

SOCIAL SECURITY - CHILD CARE

1987

JANUARY - JUNE

876 under 18 have been detained

298
605
11/2/87

JOHANNESBURG — At least 876 children under 18 had been detained since the start of the state of emergency and at least 720 were still in detention, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee said in a statement today.

The DPSC said their figures were "extremely conservative" and did not accurately reflect the "far larger numbers of children believed to have been detained".

The statistics were taken from files of the DPSC which record child detainees primarily from the southern Transvaal.

The statement said 876 detainees of 18 and under were recorded by the DPSC since June 12, 1986. Of these, 684 were 17 and under.

Of those 18 and under, 156 had been released, while 557 of those aged 17 and under were still being held.

Other figures released by the DPSC are:

- Aged 14: 86 detained, 16 released.

- Aged 15: 134 detained, 21 released.

- Aged 16: 127 detained, 39 released.

- Aged 17: 201 detained, 34 released.

- Aged 18: 192 detained, 29 released.

Kagiso-Munseville has almost 200 children in detention, while Soweto has about 220 reported cases. Tembisa cases number 76.

— Sapa

Youths fight against abuse of children

NINE Soweto youths have formed an organisation to protect children from abuse.

The Anti-Child Abuse Association (ACAA), though not yet formally launched, has now been in exis-

tence for some months. It was formed with the aim of protecting children from physical, mental and sexual abuse and for better child care in South Africa.

The Anti-Child Abuse Association

which operates only around Johannesburg has nine members who are also its executive.

Speaking on the objectives of the organisation, Mr Lefty Madlala said it aimed at curbing

all forms of child abuse. These ranged from child prostitution to homeless children. The association stressed that the rising number of children roaming the streets was largely due to public ignorance.

"If there was enough public awareness, enough money should have been available to set up the right kind of prevention services and facilities needed to stop child abuse," another member said.

(298) Sametm
18/2/87

At least 876 children aged 18 and under have been detained since the start of the state of emergency, according to the Detainees' Parents Support Committee.

The DPSC says in its latest report on children in detention that of those that had been detained, at least 720 are still inside.

The report further says it should be noted that many of these children have come to the DPSC's attention only once after they had been released.

"It must be emphasised that it is believed that these figures are extremely conservative and in no way accurately reflect the far larger numbers of children believed to have been detained.

"Nonetheless, we believe our statistics are as reliable as can be expected," says the DPSC.

The following statistics were taken from the records of the DPSC offices in Johannesburg

Over 800 children 18 and under held

By NKOPANE
MAKOBANE

which record child detainees primarily from the southern Transvaal, and a few cases from the Free State, Natal and Northern Transvaal.

Released

A total of 876 children aged 18 and under were recorded detained by the DPSC since June 12, last year, and 684 of these were aged 17 and under.

A total of 156 children aged 18 and under have been released, leaving 720 still in detention, while

557 of those aged 17 and under were still being held.

Three have been charged. Charges are not known except in one case where a child was charged with attempted murder.

The West Rand townships of Munsieville and Kagiso were the hardest hit by child detention. Almost a quarter of these — 179 of the total on the DPSC's records.

Soweto, a far larger township, has around 220 children reported as having been detained to the DPSC's Johannesburg office. Tembisa cases number 76.

The breakdown of the number of child detainees by age is as follows:

Two detainees under the state of emergency — Peter Photugae of Munsieville, who was held for just under three months, and Edward Mosiane of Kagiso, who was held for a month — are 10 years old.

Three of six 11-year-olds detained are still in detention, according to DPSC's records. Two spent six weeks in detention, Sizani Mahlangu of Tembisa spent four months in detention. Stompo Sepel of Parys and Thabo Muzula of Kagiso are entering their seventh month in detention.

Of nine 12-year-olds reported detained since June 12 last year, five are still inside — Grace Ntswaki (Munsieville), Oscar

Tunzi (Kagiso), Moses Tsepetsi (Vereeniging).

The DPSC records are unclear on the detention dates of two others, and to the best of its knowledge they remain in detention. They are Grace Lebone (Munsieville) and Philemon Monage (Alexandra).

Other figures released by the DPSC are as follows:

Aged 13 — 29 detained; 8 released; 21 remain in detention.
Aged 14 — 86 detained; 21 released; 70 remain in detention.
Aged 15 — 134 detained; 21 released; 113 remain in detention.
Aged 16 — 217 detained; 39 released; 178 remain in detention.
Aged 17 — 201 detained; 34 released; 167 remain in detention and Aged 18 — 192 detained; 29 released; 163 remain in detention.
The report also contain certain allegations but the Sowetan cannot publish them because of emergency regulations

Babies well treated, say SA Prisons

WMail
298
WEEKLY MAIL REPORTER

SA PRISONS SERVICE has complained to the *Weekly Mail* about a report that appeared in last week's edition, headlined "Two-year-old spent eight months in cells".

The Chief Liaison Officer of SA Prisons Service, Brigadier EC van Zyl, wrote: "In the said article it is implied that Richard Geelbooi was malnourished and became ill due to the wrong diet and negligence on the part of the warders.

"It is stated that his mother reported his illness to the warders but that he was admitted to hospital only after all the women protested furiously.

"These facts are incorrect as the baby was seen by a doctor regularly, and was weighed during every consultation.

"He was admitted to the Livingston Hospital on 7 July 1986 for a duration of seven days and was treated for diarrhoea. During her incarceration, his mother did not complain about either his medical treatment or his nutrition.

"When his mother was released from prison, he weighed 15kg — a normal weight for children between one and three years old. In fact he weighed 7kg more than when his mother was incarcerated.

"With reference to the incarceration of babies with their mothers, it must be stated clearly that it is the policy of the SA Prisons Service to admit to prison with female prisoners their infants who are wholly or partially dependent on breast-feeding and to accommodate them at state expense for as long as it is considered essential

"Prisoners, as well as babies, are medically examined by a physician as soon as possible after admission and as often as is necessary thereafter. A record is kept of each consultation and all prescribed treatment.

"Prison nurses routinely record children's weight and are in daily contact with the younger children, helping the mothers with their care. Any problems of a medical or nutritional nature they notice are referred to the prison doctor.

"Dietary scales are revised on a continual basis by Prisons Service dieticians in order to ensure the maintenance of the minimum requirements with regard to nutritional values as laid down by amongst others the World Health Organisation. This is also the case with the dietary scales for babies and infants.

● The *Weekly Mail* regarded the baby as neither a detainee nor a prisoner, since at no stage was it detained or arrested. — The Editors

DPSC member testifies in Geneva on child detainees

Star ~~329~~ By Rob Nuttall 29/2/87

A representative of the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC), Mrs Audrey Coleman, has returned to Johannesburg after giving evidence on the plight of children in detention before the United Nations' Commission for Human Rights in Geneva.

Mrs Coleman, of Johannesburg, also saw French President Francois Mitterrand and during a 30-minute private meeting discussed with him a range of issues related to the state of emergency and detentions.

"Mr Mitterrand took a very serious view of the situation. A week before being granted the interview I spent an hour discussing the situation with his counsellor on African affairs and I presume it was on the strength of this that the President agreed to see me," said Mrs Coleman yesterday.

She was invited to testify before the UN Commission for Human Rights by the International Federation for Human Rights. Mrs Coleman's testimony lasted for 15 minutes and she submitted the DPSC report on detentions compiled late last year.

During her stay in France she also discussed South African issues related to detentions with several other leading members of the French Government.

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298 5/12/85

Street children: symptom 'of a sick society'

By Janine Simon

Street children are a symptom of a dysfunctional and sick society, says Ms Jill Swart, social worker for Project Street Children - Social and Educational Support (Proccess).

"These desperate youngsters perceive their homes as a threat rather than a refuge. They run away because they are displeased with their environment and their lot in life," she says in an article in the latest Proccess newsletter.

Proccess now runs two centres for street children - a full-time care centre in the Magaliesberg and a halfway house in Esselen Street, Hillbrow, where the children live for a few weeks to prove their commitment to giving up the street life.

The Hillbrow centre was set up in November 1985 as a result of pressure from the children, who had often endured marked aggression from the public, Mrs Swart said.

The first seven children to sleep there had been referred by the Hillbrow police. Three ran away but four remained to form the core of what is now a full-time care centre.

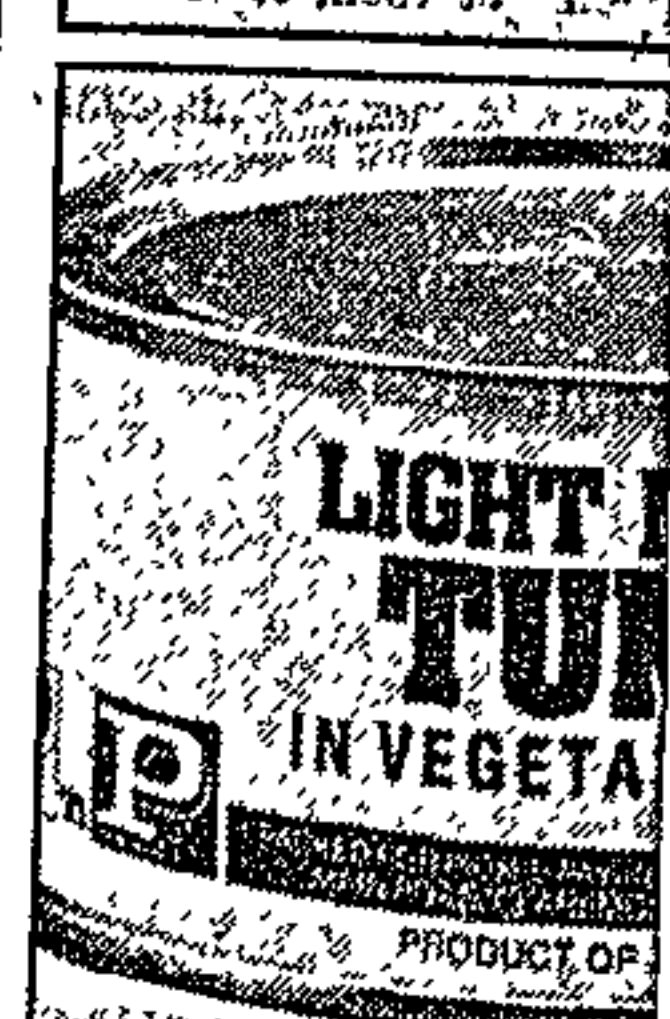
Mrs Swart says home visits and research into children's background have shown they left home because:

- They were abandoned, either because their parents died and left no-one to look after them or because their parent's whereabouts were not known.
- They were rejected - by their mothers because they were illegitimate and the "father" did not maintain them, or by step-parents who physically abused them.
- They came from overcrowded homes, for example from hostels where at least 16 people lived in one room.
- They were exposed to unwholesome or demoralising condition, for example the parents were involved in criminal activities or were alcoholics.
- The extended family was no longer functional to their growth, as parents and grandparents were working and could not supervise them.
- They stole, either to please their peer groups or to improve living conditions in their homes.
- They had been truants.

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Lions' auction bid to help needy children

The Lions of Muldersdrift will hold an auction at Velskoen Drive-in on Saturday to raise money for Child Welfare.

They are appealing to people with goods they no longer need or want to give away.

Child Welfare spokesmen have also urged the public to contribute.

Lions organiser Mr Stiva Mes

said no item was too big or too small.

"We'll take anything from a boat to a briefcase," he said.

He added that monetary gifts would also be appreciated.

All goods would be auctioned at the drive-in, in Hans Strydom Avenue, from 11 am. Said Mr Mes: "There is no reserve price,

so people can pick up real bargains. We would like people to bring goods and then stay and bid."

Mr Mes said goods could be dropped off at the drive-in from 6 am on Saturday. However, if people had items which they would like to have collected, they should phone him at 666-2628.

4/3/87

Detention to be challenged

298 b/lay
AN URGENT application for the release of a 14-year-old girl, on the basis the State President failed to apply his mind to the detention of children under emergency regulations, will be heard tomorrow in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

The girl, who cannot be named, was arrested at her home in Kagiso, Krugersdorp, on September 24 last year.

Her father says she has been in detention under emergency regulations at

THELMA TUCH

Diepkloof prison, Mondeor.

He is to ask the court to declare Regulation 3 — the detention provision — of the emergency regulations invalid and to order his daughter's release.

The Minister of Law and Order says the girl is allegedly a member of the "comarades", and destroyed goods bought by moderate blacks from white dealers, thus endangering public order.

SOWETAN

Daily Mirror

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 1987

27c + 3c GST (PWV) Prices elsewhere on back page

**Botha,
Ministers
and top
cop are
sued**



PRESIDENT Botha ... respondent.

FREE MY DAUGHTER

298 Sweetan 4/3/87

Father of girl (14) asks court

THE father of a 14-year-old girl who is being detained under emergency regulations, brought an urgent application in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday seeking her immediate release.

Mr Matthew Molefe of Nomandi Street in Kagiso 11, Krugersdorp, brought the application on behalf of his daughter, Happy Cleopatra, who was arrested at her home at about 3.30am on September 24 last year. She was 13 years old at the time.

Respondents

The respondents are the State President, Mr P W Botha, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, the Commissioner of Police and the Minister of Justice.

Mr Molefe submitted that if his child had committed any offence as the Minister of Law and Order alleges, "there are adequate means" in terms of legislation to safeguard the situation either through the provision of the

To Page 2

'Free my daughter'

From Page 1

Criminal Procedure Act and the Child Care Act which was in force when his child was arrested.

The State President, Mr Molefe submitted, had manifestly failed to apply his mind to the situation in the country insofar as it pertains to the existence of young children who fell within the purview of an emergency regulation and who were therefore vulnerable to arrest without a warrant by a member of the police force.

Major W H Labuschagne, of the SADF, who is attached to the security policy and was among the officers who arrested Happy, submitted in his answering affidavit that an informant, who may not be identified for security reasons, had told him that Happy was a member of a band of youths who encourage communism, its ideology and aims

She also participated in the burning of a white bakkie by means of a petrol bomb, the major said.

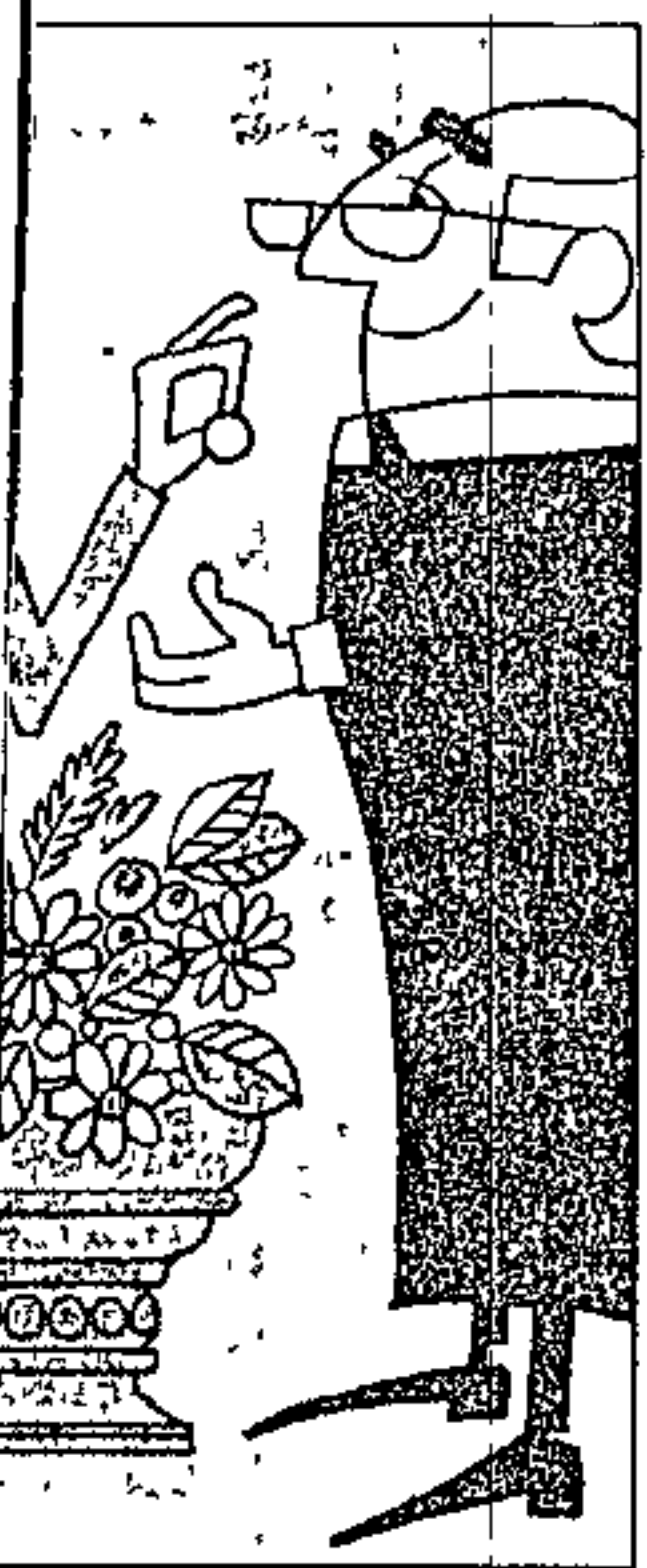
Comrades

Mr Vlok in his affidavit said he had information that Happy was a member of the so-called "Comrades", "a militant group of youths intent on making the country ungovernable by means of intimidation and acts of violence".

In his application for the release of his daughter Mr Molefe said: "I humbly submit that not only in the interests of my child but also in the interests of the child population of South Africa, the State President has exceeded the powers vested in him by the Public Safety Act of 1953."

Mr Acting Justice Myburgh postponed the case to tomorrow for argument. Mr Molefe was represented by Mr Jack Unterhalter SC and Hutton of Johannesburg.

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City streetwalker — aged nine



Two "little strollers"... she (left) is nine and a prostitute. He shares her prospects of a dim future.

Picture: ALAN TAYLOR

Mother city hosts child prostitution

By CHRIS STEYN

SHE is nine years old. She is a prostitute. And she is one of at least 500 homeless children who live and sleep in the city's streets.

She runs in a pack of about 14 other "little strollers".

They tease her and refer to her soliciting as "catching bunnies".

But she is not the only one — many of these children have taken to prostitution to finance their drug addiction. Takings can top R30 a night.

You'll find the children on the Parade or

at the station or under the fly-over in the docklands, clutching torn and thinner-soaked cloths to their faces.

"Why are you doing it," I asked one.

"We are suffering. We are suffering," he said almost incoherently.

Going undercover — Page 5

Next to him stood another "little stroller" who was almost bald. Premature hair loss is one of the side-effects of glue-sniffing and bad eating habits.

One of the prettiest "little strollers" in the group, is thirteen. He has a "sugar mommy".

"Is it true that you have a sugar mommy?" I asked him.

"Yes," he said.

He told me where she lived and said that she had looked after him well. But when I asked him what she did to him when they were alone he looked away and kept quiet.

The Cape Times this week spent 48 hours with the police's special "mugger buster" squad. We discovered that just under the surface of the holiday fun and the glamour of this seaside city, a sad and seedy world exists.

It hosts many sophisticated criminals. And it hosts the "little strollers".

A total of 2 677 children under 18, including 254 who were 15 or younger, were being detained in prison as at October 15 last year, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, said in written reply to a question from Mr Dave Dalling (PFP Sandton).

(299)

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SMR 9/3/87

D URBAN doctors are concerned about the growing number of babies who are harmed, some of them fatally, by toxic enemas given by their mothers.

The enemas are given in good faith in line with traditional Zulu practice, but the substances used have included disinfectants, sheep dip, bleach and even the potentially lethal herb, Impila.

Some babies have died because their bowels have been pierced accidentally with makeshift instruments made from sharp objects like cow horns or reeds.

The number of these cases seen at King Edward VIII Hospital has increased in the past few weeks, according to Dr Larry Hadley, senior lecturer in the department of paediatric surgery at the University of Natal Medical School.

In the past two months, three babies have required major surgery after being given enemas. One of them, a four-week-old baby, died. Her bowel had been irreparably damaged by an unknown corrosive substance and had to be removed. The mother said only that she had given the baby a "soap" enema.

Dr Hadley and Professor Walter Loening, professor of maternal and child health at the University of Natal Medical School, said the solution to the problem was better primary health care and proper education for mothers.

Recent surveys at King Edward VIII Hospital and outlying clinics had found most mothers had tried some form of home remedy before seeking medical treatment for their children, Professor Loening said. In most cases, the mothers had given their children enemas.

Damage

The products used in the enemas ranged from Dettol, sheep dip, ash, salt, soap and herbs to water, which some

mothers regarded as having "holy" properties.

Five children had died in the past 18 months after being given Impila by mouth or by enema, Professor Loening said. Depending on the stage at which the herb was picked, it could be lethal.

"Dettol is one of the favourite forms of enema and is very toxic. It can cause liver damage, metabolic derangement and can severely corrode and damage the gut lining."

"We are not blaming the mothers. This is a phenomenon caused largely by poor care on our part."

"We need to provide more places where mothers can take their children for primary

health care and we need to be more available and accessible to these mothers. By that I mean we should be running our clinics for the convenience of mothers rather than ourselves."

"We need to provide clinics which mothers can attend after working hours and on Saturday afternoons and Sundays."

The education of women was also an important factor, Professor Loening said. A study at King Edward VIII Hospital of home treatments used by 86 mothers showed that only 4.7 percent of them had more than five years' education.

Horn

"Female education has been shown to be one of the most important factors in infant survival."

Giving enemas, purging and causing vomiting were in line with traditional Zulu treatment, Professor Loening said.

Deadly enemas alarm

Natal doctors

FOCUS

SOWETAN Correspondent



PROFESSOR Walter Loening . . . keynote speaker on abused children.



These practices would continue until mothers were educated about the dangers and offered an alternative form of treatment.

"These toxic enemas have happened partly as a result of sophistication. Traditionally, medicines were held in the care-giver's mouth and blown into the patients' rectum with a horn or reed. Now these substances are put in a bulb and inserted into the rectum."

A GROWING number of children are harmed, some of them fatally, by toxic enemas given by their mothers.

"I can assure you that if people had to put some of these substances into their mouths they would never use them in enemas again."

DD Alarm at EL pupils' behaviour

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Principals from high schools here have called on the police, traffic and beach authorities to assist them in an all-out campaign to stamp out drunkenness, drunken driving and general anti-social behaviour among school children in East London.

In a letter sent to parents, the heads claim that feedback from around the city revealed that unacceptable social activity was occurring among the younger people of the town.

The letter signed by the principals of Cambridge High, Clarendon High, George Randell High, Hoerskool Grens, Hudson Park High, Port Rex Technical High School, Selborne College and Stirling High said that the matter had been discussed by principals who had become concerned about the habits and practices which influenced the conduct of teenagers and undermined the standards which sensible parents and teachers were trying to inculcate in young people.

The letter pointed out that, although smoking and drug taking were not the major problems, alcohol abuse was rife and driving cars or riding motorcycles under the influence of alcohol had become common practice.

Sexual activities were also on the increase.

In a statement issued on behalf of the schools, the convener of the East London Head Teachers' Association (senior schools), Mr P. A. Venter, said authorities in a variety of fields had expressed their concern about the city's youngsters.

Problems identified by the authorities included an alarming increase in excessive alcohol consumption, unlicensed driving as well as the problems being experienced with litter, broken bottles, and rowdiness at beach parties.

The statement said it appeared that so-called "after parties" were often organised to follow official school matric farewell dances, and other unchaperoned "house and beach parties" were on the increase. The last official day at school had also become the day 10 pupils indulged in "undignified excesses".

The statement warned that in future authorities would take a firm line on any breaches of the law.

On "high-risk" days, law enforcement authorities would even mount roadblocks, criminal charges could be laid against offenders and authorities would also inform parents and principals.

The statement said that the co-ordinated action was aimed at protecting the majority of youngsters from a minority who abused alcohol and who had an unacceptable standard of social behaviour.

Principals would co-operate fully with parents and the law enforcement authorities.

A spokesman for the South African Police in East London confirmed that a meeting had been held with the headmasters, but declined to comment or disclose any information on the behaviour of local school pupils.

Cape Times

11/3/87

Police act to relieve plight of 'strollers'

By CHRIS STEYN

POLICE have launched an investigation into drug abuse and prostitution among the city's "little strollers"

A police spokesman yesterday confirmed that an officer of the Narcotics Branch had been appointed to investigate crimes involving street children.

Brigadier Nick Acker, the Divisional CID Chief, ordered the investigation following an article in the Cape Times which disclosed that girls as young as nine years old earned up to R30 a night as prostitutes.

The Vice Squad will concentrate on eliminating the use of thinners, glue and petrol among the "little strollers". And they will investigate the incidence of prostitution among young girls as well as boys, some of whom have regular "sugar mommies".

Meanwhile, the Progressive Federal Party's Durbanville candidate, Mrs Beverley Roos, has appealed for more money to be spent on the protection of these children and for tougher penalties for those who abuse them.

"I felt nauseated when reading your story, but it needed to be said," Mrs Roos said.

"I'd like to point out that having sex with a nine-year-old prostitute is statutory rape. That these children need to resort to such atrocious measures to live is a crime against humanity," she said.

"I appeal to all caring women from all communities to write to their city councillors, members of Parliament, and their local judges and magistrates demanding that more money be spent on the protection of communities and tougher sentencing for those who abuse the most vulnerable — chil-

dren, the aged, and women alone at home," Mrs Roos said.

In another development, the chairman of the Mustardseed Faith Mission, Mr John Delpert, has appealed for donations and volunteers to assist the organization in the rehabilitation of "little strollers".

Mr Delpert has already applied to the City Council to make available land to the mission to build a haven for the "little strollers".

"What we ultimately need is a centre where the children can be cleaned up and rehabilitated. Those who respond can then be sent on to a farm where they can learn arts and crafts before being returned to bachelors' quarters or to their homes," he said.

Mr Delpert, who has been involved in the rehabilitation of "little strollers" since 1981, said. "They are not duds. They are only kids who have not had love."

The Mustardseed Faith Mission will:

- Search for, remove from the streets and take in poor, needy, uncontrollable and deviant youths;

- Provide them with housing, food and clothes;

- Return them to school and church; and

- Integrate them back into society, preparing them for return to their parental homes

The mission urgently needs:

- A place where the children can meet and sleep;

- Volunteer workers; and

- Donations of clothing, food, bunks and bedding.

Anybody who can help, should contact Mr Delpert at telephone number 637-7673 or Mr Ashley Theron at 71-5057

Wanted: Beds for babies

11/3/21



**By DICK USHER
Staff Reporter**

THE tiny Khayelitsha home is crammed with sleeping infants.

Some have thumbs tucked in their mouths. Others, not quite asleep, stare round-eyed as we step gingerly through the press of sleeping bodies.

One, taken by an itch or some disturbance, restlessly rolls against his neighbour and all the little uncovered bodies shift and stir on the bare floor in reaction.

A cry breaks and one of the women watching the tots gives a soothing sigh.

Masincedane creche, open only a week, is already bursting at the seams of the home from which it operates.

About 90 children are being cared for daily and the demand is such that, if there was more space the number would double overnight.

And redouble the next day.

The facility has been created from almost nothing and operates with almost nothing except what the committee of women who started it have

been able to raise in the community it serves.

Even at a cursory glance, the needs are manifest and, with winter approaching, urgent.

There are no cots for the babies, no mattresses for the older ones, and no blankets for any.

"We need at least 20 cots, 70 foam mattresses and 90 blankets," said Mrs Mavis Makelen, one of the women who helped start the creche.

The sprawling Khayelitsha complex, home to thousands of people, and expanding every day under the continual impact of rural migrants and others seeking a home in the Cape Town area, needs many services.

But one of the most pressing is child-care facilities for the many working women living there.

Masincedane — "Let's help each other" — has been set up to help meet that need.

At present it is housed in Mrs Makelen's home, a mother of three who works with the Western Cape Hostel Dwellers' Association.

With a three-month-old son she was acutely aware of the need and earlier this year helped bring together other women facing the same problems.

The creche, as a community-controlled community service, evolved out of a series of meetings and opened last Monday.

On Thursday it had 70 children, by Friday about 90.

"Conditions here make these facilities very necessary," said Mrs Makelen.

"You can see we have almost nothing here, but with the double role of mother and head of family almost impossible for women with young children to fulfil, we have to do something for them.

"Because of economic circumstances they have to work, but in these tiny houses we can no longer live as extended families, so it isn't possible for women with little children to leave them at home with granny.

"Khayelitsha does have

some child-care facilities, but not nearly enough and they're only convenient for some areas.

"And, although times are changing, a woman's role as the bearer of the next generation can't be undermined by these problems.

"The conditions are very bad, and beyond the basics of cots and mattresses and blan-

kets we need many things — a stove, a fridge, pots and pans, and food.

"But most of all we need a proper centre," she said.

For this the committee has started negotiating with Community Services. They hope to get a site where, with community involvement, a proper creche can be built to help meet the need.

Picture: WILLIE DE KLERK. The Argus

WILLING WORKERS:

Committee members and helpers at the Masincedane creche take a break while the children sleep. About 90 children are cared for at the creche



The appeal published in yesterday's Argus.

Beds for Babes: Readers give blanket coverage!

Staff Reporter

TOUCHED by the "Beds for Babes" appeal in The Argus yesterday, the people of Cape Town have opened their hearts to the children of Masincedane creche in Khayelitsha and offers of blankets, beds and mattresses have been pouring in.

In a matter of hours, newly-opened Masincedane — it means "let's help each other" — received offers of 90 blankets, 10 beds and about 40 mattresses.

But the over-crowded creche, where 90 children are sleeping on the floor, still needs more mattresses, cots and other equipment, including a gas or paraffin fridge, a gas stove, washing machine, pots, dishes, a cupboard and overalls for assistants.

One of the earliest responses to

The Argus story yesterday came from the supermarket, Shoprite, which has given 90 blankets to the creche.

Marsh Memorial Children's Home in Rondebosch offered 40 coir mattresses.

Other offers came from Mr G Isaacson of Kenilworth, who has promised two beds and mattresses, and an institution which wished to remain anonymous has donated eight beds.

Masincedane creche — caring for about 90 children daily — opened only a week ago and is already bursting at the seams at the home from which it operates. The demand is such that if there was more space the number of children would double overnight.



