The branch AGM was one of eight to be held in terms of the court’s settlement. Delegates elected at the gatherings are to attend a national conference of the union to be held by mid-May.

The Johannesburg meeting refused to support the adoption of the Freedom Charter.

PRETORIA

PFP hits at govt’s R13,4bn pay bill

GERALD REILLY

As well, the huge amounts spent on ideological activities should be halted or drastically trimmed.

The R13,4bn pay bill breaks down into wages and salaries R8,7bn (R8,3bn five years ago); bonuses R594m (R216m); housing subsidies R443m (R32m); medical aid contributions R210m (R71m); pension contributions R1,6bn (R701m); car schemes R215m (R82m); leave and retirement gratuities R105m (R36m); other direct and indirect benefits R474m (R249m).
A school for photographers

A PHOTOGRAPHERS' association has been launched in Johannesburg.

The association will hold a series of meetings starting tonight at the brainchild of the African Methodist Church, Kagiso 2 (7pm): Methodist Youth Centre, Central Western Jabavu (2pm) tomorrow, AME Church, 2972 Mohlakeng, Friday (6:50pm).

Mr Victor Mabaso, the head of the association, said the organisation was established to forge links between photographers and concerns servicing them.
BEAUTY NKOSI: "We aim to make the women on the pavement aware that they are important to society."

BEAUTY NKOSI FIGHTS for hawkers' rights

By Pringle Michael

What ran and trials for 21 years have not deterred Mrs. Nkosini Mthembu in her 21 years of clashing against the authorities that have refused to listen.

Mrs. Nkosini, a 52-year-old grandmother, has a makeshift kitchen in a tent in the middle of the street. She is one of the many hawkers who occupy the streets of Durban.

Mrs. Nkosini took the law into her own hands when the authorities refused to listen to her complaints.

"We went to court and the judge refused to listen," she said. "We were forced to take matters into our own hands and we have been fighting ever since."

Mrs. Nkosini joined the National Women's Forum when it was formed in 1979. She was later a member of the National Women's Forum and the National Women's Forum of South Africa.

"We are fighting for our rights," she said. "We want to be heard and we want to be treated fairly."

Mrs. Nkosini said she wasInspired by the women in the streets of Durban who refuse to give up.

"We are strong and we will continue to fight," she said. "We will not be stopped by the authorities."

Mrs. Nkosini's battle has not been easy. She has been arrested numerous times and has been threatened with violence.

But she remains resolute.

"We will continue to fight," she said. "We will not give up until we have our rights."
Hawking could ease feeding scheme load

MANY of the estimated 1.3-million people Operation Hunger will feed this year could earn a living by hawking, which has an annual turnover of more than R1-billion.

Operation Hunger executive director lain Perlman says the formal business sector cannot accommodate the huge number of people who are unemployed. Many people earn their bread and butter in the informal business and industrial sector.

Mrs Perlman says: "In the rural areas people rely on farming for employment. But drought or severe floods, both of which have happened recently, send the rate of unemployment soaring.

"People then rely on outside sources of income, and when there are no jobs to be found in the city, they are in real trouble. Most blacks are vulnerable to forces in the market which are beyond their control."

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) believes that many people can be absorbed into the 150 000 large hawking community.

A capital outlay of R15 is needed, but an Achib spokesman says it can be paid back in a few weeks, after which the hawker owns his "business" and the cycle of entrepreneurship begins.

Mrs Perlman welcomes the idea of a move into hawking, provided that the authorities look at the "reality" of the position and relax laws and regulations governing hawkers and street traders.

This is a problem for all hawker. Achib's president Lawrence Mavudza says hawker have been on city pavements since they were laid and have been harassed by police and officials for as long.

Hawking is seen by Achib as a stepping stone to the informal sector, and there will not be too many hawkers on the streets as they are constantly moving to bigger (and better things)
Two take a shine to back free enterprise

A SHINING example of defeat-turned-victory is shown by JSE shoe-cleaning duo Isaiah "Mr Nugget" Hlatshwayo and Derrick "Dr Nugget" Makhubela.

The likeable pair have emerged from being victims of the national job slump to becoming part of Johannesburg's financial scene — just shining shoes.

The men, first sponsored by polished and shoe-cleaning kit by the SBDC and Reckitt & Coleman, command so much popularity that even other companies have taken the cue and offered assistance.

With stockbrokers and executives from neighbouring companies among their "clientele," the men have moved AA Life to come forward and supply cover from sun and rain in the form of beach umbrellas; and Kiwi Shoe Polish supplied them with shoe-shine kits, stands and polish.

Retrenched

Hlatshwayo had been working for a cartage company and Makhubela for a fried-chicken outlet when retrenchments forced the 27-year-old bachelors on to the street in 1986.

When the SBDC got to know of their plight, it offered them a R50 loan each and Reckitt & Coleman supplied shoe-cleaning kits, polish and stands.

AA Life assistant, GM (marketing) Bruce Howard says the company admired the men's business drive. "It was a small gesture of appreciation, since we felt the men needed 'cover' of some sort," he says.

Kiwi production manager David Grey says his company has always been active in helping the informal sector.

"We are doing it on a larger scale in Natal and we intend to do more now in the Transvaal," he says.

The two men have, in response to demand, spread their services to measuring heels and supplying shoe-laces.

Makhubela has tried his hand at making sandals, and says people have started placing orders for these.

The men, whose initial conflict with some JSE officials who wanted them off the JSE premises sparked a petition by about 300 stockbrokers demanding their reinstatement, are now well settled, making R50 to R60 a day from their trade.

"We have always taken care to keep the area we work in clean and everybody is happy with the service we are rendering," says Hlatshwayo.

Makhubela says their venture has turned his loss of a job into victory. "There is a lot more a man can do than sitting back and sulking because he has lost a job," he says.

The two men, both now 28, are single.
By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's hotdog street war heated up yesterday with the launch of a prototype mobile stall by the African Council of Hawkers (ACH) at the Hook Street mall.

Entrepreneur Mr Sammy Brown was selling hotdogs like hotcakes within minutes of taking delivery of the gleaming R2 000 stainless steel stand designed on the lines of a coffee cart.

Priced at only R1, the toasted rolls and sausage covered in tomato sauce and mustard undercut his competitors based behind the Stock Exchange by at least 68 percent.

The arrival of the mobile stall was yet another minor milestone in the informal sector's fight to establish itself as a force in the city, said Miss Vicki Sussens, public relations officer of the 14 000-strong ACH.

"Our first task was to get rid of the stringent city by-laws restricting the street vendors. The first breakthrough was when the council changed the regulations forcing hawkers to move every 20 minutes and set up business more than 400 m from the nearest general dealer, to remaining for two hours and dealing only 100 m away.

"Now they are able to establish a fixed clientele." She estimated there were 900 000 informal businessmen in South Africa, with a buying power of R1 billion. The hawkers spent about R28 million a year at the City Deep vegetable and fruit market alone.

A recent development was that large companies which wanted to sell their products on the black market were approaching ACH to do business which white salesmen were unable to tap, Miss Sussens said.
All sorts make use of EL pawnbrokers

**Daily Dispatch Reporter,**

EAST LONDON — A Daily Dispatch survey found that the class of clients who go to pawnbrokers has not changed to a great extent, although some pawnbrokers did report an increase in upper-class customers.

A report in a British newspaper said pawnbrokers were claiming that the trade was "eager to shrug off the old image of raggedness and despair, and to clothe itself in the well-tailored stripes of today's executives".

However, it does not seem as though this applies to pawnbrokers here, although the owner of a pawn shop on the West Bank, Mr. Ian Miles, said he had had a few "richer people" from the richer areas like Bunkers Hill and Beacon Bay.

But he added that the majority of his clients were from the lower classes.

Mr. Miles said the main pledges from his "richer" clients were things like television sets, video machines, and hi-fi.

"Some of them are rather blase about coming in to sell their stuff while others are much quieter," he said.

Mrs. Marina Fourie, from a pawnbrokers shop in Quigney, said their clients were from "all walks of life, but mainly those who battle".

"Most of our pledges are things that people can get their value on and it is usually jewellery," she said.

Mrs. Fourie cited shortage of food as the main reason for people having to pawn their belongings. She also felt many of the people were embarrassed about having to sell their things as they "had never done it before."

She added, however, that they try to make their customers feel at ease as "everyone gets into that situation at some stage".

The owner of a pawnshop in Cambridge, Mrs. Joanne Breetzkere, said the current recession was affecting everyone, not only the poorer classes, but said there were "non-really rich people" who came in to sell their things.

"It is mainly the middle and lower classes," she added.

She said lots of very good, quality things are brought in, which sells well, because "people know what quality is and are willing to pay for it".

She said there were customers who were still embarrassed, while others just didn't care.

"We just want to do a service to help people, and try to make them feel at ease," she said.
Faith in ads ‘may take a knock’

Consumer confidence in advertising could be “destroyed” if comparative ads were given any form of official sanction in South Africa.

According to the chairman of Headlines Advertising & Marketing, Roy Mortimer, there were too many opportunists in the marketing and advertising industries who would abuse the ground rules of effective comparative advertising to the extent that the credibility of all advertising could suffer in the eyes of the consumer.

Mr Mortimer is vice-chairman of the Advertising Standards Authority, copy committee and a member of the Newspaper Press Union’s advertising standards committee.

He said it was understandable that advertising agencies wanted to keep their clients happy and would do “almost anything in some instances” to maintain good relationships.

He added: “In the years I have been involved on these committees there have been innumerable cases where agencies have deliberately flaunted the codes because they knew the ads would appear only once or twice before being outlawed.

This shows a total lack of responsibility and I believe if comparative advertising is officially sanctioned we will have this sort of irresponsible action increasing four-fold.”

Mr Mortimer said the credibility of advertising in the consumer’s mind in America “took a terrible knock” when they realised claims and counter-claims were being made about points which were of minor importance to them.

He recalled: “At an annual meeting of the American Association of Advertising Agencies a few years ago, AAAA’s president Leonard Matthews, said the ad industry in the US had been the victim of a terrible disservice when it was urged to confine itself to names and brands and let the fur fly in the presumed interest of a better-informed consumer.

Len Matthews says as a result, the largest number of complaints handled by the regulatory body for the industry in America concern comparative advertisements.

Theris a, he says, too much of a temptation to manufacturers...
SQUARING UP: Does comparative advertising really give the small guy a fighting chance against his bigger competitors — or will the consumer get hurt when the stones start flying?

Smart work ‘is the answer to agency squeeze’

Spurring costs, a chronic skills shortage — a likely scenario for the South African advertising industry in 1998.

What’s to be done? Young & Rubicam CE David McKinstry believes the answer is greater productivity and how advertising people apply it to their situation.

He says: “Agencies can expect increased pressure on margins from clients looking to save on advertising costs, coupled with the parallel pressure of a shortage of talent in South Africa, particularly in the creative area.

That we may find some relief in a rising economy and a more stable political climate does not detract from the fact that we have to do everything possible to improve productivity."

“In our business, computers and mechanical aids are of limited help. Productivity comes down to personal contribution. It’s not just a question of working harder, most of our people work incredibly hard anyway. It’s a question of working smarter."

“Most of our clients face similar pressures. Their competitive environments continue to harden and there is also a shortage of good marketing people in this country, so working smarter is also in their interests."

This means tighter first-time briefs, fewer and shorter meetings, fewer people at meetings and getting to the solutions whether strategic or creative, with less wheel-spin..."
Man receives fees, disappears

Jobseekers exploited by certain agencies

by June Bearzi, Star Line

Certain unscrupulous employment agencies have been exploiting desperate jobseekers by illegally charging registration fees of more than R\n with a promise of securing work for them.

Star Line recently highlighted the plight of hundreds of unemployed people, mostly black, who paid amounts ranging from R9 to R20 to SA

Employment Representative Council and Funda Employment Training College run by a Soweto businessman, Mr Junior Ngubeni. Several applicants said that after they had paid the fees they were told to collect identity cards bearing the agency's name the following week. They were told the cards would entitle them to a full salary at the end of the month.

But soon after they paid the cash, Mr Ngubeni disappeared from the Arcot Mansions premises in Johannesburg.

A ‘learning vacation’

Education Reporter

An exciting cultural programme has been put together for the second Autumn School at Wits University to be held between May 5 and 8.

It will be opened with an art exhibition and chamber music recital on the evening of May 5, and will include lectures, workshops, drama, music, film, fine art, tours, displays, sport, a craft market, a “hot sausage and mealie” bar and a rock ’n roll evening.

Lectures and workshops will be loosely structured around four themes and will explore Africa (township life, Third World issues, art, literature and music), Holism, the Women’s Movement and Shakespeare. There will also be lectures of general interest.

The Wits Drama School will stage “The War of Roses”, an adaptation of four Shakespeare plays, and Athol Fugard’s play, “No Good Friday”. A festival of Woody Allen films will be shown.

The St Mary’s Cathedral Choir, the Wits Orchestra and Jazz and brass bands will also perform.

The Autumn School “learning vacation” is open to students, past students, staff, their families and friends.

For programmes, which include booking sheets, telephone the Office of Alumni Affairs at 716-3481 or the Centre for Continuing Education at 716-3508.

Mrs Patience Lorimer, the National Administrator of APSO (Association of Personnel Service Organisations of South Africa), which represents personnel consultancies in South Africa, told Star Line that legislation passed under the Guidance and Placement Act of 1981 outlawed the levying of registration fees of more than R\n or 7½ percent of the first pay cheque.

APSO president, Mr R M Silver, added: “APSO deplores the charging to applicants of a fee for finding them work and whenever we become aware of such activities we report them to the Department of Manpower.

The National Manpower Commission had published a report recently in which it took up APSO recommendation that the charging of fees to workseekers should be prohibited.
Man receives fees, disappears

Jobseekers exploited by certain agencies

by June Bearzi, Star Line

Certain unscrupulous employment agencies have been exploiting desperate jobseekers for illegally charging registration fees of more than R1 with a promise of securing work for them.

Star Line recently highlighted the plight of hundreds of unemployed people, mostly black, who paid amounts ranging from R9 to R20 to SA Employment Representative Council and Funda Employment Training College run by a Soweto businessman, Mr Junior Ngubeni.

Several applicants said that after they had paid the fees they were told to collect identity cards bearing the agency's name the following week. They were told the cards would entitle them to a full salary at the end of the month.

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The National Manpower Commission had published a report recently, in which it took up APSO recommendation that the charging of fees to workseekers should be prohibited.
Free-wheeling hawkers still labour under tight restraints

Black business remained restricted by legislation and municipal regulations in 1987, says the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR).

It writes in its latest edition of Social and Economic Update that continuing action against hawkers in Johannesburg suggested that there was still a gap between stated government intentions and official practices affecting black business.

As a consequence of the continuing restrictions, various organisations have been formed to campaign for small traders' rights and which ascribe their emergence to the hostility or indifference of white business and government.

"It may be significant that these new groups appear to be more militant than more established black business organisations and have stated a greater willingness to use tactics such as demonstrations and selective boycotts," SAIRR says.

The quarterly review also provided further evidence that the removal of formal restrictions would not on its own ensure black business development and "the elimination of historical backlogs might require a far bigger injection of government and private-sector resources than either has thus far been willing to give," says SAIRR.

The institute says hundreds of hawkers have been arrested for allegedly trading without a licence or contravening regulations requiring them to move their stands regularly throughout the day.
AVIS, SA's largest car rental firm, has placed a record order with the motor industry.

It will spend R150-million on 8 200 new cars and minibus-sets for rental and another R55-million on cars for its leasing division.

The cars will be bought from the beginning of next month and represent a conservative estimate of fleet demand. More vehicles will probably be bought later in the year.

The purchase is about 35% higher than the previous record — Avis's 5 400 order in 1987.

Of the 8 200 vehicles, 3 500 will be Volkswagen micro-buses, Golfs and Jettras, 750 Toyotas, 650 Mercedes-Benzes, of which 500 will be Mercedes 200E, 350 Fords, 420 Opel Kadettas, 2 200 Nissan Skylines and

**By Don Robertson**

Sentras, and 300 3 Series BMWs.

Managing director Tony Langley says rental days increased by 40% in the year to March. The average rental time has risen from 4.75 to 5.5 days.

He ascribes this to an increase in business activity, an almost doubling of the tourist market and a rise in the number of blacks using the service.

Mr Langley says the hire market will probably buy about 15 000 new cars this year, representing about 15% of expected motor industry sales.

Avis has opened 10 branches, bringing the total to 92. Several branches have been upgraded.

"Demand for car rental — in both the leisure and business sectors — has increased in the past few months and we have had to expand our operation.

"Besides the expansion of our branch network, we have built up our fleet to a record 8 000 cars.

"The optimum rental for each car is 21 days a month. We are renting our cars for 24 days a month. This suggests that we will soon have to increase our fleet," says Mr Langley.

However, the company faces considerable losses as a result of accidents and theft which amount to about R1-million a month. Avis reports about 250 thefts a month, of which about 150 vehicles are recovered.
BLACK business remained restricted by racial legislation and municipal regulations as 1987 drew to a close.

And continuing action against hawkers in Johannesburg suggested that there was still a gap between stated government intentions and official practices which affect black business.

These findings are highlighted in the latest Social and Economic Update, a regular review of social and economic conditions in South Africa, published by the South African Institute of Race Relations in Johannesburg.

Update says that one apparent consequence of continuing restrictions on black business is the formation of organisations such as the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (ACHIB), the Black Poultry Association, the Johannesburg CBD Chamber of Commerce and the SEHABA/ SIZWE Co-Operative, which campaign for small traders’ rights.

“It may be significant that these new groups appear to be more militant than more established black business organisations and have stated a greater willingness to use tactics such as demonstrations and selective boycotts.

Statements by spokesmen for these organisations suggest that their emergence may therefore constitute a growing challenge to the practices of both groups,” Update says.

The quarterly review also provided further evidence that the removal of formal restrictions would not on its own ensure black business development.

Backlog

As in other areas surveyed, the elimination of historical backlogs might require a far bigger injection of government and private sector resources than either had thus far been willing to give.

Turning to specific constraints placed on black businesses, the publication points out that hundreds of hawkers have been arrested in Johannesburg for allegedly trading without a licence or contravening regulations which require them to move at regular intervals throughout the day.

Unlike other business people hawkers must annually renew their licences which are obtained from local authorities. According to a small business specialist, white local authorities often adopt a “paternalistic and prejudiced attitude to hawkers, a legacy of the past when they were considered a nuisance.”

Update points out that industrial areas established since the passing of the Group Areas Act in 1950 are open to industrialists of a particular race only, usually whites. However, areas established before then are open to all races — one enterprise developer estimates that about 67% of industrial areas are thus open.

Despite this, however, black access to these areas is extremely limited in practice because prospective black industrialists do not know where the open areas are situated and can determine the precise areas only by consulting a surveyor’s office.

The publication also reported on constraints on black businessmen imposed by what may appear to be an unlikely source — black local authorities.
Q'town yes to street vendors

Daily Dispatch Reporter
QUEENSTOWN — Vendors selling hotdogs, boerewors, rolls and braaivleis from carts will soon be seen on Queenstown pavements.

The town council has agreed to follow this trend which is popular in Port Elizabeth and East London, but prospective operators will have to comply with the strict requirements of the municipal health department.

Before agreeing to the scheme, the council approached the Afrikaanse Sakekamer, the Chamber of Commerce and the SAP for their comments.

They had no objection and the Sakekamer replied that it welcomed this type of enterprise.

The council has stipulated that besides obtaining a hawker's licence, operators must buy foodstuffs from an approved supplier.

It also decided that a private individual would be allowed to operate only one cart from residential premises, but an existing business would not be restricted to the number of carts.

Vendors will not be allowed to trade in the town's main street or near a business which sells cooked foodstuffs.

The council also intends asking the Small Business Development Corporation to introduce specially constructed hawker carts.

The corporation leases these carts at a nominal fee to hawkers selling fresh produce.
Home-businesses are booming in SA

New call to lift reins off the informal sector

By Michael Chester

There are now no fewer than 1.5 million home mini-business ventures in South Africa, earning more than R20 billion a year.

Most go unrecorded in official statistics and operate without trade licences.


Mr Theo Rudman, executive director of the SEI, argues that the success of operations proves the enormous potential role of the informal sector as a booster to economic growth — if the Government orders a halt to bureaucratic harassment of mini-businesses with out-moded rules and regulations.

Equally important, he believes, is Government recognition of the sector's role as a catalyst to close the economic gap between the rich-and-poor First World and Third World elements of South African society, with action to allow them equal opportunity to exercise their inter-dependent business initiatives.

Research by the SEI shows that no fewer than 200,000 white families are now running business bee-hives at their homes — and pulling in an annual R1 800 million.

Here, says Mr Rudman, the main motive is to pad out normal wages and salaries to protect standards of living from erosion by high taxation and inflation.

Typical off-the-record part-time operations by white families are activities such as evening freelance work by accountants and architects, moonlight services by plumbers and electricians and knitting and sewing by housewives who sell their products at neighbourhood weekend flea markets.

The number of black families running their own unofficial businesses — hawkers to backyard motor repair mechanics — is now estimated at no fewer than 1.2 million, with a combined annual turnover of a staggering R15 billion to R20 billion a year.

Here the main motivation is the sheer necessity to find alternatives to unemployment, or else bolster low wages or flex initiatives as business entrepreneurs to join the main economic mainstream.

The dimensions of unrecorded trade have been underscored by a recent phenomenal surge in the circulation of bank notes that first mystified the SA Reserve Bank — until it discovered the cause was the amount of cash flowing in and out of the informal sector, which is inclined to insist on cash rather than cheques or credit cards in its transactions.

"The scale of operations makes the mind boggle," says Mr Rudman. "And it is high time that South Africa gave its informal sector full recognition and encouragement as a new generator of economic growth — rather than throttle it with bureaucratic rules and regulations."

So far in South Africa we have been trying to enforce First World standards on all business ventures, which has slammed the door on much of the Third World and forced it underground.

Yet, encouragement of the informal sector can provide the bridges to mobilise the full potential of the entire population.

"It has been estimated that South Africa would need to spend at least R4.5 billion a year inside the formal sector over the next decade and beyond to create all the new jobs needed to cope with the population explosion and the school-leavers expected to hit the labour market.

"We need to face the blunt fact that the cash will not be forthcoming.

"There has to be an entirely new and radical approach to the problem. And it is the informal sector that holds most of the solutions."

The SEI has plans to propose two specific channels of action by the Government:

- A far bigger allocation of funds to finance training programmes to teach basic job skills to unemployed workers, with much more emphasis on basic management methods to groom a new generation of self-employed entrepreneurs.
- The appointment of a special ombudsman, or commissioner, to monitor existing and any proposed new pieces of legislation to weed out unnecessary restrictions and ensure a fair deal for the informal sector.

Mr Rudman underlines the recent findings by the Institute of Futures Research, at Stellenbosch University, that while 7.7 million South Africans had full-time jobs at a 1985 count, no fewer than 4.3 million were entirely jobless or else only partially employed.

"We can no longer afford to ignore the opportunity to mobilise the vast proportion of our labour force that is in limbo and to crack an unemployment problem that threatens to grow into a crisis unless there is action."

"Britain and Taiwan are perfect examples of economies that have given relatively free rein to their informal sectors, with astonishing results. South Africa simply dare not leave itself trailing behind."
The competition, “WISKULLU MUNHWA" reports the biggest tribal: Township hawkers.

Township hawkers

[Image of the competition, "WISKULLU MUNHWA\] reports the biggest tribal: Township hawkers.

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Rent-a-Rig just keeps growing

By Tom Hood
CAPE TOWN — Keith Blair and John Sanders have come a long way on their Rent-a-Rig trucks — and they intend going a lot further.

Their company, Sure Group Holdings (Suregro), has grown to cover a wide range of transport-related interests. The Epping-based company had a turnover of R16.2 million last year. Projected turnover for 1998 is R19.1 million.

The initiative which started when the two former Britons bought assets from Rennes Rigging in 1976. The specialised machine-moving company they started, Rent-a-Rig, has just rolled on and on since then.

Rent-a-Rig is, in spite of its catchy name, not a business where one rents a vehicle. It hires out trucks with drivers for the specialist moving of cargoes. Much of this business is with big corporations. It operates a fleet of about 100 trucks to all parts of South and Southern Africa and has branches in Durban, Johannesburg and Port Elizabeth.

Rent-a-Rig started a self-perpetuating chain and other interests followed.

Sanders, a mechanical engineer, and Blair, a marketing specialist, have succeeded in getting their interests to overlap and complement each other — no mean feat in an environment where businessmen compete ungivingly.

They have carefully separated their business and homes lives. It's all business when they're at their industrial park premises in Epping.

"We have a board meeting every day," said Blair, whose office is directly adjacent to Sanders', "so we can take decisions rapidly."

Business mushroomed from this.

Out of the machine-moving enterprise evolved the Forklift Hire operation (1983); a parts division (Sureparts in 1985), which sells original equipment parts for the heavy truck industry on a nation-wide basis and a materials handling enterprise (Surequip, also 1985).

Surequip's business is the sale of new forklifts, parts and tyres as well as the refurbishment of forklifts.

The company operates over 260 forklifts. It took over Paardeneiland-based Phoenix Forktrucks earlier this year to make it the largest forklift operator in the country. It has the dealerships for top-of-the-range German, Mitsubishi and NYK forklifts. Philosophies

Sureparts has also seen major growth. It now operates in major centres around the country. Last year it acquired the Foden and Kenworth truck dealerships. These trucks, neither of which have been marketed widely in South Africa, are being assembled in Epping.

The first four units were sold ahead of completion. About 20 of the panstecimens will be produced this year.

The spreading out of the company was not the result of a corporate policy or objective, but followed gradually in a natural process as Blair and Sanders negated the venture by venture.

The company has been built on solid foundations. Sanders and Blair are men with basic philosophies which they have stuck to.

"We've built our business up around people," said Sanders.

Suregro now employs about 200 people, many of whom have been with the company since its inception.

"Participation in profits is meaningful to our employees," said Blair.

"Incentive is very important to Blair and Sanders. All the employees work for a bonus and the directors feel that this incentive puts pleasure in the work. It may be that Suregro has not followed business norms, but Sanders and Blair's 'hands-on' style of management speaks for itself.

A profit participation scheme is followed among Suregro's white-collar staff.

"We speak to all the people who are employed here. We've got good people," added Sanders simply.
In a letter to the Editor of the local newspaper, the President of the Shop-Vaners Protest declared his support for the boycott of the local supermarket chain due to their alleged refusal to stock local products. The President expressed his concern over the impact of this decision on the local economy and the job security of his employees.

"We cannot afford to stand idly by while our local businesses suffer," the President said. "Our customers have shown us their support through their purchases, and we have a responsibility to reciprocate that support in return."

The President also noted that the supermarket chain had recently increased its prices, which he believed was a sign of bad faith. "Their actions speak louder than their words," he said. "We are not going to just sit by and watch our hard-earned livelihoods erode away."

The President called on other local businesses to join the boycott and urged the local community to support the protest. "Together, we can make a difference," he said. "Let's stand together and demand fair treatment."
AVIS in front rank

AVIS Car Leasing plans to deliver 6,000 cars this year worth R1.6-billion, confirming its position as 'market leader' in the full-maintenance leasing market.

AVIS Leasing's emergence as a top seller has been caused by its ability to specialise in fleet management. It says it provides a total service to fleet operators and professional

"This includes the acquisition of vehicles, providing finance, managing maintenance, resolving technical problems and disposal of the vehicle at the end of the contract," says general manager Greville Wilson.

"Our clients are not exposed to the risks of guaranteed buy-backs, unexpected repair bills and of negotiating with various parties to acquire and manage a fleet."

AVIS charges its clients a monthly rental which can be fixed or adjusted to suit the client's needs.
Women set up business alongside muti traders

By Sally Salse

For anyone looking for colourful yet reasonably priced pillows in Johannesburg, the “Mai Mai” market is the place to go.

A group of women have set up business outside the popular market, alongside muti traders and cabinet makers.

The market, which is between Durban and Anderson streets, just under the M2 East in Johannesburg, is named after a brand of sorghum beer which continues to be brewed despite the authorities’ disapproval.

The women would not give their names.

Licences:

“Previously we were often harassed by the police, they confiscate our cushions and often take one of us with them. We pay a R10 fine, but our goods are never returned,” a spokesman for the Johannesburg Traffic and Security Department, Mr Eric Hill, said. “We don’t conduct affairs as such; we generally respond to complaints. The women were arrested because they did not have licences. Their goods are confiscated and on the payment of a fine, returned to them.”

The women said they had been trading at the Mai Mai market for many years and all they wanted to do was to trade legally.

Every day there are between 20 and 30 women making cushions.
Wharton-Hood claim ‘fatuous’

A claim by Liberty Life's managing director, Dorian Wharton-Hood, on this page last week that public service campaigns are a waste of time has drawn vigorous reaction from David McKinstry, chief executive of Young & Rubicam in South Africa.

Mr Wharton-Hood says Mr McKinstry offers no substantiation for his fatuous statement, and I believe his remarks show a clear misunderstanding of how advertising works and what its role is in public service campaigns.

Of course advertising is merely one of the means of persuading people to change attitudes and any cause is better served if it is supported in a cohesive way by other channels of persuasion like PR and promotion, and personal selling.

But to dismiss advertising's role in communications mix as 'a waste' is just nonsense.

The objective of most public service campaigns is to get people to buy an idea, says Mr McKinstry, and the change in attitudes is difficult to measure, but nonetheless it is possible to do so.

In South Africa, there is no question that advertising has played its part in moulding public opinion for causes such as SANTA, Child Welfare, Family Planning and of course the Literacy Campaign run by the Ad Council.

"In the latter campaign, we know that after six months in a representative sample of white urban adults, 90 percent held the view that illiteracy was a major problem in South Africa and more significantly almost 90 percent believed that it was the task of all South Africans to contribute to its solution. The results that were due, almost entirely to the power of advertising."

Some public service campaigns may work better than others and some might not work at all, but that's true of commercials as well.

"The weight of evidence in South Africa and, indeed, around the world is that advertising has a crucial and positive role to play in public service issues."
Mrs. HEARTIE Moyo, a pioneer of black hawking who died in 1986, was remembered at a moving commemoration service held at the Central Methodist Church in Johannesburg on Saturday.

Speakers at the service, organised by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), included Mr. Lawrence Mavunda, Achib's president, Mr. Khulu Sibiya, editor of City Press and Mrs. Beauty Nkosi, chairperson of the United Women for Informal Traders.

Mrs. Moyo, who was known as Granny Moyo, started hawking outside the Johannesburg railway station in 1977. She died about two years ago, after sustaining injuries in a police raid.

Speakers said Mrs. Moyo was a "tigress" whose wish was that hawkers should not have to stay on the streets forever. They said her wish was gradually becoming true.

Mrs. Nkosi, who worked with Mrs. Moyo,

By SY MAKARINGE

for many years, said she vividly remembered her as a very kind, but courageous woman who devoted her whole life in fighting for the rights of the black hawker.

**Harassed**

She said although Mrs. Moyo was continually harassed and arrested by traffic officers, she did not give up.

"Granny Moyo worked as a hawker to support her family. But in the eyes of the authorities, she was breaking the law. She was a tigress," she said.

Mr. Sibiya urged the hawkers to continue from where Mrs. Moyo left off. He said they should start ignoring "inappropriate" laws.
Contravis is travelling comfortably

Newly listed Columbia subsidiary, Concorde Travel Holdings (Contra-
vay) has posted impressive results for the financial period to
end March 1998.

The group reported a 137 per-
cent increase in attri-
able earnings to R1.84 million in 1998.
This figure was also 28.9
percent ahead of Contra-
vay's forecast according to its
prospective published in
October 1997.

Earnings per share also
displayed a significant im-
provement, increasing by
85 percent to 8.4c.

According to Chief Ex-
ecutive Allan Laine, "Con-
vay's successful amalga-
mation of Pelours, Colum-
bia Travel and Concorde-
Travel resulted in syner-
gistic benefits for the
merged entity."

The Group has cash re-
sources of some R5.9 mil-
lion and a liquidity ratio of
1.95:1. Contra
vay has de-
clared a dividend of 2c for
the nine months to March
31.

Contravis is presently
trading at 43c per share,
which translates to an his-
toric P/E ratio of only 5.4
times compared to the
present sector average of
13.8 times.
### AA stages financial fightback to break even

**Staff Reporter**

In less than two years since the collapse of AA Mutual insurance company, the Automobile Association has virtually broken even and has considerably strengthened its balance sheet, the AA announced yesterday.

Director-general Mr Peter Elliot said the AA had achieved a R2,8 million swing in its operating division.

"We sold all our listed securities just three weeks before the October 1987 JSE crash. The result was an extraordinary surplus of R7,7 million." 

"But the main feature of our recovery is the improvement from an operating loss of R3,065,000 in 1986 to a negligible R180,000 last year and a bottom line swing of R18,500,000 — a surplus of R8,443,593 compared with a deficit of R10,172,131 in 1986."

A decline in membership was stopped by the end of 1987 and revenue had risen to R23,59 million.

### Meyerton's rates up by 17 percent

**Vereeniging Bureau**

Meyerton Town Council approved an increase of about 17 percent in assessment rates for the coming financial year at its annual budget meeting last night.

Presenting a record budget of slightly more than R24,5 million, management committee chairman Mr Danie MacLean said the total increase in assessment rates included an average rise of 7 percent for basic levies, sewerage and refuse removal.
Rental ban threatens car sales

A MAJOR blow for the motor industry has been delivered by the Government's proposed ban on the sale of cars through private rental agreements.

The ban could cut car sales by 5% this year. Forecast sales are between 225 000 and 230 000.

The motor and dealer industries are expected to ask the Government to reconsider its action.

The sharp improvement in vehicle sales since the beginning of June last year was largely due to the introduction by dealers of this form of sale which requires no deposit.

Example

But on May 9, Finance Minister Bar- end du Plessis asked financial institutions to stop offering these deals and indicated that rental schemes would be prohibited under the Usury Act. As a result, no financial institution now offers private rental schemes.

Rental schemes for companies, however, are still valid.

The rental scheme scenario has tempted institutions to introduce closely related purchase deals.

A common example is a deal in which the motorist negotiates a buy-

back price with the institution and pays off capital only on the difference between the purchase price and the buy-back value.

The buyer of a luxury car costing R100 000 and with a negotiated buy-back of R70 000 after three years would have to pay back R30 000 of the capital amount.

The motorist, however, has to pay interest on the full amount. By reducing the capital amount to be repaid, monthly instalments are much lower than normal.

Private rental schemes have become popular with "wheels banks".

Three financial institutions say private rental business has grown to about 15% of annual turnover.

Any move by the motor industry to challenge the Government's decision will be supported by the banks.

Banks and the motor industry say the move is an indication of the Government's economic panic.

Johan Smuts, general manager of Santam Bank, says about 20% of his institution's activities are private rental.

"There is a need for this type of finance deal, especially in the case of people who are given a car allowance," he says.

Webank says between 10% and 15% of its book is in private rentals.