The End Conscription Campaign (ECC), hard hit by detentions last year, got back on the road again this week with some pavement art in Cape Town
Picture: ADIL BRADLOW, Afrapix

2 200 babies in jail, Coetsee says ²⁹⁸ WMail

OVER 2 200 babies were imprisoned with their mothers last year, according to Kobie Coetsee, the Minister of Prisons.

Giving written answers to parliamentary questions yesterday, Coetsee drew a picture of South African prisons that included overcrowding of over 200 percent in some prisons.

And thousands of children and babies are among those in custody.

The average daily prison population last year was 114 220, more than

WEEKLY MAIL REPORTER

30 000 over the "accommodation figure" of 84 383.

The most overcrowded prisons were Groepunt Medium Security in the PWV area, with 224 percent overpopulation, and Pollsmoor Prison, with 99 percent overpopulation.

Coetsee said the prisons were overcrowded "in the sense that the norm was exceeded". However, overcrowding of prisons was a relative concept and was not an

"unmanageable phenomenon".

The situation at prisons with a temporary above-average influx of admissions was alleviated by transferring prisoners to jails with lower occupation levels, he said.

Other overpopulated prisons included Caledon (93 percent), Victor Verster Medium B (97,5), Calvinia (97,6), Van Rhysdorp (91,9) and Pietermaritzburg Medium B (96,5).

In answer to another question, Coetsee said 2 280 children, of whom 1 880 were black, were held with

their mothers last year.

At December 31, there were 196 babies in custody.

Prison regulations stipulate that a woman prisoner was allowed to have her baby with her "during the period of lactation and for such period as may be necessary".

A further 2 677 children under 18 years old were being held in prison at October 15 last year. Of these, 254 were 15 years or younger, Coetsee said.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS NEWSPAPER HAVE BEEN RESTRICTED IN TERMS OF THE EMER

Try to detect hearing defects early — Penn



PROFESSOR CLAIRE PENN: "Hearing disabilities lead to language and voice problems."

By Sian Blackburn

High-risk babies, including premature babies and those with a family history of hearing loss, should be tested at birth, says Professor Claire Penn, acting head of the department of speech pathology and audiology at the University of the Witwatersrand.

Professor Penn has done research into children with speech and language problems arising from risk factors associated with hearing disabilities.

At least 10 percent of our population has a speech or hearing defect, Professor Penn says.

Communication is the essence of contact between mankind, and aid for children with hearing problems is essential, as most hearing disabilities lead to language and voice problems.

"Hearing aids can be fitted at birth if necessary," she says.

She says sign language is one of the quickest ways to form a level of communication. Staff at schools for white children with hearing problems, discourage the use of sign languages, but black schools and pupils use it everyday.

Overseas evidence shows that profoundly deaf children who learn sign language are likely to have a better linguistic education and social outcome, she says.

MEASLES, SCARLET FEVER

Some children lose hearing due to diseases such as measles, scarlet fever and meningitis.

A child's most important time to distinguish words is during the first year and Professor Penn teaches students in the university's speech and hearing clinic to "rely on a mother's hunch" as, she says, mothers are usually perfectly attuned to their babies.

She says severe hearing loss is easier to detect than a fairly moderate, gradual loss especially in an extremely bright child. Mild loss of hearing is often undetected until children attend school and begin learning to read and write.

Tests are used for different levels of hearing and Professor Penn uses a variety of tones, sounds and stimuli for children of different ages. Depending on the problem, therapy can take the form of a one-to-one relationship with therapist and child or interventions into the child's home environment in which parents are involved.

She says some children who stutter may have a parent who speaks too fast or too slowly — making it difficult for the child to determine proper word pronunciation.

Professor Penn advises parents to follow their child's pattern of development.

"A child should be able to construct a simple sentence by the time he reaches 18 months. If a child cannot join sentences together by nearly four then there may be cause for concern."

Cape Times 13/3/87

Street children tell of attack

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By CHRIS STEYN

TWO senior police officers have been appointed to investigate a mystery attack on five Cape Town street children who claim they were assaulted and teargassed on Table Mountain by unidentified policemen.

The alleged incident took place on Tuesday night.

The children — four of whom live at the Homestead in New Church Street — also claimed that they were thrown into a two-metre-deep dam on the mountain and threatened with their lives.

In an exclusive statement to the Cape Times yesterday, a police spokesman said: "A thorough investigation has been ordered by the

Divisional Commissioner.

"Since the investigation has not yet been completed, the police cannot comment on the allegations at this stage.

"However, on completion of the investigation, the matter will be referred to the Attorney-General for his decision."

According to the children, the drama started when they were dragged from underneath a car in Loop Street, thrown to the ground, kicked in the ribs and bundled into a police van soon after 9pm.

They said they were

taken to Caledon Square police station, where the policemen allegedly fetched an "electric pipe" and a stick before driving the children to Table Mountain.

There, near a dam, the men allegedly beat the children.

"I was afraid that they would kill me," said George, aged 13. "My back is still sore."

The children claim that the policemen chased them in the direction of the dam and ordered them to jump in. They said they were pulled out again when it became apparent that some of them could not

swim. They were then thrown into the back of one of the vans and teargassed through a window.

They were apparently taken to the outskirts of the city. According to the children they were dropped somewhere on the Esplanade and told that if they ever came back to the city they would be taken back to the dam. "You'll be handcuffed and then you'll never come up again," one of the men allegedly said.

Ms Annette Cockburn, principal of the Homestead, said yesterday afternoon: "This is not the first time that our children have been harassed. I've written to Caledon Square and in fact on one occasion laid a charge of assault."

11/6/87 12/3/87

City's generosity takes creche by surprise

Staff Reporter

THE spontaneous surge of generosity for the Masincedane creche in Khayelitsha caught its staff by surprise and they have been hastily trying to arrange a depot to store contributions from readers of The Argus.

Within hours of the "Beds for Babes" story appearing in The Argus on Wednesday, offers of cots, blankets and mattresses flooded in from the public and from various business houses.

The Camps Bay Lions Club has offered to help build a permanent facility for the creche, which is using a

Beds for babes

Khayelitsha home to care for about 90 children daily.

Ellerines, a national chain store, has offered financial help and groups of schoolchildren have undertaken to give toys, pots and pans, mugs and cutlery.

Members of a church are discussing with the creche committee the best way that money they have available could be used for equipment for the centre.

The creche, which has been open for little more than a week, is trying

(298) to meet the need for day-care facilities for the many working mothers of Khayelitsha.

But the demand is so great that the centre is already bursting at the seams and, if space permitted, the number of children would double overnight.

And, following the heart-warming response to their needs from readers of The Argus, the creche committee hopes it will soon be in a position to extend its service.

Negotiations have started with Community Services for a site for permanent facility

SOWETAN

Plea for detained kids

MORE than 2 000 people yesterday signed a petition asking the State President, Mr P W Botha, to immediately do something about detained children country-wide.

This was at a power-packed meeting called by various organisations including the Detainees Parents Support Com-

mittee, to observe the sixth National Detainees Day.

Those who signed the petition included Mrs Albertina Sisulu, president of the United Democratic Front, Mr Aubrey Mokoena, a member of the Release Mandela Committee and Mrs Helen Joseph, a veteran political activ-

ist.

After the meeting, held at the Methodist Church Centre in Johannesburg, scores of youths chanting freedom songs and shouting slogans marched from the centre into the city.

Security forces fired teargas outside the nearby Rand Supreme Court to disperse the

crowd. A youth was seen taken by police to a vehicle that stood nearby.

Addressing the meeting the Reverend Beyers Naude said people must not ask what the children had done to be detained, but rather, what society had done to the children.

13/3/87

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SOWETAN

at Ibongwe School on

being chased by a group

The Star Bureau

LONDON — Archbishop Desmond Tutu has criticised the world's reaction to the detention of children in South Africa.

"I have to say that I am not much impressed with the response of the international community to this particular aspect of a completely outrageous and vicious system," he said at a Press conference.

"If we were able, say, to produce evidence that Mr Mugabe was holding children in detention, the governments who seem to have an extraordinary kind of equanimity over this particular aspect would have been jumping up and down like scalded cats.

"That is why I have been lured to the conclusion that black misery and suffering do not actually mean a great deal to many of the Western governments. They are far more concerned about profits," he said.

The continued detention of children was more frightening than the detention of adults, he said. There were about 250 under 18, some as young as 11, in detention. Some were held with hardened criminals.

Archbishop Tutu, flanked by the Bishop of Coventry, the Rt Rev Barrington Ward, and the Rev Canon Samuel van Culin, secretary-general of the Anglican Consultative Council, was on a three-day visit to Britain for talks with church bodies during which he was made a freeman of the city of Durham.

The Archbishop said the South African Government had to be given credit, even if reluctantly, "for having succeeded diabolically in their curbs on the Press and the media about what is actually taking place in our country".

There had been a reduction in some of the unrest. But if there was a calm, it was "utterly illusory". It was a superficial, surface calm. The anger of the people was continuing, and those who urged non-violence could not show any results of their advocacy.

The Archbishop also criticised Western governments for their attitude to sanctions against South Africa. He said the policies these governments followed on, say, Afghanistan, Argentina, Poland and Nicaragua had been those whereby they had been



It was a case of 'Et two Tutu' this week when Archbishop Desmond Tutu previewed a life-size wax effigy of himself which is to be displayed in the Grand Hall of Madame Tussaud's in London.

And, lo, the archbish waxed exceeding amusing

The Star Bureau

LONDON — It was a time for jokes and banter when Archbishop Desmond Tutu previewed the wax effigy of himself which is to be exhibited in Madame Tussaud's Grand Hall.

"Just look at that!" he said when he entered a room at the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel

and saw the life-size effigy. It wore a long purple cassock and a cross on a silver chain. He quipped: "Archbish, please."

"Which is the more handsome?" he asked as he slipped an arm around the effigy's shoulders.

"I just hope nobody melts it down or sticks pins in it." television cameramen. When one photographer

shouted: "Move across a bit, Bish," he quipped: "Archbish, please." But the Archbishop was serious, too. Asked how it felt to be the first black South African to have an effigy displayed at Madame Tussaud's, he said: "I think it is a wonderful thing for the victims of apartheid that one of them should be honoured in this way."

able to apply sanctions "at the drop of a hat".

There had not been the "sophistry" such as applied to South Africa about whether sanctions were effective and whether they would hurt most those the world wanted to help, he said.

The Archbishop replied with an emphatic "no" when he was asked whether Mrs Thatcher's government was doing enough

about South Africa.

"We would say that action is effective only when apartheid ends," Archbishop Tutu said.

Mr P W Botha was almost certainly regretting having called the election, he said. He did not think Mr Botha would lose the election, although it was "sowing very considerable doubt and a measure of confusion among the troops".

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THE 'MAGIC' FOOD IS THEIR HOPE

Port Elizabeth's Community Chest is stepping up its fund-raising efforts this month by holding its first door-to-door collection. It's a step necessary to boost the chest's funds. But the director, Mr Harold Davidson, realises that the question on many people's lips as they are asked to contribute will be: "Why should I help?" He believes this *Tale from the Township*, written by a woman whose organisation is helped by the chest, will go a long way towards answering that question.

HAVE you ever stopped to think about the poor — the really hungry poor, who stoop under the weight of the sheer poverty of everything in their life? It is not a pleasant thought and less of a pleasant sight. But it is a reality.

Those of us who work for charity organisations witness this reality weekly, right here in Port Elizabeth.

We swallow the lumps in our throats and often wipe the tears from our eyes as we listen to case histories and try to assess which families to put on our food lists and which to turn away.

"Turn away", yes, because that is what we have to do at times due to insufficient funds to feed them all.

As one of these charity workers, I have often wondered if our meagre handout was worth it.

Or whether it really made any difference to the folk who received it — or whether it was a little "do-gooder" game we were playing and if it would even be missed if we stopped.

I pondered on this until one rainy Thursday recently when we were due for our weekly township day.

We have a mobile unit on the outskirts of the township. We arrived before the rain started.

But the skies were dark and grey and farmers and gardeners were all praying for the heavens to open.

Our miserable, hungry, cold, poor folk stood in long queues awaiting the food handout for those already on the books.

The prayer of others was not for rain but just to have their names written in that magic "food book".

My own duty there is to interview and assess these hopefuls.

On noting the condition of the weather, I remarked to the other workers that after the first shower we would all be able to go home as the mobile unit is only big enough for a few of our workers. The others have to stand outside.

That day changed my entire outlook towards the needs of our poor here in Port Elizabeth.

The first shower came and no-one moved — except our workers who rushed into the unit and complained about the cold and wet conditions outside.

We re-arranged ourselves about so as to accommodate them and looked out expecting that some of the queues would have shortened. But there

**'We swallow
the lumps
in our
throats and
wipe the
tears from
our eyes'**

the people just stood.

The shower passed and another and another came down that morning.

But not one single person moved out of the queues.

The lucky ones had brought black refuse bags with them and had fashioned coverings from these.

Four hours after the first shower I was still interviewing hopeful people.

By this time however, they were so cold that some could not speak. They were not just shivering, but actually shuddering from the cold.

One woman came in with a wet shivering child.

They were handed a loaf of fresh brown bread.

The sweet smell of this delicacy set the little one's saliva glands working.

He swallowed and put his hand gently on the bread.

His mother said quietly in Xhosa "Not in here, my child."

That was dignity in the extreme.

The only way he could have eaten that bread was to wolf it.

She knew and did not want that disgrace witnessed.

We knew and saw and swallowed for different reasons.

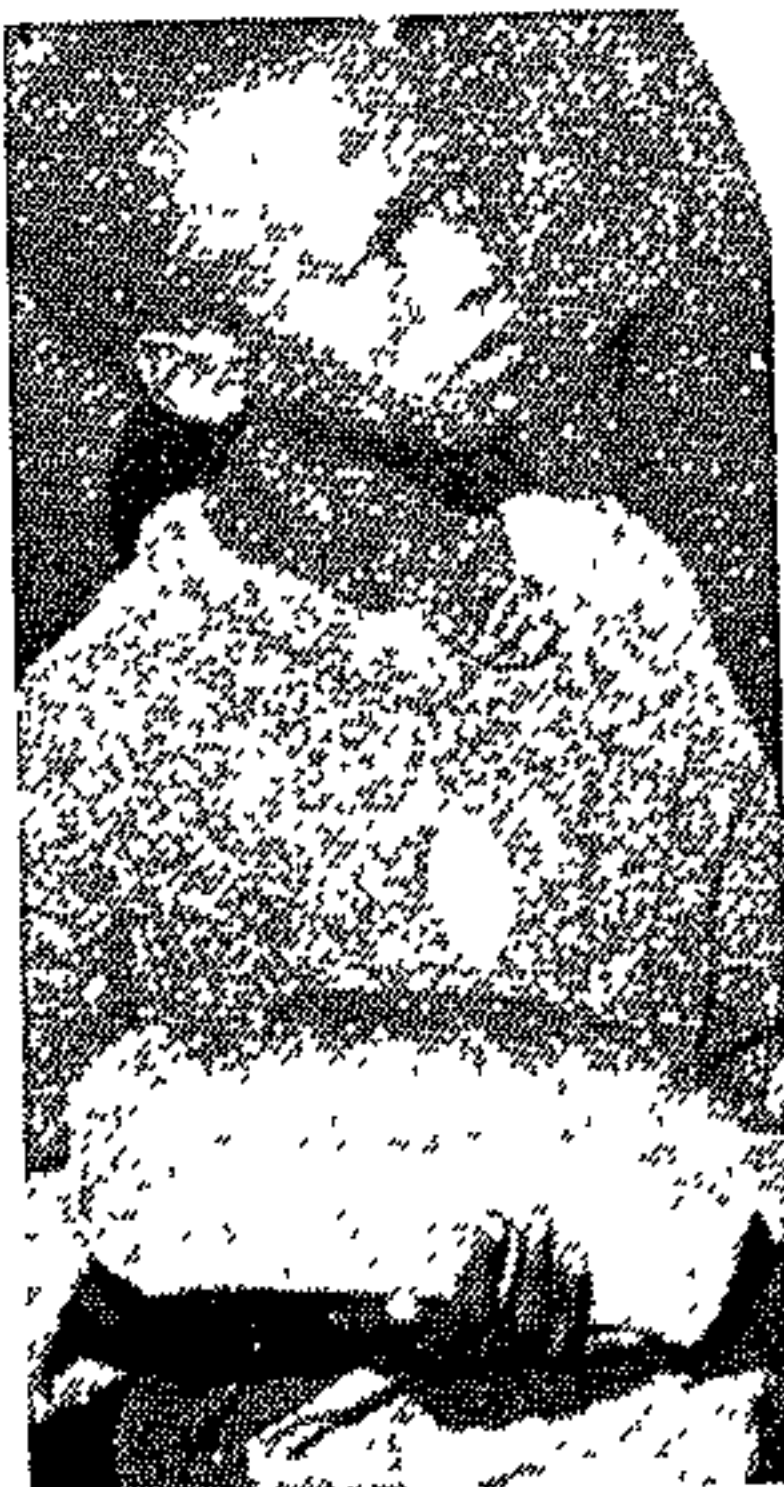
He kept his hand on the bread caressing it and never taking his eyes from it.

The rain kept falling.

A man in his thirties came in, evidence of a new trend.

Men now come and try for food for their children.

In earlier days, when most men had employment, we never saw them apart



His hand caressed the loaf of fresh brown bread...

from the aged wanting pensions.

He was wet and cold and extremely anxious.

He stated his case. The old story, we all know it now: hungry children, no work, no money.

I said I was sorry we could only feed the unemployed, old and sick.

"Madam," he pleaded, "I'm a man and I made a promise to my children this morning."

"I told them they would have something in their stomachs tonight. I have been three days now on one cup of coffee."

"I can cope but they cannot. I cannot bear their crying. I cannot let them cry one more night."

"Please, I cannot let them down, I am their father."

"I will do any work anyone offers me, but tonight I must have food. If I leave here with nothing I must steal. Please help me not to do that."

He battled to control himself. I broke all our rules and gave him food, but only on that one day.

I do not know where he is now.

Perhaps he has found work — but, more likely, his children are still crying, if they are able to.

Some of the tales are terribly tragic. Some hopeless and some even funny.

But always, there is one case each week that gets to me more than others.

Mabel came in, destitute.

She suffered from very poor health and had no means of support at all.

The days of sharing with your neighbour are virtually over.

When food is so scarce it is extremely difficult to starve your own child so that your neighbour may eat.

We had good news for Mabel. Word had come from Pretoria that her pension had been granted.

We told her and said that she could expect her first payment in approximately three months' time.

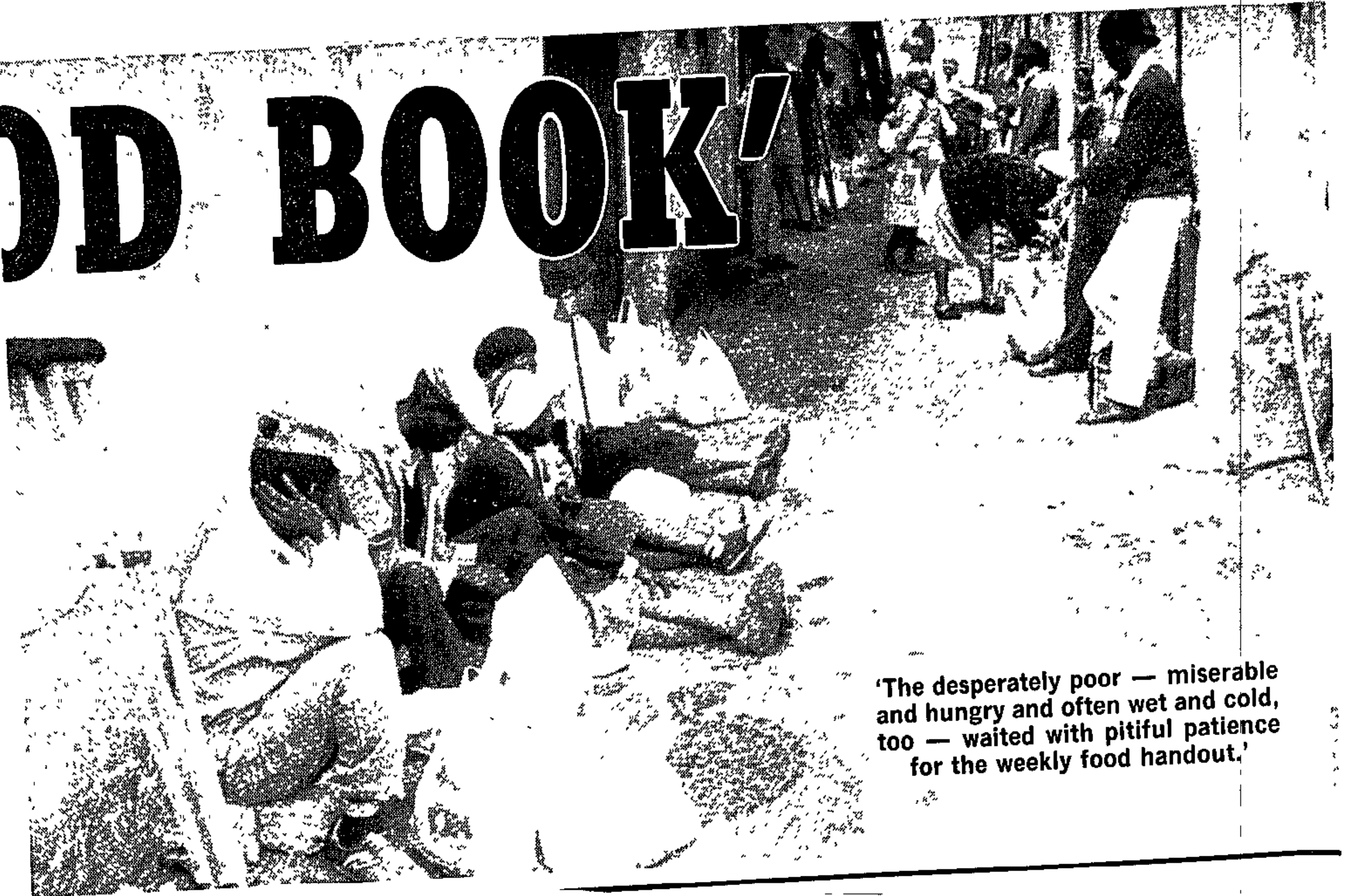
With a huge smile of gratitude on her face, she said "Oh! I will be so happy to be able to wash with a piece of soap again."

'The old story we know so well — hungry children, no work, no money'

14/3/87

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DD BOOK'



'The desperately poor — miserable and hungry and often wet and cold, too — waited with pitiful patience for the weekly food handout.'

Emergency = Day 255

15/3/81

CHP

THE state of emergency was nine months old on Wednesday.

Looking back over the 255 days the emergency has been in force, there is little hard evidence that opposition to the government has been crushed, despite the downturn in acts of violence countrywide.

Though the current state of emergency seems to have limited unrest, deaths and destruction, the realities of the political situation in the country remain unaltered, say political analysts.

The fervent demand for political rights among black people has not weakened. Despite the stringent emergency regulations, the demand for recognition and justice has, in fact, continued strongly.

In proclaiming the present state of emergency – the third in SA history – last June 12, President PW Botha accused the banned African National Congress of trying to foster a revolution. He claimed the government had proof

the ANC was being manipulated by the banned SA Communist Party.

Botha said it had been a difficult decision to make, and warned that SA would "go it alone" if drastic international sanctions resulted.

Since the declaration of the present state of emergency, almost 3 000 people have died in political violence and thousands of others – mostly political activists, trade unionists and children – were detained.

Almost 6 000 detainees have since been released. Most of them were released after Supreme Court orders.

But most of them were served with various restriction orders.

Last December, there were 256 children under the age of 16 in detention. Their numbers according to age were:

- 11-year-olds: One
- 12-year-olds: Six.

- 13-year-olds: 21.
- 14-year-olds: 88.
- 15-year-olds: 140

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok said he was deeply concerned that children have been detained.

"I wish to assure you that no child will be held in detention longer than absolutely necessary," said Vlok.

He blamed the detention without trial of children on callous individuals and radical organisations who wished to make the country ungovernable and who, according to him, manipulated children to this end.

"The government has no option but to act against any person regardless of race, creed, sex or age who places the safety of others in jeopardy," said Vlok.

Most recently, a Krugersdorp father made an urgent application to the Pretoria Supreme Court demanding that his 13-year-old child be released from detention. – Sapa.

(CHP)

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Boards blamed for negative 'charity' view

Image crisis for children's homes

By Janine Simon

Bad marketing has fed public opinion that children's homes are the "local charity down the road" and that anything was good enough for its "poor kids", says Mr Ernie Nightingale, chairman of the National Association of Child Care Workers.

"Children's homes are guilty of feeding the public with soppy, emotional tales of deprived children and fail to make known the range of services rendered by them," he said in an article in the latest issue of *The Child Care Worker*.

This allowed the public to see the child as the ob-

ject of sympathy instead of seeing the institution as the vehicle to the child's recovery.

Many problems of children's homes could be traced back to the policy-making of its board of management, Mr Nightingale said.

Under the Children's Act the board comprised "not less than seven persons".

NO QUALIFICATIONS

No criteria or qualifications were defined and members of a board were volunteers who knew they did not have to do the job for a living and could leave at any time.

General trends in

South Africa suggested that boards of management paid scant attention to the formulation and review of policy, resulting in bad marketing.

Boards of management were accountable to the general public in the same way as a board of directors was accountable to its shareholders and should inform the public of the work being done as an on-going process, he said.

"It is a sad fact that most individuals who work in a children's home for any length of time come away from the experience debilitated rather than inspired," Mr Nightingale said.

Regarding fund-raising Mr Nightingale said it had become the rule that ineffective service delivery and poor management practice were explained away under the disguise of "limited resources".

"Funds are available but they have to be obtained through careful planning and lots of hard work," he said.

The present system of State subsidies was a major demotivator in regard to fund-raising.

The existing per capita subsidy system — rather than one linked to staff design and service delivery — provided 100 per cent reward for poor service delivery and no incentive for improvement, Mr Nightingale said.

First free gifts arrive for Khayelitsha creche



WINTER WARMTH: Thrilled children at Masincedane try out their new blankets, one of the many gifts to help the creche.

Picture HANNES THIART, The Argus

Staff Reporter

THE first gifts have been delivered to the Masincedane creche at Khayelitsha.

A load of 90 blankets was delivered this week by Mr Barry Weyers, sales manager of Shoprite

An excited crowd of children and assistants rushed out of the little Khayelitsha home housing the creche to greet Mr Weyers and his welcome delivery. Eager hands quickly unloaded them and children were soon snuggling into them and testing their warmth.

The creche was started about two weeks ago by the community in response to the needs of mothers who were often the sole support of their families.

Wanted: Beds for babes



The Argus report that caused a flood of help.

but found it difficult to work and give proper care to their children

About 90 children are already being cared for at the creche and the committee has started negotiations with Community Services for a site where a permanent centre with proper facilities can be built.

They have already been promised help with the building and the public of Cape Town responded in typically open-hearted fashion to an article and photograph in The Argus outlining the creche's needs.

Offers of goods and money flooded in and a collection point has been set up at a shop in the Blue Route Centre, Tokai.

Mrs Rita Feldman, owner of Rita's Bay Bargains, will receive goods and store them pending delivery to the creche.

Gifts of money should be sent directly to: Masincedane Creche, I 235, Khayelitsha 7784.

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GIFTS FROM ARGUS READERS ARRIVE AT MASINCENDANE

Truckloads of happiness

By DICK USHER
Staff Reporter

MANY hands, they say,
make light work

Singing helps, too

When the truck loaded with gifts for the Masincendane creche arrived at Kahyelitsha the load of mattresses, beds, boxes of nappies and other items was whisked off in what seemed like a flash

As it arrived, a stream of people poured out into the street laughing and cheering and clapping hands

Within minutes a human chain had formed and spontaneous song broke out as people simply loaded goods off the truck on to their heads and carried them away into storage, coming back to join the line and take another mattress or box

Dozens of eager hands reached up to take the goods and the swarm of helpers had within a few minutes cleared the truck of the goods it had taken most of the afternoon to load.

It wasn't only the adults. Children not more than two bricks and a ticky high carried mattresses that folded over their heads until only two small feet could be seen, staggering somewhat uncertainly under their load

First delivery of gifts

The truckload of goods was the first delivery of gifts to the little creche donated by readers of The Argus since its plight was highlighted in an article recently

It cares for about 90 children daily, mostly from single-parent families whose mothers face the burdensome task of trying to earn a living and care for their children

But, thanks to the generosity of The Argus readers, the needs of one group trying to ease the burden are close to being met.

What remains is to finish the deliveries. There will have to be other truckloads.



Pictures HANNES THIART The Argus

Help from willing hands

GIFTS ARRIVE: There was no lack of volunteers to help unload the truck when a load of gifts was delivered to Masincendane creche at Khayelitsha yesterday.



Black teenagers 'pay more attention to politics than whites'

Dateline: JOHANNESBURG. Michael Chester reports

BLACK teenagers devote far more attention than their white contemporaries to politics and education and are far keener about tracking the news on serious developments in current affairs, according to a nationwide Teencheck survey conducted by Research Surveys.

They are more avid readers of the newspapers and outnumber white youngsters three-to-one as constant viewers of TV newscasts.

All in all, says Mr Bruce Rice, head of the project, black teenagers are much more concerned about the serious aspects of the world around them.

No fewer than 98 percent of black youngsters say educational items should be made a first priority of coverage by the media, compared with 57 percent of whites who rank education as a first concern.

The ratio of black teenagers showing deep concern about their careers — 88 percent of them — was also way ahead of the white ratio.

And the up-and-coming generation of blacks is prepared to be infinitely more independent of parental influence in their views on politics, with 69 percent in total or frequent disagreement with their parents, as against 43 percent of white youngsters.

The quest for knowledge was also found to be greater among black teenagers in matters of health, sex, fashions and avoidance of junk food in their diets.

Though the survey found that three out of four of all teenagers were engaged in sports, when asked to list the recreations that were most important in their lives, the first and foremost in black minds was reading — "showing that the most dominant aspect of young black life is a thirst for knowledge."

Disagreements between parents and their teenage children on moral and social issues are far more common and much sharper in black families than in white families, according to the survey findings.

As many as 57 percent of black teenagers differ radically with their parents over political issues, compared with

14 percent of their white contemporaries.

Differences on moral issues such as sex and drinking soar to 78 percent in black families against 15 percent in white ones.

Yet the generation gap as measured by the openness of communications between parents and teenagers is nowhere near as wide as sometimes made out, says Mr Bruce Rice, who headed the research team.

"We were surprised by the closeness of relations, whatever the differences in opinion and outlook on several key topics. Three out of every four teenagers talked about good relationships with their parents."

"The survey mirrors a pretty wholesome lot of youngsters beginning to develop minds of their own or holding firm views on important issues", he finds.

"Believe it or not, most teenagers like their parents as they are. We asked them what sort of changes they would like to see most in mum and dad. As many as 42 percent of the blacks and 35 percent of the whites said, "None".

"There was accord in 82 percent of families about education and career goals and in 76 percent of families on religious issues. And most were in accord about friendships, general attitudes and social pastimes."

"Even so, when it comes to exchanges of confidences, there is inevitably a small group of teenagers who admit they don't tell their parents anything. Perhaps significantly, this block in communications is four times as common in black families than in white families — about 18 percent compared with only five percent or fewer."

"When it comes to parental discipline, English-speaking parents appear to be far the more lenient. Only eight percent of them are considered by their teenage children as 'very strict', as against 31 percent among Afrikaners and 35 percent of black parents."

"On the whole, South African teenagers — white and black alike — seem to be a well-balanced and happy bunch with very few really major problems in life."

Drugs seen as health hazard

FOUR out of five teenagers condemn drugs as a health hazard and only one in every 50 regards drugs as acceptable, according to the Teencheck nationwide survey undertaken by Research Surveys.

Only nine percent of black teenagers and five percent of whites admitted they had tried drugs. But the number of teenagers who said they had friends who had tried drugs climbed to 23 percent — "and many of them may have used the answer as a subterfuge to cover up their own experiments," said Mr Butch Rice, head of the survey.

Dagga heads the list of addictive drugs used by teenagers. Only seven in 100 admitted they had tried dagga themselves — but a significant 86 percent of blacks and 83 percent of whites said they "knew acquaintances" who had smoked dagga.

Sniffing glue is next on the list. More than one in five of the teenagers who admitted experiments with drugs said they had tested glue sniffing.

Mandrax tablets followed in popularity. About 17 percent of those who admitted testing drugs said they had tried Mandrax — but one in five of them "knew acquaintances" who had done so.

The researchers said the incidence of tests with cocaine and heroin was so low it hardly registered at all in statistics.

Teenagers came down heavily on smoking as a health hazard. Only 12 percent of whites and eight percent of blacks showed any sign of approval. Smoking was condemned by 73 percent of black respondents and 72 percent of whites.

Black teenagers stand in the majority of the 60 percent of youngsters who say alcohol is a danger to health.

5772
2/3/83

Neglected children will soon be at home

WINNIE GRAHAM

Long-neglected black orphans have finally got their "children's village".

The SOS Children's Villages Association which last year, launched a drive to collect money for several new villages throughout the country, announced this week that its new home for children would be opened at Mamelodi, near Pretoria, next Saturday.

This is South Africa's second village and the 10 houses will provide homes for 100 orphaned or abandoned children.

Although SOS villages are multiracial, the need among the black and coloured communities is so great that, initially, new villages will cater almost exclusively for them.

Mrs Rae Bagus, the association's publicity officer, said yesterday that it was SOS policy to give children a loving home with a "mother" and "brothers and sisters".

Mrs Bagus says the second phase of the Mamelodi village is about to begin. This will provide homes for 50 more children and will consist of five family houses, two youth houses and a staff house for a young couple who will supervise and control the youth houses.

SOS plans to open at least one new village a year.

Black teenagers in SA more keen to learn

Black teenagers far outstrip their white counterparts in their hunger for knowledge about subjects ranging from education, politics, sex and health to diet, fashion and sport

They are also far more likely to disagree with their parents on these subjects than are white youngsters.

According to a national Teencheck poll conducted by Research Surveys, 98 per cent of black teenagers feel the media should treat education as a top priority, compared with only 57 per cent of whites

Black teenagers are also far more interested in career guidance than white youngsters, with 88 per cent wanting better media coverage of this topic compared with 68 per cent of whites polled

Information about health was regarded as a priority by 94 per cent of black respondents, compared with 58 per cent of whites.

Black teenagers also want more information than whites on less serious topics. Interest in fashion, sport and dieting ranged from 50 per cent to 87 per cent among blacks compared with between 25 per cent and 64 per cent for whites

Half the blacks polled want to know more about sex, against 34 per cent of white teenagers.

On the other hand, 62 per cent of whites wanted more information on drug abuse, compared with only 34 per cent of blacks

The poll shows that differences between young blacks and their parents are sharper than in the white community. Almost 70 per cent of black youngsters disagreed totally or sometimes with their parents on politics compared with 43 per cent of whites.

Black teenagers were far more likely to differ with their parents on smoking, sex and drinking than young whites

But according to Research Surveys, the 800 teenagers interviewed for the poll appear to be happy and well-balanced with few major problems

Riots, unrest and boycotts were not regarded as serious problems by either race group, except for young blacks in the Eastern Cape who rated these their biggest problems.

Only 10 per cent acknowledged the closure of schools as a problem. — DDC

Apartheid's children of violence

NAIROBI — Apartheid had a "devastating impact" on children in South Africa, making them "either racist or violent or both", according to a United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) report released here yesterday.

The report said children in South Africa "are brutalized not only by the physical violence but also by the structural violence which warps them".

"There is a war against the children of South Africa," a UCT lecturer and co-author of the report, Professor Francis Wilson, said at a news conference to launch the document.

He said some 10 000 children had been detained by the South African police in the past 10 months.

The document, entitled "Children in South Africa", was written for Unicef by Prof Wilson and Dr Maphela Ramphele, who also works at UCT and served a seven-year banning order in South Africa until 1984.

The document says apartheid "has a devastating impact on South African social structures on children, making them either racist or violent or both".

Dr Ramphele said at the news conference that apartheid did not only affect black children.

"White children are socialized to be racists. They are socialized to be part of the ruling block and therefore have a distorted view of their fellow South Africans," she said.

Dr Ramphele said white South African children were "caught up in the conflict in South Africa both as the victims and as the perpetrators of violence".

The document sharply criticized "the horrifying spectacle" of black South African children summarily executing police informers and sometimes mere political opponents by "necklacing".

The report said the "barbaric" practice might also cause long-term damages to the minds of its perpetrators.

"Their psyches run the risk of permanent damage, hence the alarm expressed by some sectors of the South African public that we may come to face a Khmer Rouge situation in the country. The loss of innocence that flows from these acts is a human tragedy the full costs of which remain to be counted," the report said.

The document also said 136 of every 1 000 black South Africans died before reaching the age of five, as compared to 23 whites.

This, the report said, showed "clearly the racial and the structural violence embedded in the South African social structure".

Both coloured and black children were between 14 and 15 times more likely to die than their white compatriots before their fifth birthday, the report said.

It also criticized "the gross inequalities of resources made available between education for blacks and whites and the consequent lack of quality in black education". — UPI

Boyfriend on trial after kids 'bashed'

JOHANNESBURG — A Birnam man who, amongst other things, allegedly threw a child against a wall, has been charged with two counts of child abuse.

The man, whose identity may not be revealed, is alternatively charged with assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

He pleaded not guilty in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court yesterday to the two charges involving an eight-year-old boy and a 12-year-old girl.

It is alleged he abused his girlfriend's two children by punching them in the face, flinging the girl against a wall and hanging the boy by his feet over a swimming pool with his head under the water.

Other allegations in-

clude causing a laceration on the girl's ear by ripping out her earring.

The boy's injuries include allegations of a cigarette burn on the mouth and being hit above the genitals with a rope.

Miss Zelda Ireland, who reported the case to the authorities and who is a colleague of the children's mother, said she had seen the little boy on numerous occasions with black eyes

and bruises on his face

She inquired from his mother about his condition after seeing him on two consecutive weekends with a bruised face and eyes.

His mother explained that he had fallen out of a tree.

Miss Ireland also said that the little girl was always very withdrawn and scared.

The children eventually confided in her that they

had been "bashed up" on several occasions by their mother's boyfriend.

They asked if they could stay the night with Miss Ireland because they were too frightened to go home.

In the bath that night, when the children were with her, Miss Ireland said she noticed several bruises and marks on the little boy.

She said she noticed bruises and a "raw area"

on his spine as well as a bleeding cut at the base of his skull

She said she called a doctor and was advised to take the children to the Johannesburg Hospital.

Arrangements were immediately made for them to be taken into foster care, where they have been ever since

The hearing was postponed to Friday. — Sapa

Murder hearing postponed to June

The Rand Supreme Court hearing of a Krugersdorp couple charged with murdering and assaulting with intent to seriously injure their 18-month-old son last year, was postponed yesterday to June 2.

No evidence was led and Mr Willem Frederick Opperman (22) and his 23-year-old wife, the child's natural mother, Carolina Georgina Opperman, both of Jandor Flats, Vlei Street, were not asked to plead.

In an indictment before the court it was alleged the couple assaulted the child between November 22 and September 3 last year — the date he died after allegedly being thrown or hit against a wall in the flat.

The couple allegedly abused the child on a number of occasions by striking him with fists, open hands and other objects including a knife.

A 1 1

Man accused of assaulting his girlfriend's young children

298
5742
24/3/87

The trial of a Birnham man charged with two counts of child abuse began yesterday in the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court.

The man, whose identity may not be revealed to protect the children, is charged with two counts of child abuse (alternatively assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm) involving a boy of eight and a girl of 12.

It is alleged he abused his girlfriend's two children by punching them in the face, flinging the girl against a wall and hanging the boy by his feet over a swimming pool with his head under the water.

He has pleaded not guilty.

Very scared

Miss Zelda Ireland, who reported the case to the authorities, told the court she had seen the little boy on numerous occasions with black eyes and bruises on his face. She inquired from his mother about his condition after seeing him on two consecutive weekends with his face and eyes bruised.

His mother explained that he had

fallen out of a tree.

Miss Ireland also said the little girl was always withdrawn and scared. The children eventually confided in her they had been "bashed up" on several occasions by their mother's boyfriend.

They asked if they could stay the night with Miss Ireland because they were too frightened to go home.

In the bath that night, when the children were with her, Miss Ireland said she noticed several bruises and marks on the little boy. He had been anxious the whole day and had not allowed her out of his sight.

When bathtime came he insisted on her washing him. She said she noticed bruises and a "raw area" on his spine as well as a bleeding cut at the base of his skull.

She said she had called a doctor and was advised to take the children to the Johannesburg Hospital.

Dr David Luyt, the doctor on duty that day, admitted the children. Arrangements were immediately made for them to be taken into foster care, where they have been ever since.

The hearing was postponed to March 27.

WHITEHEAD
To Colin and Corinne
25 beautiful daughters born
25 March 1961. Thanks to
Doctor and Staff of the
Morningstar Clinic.

SAVING THE KIDS



CHILDREN of the SOS Village in Mamelodi, Pretoria, leave their prints in the wet cement to mark the official opening of their home at the weekend. With them are Werner Handl and Mr Michael Rantho. Pic. MBUZENI ZULU

GOVERNMENTS throughout the world should help needy children of all races and stop spending billions of rands on weapons to pollute and destroy the world.

This message was delivered by Mr Werner Handl, deputy general secretary of the Save Our Souls Kinderdorf International at the official opening of the multi-million rand children's village in Mamelodi, Pretoria, on Saturday.

Mr Handl, who travelled from Austria especially for the ceremony, urged the governments and the community throughout the world to put the care and well-being of children above all their priorities.

Those who attended the ceremony included the Austrian Ambassador, Dr Alexander Christian, embassy officials, Mr Jerry Jackson of the United States, Mr Ed Wills of Canada and Mr Tony Gooch of Britain.

Representatives of the SOS Kinderdorf International from Zimbabwe, Botswana and Namibia also attended.

Cost

The SOS's village consists of 10 homes which have a posh kitchen, bedroom, dining room and a lounge. Each home also has a television set, fridge and an electric stove.

The village caters only for abandoned, neg-

lected and destitute children.

Community organiser of the SOS in Mamelodi, Mr Pasty Malefo, said they had 15 children at the village.

He expected to have about 100 children by the end of the year. Mr Malefo appealed for financial help from the private sector. He said it cost R150 a month to keep one child at the village.

He added that the second phase of the village was underway. About 50 more children would be accommodated there.

Mr Handl also praised Mr Michael Rantho,

vice-chairman of the SOS board for his special services and insistence that the village be built in Mamelodi.

He presented Mr Rantho with an SOS gold medal and the village's 'key of love and peace'.

Dr Nico Smith, chairman of the Pretoria Council of Churches, blessed the village. He said churches had neglected children and hoped the village would create a better future for all in this country.

The Rev Lucas Mabusele said the village was 'a finger pointing at us reminding us to take care of our children.'

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Operation Hunger feeding teams need R14-m after flood of appeals

By Janine Simon

Operation Hunger needs R14 million for the coming financial year, its executive director says.

Mrs Ina Perlman said the agency was committed to feeding more than a million people until May and had a waiting list of 30 000.

Every area was being reassessed with a view to cutbacks but this had been overtaken by a flood of new appeals from the western Transvaal, northern Zululand and the steadily increasing urban poor throughout the country.

"The predicted upturn in the economy has most certainly not filtered down to those at the bottom of the heap," Mrs Perlman said.

"We need to double our development budget — appeals for development aid in Sekhukhune land alone will require R500 000."

"Total disaster"

The picture in homelands varied, although poverty was the norm.

"In kaNgwane the farmers we have been working with should have their first good maize crop in five years.

"In Gazankulu the scene is one of total disaster — far worse than in 1984 and 1985. In December, after the promising rains, we supplied seed in the Mhala district. Last week I drove from Acornhoek through to Lilydale to witness a total failure of the maize crop."

Mrs Perlman said rural unemployment was not diminishing and there were far fewer permanent and seasonal farm jobs than five years ago.

"Urban retrenchment has knocked the bottom out of the black rural economy which is totally dependent on income from the outside. The shortage of any land, let alone arable land, makes a mockery of any talk of a rural subsistence economy," she said.

5/9/85
29/3/85
29/3/85

Help make this winter a warm one for the needy

Child Welfare Societies country-wide will benefit from a national warmth-for-winter campaign launched in Johannesburg yesterday.

Operation Warmth, which aims to collect and distribute any items of warmth for the destitute and needy, is being run by Ellerines Furnishers in co-operation with the National Council for Child and Family Welfare.

The company's more than 120 stores will act as collection points for donations of anything that will help minimise the cold — clothing, blankets, heaters or even soup packets.

Goods will be collected and distributed by the workers of the 170 Child Welfare Societies affiliated to the National Council.

Managing director of the furnishing company, Mr Eric Ellerine, said his company had made a donation of 1 200 blankets to begin the campaign.

He said Child Welfare had been chosen as the co-organiser because it had "an excellent record for catering to the needs of the less privileged members of our society".

Top sports and entertainment personalities have pledged support for the campaign, which will run from April to June.

The special chil

KARIN Nel was 24 when she gave birth to her first child, a bonny, fair-haired little girl christened Renette

It took 10 months before she realised something was amiss

On examination it was discovered Renette had a heart defect. She was also a Down's Syndrome baby, suffering from a chromosomal disorder which causes delays in physical and intellectual development

But for Karin the revelation was not the trauma it could have been

'Obviously, it was a shock — but I remember after hearing the news, looking at her playing happily on the carpet, and realising "She's still the same precious little girl"

'By that time I'd bonded so much with her that it

didn't really matter. I knew I loved her, whatever she was'

Karin's case refutes the myth that Down's Syndrome is a symptom of birth over the age of 35. In fact, statistics show 80% of mothers who bear Down's children have not yet reached their mid-thirties

Down's Syndrome so far has not been related to race, nationality or socio-economic status. And although it is the leading cause of mental retardation in the world, its cause is as yet unknown

A tiny percentage of cases does occur through hereditary factors, and is called translocation Down's. Only a few such cases are known in Durban

One is Margie Gammage, who gave birth to blond-haired Kenny, a Down's

One in 650 women who give birth is likely to produce a Down's Syndrome child. Yet little is known, and even less accepted, about the realities of having a Down's baby. This being the 10th anniversary of the Durban Down's Association, JANE CONYNGHAM spoke to mothers who are fighting to have their 'special' children accepted by society.

Syndrome baby, two years ago

'It turned out half my family were carriers — but no one had displayed the symptoms. We discovered my sister had a one in four chance of producing a Down's child, yet she had four healthy, normal children.

'Kenny was my first child, and he had Down's.

'But,' she says, 'I don't believe I was just unlucky to be caught. I feel we're destined to have the children we have. When you think that 80% of all Down's babies miscarry, you realise they are actually very special children'

Margie, like Karin, is an active member of the Durban Down's Association, formed 10 years ago as a support group for mothers like them

Together they discuss their experiences, the hurdles and successes of having a Down's Syndrome child. They come to terms with the initial shock, and share their growing joy at watching their children develop their own lively, loving personalities

It is this invaluable support that brings other mothers such as Barbara Higgins from Richards Bay and Lynda Shelton from Amanzimtoti to the

association offices in Durban every week.

And it is the desire to see their children accepted normally by society which unites them

'Our babies are not monsters who drool in a corner,' says Lynda. 'They are happy, beautiful children whose development is slow'

Adds Karin, 'Our children are more like normal children than unlike them. They do everything other children do — they're just slower.'

The mothers point to the fact that the term 'mongol' in America is illegal. Unfortunately the Press here has done so much harm in this way

'In the past, Down's Syndrome babies were locked away in homes,' says Mar-

gie. 'If you saw one on street, you pointed, stared. We're trying to change all that'

'With a lot more Down's children being brought up in their parents' home, they are developing much faster now. Physiotherapy improves their muscle tone, and with early intervention they can even achieve a normal IQ range'

They point out that the average IQ of a Down's Syndrome child is between 55 and 68 (normal IQ is 110). But studies in America have shown that with treatment this level can increase by up to 20%.

Thirteen percent of Down's Syndrome children treated in America can attend normal schools in America, too, some Down's Syndrome couples marry, although they are almost without exception sterile. And in England three years ago a Down's Syndrome man had his autobiography published to critical acclaim

In South Africa, however, developmental facilities for such children are far behind. Speech and physiotherapists are sadly

THROUGH the Durban Down's Association 35 mothers in Durban receive support and encouragement, assisted by parents who have undergone special training to act as counsellors to new parents

The association also develops home programmes for early stimulation and plans to establish labour-intensive industries geared to the needs of Down's Syndrome people. They are planning to employ a full-time developmental therapist

For the past eight months the office has been at the Happy Hours centre for handicapped children in Sherwood, but this month these premises have to be vacated

The association is now urgently seeking permanent premises which will house its office, resource centre and toy library. Anybody who is able to assist can contact Lynda Shelton on 9036669, or May Lundy on 783637.

Parents with Down's children are fighting for their rights — but how do Down's sufferers themselves view their quality of life? JANE CONYNGHAM spoke to 23-year-old Juanita.

PERHAPS the most endearing qualities of Down's Syndrome people are their affection, loyalty and happy dispositions. Most will work tirelessly to receive praise, or simply bring pleasure to others.

But what about the frustration, the stigma of being labelled different?

For Juanita, a former pupil and now part-time employee of Verulam's Sunfield home for mentally handicapped children, the problem is non-existent. Like many Down's sufferers, she does not view herself as different.

She does not even admit she suffers from the syndrome which has kept her in special schools for most of her life.

'I know a lot about Down's Syndrome,' she says. 'I've studied it for a long time, and read a lot about it. But I don't have it — well, I don't think so. I'm more intelligent than the other children here'

'I was a pupil here for a while,' she admits, 'but now I'm a member of staff, and help out in the classrooms'

'I don't feel I get treated differently at all. Everyone treats me just the same as other normal children.'

Indeed, apart from her stunted appearance, Juanita could almost pass as a normal adult. Classified as a Mosaic Down's, which means some of her cells are normal, she is the brightest Down's Syndrome pupil Sunfield home has ever produced.

Unlike most Down's people who require constant supervision, she has adapted well to the outside world. And although life is uneventful, she is happy working at Sunfield, helping out in classrooms, looking after the children, running errands, and supervising tea-making

In her spare time she



Juanita and niece Candice. 'I'm very protective of her. I spoil her to bits. I wish she was my child.'

rarely goes out, contented to remain at home reading love stories, watching videos, doing the housework and looking after the children of her sister, with whom she lives.

'I love doing the housework,' she smiles. 'I enjoy cleaning the house, doing the ironing, bathing the children, changing their nappies, and making supper'

'I hate doing nothing. I have to be kept busy all the time. I only watch TV when I've finished all the housework.'

Her biggest love is children and she babysits her two small nieces at every opportunity, showering them with love and protection. Her sister Beaulah happily entrusts the children to her care, saying that if anything, Juanita is

over-protective. 'I'm never very far from my nieces. I love children very much. I wish I could have one of my own,' Juanita says wistfully.

But like all Down's Syndrome women, Juanita is sterile and will never bear a child — a fact she accepts, if for the wrong reasons.

'I can't have children, because I don't have a boyfriend,' she says. 'I used to have a boyfriend at the school, but he was handicapped — and I don't like handicapped boys very much.'

'If I get married, I must have a normal husband. But,' she adds earnestly, 'if I had handicapped children, I would still love them with all my heart. I've studied handicaps for a long time. I would know how to care for them.'



Special children (from left) Andrew Shelton, Kenny Gammage and Jenna Higgs

Pictures: Patrick Mtolo

1987
The Natal Mercury, Tuesday, March 31,

ren

HERS
woman's
page

lacking, and most Down's Syndrome children are forced to attend special schools.

"We're determined to try and alter that," says Margie, whose son Kenny attends a normal nursery school three days a week.

"Many Down's children can cope quite adequately," says Barbara. "And we want our children to be accepted as normally as possible. If their IQ allows, why shouldn't they attend a normal school, get a normal job, have normal relationships?"

SA holding thousands in prison for months

When we fear even children

298
4/4/87
SMA

Tens of thousands of children are held in police cells every year under normal criminal law and are kept for unspecified periods which can run into many months.

A further unknown number are in prison awaiting trial and serving sentences.

In many cases, these children cannot be released into their parents' care because bail is set prohibitively high. This extends their stay in jail.

And many of these young detainees spend months in prison eventually to be acquitted or their charges withdrawn.

In Parliament recently, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok, said in answer to a question that last year children held in police cells under criminal law numbered 58 962.

HARDSHIP

He also revealed that the figures for 1985 and 1984, respectively, were 62 136 and 52 730.

The Saturday Star, investigating the claims, discovered details of the hardship and suffering inflicted on child detainees whose home and school lives are seriously damaged by their imprisonment.

The Minister said that the only other details that would be released officially about these children were that "the vast majority of these persons are juveniles who were detained in police cells at first apprehension, before their first appearance in court".

The Minister of Law and Order suggested that most of these children were held only a short time, by saying that they were kept under section 50 of the Criminal Procedure Act — which permits only 48 hours' arrest before the person is brought to court.

"Only in exceptional cases are awaiting-trial juveniles detained in police cells for longer periods," he stated, adding that it was more usual to place such children in the care of parents, guardians or "in places of safety as defined in the Children's Act (sic)".

Miss Fiona McLachlan, author of two comprehensive studies on young people in prisons and in child-care facilities, points out that police stations are classified in law as places of safety.

Her 1986 study reveals that for black children alternative places of safety — such as children's homes or institutions kept exclusively as places of safety and detention — are few and far between.

A recent Black Sash monitoring report on public violence cases in the Western Cape shows that children on trial are not necessarily released without bail into the

JO-ANNE COLLINGE

custody their parents — and that bail may be prohibitively high.

"We have a case of five scholars, aged 15 to 17, who were refused bail for almost three months in 1985, released without being charged and then detained again early in 1986 and refused bail for a further four months 'because if they are released they will start a boycott'," the report records.

The Sash illustrates its argument that "bail may be seen as part of the punishment process" by citing cases in which

- Three young men accused of being at the forefront of an unrest crowd had bail set at R1 000 each.

- A student accused of arson — and subsequently acquitted — sat for some time in Pollsmoor Prison because he could not afford R2 500 in bail.

The Sash monitored the public violence cases of 226 juveniles in the Cape. Only 22 percent of these children were convicted — in all other cases, there were acquittals or withdrawals of charges.

The trials, frequently, are spread over months, with repeated postponements. "So much hardship is involved — in addition to the fundamental anxiety about the fate of the accused," says the Sash. "There is the loss of schooling, possible loss of several days' salary when leave has to be taken to attend court and sometimes actual loss of employment when employers are unsympathetic."

While the Minister of Justice has repeatedly said in Parliament that total figures for the number of juveniles kept in prisons are not available, some daily tallies of child prisoners have been released from time to time.

VIOLENCE

These are largely for the period preceding the intense political resistance of 1985/6, and it is likely that public violence cases have swelled more recent figures.

The Sash report says sentences for the minority of juveniles who are finally convicted of unrest-related offences may be heavy. It records a seven-year sentence for two juveniles accused of intimidation/assault.

On a single day in 1983 (July 17), 1 970 children could be found in prison cells across the country, according to official figures quoted in the 1984 McLachlan study, "Children in Prison in South Africa". More than 700 of these were awaiting trial.

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SPAK
10/4/87

Prayers for children

DURBAN — The former Anglican Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Philip Russell, will be among 40 clergymen who will carry symbolic crosses at a special Good Friday service in Durban at which prayers will be offered for children in detention.

A spokesman for the Diakonia Ecumenical Church agency said today that each cross would represent one of the 40 children known to be in detention in Durban.

The Anglican Bishop of Natal, the Rt Rev Michael Nuttall, will also take part. — Sapa.

A mother's anguish



MRS SENGWANA . . . she was twice near tears as she spoke of her detained son. See story on Page 2.

By NAT DISEKO

SIX of the victims of the Ermelo mine disaster sent on a mercy dash to the Rand Mutual Hospital were still critical yesterday.

A third Mr John Mkhonza is in

'DPSC will not rest'

From Page 1

children be held. The Detainees Parents' Support Committee at the weekend announced that it would challenge the new regulations in court.

Dr Max Coleman told families and relatives of detainees at a tea party held at the Civic Centre Methodist Church in Braamfontein that the regulations would dras-

tically affect the DPSC's operations.

Dr Coleman, however, assured them that the committee would by no means abandon its basic platform to condemn detention without trial.

He said lawyers were studying the implications of the regulations with a view to challenging them in court.

Saturday's tea party started rather unusually

when no opening prayers were said. Dr Coleman explained that the pray-

ers could not be said as there was a likelihood that the new regulations could be contravened.

He said that in their prayers, relatives would most likely pray to God and ask that detainees be released. This, he said, could be seen to be an infringement of the regulations.

'DPSC will not rest'

By SY MAKARINGE

BETWEEN 3000 and 4000 children, some of them aged 11, have been held in detention — and at the weekend the Government imposed regulations which effectively make it an offence for parents to campaign for their release.

In an extraordinary Government Gazette published on Friday night, the Commissioner of Police, General Johan Coetzee, extended the

definition of subversive statements by making it illegal to make statements which would have the effect of encouraging members of the public to:

- Sign petitions calling for the release of detainees, call, orally or in writing, for detainees to be released;
- Protest against deten-

tions;

- Fill in coupons calling on the Government to release detainees;
- Wear T-shirts and display stickers or posters calling for the release of detainees;
- Attend detention protest meetings.

The regulations effectively prohibit people, including parents of detained children, from, in conjunction with other people, pleading for the

lease of their children

The Government has admitted that there were children being held in detention, some of them as young as 11.

These children, according to the Ministry of Law and Order, were being held for various reasons. Minister Adriaan Vlok recently said although he did not like it, it was in the country's interests that the

To Page 2

298 572 14/4/87

There's still disparity in grants for foster care

By Janine Simon

Despite continued pressure for parity, foster-care grants for whites will be almost double those for blacks when grant increases announced in the mini-budget take effect in October.

But there are hints that the struggle against the practice of stopping grants for black children at 16 — although legislation allows funds to be provided until the age of 18 — might be drawing to a close.

A spokesman for the Directorate Community Development of the Department of Development Planning said: "We are working on the issue but have not yet taken a decision."

He said that according to internal departmental policy, grants for black children were re-assessed, not stopped, at 16.

"If a social worker can prove the child is being cared for and is attending school the grant will be paid," he said.

Social workers have said that in most cases applications for grants to be continued failed.

The spokesman said the department was sympathetic but that its budget could not always meet all priority welfare needs.

Increases take effect from October 1. Grants rise to R153 for whites, R123,50 for Indians, R110 for coloureds and R79 for blacks, respective increases of 15, 19, six and 33 percent.

The Foster Care Action Group has said equal increases recognised the need for parity, but did little to address real problems.

The group comprises Johannesburg social workers who have made numerous protests to the Government about racially based disparity in grants.

Chairman Miss Sandra Greyling said. "We see no reason for the disparity. Payments for black children will still be hopelessly inadequate — particularly as many enter foster care as malnourished infants who need expensive, fortified diets.

"Many of those willing and available to care for children are pensioners, whose income makes providing proper nutrition and acceptable standard of care impossible."

Ending grants at 16 made black children in foster care prime candidates for juvenile delinquency, she added.

"Déný a child a healthy family life and he may develop social problems — for which the State ultimately has to pay in the form of institutionalisation, police and prison, rehabilitation and psychiatric services."

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R1 750 is given to EL Childrens Home

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — A cheque for R1 700 was handed over to the East London Childrens Home by the Border Stock Car Association here yesterday.

The Stock Car Association held a special out of season meeting earlier this month specially to raise funds for the children's home

"All of the children were taken for a ride around the track in the stock cars and they all had free access to the kiosks," he said

The cheque was handed over to the home by the chairman of the Border Stock Car Association, Mr Dave Mall.

"All the drivers took part during their own

time and at their own expense, and they thoroughly enjoyed it," Mr Mall said.

"Stock car drivers are rough and tough guys but they are all soft at heart."