A spokesman for another large financial institution says the scheme bypassed minimum deposit rates and took the place of instalment credit and finance lease sales. Business was excellent until it was stopped.

Motor manufacturers say that the Government's decision could cut sales by at least 5%.

Shortages

They see the banning of private rentals leading to an increase in used-car sales.

A spokesman for a manufacturer says the industry has lost another "marketing tool" in private rental which, together with the increase in deposits and other action taken by the Government to reduce credit spending, could hit new-car sales.

Others, however, say the current stock shortages experienced by all manufacturers could be alleviated.

Toni Swart, joint managing director, of the McCarthy Group, who were one of the prime movers in introducing rental schemes for individuals, is disillusioned that the Government has taken this step, although he understands its problems.

To Page 3

Rental ban

From Page 1

"Because of the decline in disposable income for the past few years, many individuals have been unable to save enough for a deposit, but are still creditworthy."

"In granting these loans, the banks were not being irresponsible -- it was not income discrimination credit."

Prohibitive

The cost of maintaining existing cars is becoming prohibitive and replacement buying is increasing. This, says Mr Swart, was one of the main reasons for the increase in cars sales to more than 200 000 last year from 174 000 in 1986.

He believes the withdrawal of private rentals will reduce car sales by about 5% this year.

The industry has been hit by the increase in minimum deposits and the decision to charge GST up front in lease deals. These factors alone could reduce sales by a few more percentage points.

Five years ago, private car purchases made up 60% of all new-car sales. The figure fell to 39% between 1985 and 1986. Last year, private purchases rose to about 76% of sales, largely because of private rentals.

Mr Swart says that once the effects of the Government's move are known, the industry through the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of SA and the National Automobile Dealers Association will probably approach the authorities to reconsider the ban on private rentals.
Motorvia takes different road to listing

By Magnus Heysteek, Finance Editor

Motorvia Limited, the holding company of Motorvia, Budget Rent-A-Car and Budget Auto Lease, is to be listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange on June 15 by way of a private placement.

But, contrary to the route it might have followed before the Great Crash of 1987, it has decided to issue 3.25 million, 13 percent unsecured, subordinated convertible debentures at 180c per debenture.

These debentures must be converted into ordinary shares, no later than December 31 1989, or when the total dividend on the ordinary shares exceeds the interest payments.

At the same time, Finbasbank is offering, also by way of private placement, 750 000 shares in Motorvia to selected clients and institutions at 180c a share. Finbasbank is underwriting the convertible debenture offer.

After the listing, 21.75 million shares will be in issued, with company directors holding 15 percent of the issued share capital.

"This route," says Mr Pienkes du Plessis, chairman of Motorvia, "is in many ways preferable to listing in a bull market. Financial institutions often prefer debentures to ordinary shares because they offer sound, long-term growth prospects." He was speaking at a presentation of the company to analysts and stockbrokers earlier this week.

Motorvia's primary interests are in the transport industry and in the motor rental and leasing financing businesses. It also holds 14 percent of listed Presto, a leading containerised transporter.

Motorvia started up as a transporter of new vehicles between manufacturer and retailer more than 20 years ago and today dominates this market. Motorvia transports about 70 percent of all new vehicles between manufacturer and retailer in Southern Africa, using sophisticated computer systems. Major clients include SA's foremost vehicle manufacturers Toyota, Samcor and Volkswagen. Transport is done by road (more than 1,000 drivers are at any given time on the road), by rail and by sea.

Motorvia is also the holding company of Budget Rent-A-Car. Motorvia first became involved in the "then loss-making" Budget Rent-A-Car in 1984 when it acquired a stake of 50 percent, later increasing this stake to 100 percent. Budget Rent-A-Car has since turned around to profitability and is currently the fastest-growing of rental agency in SA, with roughly 20 percent of the market.

Latest offspring of Motorvia is Budget Autolease, a full-service, long-term leasing business, which complements the short-term leasing activities of Budget Rent-A-Car. Maintenance leasing is set to become a major factor in the vehicle financing business and Budget Autolease has already established itself as a prominent player in this market, according to Mr du Plessis.

Motorvia's profit history reflects a steady, not impressive growth in revenue and earnings.

Turnover rose from R26.3 million in the year to December 31 1983 to R28.7 million, last year. Attributable income dropped from R1.95 million in the 1983 financial year to R1.2 million next year, but grew to R5.6 million in 1985, R5.5 million in 1986 and R5.3 million last year. Foreseeable earnings for the current financial year are R3.5 million.

The drop in earnings of 1984 coincided with recessionary conditions in the motor industry.

The balance sheet reflected long-term, interest-bearing debt of R94 million at the end of 1987, which will be more than redeemed by the R106 million raised by the listing, leaving Motorvia totally ungeared, with the exception of the debt in the debentures.

At the issue price of 180c a share, Motorvia has been pitched at a historic P/E yield of 7. The earnings forecast for the current financial year of 33c a share reduces the forward P/E to 6.8.

The sponsoring brokers are Seneak, Mountford, Keisoff, in collaboration with Fergusson Bros, Half Steward and Co.
State may act on small business restrictions

A group of 34 big players in the small business world have put forward an innovative proposal to the Government for a Small Business Proposal Act.

Called the Southside Business Group, the members include Standard National Bank, Absa, Safecorp and Shell SA, Anglo American and the Urban Foundation.

They have had a response from the Government and a steering committee of the group met recently to discuss the proposal.

One of the important items in the proposal is the creation of the post of a small business commissioner, to promote small business.

The proposal states: “The office should have the right to identify restrictive legislation and be able to ask the Government and local authorities to show why small enterprises should not be exempt from them.”

The commissioner and his assistants ought to be given the right to hold public hearings at which existing and proposed laws are reviewed for their adverse effect on small enterprises.”

Laws

The proposed act also includes a definition of small enterprise as one which employs no more than 20 people, has an annual turnover not exceeding R250,000 and employs’ capital not exceeding R100,000.

Another major point put forward is the reviewing of all existing legislation over a three-year period, whereby each department involved reduces unnecessary or restrictive laws.

Job creation manager Ian Hetherington is a member of the group, and says the proposal came out of a number of factors — the high unemployment rate, the excessive regulation of business and the inadequacy of current reforms.

“Unemployment is at crisis level, which is both a cause and a consequence of low economic growth. Ne-
Ware to be seen

Hawkers want to use their growing numbers and selling muscle to win discounts from big business.

The African Council for Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) is inviting manufacturers and distributors to become associate members of the 14 000-strong organisation.

For a R10 000 membership fee, says Achib, they can have access to this fast-growing informal sector.

"By getting in on the ground floor, big business will ensure they can join in our growing success," says spokeswoman Vicky Sussen.

Future plans include computerising members and stock requirements, so corporate members can pitch their sales accordingly.

While there is no scientific way to assess the size of SA's informal small business sector, Cape Town University economist Brian Kantor puts it at 15%-40% of GDP. Small Business Development Corporation MD Ben Vosloo says roughly 50% of all businesses in SA may be unrecorded.

Annual hawking sales in SA are estimated at R1,6bn. So it is understandable that Achib should want to use this financial clout to attract big business's co-operation.

The association has already won concessions. Through discussions with local and provincial government officials on issues like restrictive trading constraints and licensing requirements, Achib says the Johannesburg municipality has liberalised its policy and more hawkers can operate legally and freely.

The co-operation of several black local councils has also been obtained.

"Black buying power is increasing space. Our aim is to assist more and more of our members to move up the ladder of corporate success," says Sussen.

As an example of innovative thinking, Achib has proposed that financial institutions utilise the "group pressure" system in ensuring repayment of loans, where normal security or collateral is insufficient. Should one member of a business group renege on repayment, the whole group will be called and told that nobody will obtain any further finance unless the member "coughs up."

"This is a simple method of ensuring repayment, but is often scoffed at in formal business circles. All informal groups are well-organised," says Sussen.

Achib is still mainly limited to the PWV area, but plans to extend its services and operations. Marketing executive Duncan Mehlomakulu says the new initiative is intended to help put Achib on the map.

Associate members will be asked to provide 30 days' credit — and socio-economic assistance to underprivileged communities.

"We see this as a reasonable request. We offer them easy entry into an area that is unknown to most formal businesses. Other benefits are that most deals are done in cash, while loan facilities are repaid within days, based on the cash nature of the business," he says.

"We aim to educate formal businesses about the buying and selling habits of the informal sector. This hidden sector of the economy must be made more visible."

FINANCIAL MAIL, JUNE 17 1996
Decline foreseen in car rentals boom

BUSINESS
Kings and Wilsons to merge

Finance State

Kings Parking and Wilsons Parking are to merge tomorrow.

While the Kings and Wilson names will be retained for trading purposes, a new holding company known as Interpark (Pty) Limited has been established.

Fedecale Volksbeleggings, which owned 80 percent of Kings, will have a 45 percent interest in Interpark, while Sage Property Holdings and Wilson Australia, which jointly own Wilson, will each have a 27.5 percent interest.

Peet van der Walt, an executive director of Fedecale Volksbeleggings, will be the chairman of Interpark. Alan Calenborne, formerly development director of Kings, has been appointed managing director and Larry Schneider, formerly general manager of Wilson, will be the deputy managing director.

Interpark will control 110 car parks with more than 40,000 parking bays in major centres and at airports throughout South Africa. It will also operate the toll roads at Tsitsikamma in the Cape, Marienhjill in Natal and Kraanskop in the Transvaal.

The Competition Board has advised that, with the information at its disposal, it is not aware of any circumstances which do not justify the proposed merger in the public interest.
Coming out of the closet

Prostitutes are often scorned — even by the men who make use of them. Their views are rarely heard. But a university-educated leader of Rio’s prostitutes — herself a former street walker — is changing all that. ANTHONY SWIFT talks to a woman who is holding up an embarrassing mirror to society.

GABRIELA SILVA LEITE

DE JANEIRO.

pointing the possibility that has the effect of prostitution as an unlikely activity for a number of reasons — particularly the younger generation. Where the oldest women are usually 50 to 60 years old and the majority of them are single, the younger women are more likely to be married and have children. They are also more likely to have a higher education and better job opportunities.

We are not here to see it but we believe we can fight for such a woman.” says Gabriela Silva Leite, 33, former streetwalker and a key figure in the Brazilian movement to control prostitution.

The key problem is how to control and hold it up as a mirror to society. The answer, she says, is education. "Women, be you virtuous or not, you must be "

Prostitution is society’s problem. It can be understood only in the wider context of society’s morals and ways in which people can relate. In macho societies, women are divided into two camps — the wives and mothers of their men and the prostitutes or lovers.

Hypocrisy

are equally divided: “We can’t live in the stable and the same a man if he has many other men. So prostitution is one of the things that support his concept of a patient to be a woman while walking the streets. It enabled me to see the contradictions any woman in our society is subjected to — and any man.

I worked in a poor zone — was already too old for alternatives — and talked a lot to my customers. Many were minimum wage-earners from the north-east who had left their wives and children to find work on the construction sites in the city. They hoped one day to bring their families to live with them, but few ever managed.

She believes in the possibility of a less hypocritical form of family than the one seen now and a more open relationship between men and women, one where they can really be companions and each one’s sexuality be seen as a normal thing.

"Meanwhile we must organise as professionals so that tomorrow they don’t gather all the prostitutes up and put them in factories without asking that is what they want.

"I was horrified by police treatment of prostitutes, the attitudes of housewives, the lack of everything — health or hospital provision, welfare assistance of any kind."

She campaigned against a policeman who was beating up prostitutes, and after his transfer, the campaigners set up a small permanent office. Her campaigning activities broadened and she is now co-ordinator of a programme on "Prostitution and Self-Respect" for the Institute for Religious Studies.

The prostitutes in Rio de Janeiro have been able to respond quickly to the AIDS issue, avoiding the use of condoms.

In the Mangue, Brazil’s oldest “red light” district, they have mobilised opinion to defeat threats to bulldoze the houses they work from by a charismatic church wanting to set up a television station there.

They have collaborated in the establishment of a school for the children of prostitutes, which they hope will be duplicated in other states. Also in Rio, the prostitutes have largely rid themselves of pimps and “madames”, though parasitic police remain a problem.

Organisation has stimulated camaraderie. Experienced prostiutes who previously might have fought newcomers are now more likely to warn them against the dangers of disease, drugs, police or involvement with pimps.

A woman who can avoid becoming embroiled with a pimp or the police and stay away from drugs can have a reasonable life — a house, a car — and can save some money. Otherwise there is no social support available to her.

Prostitution is sometimes recognised as a working class evil that has no rights to social welfare, state pension, health allowance or unemployment pay.

"Conservatives see us as a necessary evil; we must exist to preserve The Family. But the woman who works in this necessary evil is seen as lazy and sexually disturbed, someone to be kept in ghettos and controlled by the police.

The Left’s idea is that prostitution is the result of savage capitalism and the day they win their revolution they will put all of us women to work in the factories to help the country grow. I do not believe prostitution will end with the socialist revolution because that revolution does not solve the question of the relationship between men and women.

The churches also have an abolitionist view. But they can’t supply alternative employment for all women they would take out of prostitution to lead a normal life."

She points out that society does not accept them as human beings with wishes of their own.

"When they see prostitutes organising to claim the rights of citizenship, both left and right think it is absurd. Neither left nor right can finish prostitution only when the prostitutes themselves can show their faces in public."

Great deal

She considers it possible for a prostitute to be "happy and successfully raise her children. There is a great deal of warmth within a prostitution lifestyle, says the Left, and the great problem is the way society treats prostitutes and their children.

"When I went into prostitution I had a lot of middle-class prejudices. But I think I learned how to be a woman while walking the streets. It enabled me to see the contradictions any woman in our society is subjected to — and any man.

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"Meanwhile we must organise as professionals so that tomorrow they don’t gather all the prostitutes up and put them in factories without asking if that is what they want."
WITH the official economy seemingly heading towards a period of slower growth, it seems the unofficial or informal sector of the economy will have to be the main creator of employment opportunities.

I use the word "official" on purpose as even the Government has now recognised the existence of a huge and rapidly growing "unofficial or informal economy".

Some economists are of the opinion that this informal economy constitutes anything between 10 and 30 percent of the Gross Domestic Product.

The informal sector is made up of any business-related activity which ranges from the casual gardener you employ to the proliferation of hawkers and taxis on our roads.

After decades of trying to regulate the economy, the authorities seem to have realised this is an impossible task.

But for a couple of hundred rands an enterprising person can set up a shoe-cleaning operation which can earn him and his family a living.

Although difficult to measure, economists use several indicators to keep track of the informal economy ranging from wholesale trade figures and the growth in the money supply to sales of beer and matches.

Using these figures it is calculated that the informal economy in the last two years grew at annualised rates of around 10 percent as opposed to only 3 percent in the formal economy.

Growth in this sector of the economy is also less import-intensive, which means less pressure on the current account of the balance of payments.

It's another reason why the Government is urged to speed up its programmes for deregulation and privatisation.

An example of what can be achieved by the informal economy is the phenomenal growth in the black taxi business.

(However, it's ironic that the SA Black Taxi Association (SABTA) is now calling on government to regulate the industry to guard against "outsiders" entering the industry.)

With greater freedom on the movement of capital and labour in the black communities I won't be surprised to see the emergence of a black Sanlam in the next decade or two.

Sanlam was started with the combined savings of Afrikaners 70 years ago and is today one of the largest financial-industrial groups in South Africa. Don't be surprised if something similar is happening in the black community.
By SOPHIE TEMA
THE African Council of
Hawkers and Informal
Business has appealed to
companies to sponsor
about five unemployed
people every month at a
cost of R800 a group to
become hawkers.

The move is part of the
organisation's Unemploy-
ment Creation Project, est-
ablished last year to assist
jobless people.

Achib has written to 21
companies asking for spon-
sorship. According to
Achib president Lawrence
Mavundla the organisation
had over 600 applications
from people who wanted to
become mem-
bers but who do not have
the finance to start up.

"It costs R135 to set up
a hawker - R100 for stock
and R35 for licensing and
the organisation's joining
fee," he said. Achib will
charge an additional R125
a month to cover adminis-
tration costs.

Mavundla said Achib
had set up more than 1000
hawkers last year. Because
of mounting unemploy-
ment, the organisation de-
cided to go on a campaign
to interest more companies
to become involved.

"The problem of unem-
ployment affects the whole
of South Africa and there-
fore an appeal is being
made to companies to
come forward and help.

The project will boost the
organisation's marketing
arm by providing an outlet
for people who want to
launch new products onto
the market. Their products
will be stocked and pro-
moted by the sponsored
hawkers."
informal sector

New bill helps

The conversion of certain leasehold rights to the leasehold Bill currently before Parliament will have a significant impact on the informal sector development in South Africa. Under the current regulations, activities such as those conducted in theBLACK Areas (Urban Consolidation Areas) in terms of the repealed Black Areas (Urban Consolidation Areas) Act, 1944 (Act 49 of 1944), would be the subject of a new Bill that severely restricts development in black areas. Businesses, such as those providing for the free use of property, would be restricted from being used for business purposes. Thousands of businesses currently defined as "defined businesses" and "defined uses" by the regulations would be severely impacted. The bill would also prohibit the use of residential and commercial areas for commercial purposes, which may have a significant impact on the economic activities in these areas. The bill is expected to be debated in Parliament soon.
Agencies spring to
fill strikers' jobs

Own Correspondent
JOHANNESBURG. — About 30 companies have sprung up in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereening area in recent months specializing in supplying non-union strike-breaking labour.

A second new management strategy to counter labour unrest is the growing trend of race substitution: The substitution of non-black for black employees, an industry spokesman say.