Mr Mall said that it is very likely that this sort of event will be organised again.

Mr Remy Todor of the

East London Childrens Home said that this was a "very different way for money to come into the Malcomess Home"

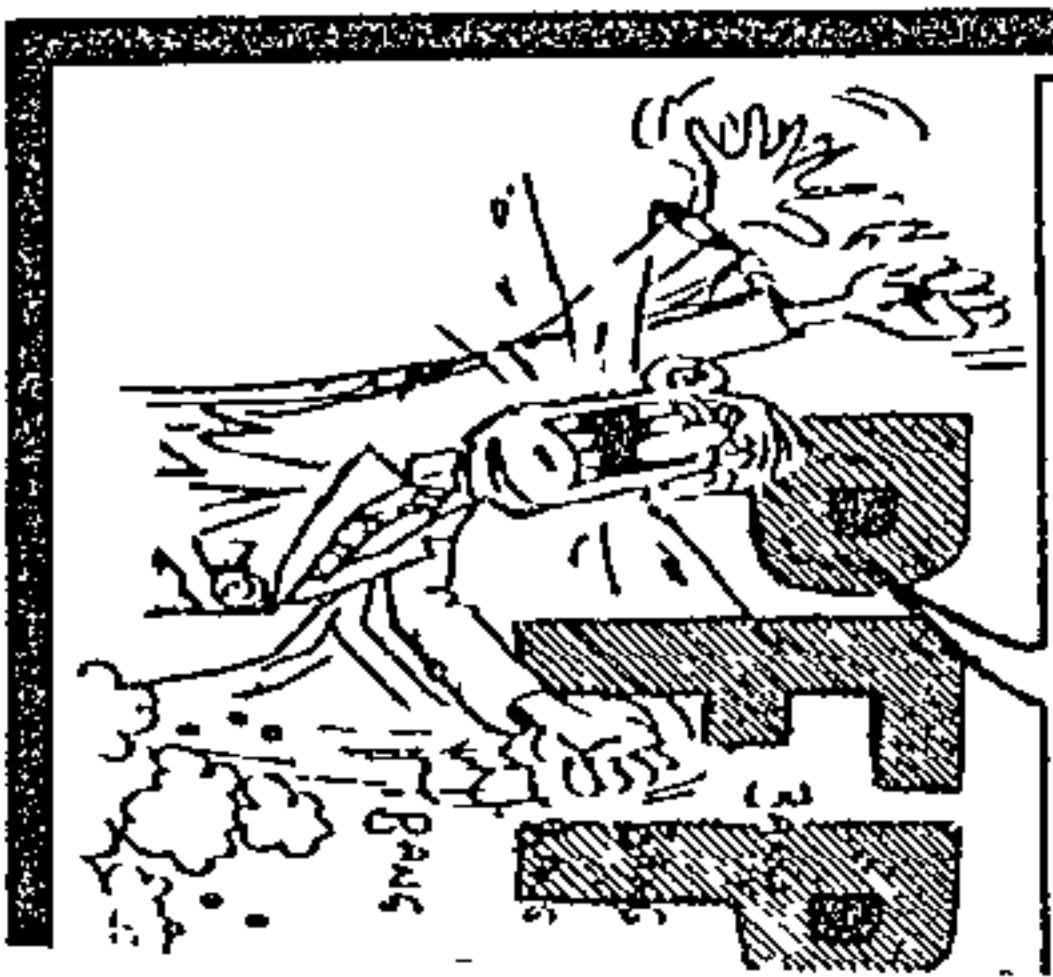
"We are all very grateful for what the Border Stock Car Association has done for us, and we would specially like to thank Mrs Beverly Paraskevopoulos for donating R500 to us," he said



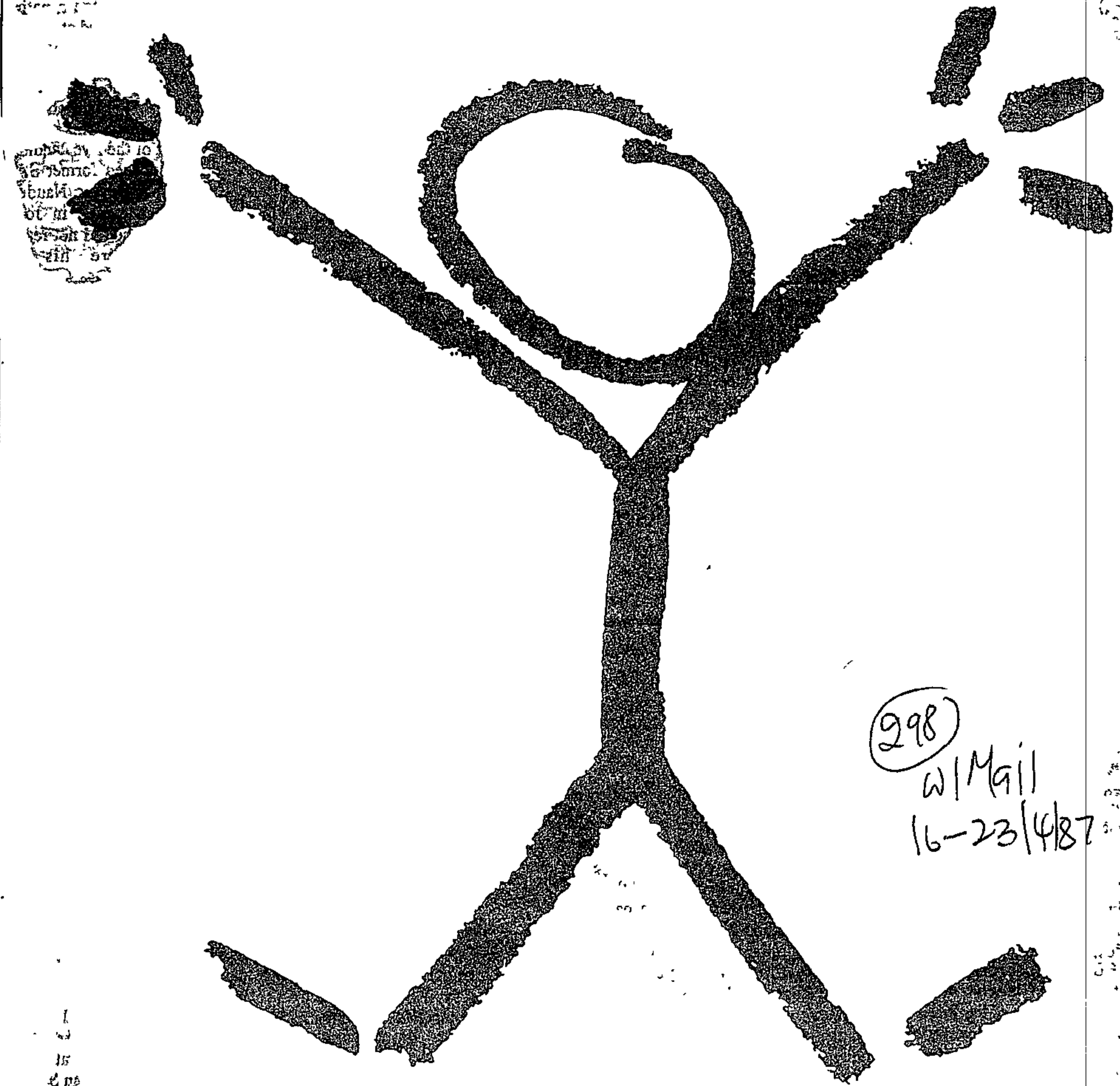
The chairman of the Border Stock Car Association, Mr Dave Mall, hands over a cheque for R1 750 to four children from the East London Childrens Home.

WHEN IS A PROG... NOT

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OPEN EVERYTHING TO
EVERYBODY.....
LET'S HAVE MAJORITY ROLE



WARNING



This child is a danger to your health

This child is the symbol of the Free the Children Campaign.
You can be fined R20 000 and jailed for 10 years for promoting
the campaign.

So:

- Don't wear this symbol.
- Don't put it on your car.
- Don't send it to the Minister of Law and Order.

You could end up in detention yourself.
And no-one will be able to campaign for your release.

Cape Times 16/4/87 299
Medical claims to rocket

JOHANNESBURG. — South Africa's medical-scheme administrators expect claims to rocket to between R2,3 billion and R2,4 billion this year. The bill for prescribed medicines, excluding those given at hospitals, could reach R700 million, said Mr Tony Leveton, spokesman for the Representative Association of Medical Schemes. Over-the-counter medicines could account for R140 million. Administrators of medical schemes are predicting a 35% medicine price rise this year.

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'Harsh' say leaders

SOUTH African church leaders this week urged authorities to think again about sentencing eight teenagers to up to three years in jail for stone throwing.

"These harsh prison sentences have antagonised the communities (where the eight live) and we fear serious consequences on the already volatile conditions," Archbishop Tutu and Archbishop Stephen Naidoo said in a joint statement.

World Alliance of Reformed Churches president Allan Bocsak and Sheikh Nazim Mohamed, head of Cape Town's Moslem Judicial Council, also issued statements urging the authorities to reconsi-



Archbishop Tutu

der the sentences

The eight had pleaded not guilty to public violence committed during protests against the government

Now aged between 15 and 19, one was sentenced to three years and the other seven to one-year terms in jail.

Their appeal against conviction was rejected.

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Some suspended students back

CP Correspondent

STUDENTS at the Lennox Sebe College of Education in Zwelitsha, Ciskei, have been selectively re-accepted when it reopens next week after a month's suspension of classes.

They were suspended on March 13 by the Ciskei Director-General of Education, KB Tabata, following a class boycott.

Tabata has said the college would reopen after the Easter weekend, but that only students who have been told to return would be allowed to re-register.

Students confirmed that some had been expelled, but could not say how many. Neither could Ciskei government spokesman Headman Somtunzi.

This follows the findings of a commission of inquiry, set up by the Department of Education to investigate disturbances at the college.

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Creating a haven for the children of the revolution

THE creation of an independent non-government "Children's Institute" to focus specifically on the problems facing South African children has been proposed by two University of Cape Town academics.

The proposal is made in a special study prepared for the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef). Entitled "Children in South Africa", the report is a response to findings that show that apartheid has had a devastating impact on children, making them "racist or violent or both".

It is part of a major Unicef study, "Children on the Frontline", prepared in response to a UN resolution of December 1986 which urged special financial, material and technical assistance to the Frontline states to enable them to withstand the effects of economic measures taken by South Africa as a result of sanctions.

It also recommended special and collective emergency programmes to "overcome the critical problems arising from the situation in South Africa".

The South African academics involved are Professor Francis Wilson, professor of economics and director of the division of economic research, and Dr Mamphela Ramphele, senior research officer in social anthropology.

The report, which draws heavily on papers produced for the Second Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty and Development in Southern Africa, proposes that the Children's Institute should:

- Focus attention on the law and those legal processes which infringe the rights of children, particularly the law relating to child labour and the detention of children.

- Monitor, expose and seek to correct anything detrimental to children ranging from high infant mortality to incest, assaults within the home and "torture in police custody".

- Stimulate research on how to mitigate the effects on children of poverty, racism and oppression.

- Encourage individual and local government initiative into establishing stimulating environments for children, including recreational spaces, creches, pre-school centres,

By JEAN LE MAY
In Cape Town

libraries and museums.

- Create centres of concern countrywide to espouse the cause of children.

The report starts with the assumption that ever since the Soweto revolt of 1976, black children in South Africa have been at the cutting edge of the country's history.

As for background conditions in which South African children grow up, the report deals with the incidence of malnutrition (70 per cent or more in Ciskei and up to 21 per cent among so-called coloured children, "even in the rich farming area of Stellenbosch") and concludes that lack of adequate diet for pregnant women and children "is a major cause of infant mortality".

"Both 'coloured' and African children are five times more likely than their white compatriots to die before their fifth birthday."

Poor housing also contributes not only to bad health but to inbuilt resentment against the system.

"Without massive support from society at large, up to half the black population living in the cities can afford to live only in cheaply built shacks or by sharing with more than one or more other households the space provided in a small four- or five-roomed house.

"Hundreds of thousands of people manage to live decent lives under such conditions but the strain can, and does, have devastating consequences.

"The absence of privacy for married couples, the need for space for children to play, the impossibility of having visitors — all are part of the pain felt quite explicitly by those enduring a dimension of poverty that is felt across the length and breadth of South Africa. Quite apart from the overcrowding, there is an overwhelming lack of facilities

"A (Cape Town) housing estate which is home to 10 000 people has no public telephone, no post office, no cinema, no sportsfields, no parks, swimming pools, community centre, old age home, or bank. Children play in filthy open lots. Many of them have



This 15-year-old is one of a group of eight children from Cape Town who have been convicted and sentenced for public violence. They are the subject of a campaign to allow them to take the matter to the Appellate Division.

Picture: GUY TILLIM, AP

taken to glue-sniffing."

In a town on the Transvaal Plateland it was found that alcoholism was rife because drinking was the only form of relaxation, even for children.

"Particularly damaging are situations where children may be socialised into vandalism or find themselves having to adopt violent measures as a matter of survival and, in the process, losing all sense of right and wrong," the report said.

Another important set of values relates to gender relations: because of the migratory system, in which men are away most of the year, "it is difficult for a child's sexual identity to develop in a balanced way".

A substantial section of the report deals extensively with the experiences of children in detention and the

"horrible spectacle of child summarily executing 'informers', collaborators, sometimes mere political opponents'.

"There has been a growing concern not only directed at the barbaric nature of the deaths suffered by necklace victims but more at the long term consequences of these acts to children who are the executioners.

Their psyches run the risk of permanent damage, hence the expressed by some sectors of South African public that we come face to face with a Khmer Rouge situation.

"The loss of innocence which flows from these acts is a human tragedy whose full cost remains to be counted."

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1 424 children in detention - police

CAPE TOWN — A total of 1 424 children between the ages of 12 and 18 were being detained under the emergency regulations as at the 15th of this month, a senior police officer said in an affidavit submitted to the Supreme Court here today.

Major-General Francois Steenkamp, attached to the personal staff of the Commissioner of Police, said in the affidavit that the total number of detainees of all ages held on April 15 was 4 244.

His affidavit was submitted as part of the reply by the State President and the Commissioner of Police to a Progressive Federal Party application for the overturning of the Commissioner's latest notice banning campaigns for the release of

detainees.

Gen Steenkamp gave a breakdown of the child detentions which showed that only two of the 1 424 were 12 years old and most of the children — 1 225 — were black males.

No white children were being held.

Monthly figures showed that at the end of June a total of 7 790 people were being held, that the figure peaked in July with 8 569 and then declined steadily to the April 15 figure of 4 244.

A total of 14 965 people had been released over the period June, 1986, to April 15, 1987.

The monthly number of unrest-related incidents declined from a peak of 2 458 in May last year to 160 for the period April 1 to 15 this year. — Sapa

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EP 24/4/87

after photo film

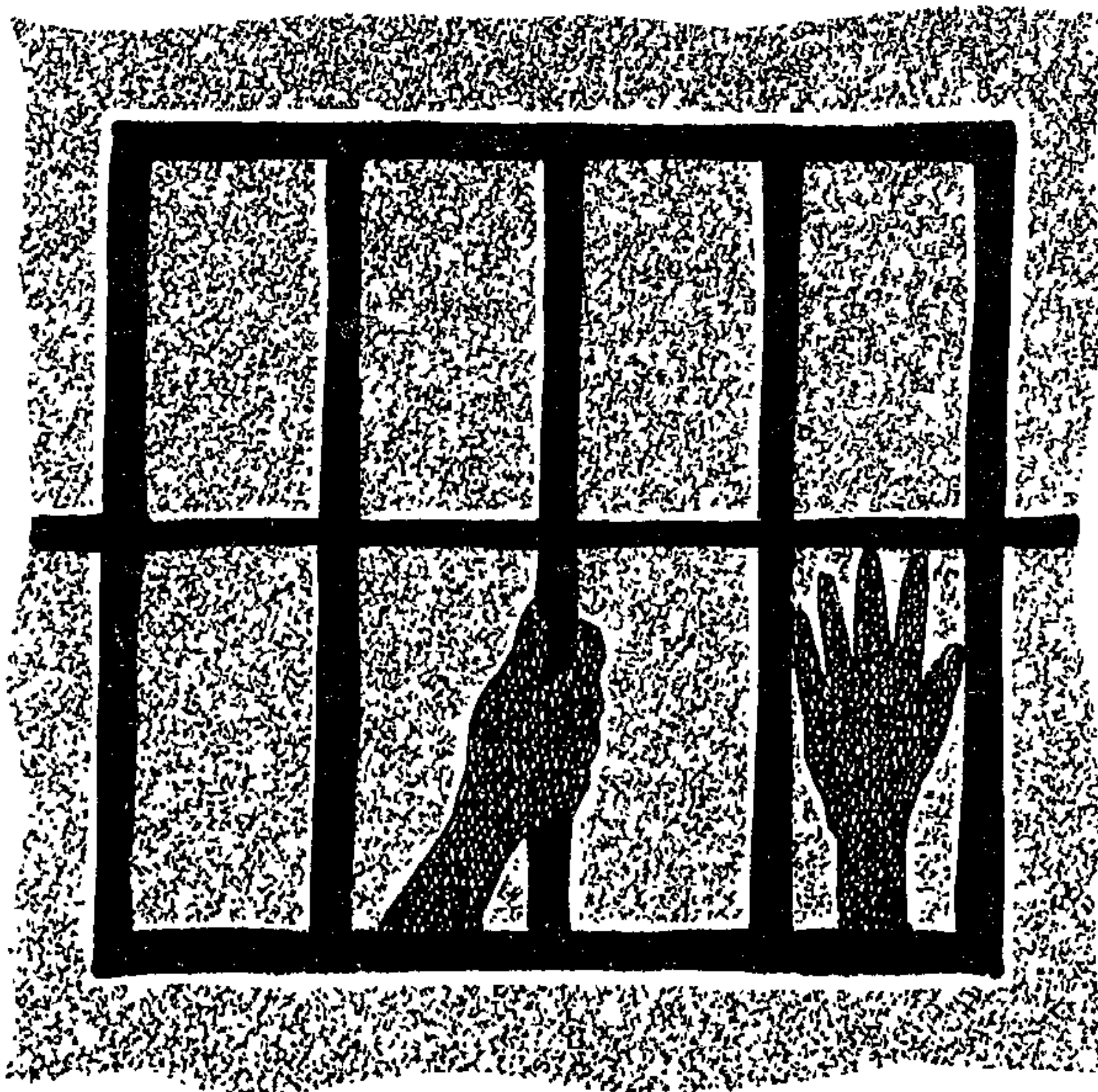
(A message to the People of South Africa . . .)

STOP THE DETENTION OF CHILDREN

Every day, more and more Americans are hearing about the repression against black South African children. Every day, more and more Americans are hearing — despite the iron curtain of censorship — that South African children have been snatched from their homes, from their classrooms and off the streets under the State of Emergency declared by the government last June. Some have been released; more continue to be detained. We hear that too many have been mistreated.

The victimization of a country's most precious resource — its children — is beyond the pale of civilized norms. What threat can a 13-year-old be to Africa's most powerful military and economic machine? How can an 11-year-old child endanger the security of the state?

Constant monitoring, public meetings, reports, articles and affidavits chronicle the agony. When history looks back on South Africa, no one inside or outside South Africa will be able to say: "We didn't know." Men and women of goodwill must speak out. We join you



in a demand to be told the basic facts by the South African government. How many children are in jail?

What are their names?

Where are they being held?

**STOP THE
DETENTION
OF
CHILDREN**

This message comes to you from the Southern Africa Project of the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights

Under Law. The Lawyers' Committee was brought into being by President John F Kennedy in 1963 to provide legal assistance to the civil rights struggle in the American south. Today, we continue this work through litigation to secure equality in employment, education, voting rights, housing and every other area of American life.

The Southern African Project of the Lawyers' Committee was created in 1967 to provide legal assistance on behalf of human rights in South Africa.



1 400 out of 4 000 detainees are aged between 12 and 18

CAPE TOWN — A total of 1 424 children between the ages of 12 and 18 were being detained under the emergency regulations as of the April 15, a senior police officer said in an affidavit submitted to the Supreme Court here yesterday.

Major-General Francois Steenkamp, attached to the personal staff of the Commissioner of Police, said in the affidavit that the total number of detainees of all ages held on April 15 was 4 244.

His affidavit was submitted as part of the reply by the State President and the Commissioner of Police to a Progressive Federal Party application for the overturning of the Commissioner's latest notice banning campaigns for the release of detainees.

General Steenkamp gave a breakdown of the child detentions, which showed that only two of the 1 424 were 12 years old and most of the children — 1 225 — were males. No white children were being held.

General Steenkamp also gave details of the numbers of people in detention under the regulations for each month from June last year to April 15.

They showed that at the end of June a total of 7 790 people were

● To Page 2

Detainees

● From Page 1

being held, that the figure peaked in July with 8 569 and then declined steadily to the April 15 figure of 4 244.

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He also gave figures showing that the monthly number of unrest-related incidents declined from a peak of 2 458 in May last year to 160 for the period April 1 to 15 this year.

Youths, mainly 16-to-18-year-olds, were "responsible for a reign of terror throughout the country", General Steenkamp claimed.

Most of this group had no political insight and used politics as an expression of their lawlessness, lack of discipline and cruelty.

The "general impression" was that children were detained for "purely political motives", but a large percentage of atrocities were committed by children, the general said.

He and a colleague were busy with a special investigation into the circumstances of every detainee to establish whether their continued detention was desirable.

"This investigation is presently at an advanced stage and will hopefully be completed soon."

The detention and release of people was a matter that was continually monitored.

A special unit had been created at Police Headquarters to supervise detentions and releases, he said. As soon as the necessity for a detention no longer existed, the case was referred to "Security Headquarters" for a ministerial decision.

A detainee's position was also reassessed when the Minister of Law and Order asked for the facts of a detention, when a detainee or legal representatives asked the reasons for a detention or when a detainee made representation for his release.

Detentions took place "with great circumspection", he claimed.

General Steenkamp submitted 11 statements, allegedly made in Krugersdorp prison by children aged 11 to 18, which he said were only a sample of similar documents.

Names and addresses were blacked out on the alleged affidavits. The general said this was to protect the detainees and facilitate further investigation.

In the statements presented to the court, children described burning people, forcing consumer boycotts by confiscating groceries and forcing women to drink fish oil, stoning buses, setting alight houses, cars and buses.

In an affidavit handed in to court, the Commissioner of Police, General Johan Coetzee, said the statistics in General Steenkamp's affidavit had not been released previously "because they can be of great value to the enemies of South Africa". General Coetzee said he had been obliged to release the statistics "to put the case in perspective".

He referred to General Steenkamp's detailing of the reasons for the detention of certain people, especially children. "With respect, I wish to submit that the freeing of some of these people at this stage would constitute a serious threat to the safety of the public," General Coetzee said.

Sapa.

● See Page 10.

Count total 424 children held

CAPE TOWN — A total of 1 424 children between the ages of 12 and 18 were being detained under the emergency regulations on April 15.

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The affidavit was submitted as part of a reply by the State President and the Commissioner of Police to a Progressive Federal Party application for the overturning of the commissioner's latest notice banning campaigns for the release of detainees.

In his affidavit, Gen Steenkamp gave a breakdown of the child detentions which showed that only two of the 1 424 were 12 years old and most of the children — 1 225 — were black males. No white children were being held.

He said young people, mainly in the age group 16 to 18 years, had been responsible for a "reign of terror, of violence and gruesome deeds" throughout the country.

Descriptions allegedly made by young detainees of how they had participated in petrol bombings, peoples' courts and necklacings were attached to the affidavit.

"This group, the larg-

est part of which did not display any political insight, gave vent to their indiscipline, barbarity and lawlessness under the guise of political activity," the affidavit said.

There appeared to be a general impression among members of the public that children were arrested for purely political motives. However, it was clear a large percentage of the gruesome deeds committed in the country were performed by children.

Gen Steenkamp said he had included the statements — from which the names of the deponents had been erased — as an "illustration" of this.

Among the statements was one in which a 17-year-old member of the Azanian Students' Movement (Azasm) told how he and others had necklaced a United Democratic Front supporter in April last year because "UDF members had been burning and chasing the Azasm members in Randfontein".

A 14-year-old member of the comrades told how he and other comrades burned buses, a municipal vehicle and the home of a policeman in the Western Transvaal last year.

He also told how he and others caught a

"black boy" in Venterspos in May last year.

"Dumile tied him up and Dumile and Spencer hit him with sjamboks. Then Dumile threw petrol over him. I lit a match and threw it on him. He burned to death. I do not know who he was," the statement said.

A 15-year-old youth described how he and other Azasm members had enforced consumer boycotts in Mohlakeng at the end of 1985.

"Approximately 15 taxis were stopped each day," he said. "We all broke groceries. I poured three bottles of bleach on the heads of three people because they had perms from town."

The statement also described his participation in the necklacing of two black youths and said he had been assaulted by another Azasm member after his arrest for giving information to the police.

Gen Steenkamp also gave details of the numbers of people in detention under the regulations for each month from June last year to April 15.

They showed that at the end of June a total of 7 790 people were being held, that the figure peaked in July with 8 569 and then declined steadily to the April 15 figure of 4 244.

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The Commissioner of Police, General Johan Coetzee, said in an affidavit the statistics in Gen Steenkamp's affidavit had not been released previously "because they can be of great value to the enemies of South Africa".

The case was postponed indefinitely.

● Key emergency regulations, among them curbs which have strangled media coverage of township unrest, were set aside by a Full Bench of the Natal Supreme Court in Pietermaritzburg yesterday.

An application for leave to appeal against judgement in two applications, brought by the United Democratic Front and the Release Mandela Campaign, challenging the validity of emergency regulations issued on December 11, was granted yesterday afternoon. — Sapa

More reports page 9

Urgent appeal to help equip creche

File 5700 20/4/87

Chance to invest in a healthy community

By Janine Simon

An urgent appeal for funds to equip a new creche in Alexandra was made this week by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

Funding for the creche has been exceptionally difficult to find and immediate needs are for playground equipment, indoor furniture, toys, a stove, refrigerator and cooking equipment, the society said in a statement.

Donations from a recent appeal in Sandton where luxury town-houses were only few kilometres from the dirt roads and shanty homes of Alexandra had been disappointing.

Alexandra, which had a population of 100 000, had only five day care centres catering for 650 children.

"The thousands of pre-schoolers uncatered for play in the dirt and runnage for food in dustbins.

"Working mothers have no alternative but to leave their young children and toddlers in the care of older siblings or even alone at home, which might be a two-room house, a corrugated iron shack or a new flat six floors up," the statement said.

They have never scribbled a picture

Children who did not attend any form of pre-school were ill-equipped to cope with primary school as they had not developed the physical and intellectual skills for reading, writing and arithmetic.

Most had never held a crayon and scribbled a picture.

The JWCS had run a day-care centre in Alexandra since 1944. This was simply a building shell with an outside coal stove and candles for use on overcast days.

The foundations for the new creche were laid in November 1986 but development had been slowed by lack of funds.

"We see the urgency for completing the creche as well as a series of training courses for child-minders, who could each care for five to six children.

"Donors would be investing in a stronger, healthier community by giving these little children the opportunities they deserve," the statement said.

Contact Gail Rowland at (011) 833-2500 for further information.

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Medics will have to report child abuse

Staff Reporter

IN future it will be mandatory for doctors, dentists and nurses to notify the authorities when they find children undernourished or injured.

This is one of the provisions in the new Child Care Act outlined in the latest newsletter of the National Council for Child and Family Welfare.

However, regulations for this section of the act are not yet complete and it will come into operation later.

The biggest change in the act, which came into effect on February 1, is the shift of emphasis from the welfare of the child to the fitness of the guardians and the council is unhappy about it.

PROOF DIFFICULT

"This change may make the protection of children more difficult as it is not always easy to prove that a parent is responsible for harming a child until the child has been seriously neglected or injured," said the council in its latest newsletter.

Proof might be difficult to obtain where the abuse took place in the privacy of the home.

The new act makes adoption easier and also allows adult adoptees access to their origins. The council has campaigned for this provision for a long time and regards access as a birthright.

The council welcomed the introduction of a child care advisory council on which all state welfare departments and private organisations would serve.

This could become a major policy formulation body and act as children's watchdog, including playing a role in the welfare of children in unrest situations, it said.



What the residents said...

Here are some of the verbatim responses of Hillbrow residents to Ms Swart's questionnaire.

● "I've been feeding the stray cats here for 13 years. I fed at that building there before those dirty little kaffirs came. You can look shocked! I prefer my kitties any day to those little brats. They stand around and watch while I feed my kitties and my kitties don't like it. There are too many people in the world, that's why I prefer animals."

● "All we want to do is to be allowed to live a peaceful life. Instead we have to climb over bodies to get into a shop."

● "The kids on the streets are a criminal element. They steal from shops, pinch tapes from cars, sleep in boiler rooms, break into houses, sniff glue and pinch to keep their habit going. The problem has been going on for years because the police are inactive in the suburbs. What do overseas visitors who stay in our international hotels think about South Africa when they see these kids around the place?"

● "These children are frightening. My husband was walking through Joubert Park after having his nose bandaged at the hospital and four of these boys started laughing at him and teasing him. He was very shaken when he got home. They might have attacked him."

Train ride started Moses down the track to being a Hillbrow kid

A main aim of working with street children is to reunite them with their parents — and for 13-year-old Moses it looks as if there will be a happy ending.

During his first morning with Street-Wise, a new group working with street children, Moses was identified as a child who could be reunited with his parents.

Unfortunate incidents with the police and social workers meant that street children did not respond to formal interviewing.

So, through a technique of pictures and the child's own drawings, Street-Wise workers pieced together a story of a minor incident which had turned Moses's life into a major tragedy.

According to him, he played truant from school one day and went for a ride on a train. He was caught without a ticket, handed over to police and taken from Dube station to Meadowlands,

Westgate and finally to court where he was penalised with four cuts for his crime and released on to the streets.

He was ashamed at having been in jail and afraid to go home or back to school — so he went to the Hillbrow streets.

He met another boy there who took him to the Twilight Children shelter, where he slept for three nights of the week, spending the rest on the streets.

Moses suffered abuse on the streets — a white man chased him and kicked him in the groin and on the legs.