PE Corporate Services director Mr Rob Daniel said a recent survey had shown that about 20% of employers in both the engineering and food sectors were either considering or actually implementing a policy of race substitution.

He said managements opting for this approach believed coloured people, Indians and whites were less susceptible, if at all, to newly-politically motivated disruptions to production.

Assocom spokesman Mr Vincent Brett said partial race substitution was a viable preventive measure against industrial unrest, and he confirmed it was being considered by some employers.

He said any subsequent rise in black unemployment levels was something unions should be addressing, and they should have considered the possibility of black job replacement before advocating strike action.

Partial substitution was feasible given that a substantial number of whites were unemployed, and there had been a narrowing in wage differentials over the past few years, Mr Brett said.

Labour Unlimited MD Mr Pat O'Sullivan said that during the two weeks covering the June stayaways she provided labour to 60 companies and received inquiries from at least another 70 organizations.

She said 900 workers were signed out by her company alone during the June 6-8 stayaway, and estimated that at least another 30 companies in the PWV area were doing as well as hers.

She added that the new climate among employers was likely to effect a 300% growth in her business in the next year.

Three other labour contractors reported substantial increases in inquiries for non-unionized or white labour since the beginning of the year.

Nactu assistant general secretary Mr Pandelani Nefolovhodwe protested bitterly against these trends. He said management was using the stayaways as an excuse to get rid of black labour in a climate of structural unemployment.

Union federations would fight every such effort made by employers.

He said some Indians and coloured people may be co-opted into filling vacancies left by blacks, but it was impossible to replace the black workforce.

One metal industry employer, JH Roberts MD Mr Morris Curtis, warned against the use of the temporary substitute labour option.

He said he had used this option during last year's metal industry strike and it had long-lasting negative effects on management-worker relations.

And Institute for Industrial Relations director Mr Mike Miles said race substitution was not a long-term solution as many causes of industrial unrest would apply to substitute workers of other races in the future.
The hawkers call and Gillette answers

HAWKERS have called on the private sector to fund an Employment Creation Project — and at least one company has responded.

Nomza Mokae of Achib — the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business — said so far the scheme has created over 900 jobs. But "the problem is not only licences, but also capital," she said.

The scheme was mooted last year in the wake of a high unemployment rate in the country. "Unemployed people come to our offices for help and we don't have money to fund them; that's why we are calling on companies to help us in this regard," she said.

Participants in the project would sponsor a group of five prospective hawkers by paying each R135 a month to cover the cost of fees and stock.

She said the project would also be used to provide an outlet for people who wanted to launch new products on the market. However Achib required those companies to give discounts to the hawkers as well as contribute to the association's deregulation drive.

Mokae said Achib has written letters to 21 companies asking them to sponsor the scheme, and to the Gillette SA.

By Mzimkulu Malungu

Limited had promised to sponsor people in the East Rand.

Gillette managing director, John Ford, told Weekly Mail the company was "fitting in the scheme which Achib has put together to give employment to people as hawkers if the project went well "we will expand the operation".

Meanwhile, Laurence Mavundla, Achib president, said this week letters had been sent to 40 companies asking them to become part of a "hawkers' deregulation drive".

In the letter the organisation indicated some municipal by-laws which governed the hawkers' trading practices have been changed in eight city councils on the East and West Rand and in Johannesburg.

These included:

- The reduction of the distance the hawker had to maintain from a general dealer from 400 metres to 100 metres.
- The lengthening of the time hawkers could stay in one spot in a restricted area — from 20 minutes to two hours — and the demarcation of areas for hawkers.
- The abolition of the requirement that hawkers had to place an advert in both English and Afrikaans newspapers stating their intention to hawk.

Achib said in places where the deregulation drive had been successful, "hawkers are trebling their incomes and moving up the scale to tuck-shop ownership. We also had several applications for formal shop ownership." With these the employment of the private sector was going to benefit and the economy of the country could also be bolstered.

Achib said it had so far managed to licence 60 hawkers in Johannesburg, 3'000 in Tembisa, over 1'000 in the Vaal, 30 in Vosloorus, and 300 in the western Transvaal town of Carletonville.

Addressing the Institute of Directors luncheon at the Braamfontein Hotel, Mavundla listed problems faced by unlicensed hawkers as follows:

- They did not have access to finance or to major wholesalers;
- They were victims of harassment by police.

He said the hawkers' combined buying power was R1-billion annually and with the help of the private sector "they would be able to compete".

"They are tomorrow's banking cli-

Hawkers call, Gillette answers

ents," Mavundla said, "insurance customers, house owners, car owners, shopkeepers. As their income rises, they become greater consumers of more sophisticated goods."

Acting chief licence officer of the Johannesburg City Council, Kathy Fillmutter, told WM the council is "firmly committed to the principle of deregulation and the promotion of small business". She said the city council was considering the existing

From PAGE 16

legislation and a proposal had been made to the Transvaal Municipal Association, which serves as a bridge between local and provincial authorities, to streamline the licence renewal procedure.

"The council has co-operated very closely with the out on the A7 and it remains prepared to co-

egrate," she said.
Silly laws make us criminals — hawker’s leader

Staff Reporter

The Government was wasting money and stifling the growth of the informal sector by criminalising hawkers with “silly laws”, says Mr. Lawrence Mavundla, President of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business.

Addressing about 100 delegates to the National Student Federation’s annual congress in Stellenbosch yesterday, Mr. Mavundla, a former cosmetics and jewellery hawker, called on local authorities to scrap all “hawker squads”.

“A lot of State money is being wasted on policing hawkers. Local authorities employ people whose duty it is to go around raiding hawkers, destroying their goods and giving them R100 fines.

“For instance, in Johannesburg there are now about 350 people employed to help destroy existing informal businesses.”

MARKET FORCES

He urged the Government to remove “unnecessary barriers” such as a requirement of having to sell wares more than 400m away from formal-sector retailers and allowing market forces to dictate where consumers bought their goods.

“The Government can’t offer employment. These people (hawkers) are employing themselves,” he said.

Mr. Mavundla also criticised black urban councils for “protecting the vested interests of their own members”.

“Many black councillors get on to councils not because they want to serve the community but because they want to implement laws restricting competition to themselves.”
Vaal hawkers form their own association

By KLAAS MOTLOUNG

HAWKERS in the Vaal Triangle have formed an organisation to protect themselves against alleged police harassment.

The organisation — the Vaal Hawkers' and Informal Business Association — was formed after attempts to get licenses from the Lekos City Council had failed.

The vendors claim local police arrest them and at times confisicate their goods. This has resulted in the hawkers deciding to band together for their protection, they said.

They added when they applied for licenses to the council they were only granted selling permits. On many occasions they were simply turned down, they said.

Those granted permits complained they were only allowed to sell seasonal products such as maize and had to renew their permits every three months. Each permit cost R45.

Jonas Nthengela, executive member of the new hawker body, said it was formed for all hawkers, unemployed and disabled people, widows and orphans so that they too could "do something for themselves". He said hawkers were the "life-blood" of the South African economy. They "boosted" the economy of the country, he said.

The association has already issued identity cards to its 800 members while waiting for their licenses and the allocation of sites where they can sell their goods.
Desegregation fails to attract black business

By Kaizer Nyatsuma

The opening of central business districts (CBD) to all races over a year-and-a-half ago on the Witwatersrand has not resulted in any dramatic change in the number of non-whites owning businesses in cities and towns, a survey conducted by The Star has revealed.

In Randburg, no applications have been received from blacks, Indians or coloureds since the CBD there was declared open to all races, a spokesman for Randburg Town Council said. The spokesman said 32 hawkers’ licences had been granted to non-whites in the past year.

Germiston had received about 30 applications, "mostly from Indians", and almost all of them had been granted, a spokesman said.

Kempton Park had received only seven applications for trading in the CBD area and all had been granted, according to a spokesman for the Kempton Park trade licensing office.

In Randfontein and Krugersdorp on the West Rand, and in Alberton, Nigel and Brakpan on the East Rand, the CBD areas were not yet open to all races, spokesmen told The Star. The Boksburg chief trade licensing officer said as far as she knew the CBD was not open to all races.

A spokesman for the Benoni trade licensing office could not say how many applications his office had received from non-whites "because we do not have a separate list for blacks; we keep all applications and files together and the names are only listed alphabetically".

FEW BLACKS

Mr O Eksteen, Roodepoort chief trade licensing officer, said while the Roodepoort CBD was open to all races, there were "very few blacks, if any at all, trading there because the only way they can come in is when a certain business closes down".

Indian traders, however, were well represented because one side of Roodepoort had been open to Indian traders for years, Mr Eksteen said.

Although the Springs CBD area has now been open to all races for over a year, there were still no black traders in the town, a spokesman for the Springs trade licensing office said.

This, the spokesman said, was because there had to be premises available for new businesses for applications to be approved.

No applications from non-whites had been received by his office, the spokesman said.

In Johannesburg there were about 9,600 licensed street vendors, the majority of whom were non-whites, according to Johannesburg acting chief licensing officer, Mrs Cathy Filmalter.

Mrs Filmalter said it was not possible to say how many black traders there were in Johannesburg, because "we do not distinguish between blacks and whites anymore".

The Johannesburg CBD was opened to all races in February 1986 for trade, industry, professions, entertainment, educational and religious activities.

Mr Nigel Mandy, chairman of the Central Business District Association (CBD), said there were many non-whites trading in Johannesburg, but there were "no statistics kept since race is no longer a factor".
Lecture on rise of hawkers

Hawkers or street traders are an integral part of the informal sector of any thriving city. In Johannesburg, they offer any kind of product and service from selling firewood and car hubcaps to shining shoes.

Under the presidency of Mr. Lawrence Mavundla, the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (ACHIB) was formed two years ago with the primary objective of combating harassment of hawkers. Mr. Mavundla will address a public meeting on the "The Rise of the Hawker," outlining the origin and plans of this fast-growing organisation, on July 26 at the Robinhall Jones Memorial Hall, Auden House, 68 De Korte Street, Braamfontein, at 6 pm.

Anyone interested can contact Miss. K. Myabaza at (011)403-8800, extension 245.
The Soweto Funeral Undertakers Association and the Soweto City Council's Parks Department, responsible for the allocation of graves in Soweto, this week agreed to cooperate in a major crackdown against illegal undertakers.

The agreement was reached during an open, informal meeting between the head of the Parks Department, Mr. Gerald Watson, his senior officer Mr. Gibson Lebudi, and executive members of the SFUA led by chairman Mr. Kenny Sihlali and treasurer, Mr. M. A. Lekoume.

Despite the agreement, the SFUA executive expressed its dissatisfaction at the council's efforts to curb illegal undertakers.

They said the council's granting of licenses to applicants who had "no necessary facilities" required for undertaking was "encouraging illegal undertakers."

They also said some people operated as undertakers when they were only licensed to sell wreaths and other funeral items.

In response Mr. Lebudi said "the inspection of undertakers' facilities was the duty of the health department. His office was not involved in the issuing of undertakers' licences."
Plans for hawkers in tourism

DAVEYTON mayor Tom Boya has plans for hawkers to play a bigger role in the SA tourism industry.

Boya, United Municipalities of SA (Umsa) president and recently-elected World Conference of Mayors (WCM) Trust Committee chairman, said yesterday he was on a campaign to get hawkers to sell their wares and handicrafts directly to tourists.

"Let us take the example of countries like Taiwan, where tourists buy directly from hawkers. In SA tourists breeze in and out of the townships in a tourist bus without sharing any of their wealth. We want to see guides taking people to places where hawkers sell their wares."

The issue is also to be discussed at the Umsa meeting in Krugersdorp next month.

THEO RAWANA
EMPLOYING THE AIRWAVES

Radio Orion, the SABC's late night radio station, has joined forces with a personnel agency to provide an over-the-air employment service.

Presenter Robin Alexander broadcasts a list of available jobs between 12.30 am and 1.30 am, then invites listeners to phone in and apply.

"The beauty of the system is that we can reach all over the country and place, say, a draftsman in Mossina with an architect in Walvis Bay," says Alexander.

He says the idea was stirred by emotional requests from listeners for help in finding work. Now, with the help of Drake Personnel, the radio presenter offers to put work-seekers in touch with employers.

Drake's Alexander Zellers says the service has a one-in-three success rate, with an average of 150 callers looking for jobs each morning. For many of them, it is a last resort.

"We come across a lot of distressed people and people who don't have marketable skills," says Zellers. "They may also have physical and mental problems, so placing them can be a problem unless we have help from big companies."
Hawkers are being illegally arrested, says chief of body

By Inga Molteni

At least two hundred hawkers or street traders, offering a range of products and services to the public, were arrested in Johannesburg yesterday.

The president of the 14,000-member African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib), Mr Lawrence Mavundla, said these were entrepreneurs, self-employed people who were “trying to eke out an honest living in the face of massive unemployment”.

“Where are we in South Africa going to stop being so short-sighted? The economic development of my people poses a healthy alternative to violence, for change in South Africa,” he told an audience at a SA Institute of Race Relations meeting last night.

Many hawkers were illiterate and did not know when they had been improperly prosecuted until they approached Achib for help.

Last year, Achib negotiated the release of over R1 million worth of confiscated goods on members’ behalf. This money should rightfully have gone back into the economy, Mr Mavundla said.
Economics is the greatest reformer

I started the struggle in 1976 because I was not satisfied with the education I received, with the way our fathers have been treated. I was a child and I realised my parents were being exploited. That blacks were taught that whites were b_posion. That white women should be called "misuses." I said to myself in my life I will not call anyone boss or mistress.

We all had an understanding when we saw cars with company logos driving in the townships that they were promoting themselves in order to exploit us more. When I was a shop steward at East Driefontein mine, I made a lot of representations on behalf of workers. I was fired after organisation of a strike. The seeded the workers were not taken into accout.

Power

Disillusioned, I felt the only solution to change things would be to burn things down, to fight. Only in this way would we obtain power.

After being fired, I decided the best way of making a living without having a boss would be to sell products. To be a hawker.

It was then that I realised it is economics which will change the political situation in this country.

This is because when I am selling, I am not affected by exploitation. Selling brings one independence.

When you sell, the AWB comes to buy. The PPP comes to buy. And they talk to you, while they are buying.

Platform

This is the best way of meeting on an equal footing. When blacks and whites meet on a business platform, they each need something from the other. They have to talk. There can be no more powerful and yet more peaceful way of promoting mutual understanding and equality.

Blacks are beginning to understand this. The members of ANC who understand this. They realise this is the solution.

A hawker who is arrested one day will be back at the same spot the next day. He will pass money through the bars of the police van to ask his friend to buy more stock.

Hawkers have been harassed by local authorities, shop owners and police for more than 10 years. Yet they remain on the streets because it is a job that does not have exploitation. A job in which a man can feel independent. In which he can do business with whom he likes. And in which he can dictate the terms.

The rise of our hawkers is a good example of the power of economics in making people listen.

Today, major manufacturers are having hawker. They use them as a vehicle to distribute products in the black market.

Instability

However, the motivation is profit. It is not good enough. We have more problems of unemployment and over-regulation. It is a problem that affects everyone. Because it stifles the economy and becomes instability.

The private sector is by no means working towards change.

Daily, we read in the papers management directors of big corporations saying nice things. They talk about a lot of money that they are prepared to contribute towards the peace and stability of the country.

But, they don't put their money where their mouth is. They haven't lost credibility with the grass roots people. Grass roots people have stopped listening, stopped believing.

When they decide to spend money they don't ask the community what it wants. They think for the people. The result is projects that are not workable. Projects that will only end up being boycotted.

And they pump millions of rand into sports. I ask myself why will sports feed the hundreds of mouths that are hungry?

How do you companies justify reactions people, people who are illiterate and don't know about PRI, then spend money on sports for PR purposes?

I wonder and worry on a daily basis what big corporations think about unemployment. The Co-sata unemployment union puts the unemployment figure at 65 million.

Unemployment is going to bring about another 1976. People like myself, who hold the power for a peaceful solution, are getting discouraged.

I, too, am losing credibility with the grass roots people. This is because I am not getting support to create employment and to remove restrictions which prevent people from entering the mainstream economy.

I have approached more than 50 companies to support two important projects - a deregulation drive and employment creation scheme. Yet I have only received support from six of them. It doesn't make sense.

The same corporations which make nice statements in the press about the need to boost the economy and create employment. These are the same people who say no to me.

Converted

I have given myself twelve months to speak to these people. To urge them to put their money where their mouth is.

If there is no genuine response then I might have to believe again that fighting is the only way to solve this country's problems.

Yesterday a hawker walked into our offices. He was converted to hawking from crime. He had killed two people, stoned and stolen. He came to us because he is being harassed by police. Even though he has a licence.

What do you think this person is going to do when he loses faith in hawking?

Can I tell you what you should be doing to stop this. And can I be telling you this for the last time?

(1) Support projects that are for economic change in this country. Like our organisation.

(2) Support employment creation projects.

(3) Back the deregulation of unjust laws.

(4) Give us the skills that you have in order to make us viable.

(5) Stop thinking for us. Do not embark on any project to "help" us without asking us first what we need.

(6) Stop regarding investment in black business as charity. The stimulation of black business means money spent with you. It is a straight business investment.


(8) Stop sloganeering in the press and start working practically and non-confrontationally.
Black drivers put car rentals in higher gear.

BLACK motorists are giving the car rental business a big boost. Their swing to weekend specials has significantly bumped up booking for the first half of the year.

SA Vehicle Rental and Leasing Association president Tony Langley said last night that there was a massive black influx into the market for luxury cars and minibuses.

He added that hiring of weekend specials for leisure were up by 30% in the January-June period. Total improvement in that sector was 35%.

Langley said rental days had also increased by 38.4% to 1.6-million in the same period.

Privatisation and black demand had raised car rentals by 25.9% to 317 454 compared with the same period last year.

Langley said that of the R75.3m revenue (up 45.1%) in the first half, 9% was utilised by semi-government organisations such as the HSRC and the CSIR which had privatised fleets in agreements that allowed rental organisations to take back cars at week-ends.

He expected this sector of the business to double next year.

The Government Garage still owned a fleet of 17 500 cars against the 11 500 owned by car rental firms. Langley said the prospects of privatisation in this area for rental agencies was tremendous.

The number of business rentals increased by 18% and was now 70% of the total market.

Langley, also Avis Rent-a-Car MD, said prices, which rose by 9% in June,
Hawkers' leader already a legend

By PAULA FRAY

At 30, Lawrence Mavundla, founder and president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib), has already gained the status of a legend among the people he serves — but he will not allow himself to be swayed by it.

His entry into the world of organised hawking is well-known among Achib members. While travelling to work one morning he noticed hawkers being chased by policemen. As they scattered, one old woman, Granny Harriet Moyo, could not escape.

The sight of her being arrested decided him that, as a community worker, he had to do something.

The rest, as they say, is history.

Since he started organising black hawkers in 1980, Mr Mavundla has become known for his passionate pleas for deregulation and the recognition of hawkers as an important, thriving part of the economy.

Mr Mavundla was born in Natal and attended Emfuleni Primary and then a high school in Empande. When his parents separated, he moved to the Transvaal. He got his training in trade unions, he says.

BASIC EDUCATION

Unmarried, he lives alone. His work takes up much of his time.

Self-spoken Mr Mavundla had a basic education — he went only as far as Form 2 — yet he can capture the attention of Achib members as well as top business executives and council members.

Not everyone listens.

In January, only hours after a hawkers' conference, aimed at relieving the plight of this informal sector, police raided hawkers' stands.

But he still has a pragmatic approach: negotiation rather than confrontation is his first choice.

His union background and organisation skills have helped Achib rise from a small unorganised group to one of the biggest (it has more than 14 000 members) and most formalised hawker groups in South Africa.
Vote-catching drive in Hawkers, hounded in Hawkers, hounded in Hawkers
Raw deal in life of a street-seller

PITIFUL EXISTENCE: This woman faces prosecution for hawking mealies — her living.

lent licences to vendors using a licensing department letterhead. The licensing fraud could involve about 20,000 hawkers on the Westwaterstrand, according to Mr Mavund- la. He said the fraud was uncovered after many hawkers had approached Achib complaining that they had been arrested despite having licences.
HEALTH PROBE ON VENDORS

‘Guidelines for eating places are needed’

SOUTH Africa’s proliferating population of street vendors is presenting the authorities with a headache and they are currently the subject of an investigation by the health officers association.

This was revealed at this week’s sessions of the Fedhassan congress in Durban by Mr Koos Richter, who serves on the national council of the Health Officers Association.

The investigation is being held together with Fedhassan and has been prompted by the confusion that the growing population of street vendors has caused in municipal and other circles.

The investigation forms part of a broader probe into a possible hygiene grading system for all food serving establishments from five star hotels down to the street vendor.

Seven basic principles are being looked at as a guideline for a grading system of eating establishments of all kinds. These include the food handler himself, the process of food handling, equipment, utensils, infestations, toilet facilities and garbage handling.

The objective is to arrive at an overall standard, nationally applied, for cleanliness in food serving establishments as strict as any found in the Western world.

The emergence of the street vendors had brought attention on the need for more specific, fundamental cleanliness standards, Mr Richter said.

The new president of Fedhassan Mr David Wigley says the idea behind the investigation is not to kill private enterprise. “Our attitude is that free enterprise must prevail. Competition with established food serving outlets that are subject to strict health regulations is not the issue — although such establishments are at a disadvantage cost wise relative to the casual street vendor.

“What we are concerned about are the hygienic standards,” Mr Wigley pointed out.

Mr Richter added: “It is probably only a matter of time before a food poisoning incident occurs due to a street food vendor. All they need at the moment is a hawkers licence.

The situation posed a serious dilemma however.

“The question is where do you draw the line,” said Mr Richter.

Over regulation could kill the street vendor and in view of the contribution such operators could make to creating job opportunities, this was obviously not the intention.

Moreover the Government was in favour of private enterprise and deregulation. New red tape was also therefore not the objective. The dilemma lay in arriving at a workable solution which protected the interests of the public and those of the street vendor.

Fedhassan restaurant and catering committee chairman, Mr Brian Bowman, undertook to investigate the regulations that apply to such vendors in New York, where he pointed out they had operated safely for decades.
Dull day for JSE shiners

By Kaiser Nyatsumba

Shoe-shining material and equipment, together with 30 pairs of shoes valued at about R1,500, were damaged and hurled on to the pavement outside the JSE on Wednesday morning.

One shoe-shiner, Mr. Isaia Hlatshwayo (46) said 30 pairs of clients' shoes were lost.

Mr. Hlatshwayo said a JSE security officer told him: "Mr. Scholtz had broken a chain on his cart, pushed it on to the pavement and destroyed the equipment."

Another shoe-shiner, Mr. Derrick Magubela, said the chain around his equipment was broken but nothing was lost.

JSE public relations manager, Mrs. Rita Wilson, said there had been an unfortunate misunderstanding and the equipment had only been removed from JSE premises but not damaged.

JSE security officers said they had earlier asked Mr. Hlatshwayo and Mr. Magubela not to leave their equipment on the premises at night.

"Mr. Hlatshwayo admitted he had been told this, but said the security officers should have told him before he went home that his equipment would be removed and thrown into the street if he left it on the premises."

Mrs. Wilson said the JSE had no plans to evict the shoe-shiners and was building two kiosks for them to use as charge.

'This side, Mr. Nugget!' - the normally hearty cry of Mr. Isaia Hlatshwayo lost some of its mellowness when he found his wares scattered outside the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.
Hawkers at centre of big Jo’burg row

Hawking on the streets of Johannesburg has become an emotional and increasingly controversial issue, with hawkers saying they are licenced by the authorities and the City Council saying they have broken new ground by drastically cutting through much of the red tape which previously regulated hawking.

Shopowners have also entered the arena — saying hawkers are affecting their businesses with the advantage of not having high overheads.

With the dramatic increase of licenced hawkers in Johannesburg from 1 004 in 1987 to 9 600 in 1988 it has become obvious that the City Council, shopowners and hawkers will have to try to reach a compromise acceptable to all.

The hawkers say:

By KAIZER NYATSUMBA

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Abaho) says: “Restrictive and unjust laws prevent our members from trading freely and from making the contribution to the economy that this country needs.

“The laws restricting them are that they should operate within a specified distance from general traders, but they have to move every few hours, and that they cannot operate in a restricted area.

“We wish to encourage law enforcement officers to stop harassing hawkers and informal businesses and either concentrate on the real criminals of society. We make this request on the following grounds:

• Hawkers and informal businesses create employment for themselves and others at a time of rising unemployment. Unemployment figures have been cited by some groups as being as high as 416 million.

• Hawkers and informal businesses make a vast contribution to the economy of the country. One researcher estimated their combined annual buying power to be over R12 billion.

• We earn an honest living instead of turning to crime, yet we are being treated as common criminals.

• Retailers regard us as unfair competition since we do not pay rents and taxes. Yet we pay large sums of fines. And often hawking is the only entry point into the economy for many of us.

“Many retailers today in the townships regard us as hawkers. Therefore harassing hawkers prevents them from rising up to shop ownership. This goes against the principle of free enterprise and at the same time limits the growth of the economy.

“Lastly, we believe that by finding employment and earning an honest living, hawkers are contributing to the peace and stability of the country.”

The council says:

By DEBORAH SMITH

The Johannesburg City Council is committed to deregulation and the promotion of small businesses, but also has an obligation to protect the rights of licensed dealers, says Chief Licensing Officer Mrs Cathy Filimile.

The council has a sub-committee on deregulation. Many restrictions have been eliminated. “Johannesburg has become an example of how to liberalise trade. If neighbouring authorities also deregulate we would not have a huge influx of hawkers,” she says.

The council has opened specially demarcated areas where hawkers can trade freely without having to move every two hours.

More points where hawkers can set up stalls within and outside the restricted area are still being identified by the council.

The restricted area where hawkers cannot trade except at demarcated points has been reduced and is now bordered by Pokio, Teyes, Amendment and West streets.

Mrs Filimile says hawkers in the past were not allowed to trade within 600 m of a dealer but now are allowed within 300 m.

Hawkers are now allowed to move every two hours whereas in the past they had to move every hour.

This rule was to prevent hawkers from obstructing pedestrian and motor traffic.

The council has made representations to the Municipal Association of the Transvaal to amend the licence ordinance to provide for the annual renewal of hawking licences.

They are allowed to trade on Saturdays.

Hawkers no longer pay licence fees, but there is a R10 application fee, and with food sales an additional R10 inspection fee.

Mrs Filimile adds that inspectors only react to complaints from the public and shop owners and goods are confiscated only when hawkers refuse to co-operate.
LAWRENCE MAVUNDILA

Golden pavements

Lawrence Mavundila (30), president of the African Council of Handker and Informal Businesses (Achib), seems to have consigned his life to tilting at the establishment.

As a schoolboy militant he was in the thick of the action during the 1976 Soweto riots — he even had an arm broken by a police baton to prove it. Now he has taken on vested interests in the business community by pressing vigorously for the rights of hawkers and spaza township shops to be respected.

It is a standpoint that endures him to those whom he has chosen to represent — if not the people charged with enforcing Johannesburg’s outdated municipal by-laws governing street trading.

Born on June 16 1958, at Esibeni in Natal, of a Zulu mother and Xhosa father, Mavundila finished his matric at the Ntumeni High School in Zululand. He was a regular visitor to Johannesburg and, obviously emotionally fired by the moment, was caught up in the maestro of the rioting of the Seventies.

To his credit, there is not trace of bitterness or hatred against the “system” or its administrators in the character of the man — even though he has spent most of his life in a selfless quest to assist his fellow black citizens achieve economic justice.

Harassing hawkers

“In fact,” he says, “I sometimes prefer to deal with the AWB types as I know exactly where I stand with them. I can therefore deal and communicate with them openly and honestly. The same does not always apply to liberals, whom I sometimes find to be rather dishonest in their dealings with the black informal sector.”

A man of great enthusiasm, energy and a burning passion to see justice done to black hawkers and “informal” businessmen struggling against a maze of antiquated provincial and local government regulations, Mavundila last week hit the headlines with a two-page advertising blitz calling for a stop to the undue harassment of SA’s estimated 900 000 hawkers.

In short, he called upon magistrates and public prosecutors to ease their convictions of hawkers found to be trading “illegally” (operating within a specified distance from general traders, not moving every few hours and operating within a “restricted” area). His arguments in favour of a cessation of prosecutions were compelling. Mavundila said that hawkers and informal traders created employment, had a combined annual buying power of around R1.8bn, earned an honest living instead of turning to crime, and had to pay huge fines as the price for circumventing the rigidities of the law.

“We wish to encourage law enforcement officers to stop harassing hawkers and informal businesses and to get them to concentrate on the real criminals in society. By

finding employment and earning an honest living, hawkers are contributing to peace and stability in the country,” he says.

Ironically, while the Johannesburg City Council’s 12-man traffic police “hawker squad” is the body mainly responsible for the daily persecution of Achib’s 14 000 paid-up members, Mavundila does not see the officials as Achib’s only threat.

“The challenge to the informal sector comes from vested interests within the black and white business sectors, who are unhappy about what they see as ‘unfair’ competition by hawkers. Especially in the townships, where the local councils are frequently made up of black businessmen, they are against hawkers taking away their custom,” he contends.

This puts an interesting focus on the relationship between Achib’s members and the formalised black business sector, effectively represented by the National African Chambers of Commerce (Nafcoe). Mavundila claims in Tshabane alone there are 2000 spaza shops (run from black township homes), compared with 30 “formal” shops.

“If the retailers are nurtured at the expense of hawkers by government, local authorities and wholesalers (the latter often coerced by retailers not to supply hawkers) then these parties are guilty of stunting an important growth sector of the economy.”

Thus far Mavundila’s lobbying has been highly effective — leading to 9000 hawkers’ licences being issued in Johannesburg so far this year, compared with only 260 for the whole of 1987.

After his encounter with the authorities in 1976, Mavundila joined the East Driefontein Gold Mining Company at Carletonville as a miner, where he progressed rapidly to shop steward. His concern with his people’s economic and political plight surfaced again in 1985 when he was involved in strike action to rectify a situation where white miners received better housing, social and pay benefits than their black colleagues.

As a consequence of that protest Mavundila was fired, along with 21 other black shop stewards and 700 miners. But while his 21 colleagues were arrested and given bail of R300 each, Mavundila was jailed in Pretoria prison for two weeks. Too good an opportunity to miss, he even tried to change political circumstances for the better, going on a hunger strike in the process.

Eventually, his bail was set at R3 000 and his release arranged by the National Union of Mineworkers. The trial against the strikers took three months, but ultimately the miners won the day — and a better deal.

Buoyed by his victory, Mavundila and three colleagues decided to go into the hawking business, selling cosmetics on black commuter trains. But they soon ran into the kind of problem common to all “illegal” traders.

“We sold out stock worth R400 every three days and made a profit of about R220 on that amount. Subsequently, we branched out into Natal and sold old clothes on the sugar farms at the end of each month. I still have an interest in this business,” he says.

Organising unions

While in Natal, he was instrumental in organising 8000 odd sugar plantation labourers into the National Union of Farmworkers. Seven months later, he assisted Natal railway workers, as national organiser, in their union activities. This was followed by organisational activities for the African Postal Telecommunications and Allied Workers’ Union until early 1986.

“In April of that year I saw an old woman hawker being harassed by the police and decided to devote my time to helping hawkers. On May 6 about 200 hawkers attended a meeting in Johannesburg and we formed the Street Vendors and Hawks Committee. Immediate problems were long delays in getting licences, costly advertising required and strict rules applicable to hawkers.”

Tying up with the 9000-strong ayanga (witchdoctor) movement, they formed the African Council of Nyangas and Hawkers Association, which existed until September 1987, when the hawkers hived off and went their own way. Achib was officially formed on September 19 1987, with Mavundila elected as president.

Starting from a small base, Achib has developed into a powerful lobby, with 12 full-time staff serving 14 000 paid-up members. Two organisers are in the field full time as part of a national membership drive to write up new members.

It’s only a beginning. There is clearly still a long way to go yet. At this point hawkers are struggling for a place under the sun too — and to have their voices, through those like Mavundila who articulate their aspirations best, heard. Maybe, in time, their real worth will be recognised.
Readabout the action of the champion of the man in the street.
So you thought the concept of meals-on-wheels was new?
Wait till you hear the sad story of pioneering blacks

By SOPHIE TEMBA

THE food cart industry which has taken Johannesburg by storm is not new.

What is new with the modernised version — introduced by 22-year-old B Comm student Karl Gribovitz last year — is that it has the full backing of mainstream industry and the Johannesburg City Council.

A myriad of discriminatory laws killed the industry when it was first started by blacks in the 40s.

During this period, big companies did not have canteen amenities and workers, who often left their homes very early in the morning without having had breakfast, bought their food from the coffee-carts.

The carts were finally removed in 1964 after an intensive campaign by the Johannesburg City Council to rid the town of illegal traders following complaints by health inspectors that they were unhygienic.

The removal of the coffee-carts deprived blacks who worked in industrial areas the services of the "quick food hawkers" who served them with a cup of coffee and a bead before the start of a hard day's work. Cheap snacks and lunches were also served during the lunch-hour.

More than 700 of them were removed from Johannesburg's street corners and impounded by the city's health department.

Now, 24 years later, the fast food cart has reappeared.

Unlike the black coffee-cart owners though, whites running the new food-on-wheels industry do so, without interference from local authorities.

City workers queuing to get a taste of the new Jo'burg craze.

Achib denies health hazard claim

By STAN MHLONGO

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business this week slammed the Catering, Restaurant and Tearoom Association for claiming hawkers presented a health hazard to the public.

Achib, publicity secretary Vicky Sussera said, "she had suspected that health regulations were being grossly exaggerated to prevent hawkers from operating in the city."

The attack on the hawker operations came from a CRTA statement this week that claimed vending carts did not have sneeze guards and vendors also handled money and food, which was unhygienic.

She asked: "Where does one ever see sneeze guards in cafes?"

The CRTA claimed that it wanted to ensure that the hawkers did not damage the industry's image.
Complaints at arrest of hawkers

By Shirley Woolgate, Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg's Traffic and Security Department has been strongly condemned for alleged harsh treatment of 15 women selling hand-knitted bedspreads and of two ice-cream vendors at Zoo Lake on Sunday.

Visitors to the park were incensed when the women were rounded up and taken away.

"They were no threat to anyone and were merely trying to make a honest living. Why not do something positive for a change and instead of arresting these people from the poorer section of the economy, charge them R10 for a hawking license to legitimise their efforts to earn enough money to eat?" one man said.

"It was disgusting to see these women being shoved into the van despite protests from the crowd," said another bystander.

Mr Eric Hill, liaison officer for the Traffic and Security Department, said: "The department acted on continuous complaints from the public about three different points in Johannesburg at Zoo Lake, Highpoint and West Park Cemetery.

"All the hawkers at Zoo Lake had permits but were trading outside the confines of their permits, in this case in the park."

"The women were rounded up and taken away and the ice-cream vendors had their ice cream confiscated," Mr Hill said.