Moses has since gained confidence in Street-Wise staff and helped them contact his parents while another group working with street children, Proccess (Project Street Children Educational and Social Support) has agreed to take him into care until the family is united

Survey says street kids' morals differ

By Janine Simon

The morals of Hillbrow's street children differed from their own, said virtually all respondents to a recent questionnaire on Hillbrow residents' attitudes towards street children.

A total of 1 000 questionnaires were distributed — 500 through The Star — in March by anthropologist Jill Swart who is researching the values of the children in relation to those of the community. About 60 percent were returned, Ms Swart said.

Questions asked included reasons for the children being on the street, feelings aroused by the sight of the children, encounters with them, their behaviour, and residents' predictions for their futures.

Respondents said the children's moral values differed because, among other reasons, they had no respect for authority or property, had been deprived of an environment where moral values were normally taught, would do anything to survive even if it were "morally wrong" and they lived for the present, unlike "normal children".

Other factors mentioned were that black people had different customs and the children lacked education.

"Implicit in these responses are the beliefs that moral norms of the 'wider society' include respect for authority and property, that short-term gratification is not normal and that black moral values are inherently different to white ones," Ms Swart said in a preliminary report.

The majority of respondents rejected the notion that the children were immoral.

Very few respondents attributed the presence of the children on the streets to the children themselves; most felt their presence was "plain naughtiness", she said.

VULNERABLE

Replies also said the children aroused predominantly positive responses in the sense of residents being aware of the children's vulnerability. Pity, compassion and sympathy were most often listed.

The general belief of respondents was that, once adults, the children would not make a positive contribution to society as they were receiving no education, had no suitable adults to identify with and would have no job opportunities.

Predictions were that the children would probably become criminals, drop-outs, addicts, menial labourers or irresponsible and anti-establishment citizens for whom the white community would be expected to care.

Some solutions to the problem were suggested, including sending the children to various institutions, forcibly returning them to their parents and teaching them to earn a living.

Two respondents said respectively that the "parents should be found and sterilised" and that "children should be gathered up and cut into dog food cubes".



Hillbrow's street urchins — questionnaire respondents believed they have different moral values.

WCC: child torture in SA has increased

LUSAKA — Cases of child detention and torture have increased dramatically in South Africa during the last four years, according to a World Council of Churches report presented here.

The council is meeting in the Zambian capital to work out a strategy to peacefully combat apartheid in South Africa. — The Star's Africa News Service.

SMB
8/5/87
(298)

Zimbabwe paper attacks SA over children in prison

5702 11/5/87
252

Detention is necessary — SA envoy

The Star Bureau

The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — The holding of children in detention in South Africa has been sharply criticised in Zimbabwe despite an attempt by the South African Trade Representative to explain the circumstances of the detentions.

In an unusual step, the Trade Representative, Mr Johan Viljoen, had a letter published in *The Herald* newspaper in which he said that children in detention were there "for the sole reason of protecting the general public from acts of violence perpetrated mainly by juveniles in the 16 to 18 years age group".

The letter contained figures of the numbers in detention supplied to a court by a senior police officer, General Steenkamp.

In a leading article in reply to the letter, *The Herald* said the "feeble attempt" to excuse the detention of schoolchildren did not even begin to address the real issues at stake.

The paper said juvenile violence had its roots in social ills and in South Africa unemployment, poverty, poor education, combined with the unjust oppression of political aspirations had churned out a "desperate, frustrated and angry generation of teenagers".

'COMPLETELY BRUTALISED'

Instead of taking heed of the call for change in 1976, the authorities had hit back hard.

"As a result teenagers have been completely brutalised by the system they live in, and if they 'necklace' those they regard as being their foes and use other forms of violence to enforce boycotts and the like, the authorities should not be surprised," said the editorial.

The paper said what was happening to many youngsters in South Africa must surely count as one of the greatest human tragedies and it was the sole responsibility of the apartheid regime.

The attack was followed up in a letter published later from a "Grieving Parent" who denounced the official letter.

Zimbabweans were urged to demand to be told why, if children were guilty of criminal acts, they were not brought to trial and why they were being detained for indefinite periods.

It accused the South African Trade Representative of effrontery in writing of the "undisciplined nature and cruelty of detained children" and accused the police of making undisciplined and brutal attacks on children.

LONDON — South Africa's ambassador to Britain, Mr P R Killen, says the detention of people in South Africa is regrettable, but necessary.

Responding to criticism from Oxfam, Mr Killen says in a letter to *The Times* today:

"Everyone regrets the necessity for detentions. I hope that there is understanding for the situation in a country like South Africa — composed of various minorities — which is committed to change and adaptation.

"There are some who do not favour evolutionary change by negotiation, there are some who are manipulated into confrontation, there are some who try to promote a revolutionary climate and there are some who turn to violence and subversion.

"Government's duty must be to try to ensure stability."

Mr Killen also questions "whether Oxfam, as a registered charitable organisation, should concern itself with criticising the internal affairs of countries in which it is allowed to operate".

He adds: "Doubt would arise about the proper use of time and resources for Oxfam's charitable work if it were to campaign on such domestic issues."

ZIMBABWE PAPER SLAMS CHILD DETENTIONS

HARARE — The holding of children in detention in South Africa has been sharply criticised in Zimbabwe despite an attempt by the South African trade representative to explain the circumstances of the detentions.

In an unusual step, the trade representative, Mr Johan Viljoen, had a letter published in the *Herald* newspaper in which he said that children in detention were there "for the sole reason of protecting the general public from acts of violence perpetrated mainly by juveniles in the 16 to 18 years age group".

In the letter contained figures of

the numbers in detention supplied to a court by a senior police officer, General Steenkamp.

In a leading article in reply to the letter, the *Herald* said the "feeble attempt" to excuse the detention of schoolchildren did not even begin to address the real issues at stake.

The paper said juvenile violence had its roots in social ills and in South Africa unemployment, poverty, poor education, combined with the unjust oppression of political aspirations had churned out a "desperate, frustrated and angry generation of teenagers".

for change in 1976, the authorities had hit back hard.

"As a result teenagers have been completely brutalised by the system they live in, and if they 'necklace' those they regard as being their foes and use other forms of violence to enforce boycotts and the like, the authorities should not be surprised," said the editorial.

The paper said what was happening to many youngsters in South Africa must surely count as one of the greatest human tragedies that has the sole responsibility of the apartheid regime!

Instead of taking heed of the call



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somehow

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By Sol Makgabutlane,
Education Reporter

Academics warn on effects of necklacing

Two University of Cape Town academics have cautioned in a report prepared for the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) that the "barbaric" method of necklacing might cause long-term damage to the minds of black South African children.

"Their psyches run the risk of permanent damage, hence the alarm expressed by some sectors of the South African public that we may come to face a Khmer Rouge situation in the country," wrote Dr Mamphela Ramphele, senior research officer in the department of social anthropology, and Professor Francis Wilson, director of the division of economic research.

The two academics, in their report entitled "Children in South Africa", suggest the es-

tablishment of a non-governmental children's institute to focus specifically on the problems facing children in Southern Africa.

They predict that, if properly constituted and imaginatively led, such an institute could play a creative role in strengthening the work of existing organisations and in helping articulate the needs and interests of children.

"The suffering that the children of South Africa have endured and the courage they have displayed is an indictment of the adult world in which they have found themselves. But the price they pay, whether in hunger, in bad education or in detention, is enormous."

Dr Ramphele and Professor Wilson pointed out that some functions of a children's institute might be to:

- Monitor, expose and seek to correct anything detrimental to children, ranging from high mortality rates to incest and to assaults within their homes.
- Focus attention on the law and on those legal processes that infringe the rights of children, especially the law affecting the use of child labour and the detention of children in jails, police cells, and corrective camps.
- Create centres of concern all over the country to espouse the cause of children and encourage their growth.
- Express publicly a concern

for the rights of children in all aspects of society, including the home, school and in wider social structures.

The report sharply berates the "horrifying spectacle of black South African children summarily executing informers, collaborators and some mere political opponents by necklacing".

But Dr Ramphele and Professor Wilson argue that this must be considered within the context of "massive state violence" against children. They mention an estimate that 3 000 children younger than 16 years of age were detained in the first eight or nine weeks of the present state of emergency.

The academics add that "despite all the pressures towards brutalisation, hundreds of thousands of people continue miraculously to live creative and good lives".

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Funds needed to continue projects for street urchins

Project Street Children Educational and Social Support (Proscs) is in urgent need of funds.

Organisation spokesman Ms Tessa O'Grady fears that an education programme run by

Proscs may have to be shelved.

"We are almost bankrupt now although we have had promises of funds from July," said Ms O'Grady, who recently took over as fund-raiser

for the organisation.

"The first programme which may suffer is the teaching programme.

"The basic needs of the children, such as food and clothing and child care — the most immediate needs — will have to be covered first."

Proscs aims to teach former street children basic social and educational skills.

Running costs are about R6 000 a month and at the moment Proscs needs about R3 000 a month to continue all of its programmes.

The education programme, which has been in operation for about four months, is just one of the projects undertaken by Proscs, which has at present two phases.

The first is a halfway house in Hillbrow for the street children and a part-time centre in Lenasia.

The second phase is a dwelling place in the Magaliesberg, where the children attend a local school.

For further information telephone Ms O'Grady at (011) 726-4687 or write to Proscs, Box 604, Parklands 2191.

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Necklacing a human tragedy' for children

By DENNIS CRUYWAGEN, Education Reporter

CHILDREN who necklaced people ran the risk of permanently damaging their psyches, two researchers from the University of Cape Town have concluded in a study for the United Nations Children's Fund.

They warned that the loss of innocence resulting from these acts was a human tragedy whose full cost had yet to be counted.

Professor Francis Wilson, professor of economics and director of economic research, and Dr Mamphela Ramphele, senior research officer in the department of social anthropology, recently completed the report entitled, *Children On the Frontline — The Impact Of Apartheid, Destabilisation And Warfare On Children In Southern And South Africa*.

"Their psyches run the risk of permanent damage, hence the alarm expressed by some sectors of the South African public that we may come to face a Khmer Rouge situation in the country," they said of the township executioners.

The turmoil of the past decade began as a peaceful demonstration when black children in Soweto protested at being forced to learn Afrikaans, the report said.

They believed that having to learn Afrikaans instead of English would restrict their capacity to find out about the world.

"In the end the children won that particular battle, but in the process of doing so they brought down upon their

heads the armed wrath of the State which, in reacting so violently to the protests, escalated the protests to a new level."

The harsh repressive measures adopted by the State led to an increasingly effective means of changing structures in which they were trapped.

Boycotts, particularly in 1976, 1980 and after 1984, became more frequent and were occasionally joined to general one-day or two-day stayaways by workers.

Harsh months of 1985

"During the harsh months of 1985 the slogan 'liberation before education' was increasingly heard but, at the same time, voices were raised within the black community warning against too facile an assumption that boycotting schools would necessarily bring about a speedy end to the existing oppressive political order," the report said.

The researchers said it was hard to see how boycotts could really challenge the might of the State, but the authorities took the most extreme measures to stamp out the protests.

It was within the context of State violence against children that the two academics considered the "horrifying spectacle of children summarily executing informers, collaborators, sometimes merely political opponents", the report said.

They described the "notorious" necklace as a rubber

tyre doused in petrol, placed around the victim's neck and set alight.

They said the Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Rev Desmond Tutu, and Dr Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, had risked their lives saving suspected informers from being necklaced.

The brutalisation of children caught up in township violence was not confined to blacks.

Whites, conscripted into the army and sent into the townships, often became part of the machinery of oppression maintaining a social, political and economic order which was profoundly corrupting of human well-being and decency, the report said.

The researchers suggested the establishment of a non-governmental children's institute to focus specifically on the problems facing children in Southern Africa.

If properly constituted and imaginatively led, it could play a creative role in strengthening the work of existing organisations and helping to articulate the needs and interests of children, they said.

"The suffering that the children of South Africa have endured and the courage they have displayed is an indictment of the adult world in which they have found themselves.

"But the price they pay, whether in hunger, in bad education or in detention, is enormous," they said.

'Abuse' disturbs Masa

PRETORIA — Reports that children in detention were continuing to be abused had disturbed the Medical Association of SA (Masa), newly-elected Masa chairman Bernard Mandell said yesterday.

He said the authorities had given assurances that children in detention were being treated according to standing regulations. But, certain sources had claimed the regulations in many instances were not being fully applied.

Mandell appealed to doctors aware of any maltreatment to report it to the authorities and Masa.

Masa intended making urgent representations to the relevant Ministers to ensure all detainees got the same medical care as other prisoners and that they had access to Masa's panel of doctors.

● More Masa reports, Page 12

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B/day
GERALD REILLY

Their next classroom could be a street corner

Today they're in safe hands, sitting in a classroom for the first time in their lives. Tomorrow they could be back where they came from: the streets. RUTH BECKER reports

"MY mother hit me every day I wanted to see the city ... My father was drinking"

Any of these are reasons to leave home and take to the streets — especially for the children and teenagers of overcrowded homes and underpaid parents

"Street children" are not peculiar to South Africa, but their circumstances are exacerbated here

Project Street Children — Social and Educational Support (Proscess) was started in Johannesburg three years ago as an "alternative organisation for street children", according to its fundraiser, Tessa O'Grady

There are 26 boys at their prefabricated building in Hillbrow, which operates as a "half-way" house between the street and the organisation's centre in the Magaliesburg

Their ages range from eight to 16 and they come to the centre voluntarily. They must agree to live there and their first commitment is to give up sniffing glue.

To assist this, Proscess aims to provide a secure environment with three full-time child-minders (two of whom live in the building) and two teachers

They have no specific way of dealing with withdrawal symptoms for regular glue sniffers, says Lulu Davis who teaches there, "except for the lifestyle we offer". She says a child will often run away a few times before committing himself to staying.

There are different theories about why the street children are all boys

says Davis. One is that girls are treated better as they are "more useful around the home". Consequently they are less likely to run away. If they do, her colleague, Gloria Mbokota, says they are more likely to become prostitutes in the township

The majority of street children are black. They are frequently victims of their parents' frustrations. They seek refuge in the city where they survive by begging, pushing trolleys and directing cars to parking places

Their refuge is the city and their escape is drugs. It's a path that can lead to crime, in the view of Proscess organisers.

It is also a path that develops resourcefulness and independence at a young age

"Because they have been on the streets, they are used to being free and normally have a lack of self discipline. So we have to use very subtle methods and be flexible according to the mood," says Davis.

Davis and Mbokota plan the lessons together making use of art and drama "and lots of informal education". They aim to equip the children with basic literacy and numeracy skills and they adapt the length of a class to the boys' short concentration span

Knox Mogashoa, along with Sydney Mtshali, is brother, father and friend to the boys

The inside of the building is simple, with bunk beds lining the room and cast-off school chairs littered about. The walls are scattered with pictures ranging from colouring book portraits of Jesus to torn out advertisements for perfume, magazine fashion supplements and pencilled self-portraits

The boys make sunglasses from wire, cold drink tins and tinted cellophane and push cars from cardboard boxes and wire

Mogashoa sees a "great improvement" in a child's development in three or four months

"You can see progress in their verbal communication and in their drawings. You can see a traumatised child settling down. I've noticed a large difference (in a child) in three months."

Apart from the classes there is a duty roster — cooking and cleaning — which Mogashoa or Mtshali supervise. They also sit in on classes and participate in the lessons, translating and disciplining where necessary

Throughout the week and particularly on the weekend they organise recreational activities — soccer,

swimming, movies, drama sketches and outings — often with volunteers. They try to draw on as many volunteers as possible

The Proscess workers plan to start a craft workshop as part of their long-term aim to equip the youths with skills and to reintegrate them into society

A social worker traces the families and, where appropriate, the child returns. Seven or eight children have so far been successfully phased home and 11 others visit their families on weekends. Initially, Mogashoa says, a child will go home for a day or two and then for a weekend

They have also initiated a parent support group to involve the child's family in rehabilitation and to assist in

Picture. ANNA ZIEMINSKI, Afrapix creating a "stable environment".

However their operation is jeopardised by lack of funds. Davis and Mbokota face retrenchment and have no idea where their salaries will come from at the end of the month

O'Grady is awaiting responses to appeals sent to large corporations and has also established a sponsorship scheme whereby anything from R2 to R100 a month contributes towards the daily needs of a child

Apart from Hillbrow and Magaliesburg centres, Proscess also operates a centre in Lenasia which currently caters for about 50 children once a week. O'Grady says they would like to extend this as "you can only really work with a child once he is there full-time"



Storytime in Hillbrow — Sydney Mtshali and Lulu Davis enact the morning's tale captivating their audience

GROWING UP ROUGH: THREE CASE STUDIES

JOE used to sleep behind a wall between a block of flats and a shopping centre.

He survived by begging but was often hungry. When he got money he would buy food and "sometimes play machine games" like Pacman.

Joe comes from Soweto. His mother was a domestic worker and he "doesn't know" about his father.

His mother had to leave their home when she found work elsewhere. "She doesn't like me," and the older children hit him.

Joe and a friend stayed at his

grandmother's house, but "she didn't like me, and in Soweto they don't like me".

He ran away and became a street child. Joe lived this way for "about two months". One day when he went to a house to ask for money "the man asked me where I stay. And then he brought me to Proscess."

Eleven-year-old Michael comes from Bloemfontein and ran away from home when he was seven because his mother hit him "every day".

He was shuttled between remedial homes because he kept

running away. He didn't like the remedial homes "because the big boys hit me".

Before going to Proscess he survived by getting money "from showing cars how to park".

David, 13, dropped out of school when he was eight years old. He left home because "my father was drinking".

He spent one night at a shopping centre (Westgate) and then came to Proscess with his friend, Daniel, who had run away from his Pretoria home because he wanted to see the city.



KHANYA COLLEGE

SACHED APPOINTMENTS

Khanya College, a project of the SACHED TRUST, is an independent initiative, providing first year level university courses in association with Indiana University

The Cape Town college is seeking to appoint an ADMINISTRATIVE CO-ORDINATOR

AFRICAN HISTORY CO-ORDINATOR

(one year contract)

The ADMINISTRATIVE CO-ORDINATOR will be responsible for the general administration and day to day running of the college. He/She will be expected to initiate policies and procedures in consonance with the aims and objectives of the college, and should be able to work comfortably in a democratic and pressured environment. In particular he/she will be responsible for drawing up and administering the budget. The administrative co-ordinator's work involves close liaison with the academic co-ordinator, the residence co-ordinator as well as other staff, and daily contact with the students

The applicant must have experience working in an educational institution and some background in finance and/or bookkeeping.

Children in 'frontline' face mental damage

17/5/87 *Saldou
after*
(298)

CP Correspondent

BLACK children who necklaced "informers, collaborators or political opponents" could suffer permanent mental damage, two University of Cape Town academics have said in a study for the United National Children's Fund.

They cautioned that the loss of innocence that flowed from these acts was a human tragedy of which the full cost still had to be counted.

Dr Mamphela Ramphele, senior research officer in the department of social anthropology, and Professor Francis Wilson, director of the division of economic research, recently completed the report called *Children on the frontline - the impact of apartheid, destabilisation and warfare on children in Southern and South Africa*.

They said that the turmoil of the past decade began as a peaceful demonstration when black pupils in Soweto protested at being forced to learn Afrikaans.

"In the end, the children won that particular battle, but in the process they brought down upon their heads the armed wrath of the State which, in reacting so violently to the protests, escalated the

protests to a new level," the two researchers said.

They said that repressive measures adopted by the State led to children resorting to increasingly effective means of changing structures in which they were trapped.

"During the harsh months of 1985 the slogan 'liberation before education' was increasingly heard but, at the same time, voices were raised within the black community warning against too facile an assumption that boycotting schools would necessarily bring about a speedy end to the existing oppressive political order," the report said.

The academics said they considered the "horrifying spectacle of children summarily executing informers, collaborators, sometimes merely political opponents" within the context of State violence against children.

Warning against the damaging effect this may have on children, they said: "Their psyches run the risk of permanent damage, hence the alarm expressed by some sectors of the South African public that we may come to face a Khmer Rouge situation in the country."

"The brutalisation of children caught up in township violence was not confined to blacks."

"Whites, conscripted into the army and sent into the townships, often became part of the machinery of oppression maintaining a social, political and economic order which is profoundly corrupting of human well-being and decency," the report said.

The two academics suggested the establishment of a non-governmental children's institute to focus specifically on the problems facing children in Southern Africa.

"If properly constituted and imaginatively led, such an institute could play a creative role in strengthening the work of existing organisations and in helping articulate the needs and interests of children," the academics said.

Political comment and newsbills by P Qohaza, headlines and subediting by Jon Swift, all of 204 Eloff Street Ext, Johannesburg.



Dr Mamphela Ramphele ... children's psyches run the risk of permanent damage.



HAPPY DAYS: Smiling faces all round at Masincedane creche. *Picture: Willie de Klerk, The Argus.*

Khayelitsha children happier — and warmer

Staff Reporter

LIFE is looking a lot brighter and warmer for the children at Khayelitsha's Masincedane creche.

Just in time — winter is almost here — but thanks to deliveries of beds, mattresses, blankets and many other items generously contributed by readers of The Argus, the creche is much better equipped to care for the 90 children it looks after every day.

When it is nap-time, the mattresses are laid out on the floor, the blankets are brought out and the little ones sleep happily: a far cry from lying on the bare floor as they were.

The organisers have arranged storage space in neighbouring homes so that everything is available but not taking up space in the tiny home which houses the creche.

Negotiations are going ahead with the Provincial Administration's community services for a site for a permanent building.

Once these have been completed, and they are hopeful that it will be soon, they have offers of help to put up a structure.

Which shows how much can be done when a community rallies round.

While some disabled people scout around for job contracts in factories and others labour in sheltered workshops, there are those who spend the day on city streets begging.

Although street-collecting is illegal, and attempts at stopping it have been made in the past, more and more blind and physically handicapped people line the pavements of every busy street in town, some of them all alone and others accompanied by guides.

Miss Bertha Mafoko, a social worker with the Cripple Care Association in Soweto, says they are aware of the beggars.

They have had complaints from several shops in town and calls from people who are concerned about the welfare of the disabled.

Question of the disabled

"It is very difficult for us to find help for the disabled street collectors. Most of them are not qualified citizens of South Africa and they often disappear after the first meeting with us," Miss Mafoko says.

"There is nothing we do not do to try and reach out to the disabled. The hospitals, clinics and social workers inform us of every case that needs our attention.

"We also have programmes on the media telling people about our services. But we cannot help them all because some of them are not eligible.

"Only a bona fide citizen over the age of 16 qualifies to get a grant of R198 bi-monthly but only after a doctor has

THIS is the first of a series of articles that will be appearing on the Woman's page mainly discussing the issues surrounding the disabled. The support mechanisms offered by the community and the grants they get from the State, their survival in the present state of economy and the reasons behind their begging.

By SIZA KOOMA

ascertained, with a medical examination, that he or she is grossly disabled.

"The Government also offers a single-care grant to working parents who have disabled children but no special provisions are made for disabled breadwinners."

The only way that disabled breadwinners and those who do not qualify for grants, with less severe disability, can

raise their income is by working in sheltered workshops where they are paid a minimum of R80 a month depending on the product they make.

"We only have three workshops in Soweto and it is very difficult for us to place all the disabled people in employment jobs don't come easy nowadays. It is even worse for the disabled who are

discredited because of their handicap," Miss Mafoko says.

Mrs Ruth Machobane, organising secretary of the Transvaal Association for Black Blind

Adults, says that the problem of insufficient income is also encountered by the blind.

They do not have a workshop in Soweto where they can learn

skills but some of them have organised themselves into a group which does handicrafts.

"They all know that the law prevents them from street collecting and they are a motivated group which you will never see begging in town," says Machobane.



NOT all disabled people want to live in institutions and some of them live on their wits.



SOME of the disabled who were able to find a place in a sheltered workshop.

BUSINESS DAY, Tuesday, May 19 1987

Pharmaceutical Society does not agree with Browne report

Med-aid reform moves rejected

KEY controversial proposals made by the Browne Commission report on medical aid reform have been rejected by the Pharmaceutical Society of SA (PSSA).

It said it could not support the proposal that medical schemes be allowed to run their own hospitals and dispensaries or that they be allowed to employ pharmacists.

It also rejected a recommendation that pharmacists be allowed to advertise prescription prices or that they be allowed to contract professional services to non-pharmacists for their own account.

Society president Louis Rontgen told the PSSA conference in Durban yesterday the proposals could not be supported at this stage.

MICK COLLINS

However, the society agreed with the Browne report the pharmacist should be enabled to provide cost-effective services to a much broader spectrum of the population.

Rontgen said: "In pursuit of this objective the society has agreed to the investigation of alternative tariff options which permit the pharmacist to be adequately paid for the professional services he renders."

It was noteworthy the Competition Board proposed that price advantages and other incentives should not be used to enable doctors to profiteer from dispensing.

Board chairman Stef Naude told the conference earlier the PSSA did not owe any interest-group, professional or otherwise, or

any of its members, protected survival. He said a restrictive system that served general public could not survive.

Naude said: "The public carries the burden of rising medicine costs. It is of critical importance to the dispensing professions and the public that dispensing systems should be rationalised."

"Meaningful changes, rather than cosmetic adjustments, are imperative. This applies to pharmacists and dispensing physicians."

It was in the public interest that artificial restrictions, cartel agreements on prices of medicines, and excessive profit on medicine which resulted from a lack of competition or discriminatory practices in the industry, could not be tolerated any longer.

Business Day

11

What about the children in prison?

asks Sir

Laurens

By Jo-Anne Richards

"What about the children in prison? Who is thinking about them? Who is doing something about them?"

Sir Laurens van der Post, writer, scholar, philosopher, addressed a banquet of the 12th South African Law Conference last night and asked this of his audience.

He spoke to them about law.

"Law is inseparable from the religious concept of life — law as the Greek gods saw it. Even Jupiter couldn't interfere with fate. The Creator Himself is bound to obey the laws of His own creation."

And he spoke of South Africa.

"What we have here is an immense human problem, a human tragedy. To see it only as a political problem is to miss the point of it."

But mainly, he spoke of the law — what it should be and what role it could play in solving our problems.

THE ULTIMATE

"We have to think seriously about the law and what is happening in our land today."

"Can we be certain here that the ultimate has not been reached in what has happened to children? Can't those upholding the law say: 'We can't uphold the law justly when it is used for ends like that, however grave the emergency?'"

"And the reasons for the emergency... I do accept the African National Congress could play a role in violence, but ultimately it is home-made, the product of 40 years of political h..."



Through just law, the country could be transformed into a shining light to the world, Sir Laurens van der Post told the South African Law Conference last night.

"We must redeem ourselves," said Sir Laurens, so that the country could be run "in line with the laws of life, the universe, of time".

With just law, the country could be transformed into a shining light to the world.

And what was happening to our black leaders? asked Sir Laurens.

"What do we do? We don't

talk to them. We offer them terms they can't accept without losing the authority they have over their people."

One of the greatest blasphemies taught here was that a culture could not survive unless it had political supremacy.

"We can survive even if we lose our language, country and people, God forbid."

"The holders of the law

could do something practical about detained children and in reinforcing the Natal Indaba — a "move towards consultation instead of confrontation".

Where would they get the strength? When people "put themselves in the way of the universe, in the law and order of the universe", there was nothing they could not do, Sir Laurens said.

Drastic changes in legal system mooted

Leading lawyer tilts at high cost of going to court

If the high cost of going to court is not remedied soon "we will find that the 'people's court' is the cheapest in South Africa", says Mr Billy van der Merwe, president of the Association of Law Societies.

At the 12th South African Law Conference in Sandton yesterday, Mr van der Merwe called for a several changes to increase access to the law.

South Africa could not afford the dual system of advocates and attorneys, he said.

Every person with an LLB qualification should have the right to appear in the Supreme Court — "the present training of attorneys is such that there can be no argument about their qualification to appear in higher courts"

Mr van der Merwe also proposed that there should be lower courts in which both advocates and attorneys could appear and in which the presiding officers were chosen from attorneys, advocates and academics

Those best qualified to be judges in higher courts could then readily be identified — and not just chosen from advocates.

Such a lower court could deal with matters such as divorces and motor accident claims.

Practical training school

To allow more people, particularly blacks, to qualify as attorneys, Mr van der Merwe suggested that the two-year system of serving articles be abolished in favour of a type of practical training school

There were now more students studying law in the five black universities than in all the white universities, he said.

"Attorneys can't article even the white students who want to be attorneys. So what will we do about all the black students?"

Mr Arthur Chaskalson, SC, said whether the Bar were divided or not, the problem remained — most South Africans could not afford access to

the courts.

"If attorneys do the work advocates have traditionally done, it will affect who will earn what and the monopoly of the two professions — but it will not have any effect on access."

Most criminal cases were heard in the lower criminal courts where attorneys could appear. And, even there, 80 percent of the accused were unrepresented.

"It's a disgrace that people are sent to jail without legal representation," he said.

No easy solutions

There were no easy solutions — the only possible way out was to increase legal aid.

Mr Justice O Galgout said the fees paid to attorneys and advocates were not too high. Lawyers had a long and arduous training period and had to apply a high degree of skill to their work.

Legal costs were increased by pre-trial delays and unnecessary procedures and paperwork.

The jurisdiction of the magistrates' courts could be increased to deal with civil matters involving amounts up to R15 000

He disagreed with recent statements by Mr van der Merwe that less qualified people could provide some representation at lower cost in magistrates' courts.

"The conduct and ability of such persons will not measure up to the high standards presently set by attorneys."

But he urged that article clerks appear in lower courts in criminal and civil cases.

Mr Justice Galgout also proposed that the Small Claims Court, which was highly successful, be set up in smaller centres and have its jurisdiction raised from R1 000 to R2 000.

No one would suggest attorneys were less capable of being judges, he said. But a legal practitioner needed to work in the hurly-burly of courts to qualify for the Bench.

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Drop in children forced home to close — minister

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — It should be the responsibility of the community to support a children's home and not the responsibility of a home to support a community.

This is the view of the director of welfare and social institutions of the Dutch Reformed Church in the Eastern Cape, the Reverend C. A. Jordaan.

He was responding to the proposed closure of the M. P. R. Smit Children's Haven at Ugie after almost 70 years.