"The department was acting on complaints from the public about the hawking activity in the park."

"The department understands that the women were not causing any trouble and wanted to educate them about the correct way to conduct their business."

"The women were taken to the Traffic and Security Department office where they were given a warning and advised to abide by the regulations in the future," Mr Hill said.

"The ice-cream vendors were also given a warning and their ice cream was returned to them," Mr Hill said.

"The department is committed to ensuring that the park is a safe and pleasant place for all visitors."

"We understand the need for the women to make a living and we are willing to work with them to find a solution that is fair and just for everyone," Mr Hill said.

"The department is open to suggestions and ideas on how we can improve our approach to dealing with hawking incidents in the future," Mr Hill said.

"We are always willing to listen and work with the public to find solutions that are fair and just for everyone," Mr Hill said.
HAWKERS are going out on to the streets of Johannesburg in a campaign to defy all those city by-laws which they see as unjust.

"And they will refuse to pay the fines required to release confiscated goods — we want to see every case going to court," said African Council for Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla yesterday.

He said a legal fund had been started to prepare for the flood of cases expected.

The hawkers complained of stepped-up harassment by the authorities in recent weeks.

Mavundla said regulations previously not heard of had been introduced.

"Now we are required to trade 10 metres away from an intersection; and hawker must put on white coats ... and this after we have been making representations to the council to scrap unjust trading laws. Hawkers are being used as a means of winning votes."

He said 70 hawkers were arrested last week and 10 had their goods confiscated yesterday.

"The regulations are designed to create a monopoly for retailers and this is against the spirit of free enterprise."
We won't obey, say traders ... and 23 are arrested

BY MZIMKULU MALUNGA

JOHANNESBURG hawkers this week launched a civil disobedience campaign to defy restrictions on informal trading — and already 23 hawkers have been arrested.

Yesterday about 50 hawkers marched up and down Johannesburg's Hoek Street to demand an end to harassment.

Most wore T-shirts stating: "Please don't arrest this person for making an honest living! Concentrate on criminals."

The 23 arrested — for hawking less than 100 metres from a general dealer — will not pay admission of guilt fines, according to Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Sector (Achib).

"We are not going to pay any fines," he said. "We are taking each and every case to court."

The 14 000-strong Achib launched its "anti-harassment campaign" on Monday, resolving to openly defy "unjust laws restricting hawking."

But the Johannesburg City Council's Traffic and Security department said this week: "the necessary enforcement would continue — until such time as restrictions are removed and existing laws changed."

The hawkers' campaign is due to last as long as laws exist restricting them from trading freely, Mavundla said.

"We are registering our dissatisfaction and we think the best way is to go around breaking these unjust laws," he said.

The campaign is focused on three laws which govern hawkers' trading:

• In some areas hawkers cannot stay in one area for more than two hours;

• They are not allowed to trade 100 metres from a general dealer selling similar goods, and

• They are not allowed to trade in a restricted area.

The campaign also intends opposing the 'confiscation of hawkers' products.

Achib has written to the Johannesburg City Council asking it to review the laws governing hawking.

"Things are moving very slowly. Our people want to sell," said Mavundla. "We are making representations every year to the city council to remove those unjust trading laws but the response — although sweet — is accompanied by continued harassment."

Johannesburg City Council's licensing officer, Kathy Filimater, said the area where hawkers were restricted from trading had decreased "substantially."

She said the council acted only if there was a complaint from members of the public — most of the complaints were from shopkeepers.

Filimater claimed her council had done more than any other local authority to ease restrictions on hawkers.

Mavundla blamed shopkeepers for the on-going harassment saying they feared hawkers as "unfair competition."

He believes the recent raids on hawkers were an attempt by the council to win shopkeepers' support in the October municipal elections.

Mavundla said hawking created jobs and estimated the combined buying power of the hawkers presently at R1.8 billion rand.

He called on the managing directors of all major companies to write letters asking local city councils to stop harassing hawkers.

Mavundla said the statute books were filled with laws restricting hawkers and Achib were still discovering them. "One person was arrested for trading 100 metres from a intersection, a law we have never heard of before."

We won't obey, say hawkers.

From PAGE 1

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Jo'burg hawkers on the march in CBD

ABOUT 40 hawkers paraded through the streets of Johannesburg yesterday as part of an anti-harassment campaign organised by the 14 000-strong African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib).

Hawkers wearing T-shirts and carrying banners stating “don’t arrest us for earning an honest living” and “viva the people’s market” marched down Jeppe Street to the Hoek Street Mall and then up Noord Street.

They were followed by 300 hot-dog vendors.

The demonstration ended when police were spotted on the scene. But Achib president Lawrence Mavundla said protests would continue until unfair regulations governing hawkers were dropped.

Mavundla said hawkers had agreed to ignore fines and take serious cases of harassment by police, the SANDF and traffic officials to court. He said the number of fines issued by the traffic department increased from 26 to 60 during the past week. And he attributed that to the municipal elections.

Achib had retaliated by taking two cases of alleged malicious damage to property and theft by officials, and four cases of alleged assault against hawkers to court.

Protected

Mavundla accused established retailers of keeping the laws intact, saying they were protected by the regulations.

He said the SBDC and Get Ahead Foundation were the only formal bodies taking part in the lobby at present. They were providing legal support and writing letters to city councils requesting the abandonment of restrictive legislation.
Pavement liberation

Durban has taken the bull by the horns in allowing off-street sellers to become "legitimate."

This forms part of the City Council's policy of progressively liberating pavement trade from historical restrictions - something Johannesburg could take note of.

At the heart of the council's policy is a relaxation of licensing laws in order to promote small business ventures and job opportunities, principally in the Third World environment on the city fringes. In the process, the character of the CBD and the remodelled beachfront has undergone a transformation.

Hotdog vendors and trinket sellers have been operating on the lower Marine Parade for almost a year. Each reputedly generates a net profit of more than R4 000 a month. In the CBD, after initial anxiety from fast-food outlets; hotdog carts have been part of the pavement furniture since last summer.

In short, Durban finally confronted reality. A futile policy of trying to drive hawkers off the pavement was replaced by one of studiously ignoring breaches of by-laws on health and the obstruction of public thoroughfares. Finally, the decision was taken to introduce minimum control and administration, relax by-laws and licence fees and legalise the inevitable.

Covered concrete stalls that can be hosed down daily have now been built for the off-street sellers by the SBDC and will be formally handed over to the council later this month. These will be provided on a first-come-first-served basis at a "nominal" fee to the hawkers.

In an associated development a Natal Provincial Administration ordinance was amended to allow the council to charge a differentiated licence fee for street vendors. A licence normally costs R38.50 a year. But the council may now, with the Administrator's approval, sell licences at R10 a year.

Further evidence of a "new attitude of tolerance aimed at encouraging informal traders and the creation of jobs" was the establishment of a large paved area in Brook Street, near the new Berea Road station, for around 300 hawkers who may be licensed on a daily or annual basis.

These hawkers, who hawk basics to passing commuters entering the city from the station, join the more familiar curio and bead sellers on the city's upper Marine Parade - who pay R10 a month for their sites and have

organised their own committee to regulate disputes over trading sites.

Beachfront hawkers operating from barrows pay a standard R38,50 licence fee, in addition to the cost of buying the standardised barrows. They are free to operate 24 hours a day and, after 6 pm, may move from the lower Marine Parade to a paved area outside the dolphinarium.

Within the CBD the council has licensed hotdog sellers on the basis that each vendor is allocated a city block in which to operate. An individual may hold no more than two licences and may not operate in adjacent city blocks.

Health and aesthetic design specifications push the price of the carts up to around R5 000, and operators must satisfy health officials that the kitchen bases from which they operate comply with council health regulations.

The council takes considerable pride in its achievements. One official told the FM: "We are 100% satisfied that we are the leaders in the country as far as promoting pavement trade is concerned."
Hawkers start street protest against laws

By SOPHIE TEMA

HAWKERS in Johannesburg and the Free State yesterday launched a protest against harassment by the authorities.

African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business president Lawrence Mavundla said: "The hawkers decided on this move simply because the authorities have for many years harassed the informal businessman despite numerous representations made by Achib for the abolition of trading restrictions."

"Laws against hawkers restrict them from trading freely and creating employment.

"Hawkers have to pay fines of between R50 and R100 daily and have between R100 and R3 000 worth of stock confiscated for failing to comply with the council by-laws.

"Hawkers and informal businesses are creating work for themselves and other jobless people in a time of rampant unemployment."

The laws against which the protest was staged are:

- Hawkers cannot operate within a specified distance from general traders selling similar goods – they must be 100 metres away and 10 metres from an intersection.
- They must not trade in restricted areas.
Street vendors hurting cafes

STREET FOOD vendors should have their licences cancelled and be taken off the streets because they are ruining small restaurant and cafe owners, Catering, Restaurant and Tearoom Association (Catra) director Frank Swarbreck said at the weekend.

Swarbreck accused owners of hot-dogs and other foods of infringing both health and minimum wage laws. He said many "informal businessmen" were paying workers R5 a day — a wage well below government's stipulated minimum.

Swarbreck said that health inspectors could not monitor how vendors prepared their food, as they were constantly on the move. He said this was likely to result in a lowering of standards and an increase in the incidence of food poisoning. He added that this would be catastrophic for the food industry as a whole.

Swarbreck said, however, that there was nothing hindering health officials from patrolling areas frequented by street vendors, performing spot inspections on carts and handing out fines.

Small Business Development manager Johan Naudé challenged Swarbreck to cite one case of food poisoning originating from a vendor.

Swarbreck replied that there had been no such case to date.

Naudé said the minimum wage argument was not applicable, as vendors were providing otherwise unemployed people with a means to a livelihood.

Swarbreck said that the fact that vendors and hawkers were continually receiving fines indicated that they were infringing laws.

African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president Lawrence Mavundla said that very few fines were received for infringements of hygiene regulations. He said that members of the informal sector were mainly fined for trading more than two hours on one spot and operating in restricted areas.

Swarbreck said Catra, representing 4 000 small formal businesses, would lobby for the tightening up of all regulations relating to the informal sector, especially those associated with the production, sale and distribution of food.

Achib's Mavundla said that the informal sector would be demanding the scrapping of such legislation, which was outdated, inappropriate and protected small retailers.
Hawkers get a mixed reception

Municipal Reporter

Hawkers were not asking for handouts, merely the removal of unreasonable controls which would allow them to perform as decent humans, Mrs Rae Graham (PPP) said at last night's council meeting.

Appealing for a compromise with the hawkers, she said if they were not harassed they would never be seen in the courts.

She called for the provision of more land for hawkers' pitches, saying a third of the labour in the city were members of the informal sector yet the council treated them as though they were minimal.

Mr Geoff Stark (NDP) appealed for more flexibility in council dealings with hawkers, with less control and more management.

Mr Ernie Fabel (NP) said the council would support hawkers within certain parameters, including health regulations and licensing.

COMPLAINTS

Mr Cecil Long, chairman of the health and environment committee, said licensing was done in an orderly manner and sites had to be kept tidy.

Vendors would not be allowed to monopolise pavements to the detriment of pedestrians, the cause of most complaints from the public, said Mr Long.

He said the behaviour of hawkers who wore protest T-shirts was insisted on.

He claimed that Mr Lawrence Mavundla acted aggressively at a meeting when he alleged all people in local government were not Christians.

A meeting had been arranged with the council and hawkers in September, when their points would be sympathetically considered, Mr Long said.
Imperial’s profits up 93%

The Imperial group, which has interests in car rental, truck systems and motor retailing, has shown a 93% leap in attributable profits to R4,87m (R4,45m) on a 47% increase in turnover to R321m (R216m).

Reporting for the year to June 25, 1988, the diversified industrial group saw all three of its divisions performing strongly.

Although the motor division remained the largest contributor to turnover, it was the car rental division which generated the most pre-tax profits.

These were 80% higher at R15,9m (R8,66m).

Also aiding the bottom line was a barely changed tax bill of R4,38m (R4,21m), the result of taxed losses.

In spite of the sharp increase in outside shareholders’ interest — R2,5m compared to R1,5m — earnings a share were 61,2c, well ahead of the previous year’s figure of 38,7c.

Imperial joint MD Stephen Abellkop said operating margins were up in both the motor and car rental divisions, while the truck systems division held firm.

All three divisions were said to be well positioned for further growth in the coming year.
Open trading ‘out of the question’

Urgent appeal to ease restrictions on city hawkers

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

An urgent appeal to magistrates, prosecutors, mayors, councillors and town clerks to ease restrictions controlling hawkers has received a cool reception from the Johannesburg City Council.

In two full-page advertisements today, Mr Lawrence Mavundla, president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses, called for the repeal of laws restricting vendors from operating close to retailers, the opening up of all restricted areas, registration instead of licensing, the scrapping of laws forcing hawkers to move at intervals, a halt to harassment by traffic officials and a sympathetic ear when vendors are prosecuted.

He said hawkers with an estimated buying power of R1.8 billion made a vast contribution to the economy and were regarded as criminals although they were making an honest living.

Retailers regarded them as unfair competition yet they paid huge sums in fines. Often hawking was the only entry into the economy and restrictions went against the principle of free enterprise.

Mr Cecil Long, chairman of the council’s Health and Environmental Committee, dismissed the appeal for open trading as ‘out of the question’.

He said the council leaned over backwards to accommodate hawkers but there was a major obligation to businesses which paid the bulk of the rates in the city.

“Removal of restrictions and regulations is a recipe for chaos and while we will seriously consider Mr Mavundla’s requests, on the face of it they are impractical,” he said.

-City councillor, Mrs Rae Graham, known as a champion of the hawkers’ cause, said there was a case for waiving licences where hawkers had traded for many years, but some form of control was necessary.

She urged more hawkers’ pitches in areas frequented by pedestrians.

-Mr Nigel Mandy, chairman of the Central Business District Association, said hawkers played an important role but should be allowed in specific areas not in the prime retail area.
Project to launch 2,000 hawkers

CHRISTOPHER TUCHER

A PROGRAMME to sponsor hawkers — which could create 2,000 new jobs in the next year — has been introduced, says African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) president, Lawrence Mavundla. (Day 28/18)

Achib's scheme, the Employment Creation Project, calls for sponsors to provide seed capital for at least five new hawkers each month.

A hawker needs R38 to start up business — R100 for stock and R38 for licensing and Achib fees.

Achib already has two committed sponsors and 20 'good prospects', each of which would fund at least 60 hawkers within a year.

In contrast to job creation in a big business context, which according to government estimates costs more than R60 000 a job, Achib called its programme "cheap and simple".
Lucky says "Blow it with this knockdown price" stay low.

City centre hawkers risk prison to sell their goods

Many have no other way to feed their families.

The Star Tuesday August 9, 1988
The big little man

Small businesses, or the "informal sector" as the economists call hot-dog stands, pavement vendors and backyard manufacturers, have been around for centuries.

But it is only in the past eight years that the little man has taken his rightful place among the industrial conglomerates and retail chains that have dominated South African commerce and industry for so long. And an important place it is too.

Economic clout

The Small Business Development Corporation, now reputed to be the most successful development exercise of its kind in the world, believes that the economic clout of the informal sector has long been underestimated and could be contributing as much as a third of South Africa's gross domestic product.

In a survey of the informal sector entitled "Roots of Enterprise" published by Leadership magazine, two factors emerged as prime contributors to the resurgence of this sector that even today, is looked down on and in many cases outlawed as illegal.

The first was the establishment of the Small Business Development Corporation with its considerable financial clout and ability to influence government and big business.

The second factor has been the start made by Government to dismantle the "heavy curtain" of red tape that has restricted small business from developing and, in many cases, sending it underground.

Chairman of the SBDC's board of directors, Dr Anton Rupert, comments in "Roots of Enterprise" that under normal circumstances the best thing to do for small business would be to keep out of its way and simply provide the space for it to operate unfettered.

"But, in South Africa, circumstances are not normal," he says.

"On the one hand there is a concentration of business interests — and thus capital resources — in the hands of a few large enterprises. On the other hand there is a great backlog of business facilities and financing, especially in black urban areas."

"This backlog is closely linked to the dual nature of the South African economy — First World rules and standards are often applied unthinkingly in Third World circumstances."

The creation of the SBDC is significant, says Dr Rupert, in that it gave expression to a concept that took root throughout the world in the 1970's. That economic growth is dependent on the creative powers of the individual. It became clear that the small entrepreneur who dared to establish a new business with his own capital, held the key to future prosperity.

"This realisation was strengthened by the great changes triggered by the recession which followed the oil price shock in 1973. Throughout the world rationalisation became the order of the day in many large enterprises. The effect was that they became less and less able to satisfy the growing demand for jobs."

"The situation was no different in South Africa. Nor is it today. Large enterprises are still not adequate sources of employment for the 300 000 people who enter the labour market each year. All eyes are now fixed on small business."

But just how important is the informal sector to South Africa's economic mill? How important is it in terms of solving the unemployment bogey that hangs over the country like the Sword of Damocles?

Mr Wolfgang Thomas, deputy general manager of the SBDC in the western Cape, concedes that the informal sector's contribution is difficult to estimate, mainly because of the lack of official statistics.

"Possibly the biggest stumbling block to a realistic assessment of the informal sector is that South Africa's official statistics on the gross domestic product do not include all economic activities. In line with other semi-developed countries, the understatement may easily be about 30 percent, much of which is informal sector contribution to national product and national income."

Mr Thomas adds that if this adjustment is taken into account, certain "guestimates" may give an indication of the magnitude involved.

- Out of a total of 1 million business establishments, about 62 percent are unlicensed, unrecorded or non-taxed business establishments and self-employment units in the informal sector.

Engaged

- On the basis of a population of 36 million people in greater South Africa (including the black states) and a labour supply of 12 m to 13 m, just under a third are engaged full-time or part-time in the informal sector.

- Of the 350 000 people who enter the labour market annually, the segment taken up by the informal sector may be as high as 42 percent.

Given these statistics, it is clear that the informal sector is not only vital but strategic to the economy. Is enough being done to stimulate it?

Mr Leon Louw, executive director of the Free Market Foundation says in "Roots of Enterprise" that deregulation remains a stumbling block.

"With sanctions already imposed on South Africa and the threat of more to come, it is important that Government gets out of the way of the entrepreneurs and allows them to use all the opportunities available to produce wealth and create jobs."

Street vendors selling fruits and vegetables play an important role in supplying black housewives with fresh produce.
Hawkers deceived

By Joshua Rabokoko

MORE THAN 2,000 hawkers on the Reef discovered the registration

ACRIB'S President Mr Lawrence Mxakwelela

More hawkers were registered. Mr Mxakwelela said: 'We register hawkers for

commission for tax to the provincial government. We registered 2,000 hawkers in the
development of Johannesburg.'

He also appealed to people to report any hawkers that are not registered. He

announced that the Johannesburg City Council has launched an inquiry into the

inaccuracy of the registrations. He said: 'We have found that some hawkers have

registered more than once.'

Mr Mxakwelela said: 'We will continue to register hawkers, but we need

more information from the public.'

By Joshua Rabokoko

Hawkers deceived
Big venture

We are also hoping to attract black farmers to come and sell their produce in townships.

"We will like to say opportunities to buy fruit and vegetables cheaply instead of travelling to the town," he added.

For a long time we have been depending on our owned markets for our vegetables and fruit, now it is time we do things ourselves," he said.

The market is situated near the Pelican night club.
Informal sector’s income as high as 40% of SA’s GDP

CHRISTOPHER TUCHER

Taxi drivers, hawkers and house-builders have sprung up to serve them. Even the strange new town-dwellers build themselves communal places. They are not undermined by the formal economy. They are not afraid of the formal economy. They are not afraid of the SA’s GDP.

KANTOR ... “most important”

Lombard ... SA’s special

Wolfgang Thomas says that “in a country like SA, where blacks find as many things illegal and are weary of rules and regulations, it is naive to think the economy is worse than in other countries. Black business is growing and raising, but it is not yet streamlined into a formal framework.”

The informal economy matters. It is growing, and raising the standard of living, but it is not yet streamlined into a formal framework. The informal sector is a vital part of the economy, providing employment and income for many South Africans.

‘I don’t want your charity, white man’

Lawrence Mavundla has a clear and very direct message for business: “I don’t want your charity, white man.”

He does not say it aggressively or insolently, but with the kind of respect that he feels is due to those who work hard to make a living. The second is that business in SA can succeed only if it is able to build its own community aid and social responsibility programmes.

‘Wrong concept’

There is a wrong concept in most South African and in the American companies that see this as a way to make money for the community. They pay a lot of money for education and training and charity to organizations that are not really helping the community.

The first is that “the private sector does not owe us anything — except the right to make an honest living.”

The second is that “business in SA can succeed only if it is able to build its own houses, they would be able to send their children to school.”

So what I am urging the companies to do is to change their approach into putting more money into organizations like ours, which are for the development of the people,” says Lawrence.

He has met with some success in a series of meetings with senior businesspeople. Mavundla has been trying to get corporate

LAWRENCE MAVUNDLA

Mavundla adds that his organization is trying to get corporate

He believes that much of the social unrest in SA is due to unemployment. "When people are unemployed they become beggars. When they are unemployed they are vulnerable to all kinds of social unrest.”

Harassed

Then, he says: “You can take down all the walls and build a real business in the homes here in the townships. A lot of people want to make an honest living and are being harassed by the authorities.”

He is going to try and get something done, he is going to go back to the government.

“I am writing an open letter to the State President asking him to take action to stop the harassment of hawkers,” says Mavundla. “The harshness of the law is often used as a means of harassment.”

For more information on the issue of informal sector workers, contact Lawrence Mavundla at Community Aid Organization (CAO) on 082 345 6789.
Hawkers to flex muscles

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses, which represents the interests of about 14,000 hawkers in the PWV area, is to flex its business muscle and open a branch in Durban soon.

Achib's marketing manager, Mr. Duncan Mehlomakhulu, said yesterday that it was the intention of his organisation to open a branch in Durban and resuscitate their defunct office in Empangeni.

He said Achib had been mainly concentrating on the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vryburg area, but after receiving a letter from the Durban City Council requesting them to help solve the city's hawker problems, Durban because the next city for them to open an office.

Mr. Mehlomakhulu said he could not say exactly when the branch would be opened.
SAB donates vehicle to hawker group

By SELLO SERIPE

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business this week received a boost from SA Breweries when the company handed over a vehicle for the organisation's use.

The giant SAB recently donated R156 000 to the Small Business Development Centre for the construction of the country's first hawkers market in Mamelodi, Pretoria.

Handing over the vehicle to Achib president Lawrence Mavundla, SAB's community affairs manager, Windsor Shuenyane, said that as a company that championed the free enterprise system, SAB recognised the importance of developing the small businessman and the community.

"When Achib's president approached us for assistance, he stressed that the association aimed to be self-sufficient within three years.

"As we believe in helping the community to help itself, we are delighted to help the association," Shuenyane said.

He stressed that Achib was contributing to solving the high unemployment in SA, pointing out the informal trading sector contributed between 25 and 30 percent of the country's Gross National Product.

Achib's 13 000 paid up members alone spend R81-million a year at wholesalers and R21-million at the City Deep produce market in Johannesburg.

"South Africa's hawkers are building a future for themselves by creating pride out of despair." "They deserve the support of big business," Shuenyane added.

Achib's Lawrence Mavundla (left) receives key from Winsdor Sheunyane (centre) and Victor Nkosi.
The Hawker’s Chief says nonsense, this health claim is plain nonsense.
Peggy "herself has six children and her eldest daughter, Duduzile, is hawking opposite her at the corner of Roek and Noord streets.

"Most of us in this family had never worked anywhere other than in this business. Granny taught all of us how to handle it. Even though we have died, died in this field," said Peggy Mayo.

"She was wild with business and was angered by anybody who took a baby I took you to work. Then the police came and I ran away, leaving you behind. The police took me, knowing Granny would return to fetch me.

"Granny had never gone to school but she could speak both English and Afrikaans. She never worked for white man. She owned a horse-drawn cart and she drove herself around town," said Peggy Mayo.

"Gogo had been in and out of the cell many times, sometimes paying fines. But I remember one time they locked her up for more than a week. When she was released, she came back here and started hawking again."

Beauty Nkosi, from Emdeni in Soweto, started hawking at Johannesburg Station in 1966 and met Granny Mayo there. Nkosi runs the "Hawkers Women's Group" which was formed at Granny's suggestion, who realized the need for such an organization.

In the 1960s the fine for illegal hawking was between R10 and R20. Today, the fine has increased to R200. If you did not have money you had to sleep in the sewer," said...
ABOUT 70 Johannesburg hawkers had been summoned to court since the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business (Achib) started its anti-harassment campaign three weeks ago, Achib said yesterday.

Achib legal adviser Francis Moleko said in that time there had been five instances of alleged "assault" by traffic officials, about R2,000 worth of goods confiscated and fines of up to R100 each.

Achib believes by-laws restricting hawkers are there to protect retailers against what they fear as unfair competition. Moleko said: "So far not a single court has upheld a case against hawkers on the grounds of unfair competition. The courts have ruled that the market should sort itself out."

A Johannesburg traffic police spokesman said he could not comment on Achib's allegations unless he was given details of the cases referred to.
Informal sector now an economic force — Vosloo

The Informal Sector: A New Economic Force

With the Informal Sector now a significant part of the economy, policymakers need to address its challenges.

Vosloo suggests that the public sector should:

1. Invest in infrastructure and transportation.
2. Promote small businesses and entrepreneurship.
3. Ensure access to markets and financial services.
4. Provide training and skills development programs.

The Informal Sector plays a crucial role in employment and economic growth, contributing significantly to GDP and employment.

Policy makers need to recognize and support the Informal Sector's contributions to the economy.

The Informal Sector: A New Economic Force

Informal sector now an economic force — Vosloo
Small business growing

By BONGANI HLATSHWAYO

South Africa's small business sector was entering a period of unequalled advancement and development. Small Business Development Corporation (SBDC) director, Dr. Busi Vosloo said this week.

Vosloo was speaking at the official launch of the Small Business Week in Johannesburg. Business Week will be held this week, starting on Monday.

Vosloo said there was an increase in the activities of the informal sector and this was coupled with a corresponding increase in loans granted under the SBDC's Small Business Start up Fund.

"It is important to support the sector in order to contribute to addressing the three major challenges facing the South African economy: economic growth, rising unemployment and high population growth and the unequal distribution of wealth," Vosloo said.

The objectives of the Small Business Week include:

- Creating an enabling environment for small business through deregulation
- Empowering small businesses to improve their management systems
HAWKERS and cafe owners are arguing bitterly, accusing one another of territorial poaching.

The feud has been simmering since 1997 when hawkers first clashed with cafe owners.

The Catering, Tearoom and Restaurant Association (CTRA), representing the cafe owners, has launched a campaign to restrict hawkers by enforcing health laws.

African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) public relations secretary Vicki Susens says CTRA is disallowing this informal sector to develop, retailers are setting up a monopoly.

"Some manufacturers are supporting these carts, but they are scared to do so openly," says Miss Susens.

By Jane Dutton

"Employment provides a stable community. Hawkers do not spend their lives on the streets. Today's hawkers are tomorrow's shopkeepers."

CTRA believes lower standards bring the food trade into disrepute. It says health laws affecting perishable food are difficult to implement and should be more stringent for hawkers.

Chief executive Frank Swarbeck says: "It is unfair that cafes and small shops have to undergo strict health checks and not the hawkers."

Miss Susens replies: "The health aspect is a red herring. If there were a problem, why have the public not complained?"

Hawkers have been receiving "smoke and smell" complaints since 1997 and she believes the underlying grievance is that of unfair competition.

"Cafes complain when a hawker is too close to their business and sells similar goods to theirs. This is silly because cafes have hundreds of different brands and hawkers only a few."

Hawkers and cafe owners should not be fighting, says Miss Susens. They should help one another by working together - people buying from a hawker could see something they want in a cafe, both sides benefiting.

Mr Swarbeck says: "It is tough on cafe owners who pay a high rent when someone intrudes on their business. Overtrading can be a bad thing."

Achib disagrees, saying the success of Tembisa, which accommodates 2500 informal businesses, is an indication that all groups can survive.

CTRA says: "We subscribe to providing employment, but hawkers must stick to the rules."

Mr Swarbeck says: "It is ludicrous to say we don't welcome competition. Cafe owners also have carts and we encourage this. The war is among the hawkers themselves."
Scouting for talent

SA cannot underestimate the importance of the informal sector as a potential provider of jobs. One obstacle to the growth of this unrecorded economy is the difficulty in raising small sums of capital to get started. In an attempt to fill the gap, a credit guarantee scheme to provide financing to the informal business sector is to be launched.

Details of the Black Enterprises Trust (BET) project were released when the magazine *Black Enterprise* celebrated its first birthday recently.

BET is an independent trust which oversees the publishing and marketing of *Black Enterprise*. It now intends to embark on a number of other projects.

The creation of a credit guarantee fund is aimed at establishing "a central fund which will be used as collateral for viable, new businesses the trustees nominate," says BET trustee Sam Alexander.

Other development projects are aimed at linking small and big business in a number of schemes including a plan to join forces with the Urban Foundation (UF) to expand the foundation's directory of black business suppliers. The directory provides information for local big business and multinationals — many of which have adopted a policy of "buying black." The directory currently lists some 2,000 black businesses. The BET and UF hope to double the entries.

"The directory has been so successful in connecting individuals and businesses that this year the estimated trade between them will exceed R27m," notes Alexander.

The trust does not only see a role for itself in promoting the informal sector, to which it pays tribute: "The fact that since 1981, 2,5m workers have entered the SA economy and somehow kept body and soul together, despite declining work opportunities in the formal sector, is a credit to the informal or unrecorded sector," says BET's Lazarus Zim.

In the long term, the trust advocates bringing un-tapped informal sector talent into the formal sector as a means of boosting the economy.

"The informal sector is a concrete indication that blacks not only want to work, but that they are so innovative and self-reliant that they create their own jobs," Zim says. But it would be to the advantage of whites to embark on a programme of black economic empowerment in the formal sector, he suggests. "A black managerial class could alleviate the load of overextended white managers, spread the social burden and create wealth which, in turn, would create a climate conducive to a shared future instead of fighting over a diminishing economic cake."
AVIS in Soweto

AVIS has established the first car rental operation in Soweto — its 10th in SA.

The Soweto fleet in Jabulani will have an initial 100 vehicles. Managing director, Tony Langley, says they are needed because of the large number of weekend rentals.

"An upsurge in business from the black market has been a major factor in the car rental industry's volume growth in recent months," he says.
Imperial guards against spending decline

By Sven Forsman

The Imperial Group has been insulating itself against a drop in consumer expenditure, says chairman Percy Abelkop. The vast majority of income is derived from the business sector,” he says in the annual report. The restrictions on credit and the private leasing of vehicles occurred towards the end of the financial year to June and these, together with those recently announced, are bound to have a dampening effect on spending.”

He says it is group policy to balance the activities in vehicle rental, motor trading and transport. Management attempts to balance activities is illustrated in the report which shows that on turnover, motors was the largest division at 51 percent, followed by truck systems at 26.6 percent and car rental at 20.3 percent.

But, at pre-tax level, car rental contributed 38.4 percent, truck systems 32 percent and motors 29.6 percent.
Travel agents fight to recoup Games losses

By Winnie Graham

The Association of Southern African Travel Agents (Asata), is to take up the case of five of its members who lost about R1 million when South African tourists were banned from the Olympic Games in Seoul.

The matter is also expected to feature prominently on the agenda of Asata's 20th congress which takes place in Portugal from October 19 to 23.

A spokeswoman for the association said last week that the agents were claiming refunds to cover their losses from the Olympic Games Committee but, if that failed, Asata would approach the international law department of the Universal Federation of Travel Agents Associations (UFTAA).

"It is ironic that, the 170 South Africans have been banned at the very time the Olympic Games Committee is contemplating whether or not South Africa should be allowed to participate in the next games," she added.

The travel agents expect the airlines to re-imburse them on the short-notice cancellations.

TOUR BROKERS

But travel packages, including tickets to the games, land arrangements and hotel accommodation, were bought from European tour brokers and paid in advance.

They cannot retrieve their prepayments for land arrangements.

"The loss is disastrous for the South African travel industry," the spokesman said.
‘Harassed’ hawkers plan to meet

By Janet Heard 10/15

About 15 hawkers were arrested and had their goods confiscated for trading in a restricted Johannesburg city area yesterday. They were given fines ranging from R50 to R100.

According to the president of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (ACHIB), Mr Lawrence B Mavunda, the number arrested yesterday was not unusual. “This is a daily example of normal hawker harassment in South Africa,” he said.

“If they harass more than 40 people a day, then we call it unusual.”

Mr Mavunda said a national meeting had been planned for October 23, where methods to prevent arrest would be discussed. “I will not rest until this matter is resolved,” Mr Mavunda said.
Noord Street deserted after snap raid

Hawkers squad nets ‘thousands’ in goods

By Janet Heard

At least 50 hawkers had their goods confiscated by the hawkers squad in a raid on Johannesburg’s Noord Street on Friday.

Within a few minutes, Noord Street — which is not a restricted trading area and is normally a hive of activity — was cleared of all but a few traders.

The goods were taken to the City Deep market, where they were kept until hawkers paid fines.

One hawker, whose goods were confiscated, said: “How are we expected to feed ourselves? We are trying to earn an honest living because nobody can provide us with jobs.”

Mr Kleinbooi Metshe, who has a licence, said he went to the shop and left his stall at the corner of Noord and Wanderers streets under the care of his 14-year-old nephew.

“The squad arrived, and confiscated the goods because his nephew did not have the licence with him,” he said.

Mr Metshe said Friday was his busiest day, and he had R3 000 of goods at his stall. He spent the whole day negotiating to get his goods back at City Deep market.

A spokesman for the hawkers squad said Friday’s raid was part of a routine check.

He said goods were confiscated where traders had no licence, or if they did not move 100 metres every few hours.

He said hawkers were also fined for obstructing the pavement.

‘Harassment by five groups’

Hawkers in the PWV area met this morning at the Central Methodist Mission in Johannesburg. They have condemned the routine raids by the Hawkers Squad and said they planned action to prevent further harassment.

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Archib) president, Mr Lawrence Mavunda, said the frustration among hawkers was reaching dangerous levels.

He targeted five pressure groups — local authorities, manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers and financial institutions.

Councillors’ by-laws restricted hawkers, financial institutions did not provide hawkers with loans, wholesalers did not supply hawkers freely, manufacturers favoured retailers at the expense of hawkers, and retailers called the police to harass hawkers.

“Government says it wants to boost the informal economy and yet they have no idea how badly hawkers are harassed.

“We are campaigning to gain economic rights for hawkers who contribute millions each year to the economy, and these five groups hold the key to us gaining our rights,” Mr Mavunda said.
Hawkers move to end harassment

By Janet Heard

Harassed hawkers are planning to hit back in a bid to force their recognition in the marketplace.

About 300 hawkers from the PWV region met in the Central Methodist Mission in Johannesburg yesterday to draw up a plan to fight harassment by hawkers' squads and businesses, and seek ways to ease the restrictions on their trading.