News of the move shocked residents, and the Town Clerk, Mr D. J. de Bruyn, warned of the serious social and economic implications to the town that would result from the home being shut down.

But Mr Jordaan said yesterday the decision to put the home up for sale was taken as a result of several factors. These included the lack of sufficient facilities necessary for the running of the home and the distances from centres where facilities such as specialised medical care, dental services, psychological and remedial care were at hand.

There was no railway service to Ugie which in itself created complications he said.

He said the fact that it had become government policy that children be placed in the province of their birth was also very important.

He said there had been a considerable drop in the numbers of youngsters being sent by the courts to places like Ugie.

This had led to a drop off in numbers to the extent that it had become uneconomical to retain the property as a home.

He denied that there had been any secrecy in the proposed closure of the home.

"I think the people of Ugie were quite well informed by the previous minister Dr de Villiers Morrison when he visited the home some time ago," he said.

Mr Jordaan said from an optimum of 300 children the number had dropped to about 140 in April this year and it was expected there would only be about 85 children in the home by July.

He pointed out that the government had instigated the De Meyer Commission which looked into all the aspects of children's homes.

One of its findings was that children should actually be closer to the homes of their parents — so that there should not be a complete break with the families.

"We tried to keep the home going for as long as we could but in the end we had to be realistic and accept that the longer we kept the home going the greater the financial loss would be." According to Mr Jordaan the number of children being placed in the home was steadily falling and this had led to a situation where there were in fact a number of vacancies in children's homes across the country.

All these factors had forced the church to take the decision that the home be shut by June to avoid a financial loss of "catastrophic proportions" he said.

Mr Jordaan said while he admitted that Ugie was a wonderful place for children, there would be far greater benefits for them when they were placed in their new homes in Port Elizabeth.

"These homes will not be in the slums but in residential areas where they can enjoy the benefits of family life — we want to get away from the stigma of the so-called 'children's home'," he said.

Mr Jordaan said until the 85 children were placed in the new homes they would be temporarily accommodated in Port Elizabeth.

Boys would live in quarters previously used by the police as single quarters. Girls will be housed in a building which the church previously used for unmarried mothers.

Book probes young bomber's soul

By Marika Sboros

South Africa's children had born the burden of our "unfreedom" ever since the 1976 uprisings, said sociology Professor Fatima Meer. Professor Meer was in Johannesburg for the launch this week of her latest book, "The Trial Of Andrew Zondo" (Skotaville Press R16,95).

Professor Meer wrote the book "to make sense of what happened to (Zondo)", she said.

IN MITIGATION

She gave evidence in mitigation at the trial last year of the teenage ANC bomber who freely admitted to placing a bomb which killed five people in the Amanzimtoti shopping centre two days before Christmas 1985.

Zondo was executed in September last year.

Professor Meer was only allowed four hours with Zondo, whom she had not met before, to prepare her evidence.

Her deep understanding of the



FATIMA MEER: wrote a book "to make sense of what happened" to a teenage bomber.

"incisions that living in a township like kwaMashu" had made on the young man's psyche and social perceptions, leading to a violent act, motivated her to write the book. Professor Meer said she was

"shocked" at the trial, and remained "agonised about the content of our justice". "I want us as lay people to look at our legal system critically, and take away the mystique in which the judiciary is draped."

She took a month to write the book, in between continuing her work as a university academic and director of the Institute of Black Affairs, and spent hours with Zondo's family, tracing his life path which was steered

into uncharted and violent waters by, among other events, the killing of black children since 1976. She had still not recovered from a deep feeling of depression over Zondo, she said.

HIGHLY SENSITIVE

In the book, Professor Meer describes Zondo as a compassionate, highly sensitive young man of integrity, with an "unusual capacity for self-analysis".

She does not gloss over the graphic and horrifying accounts given by survivors, or the suffering of the relatives of those killed in the blast.

The book poses the soul-searching question of who ultimately bears responsibility for the five deaths — a young man who reacted violently to the brutality and savagery he saw being perpetrated against his people around him, or those who have created a brutal and savagely racist society?

No community with the panache to boast a one-star hotel with a honeymoon suite that contains a brass four-poster bed draped in flowered tulle is likely to go down without a fight.

And certainly Ugie does not plan to do so.

For although people there are distressed — and some despondent — at the decision by the NGK to shut down the M.T. R. Smit Children's Haven there, established in 1919 by the dominnee whose name it carries, all is not gloom.

Ambitious projects to develop the little town in the southern foothills of the Drakensberg are in hand.

But there can be no doubt that the decision to close the children's home at the end of the current school term on June 25 is a huge blow to the community.

According to the latest figures available, there were about 150 children in the haven — a substantial proportion of the total of some 560 whites in the town. Then there were teachers and others concerned with running the home.

This will, of course, mean a severe drop in the white population of Ugie, and deal a serious blow to the commercial life of the area.

Ugie: town with a hole in its heart

Mrs Yvonne Moss, a councillor who has lived all her life in the town and whose husband owns a garage, said bluntly this week: "I can see Ugie dwindle to nothing."

And the bespectacled, motorbike-riding town clerk, Mr Deon de Bruyn, added that the closure would affect the whole area. "Their bread comes from Indwe, for instance. Will this put people out of work there?"

"As far as Ugie itself is concerned, this will have employment repercussions throughout the social spectrum — from gardeners and domestic workers at the haven, to teachers and shopworkers in town."

Imposing, white-haired Mr Petrus Dipenaar, who was for years on the committee of the institution, said: "Nobody here is happy — the public is dead against the move, which will affect everything in Ugie."

"If you have said five years ago that this was going to happen, nobody would have believed you. Some wonderful people have come out of

the place. It really has been a haven for children."

But more than simply commercial considerations, the town will miss the youngsters themselves. Said Mrs Moss: "It breaks a person's heart. I can't believe Ugie is going to be Ugie without them."

"Just look how free the kids are here. They can come and go safely at any time, day or night. There has never been an attack on a child. Will they be as free in bigger centres? Of course not."

Mr De Bruyn, who rents a house in the home's grounds, said: "When my father came to stay recently, one little chap threw his arms around the old man's legs, and another took my hand. What lovely children!"

It is certainly impossible to drive around the home's grounds without being greeted with smiles and cheerful waves by almost every child one passes. The helpfulness when, say, asking directions is also very noticeable.

Mr Gerrard Els is

headmaster of Ugie High School — a somewhat misleading name, since it includes both a primary and a boarding school, as well as the high school itself.

Speaking from his office at the school, which is set in a tree-lined avenue wide enough to turn an ox-cart around in, he said: "We are going to

from it. And the leader of the optimists is Mr De Bruyn, who has held the job only since January.

Working from a small office in front of what could pass as a modest Scout hall in the somewhat unattractive main street, few people can have shown more enthusiasm since the place had its beginnings as a

serve is to be established in the Pretoriusberg behind the town.

Then there are plans for a swimming pool, squash courts, a caravan park, and the conversion of a largely unused dam into a recreational facility with boating, fishing and other sports. A R200 000 govern-

Mr De Bruyn is convinced that, because of beef farming in the area, products such as biltong, bonemeal and worts could be successfully turned out in the town.

This week he won council backing for more shops in the main road, and reveals that this year already 43 new

ADRIAN MONTEATH visits the small North East Cape town and finds the townspeople shocked about the news of the children's home closedown but optimistic about their future

miss these kids. They were never any trouble.

"We will only find out definitely what our future is to be before the start of the new school year in January. We haven't been told yet," he said — though according to local rumour, it will become simply a pri-

mary. But not everyone in Ugie, the town named after a river in Scotland, is downhearted. Far

mission station in 1863.

"There's a positive side to this town as well," he says, before coming out with a whole stream of projects to make Ugie more attractive to both residents and tourists.

He has applied for a loan for a sewerage and purification scheme (both badly needed); a nine-hole golf course is under construction; a nature re-

ment job creation grant has been applied for, and Mr De Bruyn is determined to get it.

"From Pretoria, we may be behind a mountain range, so they can't see us. But I'll make sure they hear us!"

And he has ideas for up-market white residential development (some houses, near the haven, are now nearing completion), smallholdings and industrial sites.

promote holidays in the area.

Attractions include trout fishing, skiing (water or snow, depending on the season), bushman paintings, mountaineering, or simply relaxing ... all set in scenery that many people have called the most beautiful in South Africa.

The hotel in Ugie, the Kapalland — that's the one with the four-poster — is well equipped to deal with any tourist influx. Its owner, the mayor, Mr Tallie Guows, has recently had it extensively done up.

But the biggest local tourist attraction of all could turn out to be the soon-to-be-closed children's haven — depending, of course, on what is to be done with it.

NGK sources say that it has not yet been decided how the complex, opened in 1962 by the then State President, Mr "Blackie" Swart, is to be disposed of.

According to the council, the most recent valuation is R493 300 for the buildings and R2 700 for the 7.7 ha of ground. But

since this dates back to 1978, it is almost certainly out of date.

A town rumour suggests that the asking price could be in the region of R1 250 000, but nobody can speculate on whether this would include a large farm, outside the municipal area, which has been used to provision the home.

It has been suggested by an influential Pretoria-based civil engineer, Mr Mouris Read, who was brought up in Ugie and has since built dams all over Africa, that a development trust fund be set up to take over the complex.

It could be put to a number of uses, all or some of them at the same time. Activities mooted include a nature farm, an old-age home, a hive of industries and a tourist inn.

The haven's superintendent, Dr Willie van der Merwe, says that part of the reason for leaving Ugie was that the "infrastructure" provided by the municipality was not good enough.

Yet Mr De Bruyn says

that the council has incurred considerable expense for ratepayers in involving itself in schemes for sewerage and water reticulation mainly for the home.

He adds that the council has guaranteed a large loan for the home — and installed a standby generator which will now have to be removed at large expense, as an electricity back-up for the haver should Escam fail.

But Mr De Bruyn is determined to look on the bright side. "Take Laingsburg," he said. "I was wrecked in that terrible flood, but now it has more modern facilities than ever. So good can come of this, too."

There is, along the road to Elliot, not many kilometres from Ugie, a remarkable natural phenomenon called Gatterberg. As the name implies, it is a mountain with a hole through it.

There are parallels.

When the haven, once the biggest children's home in South Africa goes, Ugie will be, at least, a town with a hole where its heart used to be.

But, like Gatterberg, it will almost certainly keep on standing.

lem was theft by employees.
A source said: "About 75% of all retail theft can be attributed to collusion by

were discovered to be stealing, most now instituted proceedings against the culprits.

Society will confront govt over detained children

THE Johannesburg Child Welfare Society will confront government over the detention of children — even at the risk of its financial aid from the State.

The society said on Friday it would fight for the rights of detained children and would put pressure on government to ease its approach towards them.

Society sources said the society regarded the matter as so urgent it would

NORMAN SHEPHERD

even be prepared to risk government funding, which made up about 45% of its income.

The society said it would ask government, through the SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare, to grant it access to children in detention.

1300

1400

SA518

East London to Johannesburg

1800

0800

SA235

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KIDS IN A CRISIS

THE imprisonment of children is undesirable and a sure way to create angry and militant adolescents.

By NKOPANE
MAKOBANE

This was said by Dr Adele Thomas, executive director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, at a Press conference in the city last Friday.

The conference had been called by the society to express concern over the many children detained under the emergency regulations.

It was also to highlight the frustrations and subsequent inability to render much needed

professional reconstruction services by the society to the children and their families.

Dr Thomas said it was difficult to give accurate figures of children in detention. However, the Detainees Parents Support Committee estimates are that 40 percent of all detainees are children under the age of 18.

"Our mission is to care for children — all children — especially now in the current

state of socio-political turmoil in the country. These children have been swept up in the present turmoil.

Stand

"Our stand is that children should not be detained. Should they be detained, we believe that it is incumbent upon us to advocate for their rights and to promote their protection, health, social and emotional well-being as best we can," she said.

She said that the Child Care Act No 74 of 1983 provided no

protection for children in an unrest situation.

The Act is superseded by the legislation pertaining to the emergency regulations. As a result, children detained today have no legal protection.

The Johannesburg Child Welfare Society plans to build a crisis centre in Mofolo South (next to Othandweni Children's Home), Soweto.

Mr Willie Jacobs, the society's public relations manager, said the project would cost R150 000 and the society was looking for sponsors to fund it.



DR ADELE Thomas, executive director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

298 BD 26/1/87

Bill to provide for interests of children in divorce cases

CAPE TOWN — A Bill which proposes the appointment of a "family advocate" to look after the interests of children in divorce proceedings was introduced here yesterday by the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee.

Moving the Second Reading of the Mediation in Certain Divorce Matters Bill, Mr Coetsee said the Hoexter Commission of Inquiry into the courts had found that important disputes within the family were "often artificially withheld from the court's decision".

The commission had also found that the unsatisfactory way in which many divorce matters were dealt with was partly due to the fact that when it came to determining custody of minor children, only the evidence of the plaintiff was considered by the court.

"In many cases this has led to unsatisfactory settlements in divorce related actions," Mr Coetsee said.

The present Bill had been recommended by



MR COETSEE

the joint committee considering the Hoexter proposals as an interim measure until legislation for a family court was drawn up.

The Bill envisaged the appointment of a family advocate to "investigate and report to the court on matters concerning the welfare of minors or dependent children".

He would also be able to appear at a trial or hearing and to act there in the interest of the children involved.

Mr Coetsee said the advocate would have to be "experienced in dealing with family matters".

The Bill also made

provision for the advocate to be assisted by family counsellors.

Mr Frank le Roux (CP Brakpan) said his party supported the Bill.

He doubted, however, whether the family advocate, who would be based at the seat of a particular provincial division would be in a position to judge what was happening in a particular country area.

He said it was the ordinary attorney who was most involved in the problems of divorce and with families and their children in the country areas.

He said consideration should be given to basing the office on districts rather than provinces.

Mr D. P. Schutte (NP Pietermaritzburg North) said the Bill was the product of 18 months of "urgent consideration" by the committee.

He said the Bill would provide the Supreme Court with a "very powerful instrument", through the family advocate, for coming to the right decision. — Sapa

Koornhof invites critic (598) 26/6/87 SM to probe child detentions

By Alan Dunn, The Star Bureau
WASHINGTON — South Africa has invited one of its most vociferous critics in the United States Senate to visit the country to make "as thorough, complete and free an investigation" of juveniles in detention as she wishes.

The South African ambassador, Dr Piet Koornhof, extended the invitation to Senator Barbara Mikulski, a liberal Democrat from Maryland and author of a Senate resolution calling for the immediate release of all children detained under the state of emergency.

Dr Koornhof announced his invitation yesterday as two separate hearings on Capitol Hill examined the issues of youths in detention.

One hearing, widely covered by television and newspapers, was conducted by a human rights group and attended and endorsed by liberal Democrat politicians, including Senators Mikulski and Edward Kennedy.

They heard claims of children being detained for months without questioning or trial, beatings, torture, abuse, cruelty, physical and psychological hurt, in testimony from South Africans, who included youths who had been detained, that was at times emotional.

In another committee room downstairs, conservative Republicans heard evidence from two kwaZulu men and a young woman, who said she had been party to the killing of black councillors.

Congressmen heard there how the African National Congress, economic sanctions and subversive churchmen were behind much of the black misery in South Africa.

Fewer reporters and only one video camera covered the alternative hearing.

Dr Koornhof's invitation to Senator Mikulski

was issued on Wednesday, the South African embassy said, and was publicised in a well-circulated news release in Washington yesterday.

He apparently suggested she did not have to believe him that allegations made to her about youths in detention were false and malicious.

He also indicated that Senator Mikulski would be welcome at her earliest convenience and offered to help her personally with her visit arrangements.

Senator Mikulski did not mention Dr Koornhof's invitation at yesterday's hearing. Her office did not return a telephone call to say whether she would accept it.

"The issue is not whether it is 20 children, 200 children or 2 000 children," the Senator told the first hearing. "This is not a calibrated situation, but it is an issue of basic human rights."

At that hearing, members of the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, the United Democratic Front, South African doctors, attorneys and youths told graphically of security force actions, conditions in police cells and in prisons, torture and brutality.

Youths related their personal ordeals, claiming extended periods of detention, solitary confinement, beatings, not being questioned for months, poor food, cold cells, uncertainty and fear. The youths were named and identified at the hearing.

One mother sobbed as she told how a son had been held without her knowing. He was released and another son had disappeared because police were looking for him, she said.

At the other hearing, proceedings were mirrored. Lawmakers congratulated the witnesses for their courage in travelling to the United States to testify publicly and saying how important it was for America to hear the truth.

Their witnesses included two middle-aged men, one a kwaZulu mission minister who said he had escaped necklacing in the township of Mamelodi last year. A mob had wanted to burn him because he had preached against murder, immorality and alcoholism at a funeral, he said.

A young woman, claiming she was a former member of the Congress of South African Students (Cosas), said she had given herself up to police in October 1984, but had never been prosecuted. She said she was party to township violence, and had been there when mobs hacked and burnt community councillors to death in Evaton and Sharpeville on September 3 1984.

She alleged some Anglican ministers had said after a R5 rent increase in Lekoa that the councillors must die on that date if they did not listen to the people.

She said Anglican ministers taught them in Catholic churches how to make petrol bombs and that Soviet AK-47 assault rifles were distributed at a Cosas meeting in one church.

Thatcher's new programme reveals no change on SA

By Michael Morris, The Star Bureau

LONDON — The Queen touched briefly on the political conflict in southern Africa when she presented the British government's new policy programme at the State opening of Parliament yesterday.

But foreign policy is almost entirely overshadowed in Mrs Thatcher's new-term package by a major programme on the home front contained in new Bills on education, housing, local government, immigration, criminal justice, trade unions and finance.

Southern Africa is undoubtedly exercising the minds of policy-makers in the back rooms of the Foreign Office but the Queen's statement of British intent amounted simply to a reiteration of Mrs Thatcher's oft-heard hopes.

The Queen said the British government "will continue to seek peaceful and lasting solutions to the most difficult international problems, including those in southern Africa".

FUNDAMENTAL AND PEACEFUL CHANGE

Taken with yesterday's Foreign Office briefing, it is clear Britain remains committed to seeking an end to apartheid and "promoting fundamental and peaceful change" in partnership with the European Community and the Commonwealth.

It supports efforts to promote negotiations and attaches particular importance to the political and economic stability of South Africa's neighbours. Cross-border violence is strongly deplored.

The Foreign Office has emphasised that it does not believe the time is right for any new initiative on South Africa. This is the view Mrs Thatcher expressed at the recent Group of Seven conference in Venice and this view is likely to prevail for some time.

Mrs Thatcher may well have decided to hold back any new British proposal until the Commonwealth heads of government meeting in October so that she will have at least something to offer, other than determined resistance, when the expected calls for tougher sanctions become clamorous again.

CHILD detainees were being released at a rapid rate, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) said yesterday.

A spokesman said the releases — a large number over the past few days — were to make room for an impending government crackdown on political opponents and to silence growing criticism of child detentions.

However, authorities issued flat "no comments" on claims that 40 child detainees were released from Krugersdorp prison yesterday morning.

Attorney Graeme Reid, acting for one of yesterday's released detainees, said he collected the names of 28 children released at 11pm from Krugersdorp police station. "There were possibly 40 set free in total," he said.

The DPSC expects a post-election "drive" against government's

Child detainees being 'released' at a rapid rate

HAMISH McINDOE

most strident political opponents.

Its spokesman said: "Government already faces a space problem and child detainees are now an embarrassment. So they're clearing out the cells."

A government source said child detainees had been released or charged on an ongoing basis since March.

The DPSC puts SA's detention population at 5 000.

Law and Order spokesman Brigadier Leon Mellet said he would not comment on detentions in line with stated government policy.

Music therapy for mind, body and spirit — the Robbins way

By Sian Blackburn

Visiting Australian music therapist Mrs Carol Robbins stood quietly amid the booming drums and tinkling piano and said: "Most people are very inhibited when it comes to music."

She was recently in Johannesburg to speak, with her husband Clive, at a series of musical lectures at the University of the Witwatersrand.

"I see no reason for people to be inhibited — the voice and body are the highest forms of communication," she said.

She said music therapy often visibly improved the mental, physical, emotional and psychological condition of many children and adults.

SELF-ESTEEM

"It gives handicapped people a sense of self-esteem. They play the drums, symbols, handbells or even the triangle in time to my piano sounds and consider themselves successful in a field they previously couldn't participate in."

"Although they merely beat on or play a very simple instrument, everyone plays a very effective part. We eventually give these people pleasure and fulfilment."

Mrs Robbins's sole role was to play the piano and "make sense out of the sounds patients created from reedhorns, percussion instruments, autoharps and chimes".

"The whole concept is geared so their mistakes are not obvious. It has to

be very practical and so there is not much talking only singing."

Back home in Australia Mrs Robbins said she worked in a school and helped handicapped and hearing-impaired adults and children between the ages of four and 50.

She considered herself specialised in working with those who have impaired hearing.

"Although few people are totally deaf, we work with an amplified sound so the vibrations are there. Not many people realise that pitch, not sound is detected through vibrations."

Many patients enjoyed the Robbins therapeutic sessions for four or five months. Others stayed for more than a year depending on when he or she began to respond.

"All our sessions, from the 15-minute individual to the 45-minute group sessions, are recorded and videotaped. By doing this we can study each person properly."

Mrs Robbins has enjoyed a musical life since the age of seven when, in upstate New York, she began to play the piano. During her high school years she became a church organist and then an organ major.

"After school I immediately went to the Crane School of Music and became a music educationist after four years."

DEGREEE

She taught music in various schools for a few years until her studying books beckoned and she



decided to complete a masters degree

Part of her course included a music therapy section, which she enjoyed so much that she used it in her lessons and found she had become selective about choosing songs and material.

So selective in fact, that she decided to move full-time into music therapy with her lecturer Mr Clive Robbins, who later became her husband and co-composer.

"Working as a team is wonderful for us and for our marriage. We write and compose together and Clive supervises the children in the group while I supervise the harmonising."

The Australian-based couple have three grown up "musical" children, enjoy reading and "the occasional rock concert", said Mr Robbins.



MUSICAL DUET: Carol and Clive Robbins say that working as a team composing music and musical therapy is good for their marriage.

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'Many more children being freed'

By Carina le Grange

The release of detained children has increased over the past week, a spokesman for the Detainees' Parents' Support Committee says.

June 12 marks the anniversary of the second state of emergency, June 16 the shooting of Soweto students in 1976 and June 26 the Freedom Charter.

The spokesman said the detention population has been fairly constant at 5 000 for many months.

Twenty-eight children had been released from Krugersdorp prison and children from other areas were being released at a high rate.

● The SA Police Public Relations Directorate in Pretoria had made no comment at the time of going to press.

Govt refuses to meet FCA

(298) M
30/5/87

JOHANNESBURG — The government has refused to meet a delegation from the Free the Children Alliance (FCA) despite assurances from the State President that he is prepared to talk to anyone not committed to violence

An FCA spokesman said yesterday her organisation had made repeated requests to the

Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, for a meeting to discuss the plight of detained children and had been told by the minister's office that these had been turned down.

"Since the beginning of the year, President P. W. Botha has repeatedly stated that his government is prepared to talk to anyone who is not

committed to violence.

"Why, therefore, has a request to meet the Minister of Law and Order in connection with the children in detention been ignored?"

The statement said the government was not acting in accordance with its public statements and challenged the minister to explain "why he chose to ignore

the proposed delegation".

Meanwhile, the Detainees Parents' Support Committee (DPSC) has reported that hundreds of detained children have been freed in the past few days.

The most recent official figures said 1424 children between the ages of 12 and 18 were being held under security legislation. — Sapa

(298) Sowetan

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SOLIDARITY

Children in remembrance

SCORES of balloons were released over Johannesburg yesterday to mark the International Children's Day and to remember many black children languishing in South African jails.

The occasion was commemorated at the

SOWETAN Reporter

Central Methodist Church, Pritchard Street, Johannesburg where a day-long festival for children of all races was held.

Children from the age of four upwards participated in drama, picture

painting, singing and dancing. There was also a rock festival.

Chanted

Some of the paintings, drawn by children as young as four years old showed detained children caged like zoo animals and police vehicles standing watch

nearby

Some of the older children staged drama shows and chanted: "Free the Children" slogans. Many people in the audience wore T-shirts with the "Free the Children" slogan painted on them.

In the hall there were huge posters saying:

"Free the Children" which were hung on the stage and pasted on the walls.

Learn

The convenor of the festival, Mr Allan Jackson, said International Children's Day was celebrated in many countries throughout the world and was an event

recognised by the United Nations.

In South Africa, he said, the occasion was used to bring children of all races together so that they could learn about each other in a non-racial setting. It was also a day to mark solidarity with other children who were in detention, he said.

A member of the Detainees Parents Support Committee, Ms Terry Sacco, said some of the young children showed keen sensitivity about other children in detention.

She said their sharp awareness was shown in some of the paintings they drew of their colleagues in prison.

CHILDREN hold balloons which were released over Johannesburg yesterday to mark the International Children's Day.



'Only 11 children in jail'

HAMISH McINDOE

MINISTER of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok said yesterday in a statement that the number of children in detention had dropped from a total of 280 on February 12 to 11 held at present.

Vlok issued the statement after the tabling in Parliament of a list giving the number of those children still in detention. The 11 are eight children aged 15, two aged 14 and one aged 13.

Of the 280 still held in February, 169 were aged 15, 91 aged 14, 18 aged 13 and three aged 12, Vlok said.

Earlier the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) rejected a report claiming most children in detention had been released.

A DPSC spokesman, while saying last night his organisation had no reason to disbelieve Vlok's statement, asked how many children had subsequently been sent to re-education camps or re-detained.

The DPSC was working "in the dark" on the issue and had to rely on many unsubstantiated reports from family and friends, that took time to filter back.

There were about 1 400 children in detention at the last count and the DPSC believes a "couple of hundred" have been released in the past fortnight.

Said a DPSC spokesman: "The detention picture is still very muddy, but excitement over a drastic drop in child detainees is premature."

Suzman welcomes decision to release child detainees

Political Staff

Veteran civil rights campaigner Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP, Houghton) has welcomed the Government's announcement that it has released all but 11 of the detainees under the age of 16 held under the emergency regulations.

Mrs Suzman said she thought they had probably been released because otherwise the Minister would have been obliged by law to reveal their numbers.

"For international consumption it was better to have a lower than a higher number."

FUTURE POLICY

She hoped the releases gave some indication of the policy to be followed in the future and that as many as possible of the detainees under the age of 18 would be released.

These constituted a high proportion of detainees and, although they were juveniles and could do "a hell of a lot of damage", under the Children's Act they were still defined as children.

Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok announced yesterday that all but 11 of the 206 detainees under the age of

16 held on April 18 had been released by May 28.

The 11 were being held in connection with criminal cases including charges of "necklace" murders and public violence.

Mr Vlok said the blame for the detention of children rested on the shoulders of the "revolution-minded radicals who cold-bloodedly select children and force them to commit atrocities and gruesome acts against the community".

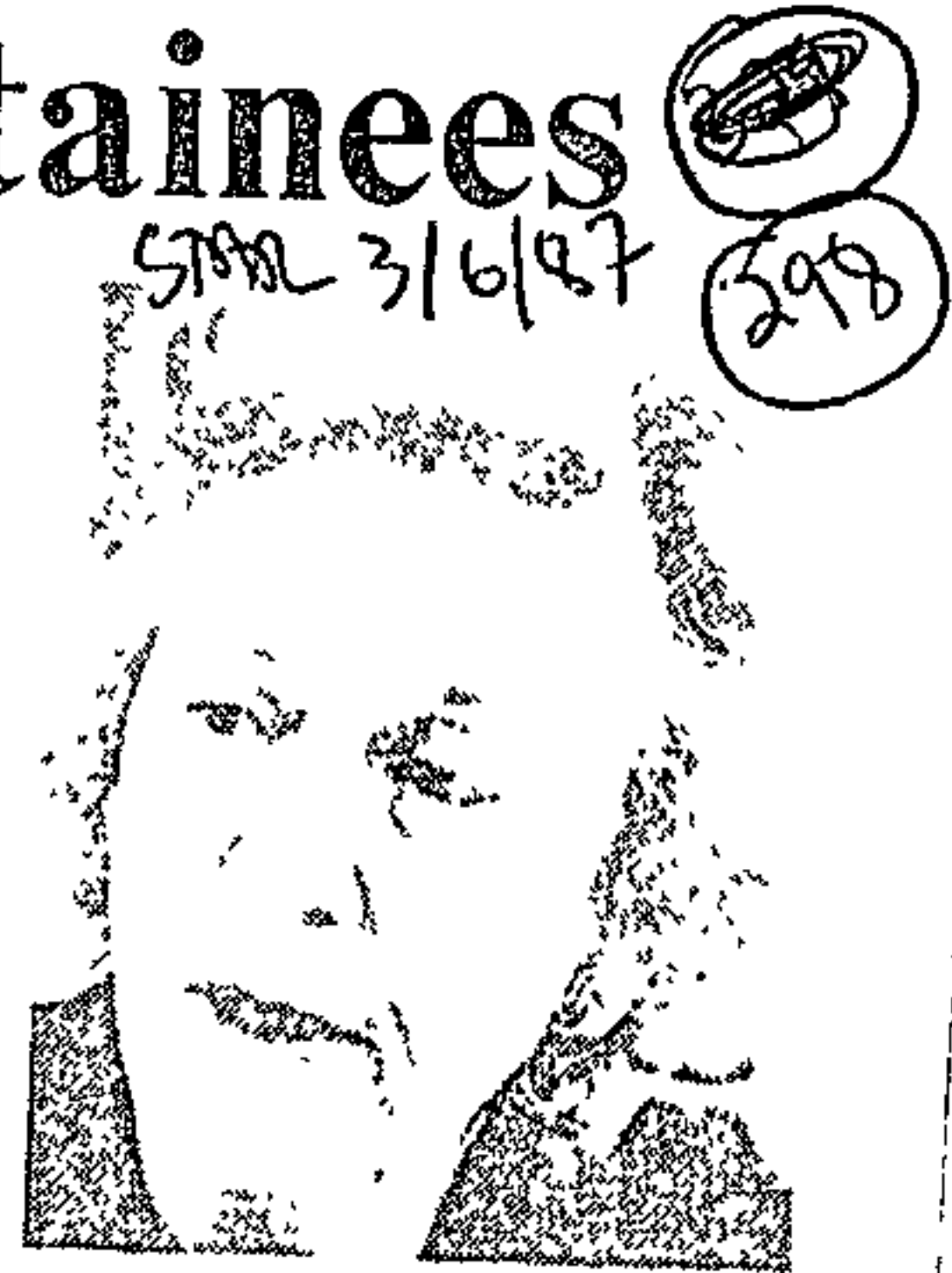
The ANC had purposely chosen a strategy of exploiting children for terror.