The meeting was attended by members of the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib), which has 14,000 members in the PWV region.

Plans for five letters to be sent to pressure groups against hawkers were drafted. These include local authorities, retailers, manufacturers, financial institutions and wholesalers.

The letters explain the problems hawkers experience and provide a list of proposals for making life easier for them.
Achib restores the dignity of the jobless

Highly skilled people are among the unemployed

By SOPHIE TEMA

THE Employment Creation Project of the African Council of Haukens and Informal Business, formed to create jobs for the unemployed, already has 138 members – some of them highly skilled people.

ECP has received scores of applications from people who lost their jobs through retrenchments and strikes.

ECP was started after Achib had received 600 queries from people wishing to become hawkers but did not have the capital to buy stock.

Among the applicants are retrenched university lecturers, taxi drivers, a doctor, a printer, a heavy-duty driver, several machine operators, a tour guide and a clerk.

Wilson Mafa, a former police officer, said he used to make no more than R20 a week when he started selling on the streets of the townships, but within a month of joining ECP his earnings went up to R100 a week.

This has been expressed by most of the 138 members.

"I decided to become a hawker because my earnings as a pensioner are too small for me to maintain myself properly because I know what it is to be self-sufficient," said Mafa.

ECP director and Achib general secretary Nomusa Mabena: "It is a tragedy that most of our applicants are highly skilled people who have been searching, in some cases, for more than three years for work.

"According to recent research, unemployment is as high as 6.5 million, which makes it impossible to find employment. ECP offers the unemployed a chance to regain their dignity by being their own employers."

Mabena said many Achib members have already started making a living at this entrepreneur level.

The project has approached four commercial businesses to provide capital that will help new hawkers get licenses, stock and advertising.

"The new hawker is also encouraged to contribute R10 to the project's fund to assist other members of the organisation," said Mabena.

Bridging the information gap

ECP candidates receive their first stock from ECP director Nomusa Mabena.
Hawkers hit at Govt, private sector

By Janet Heard

The African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses (Achib) launched an attack against the Government and the private sector at a meeting recently, saying that while they spoke loudly about boosting the informal sector, they did not grasp the problems hawkers experienced.

Reacting to raids on hawkers, Achib president Mr Lawrence Mavundla said harassment affected the economy indirectly.

He cited as an example two hawkers, Mr Kleinbooi Matsegeng and Mr Peter Maluleke, who lost a combined income of R1500 and had R3000 worth of goods confiscated in a week.

"This money should be pouring back into the economy and not into the coffers of the council, where it is spent on policing more hawkers," Mr Mavundla said.

Mr Matsegeng lost his nephew in charge of his stand while he went to buy more stock. His nephew was fined R100 for not having a licence and over R2000 worth of goods were confiscated, Mr Mavundla said.

Mr Maluleke was fined for blocking the pavement. When he went to retrieve his goods from City Deep market, he said he received only one carrier bag of cosmetics. He said more than R1000 worth of goods was missing, but he could not prove this because the officials confiscating the goods did not make an official note of his goods.

"When hawkers are primed by many researchers to make a major contribution to righting the economy, and to solving unemployment, it is a poor show that they are still being treated in this manner," Mr Mavundla said.

A spokesman for the hawkers squad at the Johannesburg Traffic department, Mr Eric Hill, said people were not fined for the scene, but they and their goods were taken to City Deep market, where they were issued with a receipt both parties agreed to. When the fine was paid, the goods were returned, he said.
Asata chief warns on air fares  
By Paula Fray

Air fares are fast approaching the level of public resistance.

This is the view of the president of the Association of South African Travel Agents (Asata), Mr. Rupert Lawlor.

He said the 8 percent increase announced this week was the second since October 1 and another could be expected in March-April.

"If that happens we are looking at an overall increase of some 30 percent this year. We are fast approaching public resistance," he warned.
PLANS TO OPPOSE PETTY APARTHEID

By JOSHUA RABOROKO
and Sapa


In a statement Fabco said it looked with despair at this attempt to revive the "Verwoerden" policy of "baaskop" in an attempt to polarise further our communities. "Fabco has noted that the council was elected by the white citizens of Boksburg and it seems to have the support of the business committee."

Fabco has resolved to:

- Do everything in its power to work against implementation of this unacceptable "whites only" legislation.
- Consult with grass roots membership in and around Boksburg to work out strategies to signal opposition to the council's decision.
- To look out at and investigate ways to make shopping and the general purchase of goods and services more and easily available to black consumers, possibly by way of reduced shopping trips through taxi to neighbouring shopping centres.
- Call on big business to raise with Fabco to intervene in the Conservative Party's re-introduction of petty apartheid in Boksburg before it is too late.

Mr Tom Boys, president of Umsa, said his organisation condemned the act by the Boksburg Town Council as not being conducive to good race relations in the country.

A Vosloorus businessman, Mr Justice Radebe, said the people of Vosloorus were angry and bitter and had referred to the CP's act as a "national insult."

"We have experienced petty apartheid in the past and we don't want to experience it again," Mr Radebe said.

He said a petition opposing the "racist act" would soon be presented to the Government by the people of Vosloorus.

WHITES ONLY

Legislation

UNACCEPTABLE

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"Whites only legislation unacceptable.

The council is controlled by the Conservative Party.

"The Foundation for African Business and Consumer Services (Fabco), representing the organisations, said it would do everything in its power to work against the putting up of "whites only" signs in the town.

The organisations involved are the South African Black Taxi Association, the National Black
Laws turn traders into criminals — Tager

THE SA legal system had turned honest traders into criminals by creating an SAP Hawkers Squad, Harmful Business Practices Committee chairman Professor Louise Tager said yesterday.

Speaking at the Informal Sector Conference held at Johannesburg’s Market Theatre, she said she was shocked that every hawker she had met at a recent national symposium had had encounters with the police, had been arrested and jailed, had had their goods confiscated and had criminal records because of their businesses.

Many of the laws were meaningless to the traders. They had been arrested because they did not have a licence, or they were trading less than the required 10m from an intersection. Licences were found to be sold by bogus officials and hawkers were also victims of bribery and protection rackets, she said.

“What is an ‘intersection’? Many lawyers, including myself, have found the definition of one elusive.”

Tager called for the revision and deregulation of by-laws.

“There is no doubt that the laws treat the street vendor unfairly. They are oppressive and have a racial bias. Local authority by-laws demand that vendors have to take out a new licence every year, he may not renew an old one. He must wear a white coat, display his name in writing of a particular size, he may not trade within 400m of a store selling the same goods, the move-on rule...
Hawkers’
association
launched

Pretoria Correspondent

The informal sector had employed 2 million people in its phenomenal 80s boom and had grown four times faster than the formal sector, according to Mr Phil Khumalo, managing director of Business Challenge.

Mr Khumalo was addressing about 400 people during the official launch yesterday of the National Hawkers’ Association (NHA) in Pretoria.

The State President, Mr PW Botha, and the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, were guests of honour.

Also present were Mr James Ngcoya, president of SABA; Mr Godfrey Ntlatlaeng, executive vice-president of SABA; Mrs Phlily Makhudu, chief executive of the NHA.

“Although unrecorded in official statistics, the new ‘people’s sector’ was an invisible powerhouse that now accounted for at least 25 percent of real economic activity in South Africa,” said Mr Khumalo.

He said businessmen had still not realised the enormous potential and mutual economic benefits of closer co-operation.

In her speech, Mrs Makhudu said she was aware of the moral support the State President was giving the informal sector and of his support for deregulation and privatisation.
Twice as many hawkers on city’s streets

Municipal Reporter

Hawkers on the streets of Cape Town have doubled in number over the past year—2,946 licences were issued last year and 5,951 this year up to November 16.

The City Council has also set up new structures to help it implement the recommendations of a wide-ranging new “positive” street trading policy plan which it accepted late last year.

Cape Town still has a hawker control unit consisting of a sub-inspector in the traffic department and three teams of two men, but the city now has a far more tolerant approach towards street trading than previously.

A senior council spokesman said yesterday that the city was taking the lead in “doing its utmost” to assist the street trader and promote the informal sector.

The requirement that new business licences should be applied for each year, rather than having existing ones renewed, is to be dropped soon.

Fruit and vegetable vendors are supposed to wear white coats, but this is not enforced in Cape Town.

The council is also going to provide R150,000 a year for shelters throughout the city for hawkers’ use.

In Johannesburg, Professor Louise Tager, chairman of a committee on harmful business practices, told a recent Informal Sector Conference that honest traders were being turned into criminals by unfair laws.

“HAWKER AND “HAWK”... Mr Mogamat Maim of Mitchells Plain hawks legally in Parliament Street, Cape Town, as sub-inspector Chris du Prins of the traffic department’s hawker control unit looks on. The city is more tolerant of hawking than most municipalities and it is deregulating even further while maintaining some controls.

There is no doubt she said. There were the laws, the limitations were on the long they stayed in one street vendor unfairly,” number of employees spot, she added.
CBDA wants control changes

Problems caused by street trading

Shopkeepers should be allowed to trade on pavements outside their own premises, the Central Business District Association (CBDA) has said in a new report on hawking and street trading in Johannesburg.

Highlighting the problems of businessmen, the CBDA retailers' discussion group stressed that traders in the formal sector were disadvantaged because their hawker competitors did not have to pay rent. GST or income tax, and were allowed prominent streetside pitches.

ENFORCEMENT DIFFICULT

The group also observed that some of the street trading appeared to be conducted by bigger businesses using multiple drop-off points, but it would be difficult to enforce controls favouring genuinely small and independent street traders.

"Food vending presents particular problems, with the formal trader being subjected to many expensive health and business requirements. Another matter of concern is obstruction of doorways and window displays, a problem aggravated during bad weather."

"Controlled flea markets are acceptable and could include craft-making and displays," the CBDA group said.

By Shirley Woodgate, Municipal Reporter

Turning to the problems facing hawkers, some of which the CBDA is actively trying to have redressed, the report said that despite the fact that the city council relaxed the by-laws controlling street hawkers in October 1987, there were certain other concessions which could be considered.

"The area of total prohibition of street trading could be made even smaller and stands should be allocated to particular traders who would be responsible for keeping that area clean."

BLANKET PROHIBITION

"Current experience shows the unenforceability of a blanket prohibition."

"It would be better to identify specific areas in which street trading is prohibited and to demarcate those by painted markings on the pavement, as was done in London."

"Street trading can in suitable circumstances add life and animation to public places and these vendors could be useful sources of information for crime prevention," the CBDA said.
Business training boost for black hawkers

Black hawkers are to be helped up the business ladder with a series of basic training courses to be launched jointly by the African Council of Hawkers and Informal Businesses and the Free Market Foundation.

The initial sponsors of the scheme are First National Bank and Nestlé, but talks are in progress with other major corporations about wider support.

The first courses will be run in Johannesburg and Vereeniging.

Training will cover pricing and marketing, consumer relations, guidelines to regulations and laws affecting the informal sector — and basic management principles.

"Our members are natural entrepreneurs who have already scored successes despite masses of restrictions and little or no business background," says Achibi executive Mr. Duncan Mkhomakulu, co-ordinator of the project.

Miss Shirley Tait of the Free Market Training Division says hawkers are becoming the backbone of the economy. "They need all the encouragement that big business can provide to help them make an even bigger contribution to overall economic growth."
They will learn more about trade

By Joshua Raboroko

THE African Council of Hawkers and Informal Business has appointed the training division of the Free Market Foundation to run a course in basic business principles for its members.

ACHIB's publicity secretary, Ms Vicki Sussens, said access to the courses was arranged by the hawkers association after requests came from members who wanted to learn more about business.

Founder sponsors are the First National Bank and Nestle. Other major corporations have shown interest in the project.

The courses, which run for three days, have already started in Johannesburg and Vereeniging. The foundation has also made available its other centres in Durban, Pretoria, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

Subjects include: prices and profits, the role of the consumer in controlling prices, marketing, regulations affecting informal traders, licensing laws, how companies are formed and how they stay in business.

"Hawkers are the backbone of the economy. They need to be productive and create employment. This takes a load off the Government and it creates a healthy economy," according to the manager of the Johannesburg branch of the Free Training division, Ms Shirley Tait.

"Our members are "natural" entrepreneurs who have already shown success despite restrictions and little or no business backgrounds. By providing them with training we believe there is no end to heights they can reach," Achib's co-ordinator of the project, Mr Duncan Mehlomucki, said.
Racist Boksburg becomes hostile

By CHARLES MOGALE

RACIST Boksburg became hostile this week. Contrary to two weeks ago, when traders openly confronted to loss of earn-

ings due to the Conservative Party's proclamation of a return to petty apartheid, most traders approached this week bitterly refused to discuss the matter.

The situation in the small East Rand town this week was tense, with only a smattering of blacks in shops. Gone was the traditional Christmas rush of blacks.

Here and there, a sign on a window made one wonder what meek appeal for reconciliation. “All races still welcome,” however, the signs were largely ig-

nored as blacks from Ve-

gas, Krugersdorp, and Boksburg went to spend their money in the neighbouring towns of Alberton, Soweto, and Soweto.

Gavin Gardiner, a furni-

ture store owner in central Boksburg, told Saps that when he first saw the demonstrators, he had wanted to see the police.

Again, there is talk that several businesses in the area are closing down. Inside a large, well-known furniture chain store in Leeuwport Street, the only people seen inside for more than an hour were two white and four black staff. One of the blacks dressed in Soweto casuals spent a leisurely time at the door of the shop.

Now and then he tried to start a conversation, but only with workers from only a cheerful grimmace. Approached for comment, the manager of the store, who refused to give his name, said business was bad, “but not that bad.” He would not discuss the matter further.

A woman at a stall of a fast-food outlet also refused to discuss the matter. Running bananas and almost shop-sold carrots of soft-

drinks and milk on the shelves bared testimony to bad times.

“I don’t want to discuss politics. Leave me out of it, ” she said.

Even in the post office, which does not fall under the control of the Boksburg Municipalite, race rela-

tions were visibly at a very low ebb. The trend was to politely ask white customers if they could be helped, and to demand brutally of blacks: “Wash your”?

A man clad in khaliki shoes, a hardware store, would not even let the reporter into the shop. Smoking idly in his deserted shop, he shook his head and mut-

tered: “No, no, no, no, no, no, before turning his back.

In Yeoville, taxi fares had doubled fortimes. Said Koor Nure: “Pamie money is all gone. We have no Boksburg anymore. We have even decided to operate lo-

cally only, without any tier-

cies to fill up. We are losing a lot, but our people have the right to withhold their money from racist.”

James Mbuli, whose taxi operates between Yeoville and Germiston, said business had never been so good.

“More and more people are travelling to Germis-

ton,” he said.
Hawkers to become a force

Ahid looks forward to huge growth — Mayundla

Join discussion at

Hawker's and Cokker's

In order to support the growth of the hawker business, the government has taken several steps. One of these was the introduction of the Halal certification for hawkers. This has helped in increasing the trust of customers and has also opened up new opportunities for hawker owners. The government has also introduced a scheme for hawker owners to upgrade their stalls and make them more attractive.

The hawker business is also being given more importance by the government. The state government has set up a hawker board to support the hawker business. The board has also provided training to hawker owners to help them improve their skills.

The hawker business is also being promoted through various campaigns. The government has launched a campaign to promote hawker food and to encourage people to try new dishes.

The hawker business is also being supported by the local community. Many residents are coming forward to help hawker owners by giving them financial assistance and by providing them with other support.

In conclusion, the hawker business is on the rise. With the government's support and the help of the local community, the hawker business is sure to become a force to reckon with.

References:

Support

Support for hawker business

The government has launched the "Hawker Business Support Scheme" to help hawker owners upgrade their stalls and make them more attractive.

The scheme provides financial assistance to hawker owners who wish to upgrade their stalls. The assistance is given in the form of loans and grants.

The scheme has been well-received by hawker owners. Many of them have taken advantage of the scheme and have upgraded their stalls.

The scheme has also helped in increasing the trust of customers in the hawker business. With the improvement in the quality of hawker food, customers are more likely to try new dishes and are more likely to spread the word about the hawker business.

In conclusion, the "Hawker Business Support Scheme" is a great initiative by the government to support the hawker business. The scheme has helped in increasing the trust of customers in the hawker business and has also helped in upgrading the quality of hawker food.

References:

Study

The hawker business in Singapore

The hawker business in Singapore is a well-established one. The hawker business is a popular one in Singapore and is enjoyed by both locals and tourists.

The hawker business in Singapore is well-organized and regulated. The government has set up a hawker board to support the hawker business. The board has also provided training to hawker owners to help them improve their skills.

The hawker business in Singapore is also being promoted through various campaigns. The government has launched a campaign to promote hawker food and to encourage people to try new dishes.

In conclusion, the hawker business in Singapore is a well-established one. The government has taken several steps to support the hawker business and has also made it popular among locals and tourists.

References:
A car rental company is to terminate its agency relationship with a newly elected Conservative Party town councillor in Brakpan, Mr Billy Olivier, because of the town's apartheid policies, it was disclosed yesterday.

Announcing his company's decision to cease trading in Brakpan through Mr Olivier of Billy Olivier Motors, the executive director of Budget Rent-a-Car, Mr Louis de Waal, said Budget Rent-a-Car was an international company which did business with "all kinds of people".

Their agreement will effectively cease on February 28.

"In the prevailing climate of disinvestment, we believe we cannot be seen to be involved in an agency relationship with a Conservative Party town councillor in Brakpan who promotes the enforcing of separate amenities," Mr de Waal said.

The decision was taken because of loss of business from established clients and "the travel industry."