Mr Vlok said he had ordered a special urgent investigation into the circumstances of every child detainee.

Where parents could be tracked down, discussions were held with them.

Police tried to establish if parents were in a position to accept custody of their children and if community and welfare bodies could be involved.

The children were released into the custody of parents or legal guardians but there would be no hesitation in acting against them again if they were guilty of further violence.



Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP) — glad children have been freed.

One detention death this year

One person, Mr Benedict Moshoke, had died in detention this year, Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday in reply to a question by Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP, Houghton) in the House of Assembly.

Mr Moshoke, who was detained under emergency regulations, was found hanging from his shirt, tied to a cell bar, on March 26 — Sapa.

Child detainee still 'scarred' after two months

BABA ROCOLO was 15 and in sub B at the Nxolo school at Old Crossroads when he was detained in June last year for being a "threat to the security of the State".

He was released eight months later, but like many of the other minor children detained throughout the country, he is showing the emotional scars and other effects of his incarceration.

Detained

Baba did not return to school this year. "I haven't seen Baba since he was detained," his teacher said.

It now seems unlikely that Baba's disrupted education will be resumed.

No reasons were given for his detention and he was not questioned while in detention.

In an interview this week he said he was not a member of any political organisation and had not been involved in any

criminal action at the time.

He said he was held by security guards at his school and handed, with two other children, to a policeman called "Barnard".

Throughout the interview, Baba stared vacantly ahead and never smiled. He answered the questions put to him, and which were interpreted into Xhosa by his mother.

He spoke briefly and at times inaudibly and acted out some of his experiences. He placed his belt around his neck and tightened it. He repeated this action, then turned and punched his back repeatedly. During this action, his face showed frustration and fear.

Arrest

Baba was taken to Victor Verster shortly after his arrest and then transferred to Maitland police station for 32 days.

He was later returned to Victor Verster. While in detention he received only one visit from his mother, Mrs Linah Rocolo. During this visit he received a fresh pair of clothing and some money.

Distrust

At the end of the interview, Baba stepped back distrustfully at the outstretched hand that was offered and then passively shook it. Together with his parents and eight-year-old brother they turned back to their tin shack at the top of the road where dongas were rapidly filling up with rain.

*The Declaration of Children's Rights states:

"All children should never have to fear arrest and detention and should be raised to understand that their energy and talents should be devoted to the service of their brothers and sisters."

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Freeing the children

THE GOVERNMENT must be commended on its sharp reduction in the number of detainees held under the emergency regulations. The list of names tabled in Parliament this week by the Minister of Justice totalled just over 1 400 — a very substantial drop from the 8 500 of last February, the previous occasion on which he was required to report to Parliament on those detained for 30 days or longer.

Particularly welcome is the release of all but 11 of the many children under 16, some of whom had been held for months. The 11, according to the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, are being held in connection with criminal charges including "necklace" murders and public violence. A further 58, he said, have already appeared in

court on various charges.

Whether the releases are the result of having a new Minister, of less unrest, of having the white election out of the way, or a change of heart is hard to say. It may be, as Mrs Helen Suzman supposes, that since the State was required by law to report at this stage, it preferred for world consumption to produce a shorter list.

In any event, Mr Vlok says that after taking office he ordered a special urgent inquiry into the circumstances of every child detainee; discussions were held wherever possible with parents and the children released into their custody. That is the humane approach, belated as it is. We trust similar care will now be maintained with the under-18s and, indeed, all detainees.

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Closing racial gap

5712
4/6/87
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By Janine Simon

The 86,93 percent increase in funding for education of black handicapped children has been welcomed as a move to redress the huge backlogs in the area.

The increase, to R22,2 million, was announced in an explanatory memorandum by the Department of Education and Training following yesterday's Budget speech.

According to Mr Lage Vitus, director of the South African National Council for Mental Health, almost 60 percent of the needs of white handicapped people were being met while only six to seven percent of the needs of handicapped blacks were met.

"Until now education facilities for mildly handicapped black children — and the majority of handicaps are mild — have not existed," he said.

"I am very pleased that the Government is realising that the absence of special education is a major hazard for South Africa."

Anglican synod hopes for Mandela's release

Religion Reporter *SMR* 4/6/87.

Violation of the ninth Commandment, raids on neighbouring countries and the detention of children were deplored in motions accepted last weekend by the synod of the Johannesburg diocese of the Church of the Province of Southern Africa.

The synod also sent greetings to Nelson Mandela and hoped that he would be released soon.

The synod, attended by 300 clergy and laity, deplored the breaking of the commandment "Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour" by official decree inasmuch as people were imprisoned for long periods with no public trial which defamed their characters and did not give them a chance to defend themselves.

Condolences were sent by the synod to the families of victims of the May 20 bomb blast at the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court and to the families of the Alexandra children who died in a bus accident in the Northern Transvaal.

In another motion, the synod expressed horror and hurt at the persistent raids into neighbouring countries.

It called for an end to such raids and urged the Government to start peaceful negotiations with liberation leaders inside and outside the country.

In a resolution stemming from Bishop Duncan Buchanan's charge, the synod also urged the Government to lift the state of emergency, unban political organisations and release political detainees.

This resolution was passed noting the results of the general election. The synod expressing concern at the polarisation of South Africans.

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It's back to school as children are freed

By Mudini Maivha

Separated from their families, friends and mainly their books for a period of up to six months as emergency detainees, a number of children from Munsieville, Krugersdorp, in the West Rand were very excited when the prison gates were opened and they were told to go home last week.

Enthusiastic about their schoolwork, which they had missed during their detention, they put on their uniforms and went back to school.

More than 18 Munsieville, Bekkersdal and Kagiso children were released. Those interviewed were all primary school pupils.

Woken in the night

In interviews they said they were woken in the middle of the night, bundled into police vehicles and driven around the townships as more children were picked up.

At Krugersdorp charge office they were photographed and fingerprinted.

They were asked if they were "comrades", and made statements.

Then they were taken to Krugersdorp and Diepkloof prisons.

Manono Anna Mojaki (16) of 994 George James Street is a Std 5 pupil at St Mary's Primary

School in Luipardsvlei. She was detained on the night of last September 8 and released on May 27.

"The security force members hammered on our doors and windows. They were in four vehicles. In the cars I found Barbara Moaise (14) who lives opposite us, Steven Phillemon, Martha Phillemon, Ms Mathlodi Phillemon, Ms Shirley Mono, Vusi and Charles. We were taken to the police station where we made statements and were later taken to Diepkloof Prison.

"I missed my books and parents immensely. I was very happy to be told on May 27 that I was going to be released with my friends," she said.

Said Phaniel Mojaki (16), a Std 5 pupil at Phatudi Higher Primary: "On the night of October 6 they knocked at my door and told me to get dressed. In the cars I found the brothers Sam and Goosestuff Sello. We were taken on a rough ride around the township where Amos Kotsedi, Pule and Kgumakoe Thekiso and another youth were picked up."

Phaniel said he was kept at Krugersdorp Prison for the duration of his detention.

Another Std 4 pupil at Phatudi primary school pupil, Motsuseng Lucas Mosala (15), of 932 Mamo-gale Street was also released yesterday.

He said prior to his detention on October 6, it never struck him that he would land behind bars.

Others released were Lawrence Mogamimi (16) of 1140 Moilwa Street and Sam Motawana (17), both of Phatudi H P School.

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DPSC to host tea party

THE Detainees' Parents Support Committee will hold a tea party for the

By SOWETAN REPORTER

parents of detainees and ex-detainees tomorrow.

280 in February.

The party, which starts at 2pm, will be held at the Central Methodist Church, 79 Pritchard Street, Johannesburg.

But a spokesman for the DPSC said yesterday that the organisation was "very worried" about the children who were said to have been released from detention.

This week the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok, said 11 children remained in detention. He said the detentions had dropped from a total of

The spokesman said many parents were wondering where their children had gone after being released. The spokesman said the DPSC won-

dered whether the children were not being taken to re-education camps.

"If the authorities think it is a good thing, why are they being secretive about it?" the spokesman asked.

Yesterday, the *Sowetan* sent a telex to the office of the Minister of Justice, Mr Koble Coetsee, requesting a list of the names of released children and of those still in detention. At the time of writing, the Minister had not yet responded to the request.

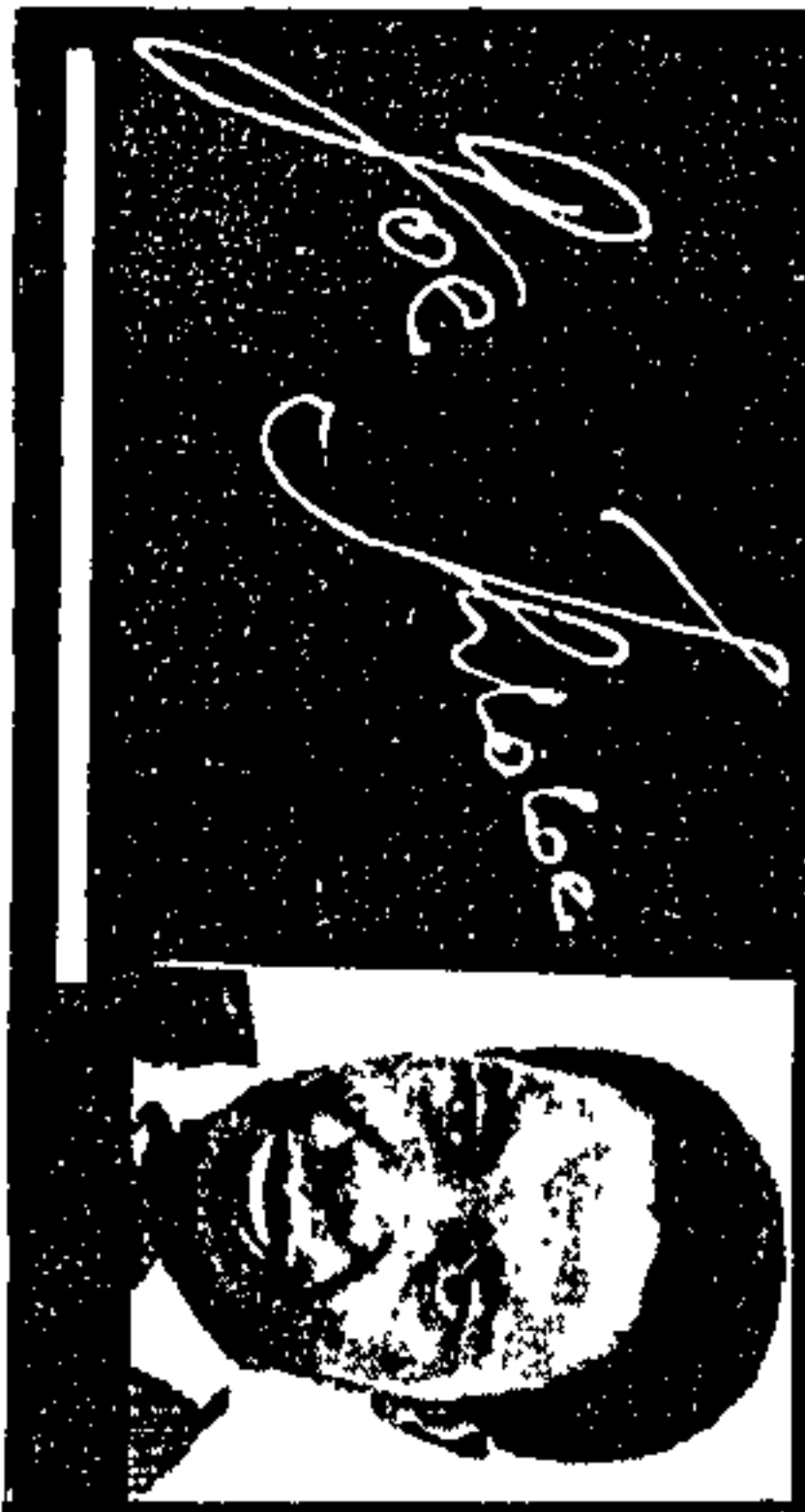
THE Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, was

almost convincing on television the other night when he spoke about his concern for children in detention.

I was starting to believe that he was just another father concerned about his children, but my cynical mind would not let me. It tore a way Mr Vlok's supercilious mask...

In the programme Mr Vlok spoke about his concern for children in detention; about how he instituted a special investigation into the circumstances of each child in detention; and about how only 11 children under the age of 16 were still in detention because they faced serious charges that included "necklacing". If we brush aside the

PERSPECTIVE



sweet words, some ugly truths emerge: On April 18, there were 206 children aged under 16 in detention. Between then and May 28, 195 of them were released — without any charges being brought against them.

That, Mr Vlok, is the nub of this controversy: you and your "security forces" holding virtual babies in detention without bringing any charges against them.

All it takes is a member of the security forces to believe that a child is threatening

"the maintenance of law and order" and that child is detained for at least 14 days.

The normal, civilised process of charges, defence and an impartial judge has been shelved.

What do we have to do to show you, Mr Vlok, and the rest of the Government that this is horrific?

Let us take you to the Letsogo home (it is not their real name; your policemen can give you real names and addresses).

Little Thabo — that means Joy, Mr Vlok,

Why detentions make this country stink . . .

because believe it or not, some parents still give their children such names — goes out to school.

His parents come back from work at 6.30 pm and they are told that Thabo was taken away by soldiers. They do not sleep that night; they move from police station to police station; they are shunted from one official to another.

In the morning, exhausted, they end up at a lawyer's office. Other couples are there too, also searching.

Later that morning, the lawyer tells them that Thabo is being held under the emergency regulations.

The trips to the place where he is being held start

Every time Mrs Letsogo goes to the jail and tries to smile for

her son, she breaks down in tears. He, the small man, has to be strong for both of them. He tries to reassure her, to tell her he is fine, that she need not worry. It does not help.

Just the thought that she cannot hug him, that she does not know where he is sleeping, that she does not know what he is eating, drives her mad — with fear, with anger.

She desperately tries to suppress her memories of stories she has heard about what happens to people in detention. That, Mr Vlok, is not easy.

Finally, in your own good time, Mr Vlok, you decide to let Thabo go back to his family. Do you seriously expect hearty *Thank you's* from Thabo, his family or his community?

Mr Vlok, I was



MR ADRIAAN VLOK . . . Minister.

almost grown up, 17, when I saw my mother try to smile and then break down in tears from the other side of the bars that separated us.

That picture of my mother is indelible in my memory. That is why I believe I know what the children you have just released feel like, Mr Vlok.

It will not help, Mr Vlok, to blame "revolutionary-minded radicals who cold-bloodedly select children and force them to commit atrocities and gruesome acts against the

One and a half thousand people in detention? That makes this country stink.

Pre-school education boosted

By SANDILE MEMELA

PRI-SCHOOL education has received a shot in the arm. Thousands of toddlers are to be developed and enriched before Grade one.

This follows after the donation of more than R200 000 by Nicholas Oppenheimer to the University of the Witwatersrand's division of specialised education this week.

However, scores of township pre-school teachers stand to lose as they are

underqualified. The diploma can be taken over one year of full-time study or over two years of part-time study.

Regulations for admission to the course prescribe that a candidate must hold a recognised teachers' qualification from any education college in the country together with a matric certificate.

Records of black pre-school centers in the townships reveal that most of the

teachers are underqualified. Most have matric as a maximum qualification.

In other cases, the helpers are women who resort to the work due to the high rate of

unemployment.

A spokesman said the course would help solve the shortage of skilled people needed to engage in community efforts to expand the

provision of pre-school education from birth onwards. The purpose of the course is to provide pre-school teachers with the knowledge for the following:

- Organise the development and staffing of parent education and home enrichment programs.
- Train para-professionals to staff pre-school centres and creches.
- Train pre-school teachers at teachers' training colleges.

According to Professor Mervyn Skuy, who heads the division of specialised education at Wits, pre-school education for children from socio-politically disadvantaged communities was essential.

"Studies conducted in South Africa reveal that the home environment found in disadvantaged communities militates against the development of the skills for school performance," said Skuy.

Those interested can phone 716-5287.



Prof Skuy (left), Strille Oppenheimer and husband Nicholas.

Third worst in the world

By CAS St LEGER

THE stress of the South African lifestyle is partly to blame for the country running third in the worldwide divorce stakes.

Only Americans and Russians beat South Africans in the rush to the divorce courts.

Yet most couples in this country are over 20 when they get married and give it a good try by staying married for at least seven years.

Last year, there were 69 851 white, coloured and Asian marriages — no comparative figures for blacks are available.

There were 23 134 divorces, involving 30 304 children.

The Transvaal heads the divorce toll at 60,2 percent, with 21 percent in the Cape, 11,9 percent in Natal, and 6,9 percent in the Free State.

"Divorce often just changes one set of problems for another," said Dr Magrit Herman, of the National Council of Child and Family Welfare.

She said that, in 1985, each white divorce involved 1,2 minor children, each coloured divorce 1,7 children, and each Asian di-

in divorce stakes

vorce 1,6 children.

White marriages that broke up lasted an average of 7,1 years, coloured marriage 8,9 years and Asian marriages 7,9 years.

"While the council welcomes the new divorce Bill calling for family attorneys, it believes social workers are necessary if the legislation is to help.

"Divorce counselling is extremely difficult and we want social workers involved," said Dr Herman.

The reasons for South Africa's high divorce rate —

like those for baby battering — included stress, working mothers with too little and too expensive day care, inflation and too many demands at home.

Teenage marriage was not a significant problem in South Africa.

In 1985, only 85 white girls under 16 got married. There were 728 bridegrooms under 20 and 6 222 brides.

Most couples — 15 558 males and 18 889 females — were in the 20 to 24 age group.

Battered kids too small

to cry for help

By CAS St LEGER

BATTERED babies are South Africa's hidden, shameful problem. Some cases never come to the attention of the authorities until too late.

Every month, the National Council of Child and Family Welfare deals with an average of 549 abused children, with the peak to date being 642 in March last year.

These statistics are only the tip of a terrifying iceberg. They represent only those children and their parents who are receiving the council's help. They do not include those cared for

by hospitals or other welfare organisations. They do not account for those babies so badly beaten they die.

The real figures, concealed by guilty, careless or ashamed parents, will never be known.

And comparisons with other countries are meaningless — their statistics, too, are hidden.

The main victims — ba-

bles under two years — are too small to cry for help.

The council's Dr Magrit Herman said the reasons were many — including parents who had not been "parented" themselves, stress and overwork, inexperienced, lack of planned parenthood and preparation, and under-estimation of a baby's demands.

"They don't reach out; they do not go to welfare organisations for help," Dr Herman said.

Vlok is challenged to answer questions on child detainees

By Jon Qwelane

The Detainees Parents' Support Committee (DPSC) has challenged Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok to answer three questions to place the debate on child detainees on a "rational footing".

Mr Vlok has accused the DPSC of "wilfully spreading false and distorted" figures and information on child detainees.

In a statement on Thursday night, Mr Vlok said: "What is disturbing is that this organisation continues deliberately to misinform the world, causing endless harm to South Africa, while it has the audacity to admit its information is unsubstantiated."

Mr Vlok's accusations were publicly dismissed at the weekend at a tea party at the Central Methodist Church in Johannesburg, at which a number of former child detainees and their parents were present.

Dr Mike Rice of the DPSC's management committee read out the organisation's response to Mr Vlok and challenged him to answer three questions.

Dr Rice said the DPSC did not rely on unsubstantiated evidence for its reports on detention, and was justly proud of the care and caution with which it had gathered its information.

"It is true our figures are not always complete or up to date. This does not constitute an attempt to 'wilfully spread false and distorted figures and information to the world'.

"Indeed, the deception comes from him. When questions are asked in Parliament about numbers of children detained, he conceals the facts, saying it is not in the public interest.

"Minister Vlok also manipulates the figures. When it suits him, he deems a 'child' to be under the age of 16, thus making the figures artificially low. We rely on the Children's Act for our definition, which defines a child as under 18," Dr Rice said.

It was a fact that, far from exaggerating the number of detainees and especially the number of children in detention, DPSC figures were lower than those of the police.

They presented a "conservative" picture of the true state of affairs as known to the organisation.

To place the debate on a more rational footing, the Minister should answer three questions:

● How many children under 18 years, as defined by the Children's Act, were still being held?

● Did his figure of 208 children under the age of 16 years recently released include those who were aged 15 when detained 15 but had since turned 16?

● Of those released, how many had been sent to rehabilitation camps?

If there was confusion about the number and ages of those held, it was "solely due to the veil of secrecy behind which the Minister hides. Also, it is not the DPSC which gives South Africa a bad name, but the South African Police and the Government, who choose to detain and repress on such an enormous scale".

The DPSC challenged Mr Vlok to "come clean" with the South African public and the world and to publish regularly and honestly all the names and ages of those being held at present.

This was so that South Africans could see the full extent of the repression in their country.

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Parents speak out

~~SECRET~~ 298 *Secretum*
8/6/87

THE Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC) held a tea party in Johannesburg at the weekend at which a grim picture of children in detention emerged.

Some parents broke down and wept as they told harrowing stories about their children who are still in detention.

There were allegations of children being maltreated while in detention without trial. Some parents complain-

ed that their children had not received food parcels they had been sent. In one instance, one parent complained that her child had not been given schoolbooks she had sent.

There were complaints by some parents that their children may have been denied medical treatment. A legal expert who was at hand said the authorities could not deny a prisoner medical treatment. He said a

prisoner had the rights of an ordinary citizen except those rights taken away by law.

Parents whose children complained they were not receiving medical treatment were advised to see the attorney or to bring the complaint to the attention of the DPSC.

Some parents com-

plained that detention without trial had brought the school careers of their children to an end. Some schools refused to readmit children who had been detained, they said.

DPSC counsellors and social workers were present to deal with individual problems.

(Parts of this report have been edited out to comply with security legislation.)

Move to enforce the reporting of known cases of child abuse

298
9/6/87

Post Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The State is to consider making it compulsory for welfare organisations and workers to report all cases of child abuse to the Department of Health Services and Welfare.

Mr Willem van Wyk, director of social welfare of the department, said the State was investigating reinstating control measures over welfare workers and organisations it subsidised in cases of child abuse.

Many calls had been received from the public about a recent court case of child abuse in which it appeared that welfare workers had failed to act timeously. It appeared that social workers knew about the case and had they acted sooner, the child's death could possibly have been prevented.

He said in the past all cases of child neglect were reported to the department, which then delegated the cases to welfare workers with a return date for the investigations to be completed.

About eight years ago the Department decided welfare organisations and their workers could handle the responsibility, to relieve its workload, and all child neglect cases went directly to the welfare workers.

Welfare workers should get their priorities right, he said. He could not believe a social worker involved in the recent case of child abuse had an excessive workload of more important cases than the possible death of a child due to abuse by its parents.

"The State does not want to introduce such control measures, but they may be very necessary. We cannot afford this loss of confidence in the department and welfare workers."

At present, only doctors, dentists and nurses were required to report suspected cases of child abuse, but it should also be compulsory for welfare workers to be required by law to report such cases.

"Although most welfare organisations produce excellent and responsible work, it still remains the responsibility of the Department to see the law is carried out," Mr Van Wyk said.

COMMENT

Kids in jail a scandal

THE Detainees Parents' Support Committee's view that children who are traumatised by prison experience is a "major national tragedy" is no exaggeration.

Even under normal circumstances, for a "problem" child to come under the eye of prison authorities, is not a very happy thing. But even for normal children such an experience is devastating.

According to the DPSC, about 40 percent of the detainees are children under the age of 18. They have been separated from their parents for up to six months.

"Since the first state of emergency, there have been numerous detailed allegations of the torture and maltreatment of detainees," the DPSC said in a statement.

It referred to a statement by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr. Adriaan Vlok, who said as a parent himself, he wished every child could be at home with their parents.

The most serious thing about detention without trial is that we are filled with fear and suspicion about what may or may not be happening to people who are jailed. This is made more serious by the fact they might not even be charged after spending lengthy and traumatic periods in jail.

The suspicions about what may be happening to detainees are made worse by the allegations that keep on filtering out of prison and the fact that newspapers are unable to publish anything about our prisons without permission from the authorities.

In the case of children the matter is not only scandalous but totally unacceptable. It is time that the parents in South Africa protested vigorously about detention without trial, particularly the detention of children.

298

300

13/2/82
Sowetan

From
EBRAHIM MOOSA
Widespread and in-

creasing incest and child abuse cases in the Peninsula has alarmed religious leaders, community organisations and social workers.

Attempts to ascertain the extent of the problem — described by a social worker as a "social disease" — were unsuccessful as the Department of Health Services and Welfare (House of Representatives) has no figures for the total number of such cases.

Mr Chris April, Minister of Health Services

Widespread incest causes alarm

and Welfare said the "compilation of valid statistics with regard to these issues was difficult due to the very sensitive, emotional and hidden nature of the problem and the fact that the medical profession held the opinion that voluntary reporting of such cases would involve a breach of trust".

However, one legal adviser in Mitchell's Plain said she had handled 70 cases of incest during March and

December last year. Unreported cases were estimated to run into thousands.

Mr April said the nationwide increase in the incidence of "deep concern" to him. He pointed out that in terms of the Child Care Act the notification of child abuse had become compulsory — effective from February 1 this year.

Certain measures had already been taken to "combat the

Incidence of this disturbing social pathology", he said.

Mr Chris Giles, chairman of the South African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Saspean), said child neglect accounted for 57 per cent of all cases of child abuse and sexual abuse 23 per cent, followed by non-accidental injury which accounted for 20 per cent of cases.

Children exposed to child abuse ranged

between the ages of 2 to 13 years, he said. The main objective of Saspean was to identify the cases and inform the public where and how they could get relief.

He pointed out that these social conditions occurred at all levels of society. "In affluent sections of society this is hushed up. But we have had two cases in very wealthy areas such as Sea Point too," Mr Giles said.

People were reluc-

tant to report child abuse fearing that it would inevitably mean the splitting up of families. However, this was only a last resort.

Yvonne Herring, chief social worker at Red Cross Children's Hospital, said that statistics for 1985 indicated that child abuse had doubled. In 1986 the hospital handled 296 cases of sexual and physical abuse.

Cookery course

Exchange area Number of waiting applicants When services are to be provided

(i) (ii)

the hired premises housing the post office precludes the installation of such boxes

Saxonwold Post Office

12

There is unfortunately no space available in the present accommodation to install additional private boxes. Negotiations to obtain more spacious accommodation have not yet been finalised

Public telephones

415. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Communications.

What was the estimated cost of repairing public telephones in the Republic in 1986?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS.

R0.9 million for repairs arising from vandalism and the theft of apparatus

Internal Security Act

416 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether any notices in terms of (a) section 18 (1) and (b) section 20 (1) of the Internal Security Act, No 74 of 1982, (i) were issued, (ii) were withdrawn and (iii) expired in 1986; if so, how many in each case.

(2) whether any notices which expired were renewed, if so, how many;

(3) how many notices in terms of each of these sections were of effect as at 31 December 1986?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) (a) No (i) to (iii) Fall away.

HQA

Independent states: projects

418. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid

(a) What total amount was spent on projects in each specified independent Black state from the South African Development Trust Account in the 1986-87 financial year and (b) on what projects was this money spent?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID.

(a) Transkei R5 622 000
Bophuthatswana R11 805 000
Venda R2 976 000
Ciskei R59 143 000

(b) Transkei
Provision of infrastructure, housing and schools in townships R5 622 000

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Bophuthatswana

Provision of infrastructure, housing and schools in townships and settlements R11 805 000

Venda

Provision of infrastructure, housing and schools in townships R2 976 000

Ciskei

Provision of infrastructure, housing and schools in townships R25 175 000
Provision of infrastructure in one settlement R500 000
Provision of bulk water and sewage: Whittlesea R1 525 000
Provision of water R100 000
Dimbaza R100 000
Development of settlement and irrigation units, Mabarumba R6 400 000
Provision of basic facilities at Phakamisa R200 000
Development of settlements at Potsdam and Ndevana R250 000
Binfield Parkdam R11 000 000
Bisho Post Office and offices for the Department of Telecommunication R120 000
Offices for the Department of Works and Transport R2 269 000
Government buildings (Burger Square) R8 826 000
Offices for the Department of Health and Agriculture R2 132 000
Upgrading Lovedale College R500 000
Quarter Master store for the Ciskei police at Bisho R146 000

Children's Act

419 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

How many Black children were placed

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in adoption in terms of the Children's Act in 1986?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

315

National independent states

428. Mr P H P GASTROW asked the Minister of Manpower:

How many residents of each of the (a) national states and (b) four independent Black states were employed in the Republic in 1986?

The MINISTER OF MANPOWER:

(a) and (b) The statistics requested are not kept by the Department of Manpower

Emergency regulations

429. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order: 23/2/87

(a) (i) How many females have been detained in prison cells in terms of the emergency regulations since 12 June 1986 and (ii) in respect of what date is this information furnished and (b) how many females were being so held as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

(a) and (b) I refer the hon member to my summarised reply on oral Question Number 2 which I furnished on 17 February 1987

Defence Force volunteer shot

430. Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether a Defence Force volunteer was shot and paralysed by members of an alleged terrorist gang that operated in Alexandra Township over the

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protection

By Janine Simon

The South African Council for Child and Family Welfare has welcomed certain provisions of the Child Care Act but has reiterated its opposition to several other controversial clauses.

A spokesman said it was not entirely satisfied with all the provisions of the Act and that it would do everything possible to protect the welfare and safety of children.

The Child Care Act of 1983 — which replaces all but one of the provisions of the Children's Act of 1960 — was promulgated in the Government Gazette issued in Pretoria on Friday and

Child Care Act 'doesn't provide enough

came into effect yesterday.

Although it welcomed the fact that, unlike the Children's Act, the Child Care Act provided for all population groups, the council would like to see it made applicable to all children and not only certain categories, so that children in unrest situations would also be covered.

Another major objection was that the Act contained a shift of emphasis from the welfare of the child to the fitness of the parent or guardian. Proving the parent responsi-

ble for neglecting or ill-treating the child could be problematic because, if this occurred in the privacy of the home, it was difficult to obtain evidence.

Child care experts claim that the provisions restrict the protection of the child to the point where it may be seriously injured or dead before welfare agencies could step in.

"This council and its affiliated societies will take additional precautions to protect children and to obtain sufficient information to protect them against

the harm that dysfunctional parents can do to them," the council spokesman said.

The council had also drafted guidelines to societies on the new procedures that should be followed in future.

It expressed concern that private adoptions could still be arranged without advice and assistance from welfare organisations. It was possible that in these cases the child's welfare was not the principal concern.

The council was also opposed to the axing of the Section 83

provisions of the Children's Act, which allowed for temporary custodians to be appointed for children whose parents were getting divorced.

"This situation will be monitored and if justified, representations will be made to the State."

Provisions welcomed were:

- The introduction of a child care advisory council embracing all state departments concerned with welfare and related matters as well as private welfare organisations.

- Medical practitioners, dentists and nurses to notify Departments of Health Services and Welfare of all cases of injured and undernourished children — as an attempt to identify cases of child abuse. This would only be instituted when relevant regulations were complete, the spokesman said.
- Making it relatively easier for foster parents to adopt their foster children
- The end of complicated and unclear age restrictions in cases of adoption.

The Star Monday February 2 1987 9

The clause of the Children's Act which still holds good concerns maintenance and is regarded as a "technical point".

The Act has met with a mixed reaction from child care experts who have said some of its provisions do not sufficiently protect the child.

Dr Willie van Niekerk, the Minister of the National Health and Population Development, is in charge of overall administration of the Act and is expected to make a statement on the Act later today.

The Ministers of Welfare of the three Houses of Parliament will be responsible for its application regarding Indians, coloureds and whites, except for individuals in industrial schools. In these cases the Act is applied by the relevant Minister of Education.

Black welfare falls under the Minister of Co-operation and Development.

The Act took eight years to draw up and was hotly debated during its first two readings in Parliament in 1983. A last-minute appeal to have it referred back to a select committee before the second reading failed and the Bill was passed.

TRAGEDY OF KIDS IN DETENTION

298
Somerset
12/2/87

CHILDREN traumatised by prison experience represent a "major national tragedy", according to the Detainees' Parents Support Committee.

The DPSC said in a statement yesterday "approximately 40 percent of detainees are children under the age

of 18, who have been separated from their parents for periods ranging up to six months.

"Since the first state of emergency, there have been numerous detailed allegations of the torture and maltreatment of detainees."

The DPSC referred to a statement by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, who said as a parent himself, he wished every child could be at home with their parents.

The organisation said it hoped Mr Vlok's concern and sympathy would be extended to five youths currently in detention at Diepkloof Prison.

According to the DPSC, the parents of the youths had brought a joint action on behalf of their children against the Minister of Justice and two members of the Prison Service at Diepkloof, Major Theron and Warrant Officer Van Zyl.

8 cases were decided in favour of the State, with cost
1 case succeeded with a counter-claim
27 cases were withdrawn
6 cases were abandoned

(2) (a) Yes R7 500,00.

(b) Yes R149 871,24 of which R75 782,14 was paid owing to damage which resulted from motor accidents

Note. Instances settled out of Court are mostly those in respect of motor accidents where it is obvious that the members of the Force concerned, are the guilty parties. Such settlements before court proceedings are instituted, are cost-effective.

In other instances notices of contemplated actions were received but due to the fact that summonses were not issued, these instances are not included in paragraph 1 (a).

In other instances summonses were already issued but are not yet finalised. Due to the extent of the work regarding the compilation of all the particulars, I am not prepared to furnish the information

Detainees

136. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Law and Order.

(1) (a) What total number of persons was being detained in terms of security legislation as at 31 January 1987, (b) what were their names in each case and (c) in terms of what specified statutory provisions was each being detained;

(2) how many of these persons were under the age of (a) 18 and (b) 15 years as at that date?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER.

(a) 196

(b) It is not in the interest of the

public and the persons concerned to reveal their names.

(c) In terms of section 29 (1) of the Internal Security Act, 1982.

(2) (a) 24

(b) None.

Mathopestad

137. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 7 on 29 April 1986, the investigation regarding ownership of the land at Mathopestad has been completed; if not, (a) why not and (b) when it is anticipated that it will be completed; if so, (i) when and (ii) what were the findings.

(2) whether any further negotiations regarding resettlement have been held with the residents of Mathopestad; if not, when will such negotiations take place; if so, (a) when, (b) where, (c) what are the positions or ranks of each of the Departmental representatives who conducted the negotiations, (d) to whom did they speak, (e) on what date will these residents be moved and (f) what was the response of the residents of Mathopestad in this regard.

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

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(1) Yes.

(i) 22 August 1986, whereafter the findings were available for public inspection at the district office of the Department of Home Affairs for a period of three months, in terms of regulations 5 (3) and 8 (1) of Government Notice No R 2026 of 8 November 1968.

(ii) The land previously held by 24 owners has been allocated to 225 persons, the heirs of the owners.

(2) No. A date for negotiations has not been determined

(3) No.

Salaries

140. Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether he will reconsider his decision regarding questions on police salaries; if not, why not; if so, what were the rates of pay for (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Asian and (d) Black members of the South African Police Force of each rank as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

No, I still hold the view set out in my reply to the honourable member's question no 13 on 7 October 1981 and which I confirmed on question no 279 on 27 February 1986.

(a) to (d) fall away

Crossroads

144. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

Whether, with reference to this reply to Question No 15 on 24 June 1986, any progress has been made in the upgrading of the Crossroads area; if not, why not; if so, what aspects of this upgrading (a) had been and (b) remained to be completed as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(a) and (b) The project should be completed by the end of April 1987. At this stage the earthwork has been completed

and 55% of the internal services have been installed.

Children imprisoned with mothers

145. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice:

How many (a) White, (b) Black, (c) Coloured and (d) Asian (i) male and (ii) female children in each age group were imprisoned with their mothers (aa) in 1986 and (bb) as at the latest specified date for which figures are available?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(aa) 1 January 1986 to 31 December 1986.

(a) White 8

(b) Black 1 880

(c) Coloured 388

(d) Asian 4

Total 2 280

(bb) 31 December 1986

(a) White 1

(b) Black 156

(c) Coloured 38

(d) Asian 1

Total 196

In terms of Prisons Regulations No 94, a female prisoner may be permitted, subject to such conditions as are prescribed, to have her baby with her in prison during the period of lactation and for such further period as may be necessary. The necessary clothing, food and medical treatment may be provided by the State for such period as a baby remains in prison.

Standing orders also determine that an infant may remain in prison with the

mother for as long as deemed necessary for medical and feeding purposes. Thereafter it should be endeavoured to remove the child from prison, subject to a certificate by the medical officer to the effect that the child would not be harmed psychologically or physically if separated from the mother.

All infants are examined by the medical officer as soon as possible after admission to a prison or after birth in order to determine which medical treatment and food are to be prescribed. The infant's mass is taken monthly and the necessary injections and vaccinations as applicable are administered by a qualified nursing sister, or otherwise arrangements are made for the administration thereof at the local clinic.

(i) and (ii) Detailed information eg the actual ages, which can range from infancy up to about 3 years, and sexes of the infants/children who are accommodated in prisons in the care of their mothers is on record at the respective prisons and can only be obtained by means of a costly and personnel-intensive country-wide survey.

Children in prisons

146 Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice:

(1) (a) How many (i) male and (ii) female children of 18 years and under in each race group were detained in prison during the latest specified period of 12 months for which figures are available, (b) into what age categories did they fall and (c) for what offences were they imprisoned in each case;

(2) whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 102 on 26 March 1986, any prisons have special facilities for children, if not, why not, if so, (a) which prisons (i) have and (ii) do not have these facilities and (b) what is the nature of these facilities in each case?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(1) (a) (i) and (ii), (b) and (c) Statistics as required are not readily available and can only be compiled by way of a special survey involving a considerable manpower input. The available statistics at this stage is as follows. (Figures as at 15 October 1986)

Unsentenced/Awaiting Trial (Detainees under Emergency Regulations excluded)

	Male		Female	
-15 years	White	3	Black	1
	Asian	168	Coloured	15
	Coloured	66		1
16-17 years	White	4	Black	19
	Asian	573	Coloured	118
18 years	White	23	Black	3
	Asian	1 251	Coloured	116
	Coloured	305		6
Total	2 515		162	

Sentenced

	Male		Female	
-15 years	White	14	Black	9
	Asian	3	Coloured	3
16-17 years	White	7	Black	41
	Asian	255	Coloured	198
18 years	White	6	Black	72
	Asian	1 068	Coloured	734
Total	2 297		155	

Nature of the Crime: Unsentenced/Awaiting Trial

Crime	White		Coloured		Asian		Black		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Violent crimes	3	3	162	2	4	1	718	35	920
Economic crimes	20	3	299	5	1	1	1 140	93	1 565
Other	7	1	28				134	22	192
Total	30	4	489	7	4	1	1 992	150	2 677

Nature of Crime: Sentenced

Crime	White		Coloured		Asian		Black		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Violent crimes	1	1	354	18	2	2	491	53	919
Economic crimes	12		488	10	9	9	704	46	1 269
Other			93	5	1	1	142	23	264
Total	13	1	935	33	12	1	1 337	122	2 452

(2) (a) and (b) During 1986 a prison for sentenced juveniles was put into operation at the Leeuwkop Prison Command. It is envisaged to extend this concept to other regions depending on needs and budget realities.

In regions which do not yet have separate prisons for sentenced juvenile prisoners, they are accommodated in separate sections or cells as far as possible, and depending on their needs, the available programmes are also offered to them as far as feasible.

Generally the intention with these programmes is to equip the juvenile with the life skills which can contribute to his successful reintegration into the community after release.

The following basic guide-lines are followed

- The achievement of a certain level of education in order to facilitate adaptation in the community. In other words—acceptable norms and values must be acquired.
- Education and training as the basis of the program. Depending on the present level of education,

tion, intellectual capabilities of prisoners and the term of sentence it is endeavoured to achieve a specific level of education. The aim is to achieve at least a Si 4 qualification.

— Meaningful utilisation of time which is aimed at positive orientation after release

— Maintenance of present social structures to counter-act institutionalisation and so doing prevent recidivism eg maintenance and strengthening of family ties.

— The fulfilment of religious needs.

— Healthy physical development through physical training and care.

Crimes against security of State

149. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Justice:

How many (a) White, (b) Coloured, (c) Asian and (d) Black persons were serving

23/2/87

(i) (a) and (b): The number of houses which are built by the national states and private owners are not known.

(c) The South African Government has implemented selfbuild schemes within all the national states and no longer builds family housing units.

(ii) It is not possible to indicate when the houses will be completed as it is an on-going process.

Johannesburg/Greater Soweto

442. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) How many persons were moved from the (a) Johannesburg municipal area and (b) Greater Soweto area in 1986 to (i) national states and (ii) independent Black states;

(2) how many of these persons (a) moved voluntarily and (b) were moved (i) by decree, (ii) by court order and (iii) in terms of other legal provisions?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

(1) (a) 21

(i) 13

(ii) 8

(b) 14

(i) 10

(ii) 4

(2) (a) 35

(b) (i), (ii) and (iii) None.

HOA

Children's homes

443. Mr A B WIDMANN asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) (a) How many (i) State and (ii) privately administered children's homes were there for Black children in the Republic as at the latest specified date for which figures are available and (b) how many children were accommodated in these homes as at that date;

(2) whether there is a shortage of such accommodation for Black children; if so, (a) what is the nature of the shortage and (b) what steps are to be taken to overcome such shortage?

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

1. (a) (i) None

(ii) Ten.

(b) 775 (31 January 1987).

2. Yes.

(a) For the age group 0-6 years, and children's homes to serve the Orange Free State, Eastern Cape and Western Cape.

(b) Private organisations that are interested in the care of children in need of care, are encouraged to establish such facilities. A State children's home at So-shanguve just north of Pretoria, is planned for 200 children and the erection thereof will commence during the 1987-88 financial year. A children's home at Grahamstown will be erected later this year by SOS Children Villages.

Prisoners on hire

444. Mr P H P GASTROW asked the Minister of Justice:

(a) What was the total number of work-days spent by prisoners on hire to private persons, including farmers, in 1986 and (b) what was the total amount which accrued to the Prisons Service as payment in that year?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE

(a) 301 Prisoners only work for half a day on Saturdays. These were however considered as normal work days for the purpose of calculating this total.

(b) An amount of R1 685 157,19 regarding prison labour to hirers was received from 3 January 1986 to 29 December 1986. These monies were paid into the State Revenue Fund

Pregnant women in detention

445. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Justice:

(1) Whether any women approaching full-term pregnancy were being detained in prisons in terms of (a) emergency regulations and (b) the Internal Security Act, No 74 of 1982, as at the latest specified date for which information is available; if so, (i) how many and (ii) what arrangements have been made to care for these women (aa) during their pregnancy and (bb) when their babies are delivered;

(2) how many babies were born in prisons to women detained in terms of emergency regulations and the Internal Security Act during the latest specified 12-month period for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

(1) On 17 February 1987 the statistics of women who were eight (8) months and longer pregnant, are as follows:

(a) (i) Four.

(b) (i) None

HOA

(a) and (b), (ii), (aa) and (bb) The South African Prisons Service places a high premium on the medical treatment of all persons entrusted to its care. In this regard the nursing staff of the Prisons Service are guided by medical practitioners and their prescriptions and orders are carried out closely. This includes general treatment which can be provided in the prison and prison hospitals, hospitalising in private or provincial hospitals and treatment by specialists. This approach also applies to pregnant women.

(2) None. Two babies were, however born in hospitals outside prisons to which the mothers were referred by medical practitioners for the births. Both mothers were detainees in terms of the emergency regulations. In terms of Prisons Regulation 94, a female prisoner may be permitted to have her baby with her in prison during the period of lactation and for such further period as may be necessary, subject to such conditions as are prescribed.

The necessary clothing, food, vaccinations and medical treatment in general are provided by the state. The eventual removal of the baby is, furthermore, subject to a certificate by a medical practitioner that the child, if separated from the mother, will not suffer mentally or physically.

Pregnant women in detention

446. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether any women approaching full-term pregnancy were being detained in police station cells in terms of (a) emergency regulations and (b) the Internal Security Act, No 74 of 1982, as at the latest specified date for which information is available; if so, (i) how many and (ii) what arrangements have been made to care

(2) The newspapers are printed in terms of State Tender Boards exemptions extended to the Government Printer (SDK 77).

(3) News on constitutional developments is conveyed on a factual and informative basis

(4) (a) The editorial policy of all the regional newspapers is the same and has as its objective the promotion of effective communication between the Government and regional communities

(b) The management of the Bureau for Information in accordance with the general objectives of the Bureau.

(5) The editors of the regional newspapers act in their capacity as officials of the Bureau. They do not act in their individual capacities and are not ultimately responsible for the content of their newspapers. This responsibility resides in the Deputy Minister of Information and in the Head of the Bureau. The names of the editors of the regional newspapers are accordingly not relevant

KwaNdebele

393. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether it is still the intention of the South African Government to grant independence to KwaNdebele, if so, why;

(2) whether any negotiations on independence have been held with the Government of KwaNdebele since its decision in 1986 not to take independence, if so, (a) when and (b) what was the outcome,

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

The MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

(1) The option for independence of a self-governing territory is the prerogative of the government of the territory concerned.

The RSA government will again consider a request for independence by the KwaNdebele government should they so request.

(2) No.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

(3) No

Detainees: voters

394 Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether persons who have been detained under (a) emergency regulations and (b) security legislation and who are registered as voters for the House of Assembly will be allowed to vote in the forthcoming election; if not, (i) why not and (ii) in terms of what statutory provisions; if so, what arrangements will be made for them to cast their votes.

(2) whether such persons will be allowed to receive material pertaining to the election from the candidates contesting the election; if not, why not, if so, on what basis;

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

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) I refer the honourable member to the answer of the Minister of Home Affairs to question number 395.

(2) Yes, depending on the circumstances in each instance and provided that the particulars furnished entails the

normal particulars which a candidate furnishes to all his voters

(3) No

Detainees: voters

395. Mr J VAN ECK asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

Whether his Department will make any arrangements to allow (a) persons who are detained in terms of (i) emergency regulations and (ii) security legislation and (b) awaiting-trial prisoners to vote in the forthcoming election for the House of Assembly, if not, (aa) why not and (bb) who took the decision in this regard; if so, what arrangements?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(a) and (b) No

(aa) and (bb) Arrangements regarding postal and special votes of voters who are not able to attend a polling station on election day, are made by presiding officers for postal and special votes in accordance with requests submitted to them by such voters.

Infants: assault

396. Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) How many cases of assault on infants by parents were reported in respect of each race group in each province during the period 1 July 1985 to 30 June 1986;

(2) in how many cases in respect of each race group did the infant (a) die and (b) suffer serious injury as a result of the assault?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

(1)	Cape Pro- vince	Natal	Orange Free State	Trans- vaal
White	12	6	17	60
Coloured	92	4	1	7
Asian	—	4	—	2
Black	8	117	14	31

(2)	(a)	(b)
White	3	31
Coloured	4	46
Asian	—	—
Black	13	67

Medical doctors

397. Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(a) How many medical doctors left the Republic permanently in 1986 and (b) what was the age distribution of these medical doctors?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS

(a) 80

(b) Age,

Age,	Number
20-24	1
25-34	37
35-44	23
45-54	5
55-64	7
65+	7

The above-mentioned data is for the period January to November 1986. Data for December 1986 is not yet available

Mental illness/defects

398 Mr A B WIDMAN asked the Minister of Justice:

In how many cases in 1986 (a) were persons referred for inquiry in terms of sec-

Men on the move use this centre

By MIKE MABUSELA

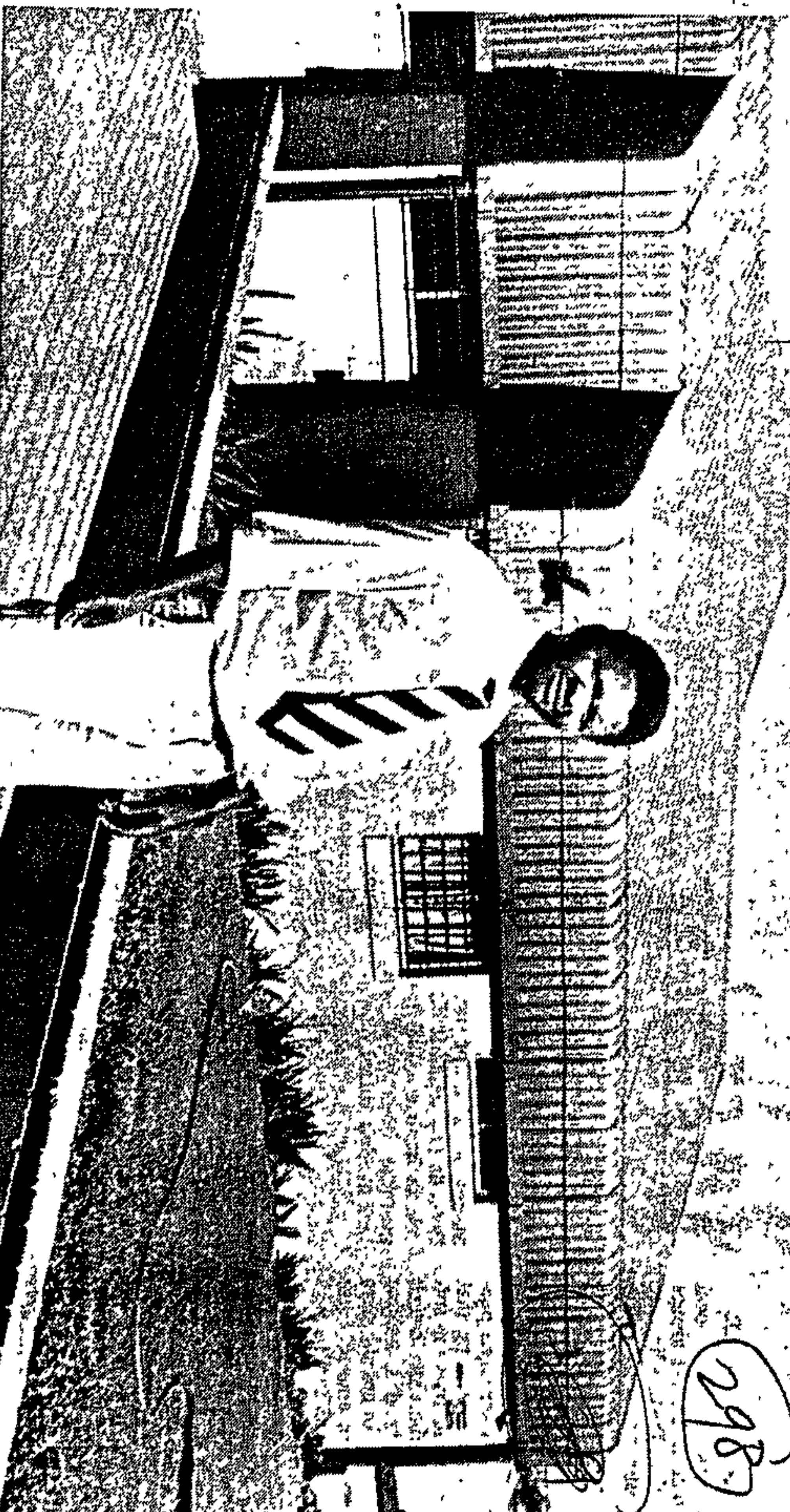
SCORES of people are making daily use of an advice centre in Kwazakhele tailor-made to meet their needs.

It is under the umbrella control of the Urban Foundation, but guidance available covers such fields as health care, setting up businesses, religion, education and building new homes.

One of the busiest offices belongs to the the East Cape branch of the non-profitmaking Getahead Foundation, which has set up an office in the Eastern Cape. It was established in the Transvaal.

The local manager, Mr Isaac Mazungula, said the

Mr ISAAC MAZUNGULA, head of the Getahead Foundation's office at the Advice Centre. The non-profitmaking organisation provides guidance and loans for businessmen.



branch was opened to assist blacks in business and to help the informal sector by giving them small loans.

It also aims at embarking on educational programmes by inviting specialists in business subjects to give lectures

Manager Mr DUMA MAKHANDA stands in front of the Urban Foundation Advice Centre in Kwazakhele, Port Elizabeth.

Mr Dinana Mangali, of Zwifone, was one of the people helped at the centre this week.

"I needed help as the sewing machine I use for making clothes was giving trouble," said Mr Mangali.

"I went to Getahead to arrange a small loan to help buy a replacement and think I'm going to get help."

The Careers Opportunities Research Information Service (Corics) is also based at the centre.

It liaises with schools and industry, provides career guidance to both teachers and pupils and researches job trends.

Other organisations housed at the centre are the Cape Teachers' Union, the Port Elizabeth

The centre also houses conference rooms and two large halls, each of which can be sub-divided.

Mr Sikumbuzo Grootboom, of Kwazakhele, regularly uses one of the halls for a modelling school.

"I had not been able to use the advice centre hall to train my 100 students, I would probably not have been able to find another venue as there are very few halls in the townships," he said.

Children's village may be first 'grey' society

Children's village will become the first totally "grey" societies in South Africa with boys and girls of all races living together in the same houses and attending the same schools.

This is how the new national director of the SOS Children's Villages Association, Mr Pine Pienaar, envisages future villages — villages which should be fully multi-racial but which, at the moment, cater for specific race groups.

The Ennerdale village, in a coloured area, has mainly coloured children, while the Mamelodi village is for black boys and girls.

Mr Pienaar said this week that if the association was to implement its policy of multi-racialism, it would have to create its own "grey villages" and build its own schools.

"At the moment it is difficult to have boys

WINNIE GRAHAM

and girls of different race groups in the same house because we do not want them to share the same 'mother' yet attend schools for different races.

"The Government, however, has approved in principle the multi-racialism of our organisation, so the next village we build we hope the families will be multi-racial.

"We believe we can show South Africa just how effectively a multi-racial society can operate. With time SOS can help solve the problems of our country."

Mr Pienaar pointed out that the need in the black community was far greater than that of the white, so the percentage of black children

in new villages could be larger.

"We have no intention of forcing multi-racialism to disadvantage blacks," he added.

The association has property in Pinetown, Natal, and is negotiating for ground in the Eastern Cape — in either Port Elizabeth or Grahamstown. Other villages will also be built near Stellenbosch and on the East Rand.

Mr Pienaar said the financial rand had proved a major boon to the association in that principals sending money from overseas for village construction were actually getting "three times more" to build in South Africa.

"The Rev Leon Sullivan has also endorsed the work of SOS in this country, a fact we hope will encourage companies with sensitive overseas connections to support our work."

Adopting a child — seminar examines the pros and cons

By Janine Simon

The issue of private adoptions, omitted from the recently gazetted Child Care Act, were discussed yesterday at a "Private vs Agency Adoption" conference organised by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JCWS).

Speakers examined adoption trends, the choices facing unmarried mothers, and the pros and cons of acquiring a child through private contract rather than a welfare agency.

It was made clear that parents who wished to adopt a

child through a registered agency are — in the interests of the child — subjected to stringent regulations about age, health and reasons for wanting to adopt.

According to Professor WF van Delft, of Unisa, this process had the advantage of the couple analysing their motives for adopting, having access to counselling and advice, and that detailed records were kept

for the adopted child to refer to in the future. Adoption records are kept for about 70 years.

The advantages of private adoptions — where a couple apply directly to the Commissioner of Child Welfare to adopt a baby in a purely legal, and often expensive, process — meant couples were independent from agencies.

They also had no file on their

personal lives and often had a shorter waiting period for a child, said Professor van Delft.

In such cases no file date was available in case it was needed.

"Although social workers have great empathy for inter-titled or childless couples, our professional responsibilities require us to act on behalf of the child, the community, and the biological and adoptive parents."

"Social workers should guard against prejudice and abusing their power position in selecting couples to become adoptive parents."

According to Mrs Marjanka Mantas, JCWS adoption supervisor, about 10 percent of applicants in the agency's adoption programme were rejected. The decreasing supply of babies meant couples waited up to 2½ years before being

given a child.

She stressed that although adoption was now entirely child-centred — "people no longer adopt for an heir or to carry on the family name" — it was not the solution for all childless couples.

Infertility was the most important factor mitigating against the acceptance of an adopted child.

"It takes years to work through the grief of that 'lost family,'" said Mrs Mantas.

South Africa's high rate of teenage pregnancies and the fact that the age of some girls falling pregnant was dropping to 15 and 16 years, drew attention to the needs of these young mothers.

Mrs Pam Wilson, a social worker at JCWS's Princess Alice Home, which last year counselled 100 pregnant girls, stressed that every young mother should be given access to professional counselling before and after the birth of the child, and that doctors diagnosing a teenage pregnancy should refer the girl and her family for counselling.

Many girls did not consider the alternatives, simply because they were not given a chance to do so. The expected alternatives — marriage to the father of the child, or the girl's parents caring for the baby — often had disastrous consequences for all involved.

Plans to privatise city's public facilities

By Shirley Woodgate
Municipal Reporter

The Johannesburg zoo, sports fields and even cemeteries are included in wide-ranging plans to privatise services and facilities in the city's Parks and Recreation Department.

"We are completely open-minded," Mr Paul Venter, general manager of the department, told businessmen yesterday at a well-attended meeting to launch the concept of privatisation.

Delegates included representatives of property developers, sports clubs, engineering companies, landscape gardeners, architects, show business and nature conservation societies.

Town clerk Mr Mann Venter said it was felt that the Melville Koppies and the Klipriviersberg Nature Reserve should be excluded, but you might prove us wrong.

Applications could range from a one-man operation, providing one or two activities, to a multimillion-rand complex which could include artificial turf-playing surfaces, restaurants and other indoor facilities, open if need be 24 hours a day," Mr Venter said.

CAUTIONED

"With the help of private enterprise we want to provide new or upgraded facilities which could supply the public with improved services at lower prices. But the schemes must be put forward will have to be able to stand on their own feet. We do not want bankrupt projects of the private sector to make money," he said.

Venter also cautioned any plans to privatise ser-

Transvaal Rainfall

I told PFP leadership of its policies' grievances over aspects of its policies'

10S

ing of black children, civil officials, councillors and even

PFP has not hesitated to the Government and its pies as perpetrators but ought in vain for instances e PFP spokesmen public named the ANC, UDF, P. Cossas or any other or- ations as perpetrators ly responsible for the em, death and destruc-

said

PFP dare not el- tion of any form what- with the ANC

contact should be ad- rnal delegations imply recognition.

opposition in Britain lot send a formal dele- o the Irish Republic. te said, nor would the on in Israel send a fol- igation to the PLO

must never undermine climate, peaceful and e black leaders and in South Africa by the ANC's image by ur contacts with them

demorandum of Jan- 1987 lists 14 points rkaners have difficul- in connection with the-

units included the ap- illance of the party th Africa's enemies. spon that the PFP ady sided with the informal, unofficial discussions between and the Conservative ut nominating candi- rder to assist one an- ig down the Govern- existence of radical boerleaders" (Afr- rs) in the party

720 children under 18 still held, claims DPSC

Star 298 12/87

By Rich Mkhondo

At least 720 children aged 18 and under are still being held in detention cells according to the latest figures released by the Detainees Parents Support Committee (DPSC).

The DPSC said on Monday that since June 12 last year when the Government introduced new emergency decrees, about 876 children under the age of 18 were detained and 156 had since been reunited with their parents.

In the Johannesburg area alone, 684 children under the age of 17 are known to have been detained since June 12 1986 according to the DPSC.

Last week the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said 281 children aged between 12 and 15 were still in detention.

In a television interview he said some children were still being held in detention cells "because people were not prepared to testify against them".

Today the DPSC said:

- Of the 10-year-olds, two were detained and both were later reunited with their parents.
- Of the 11-year-olds, six were detained. Three had returned home.
- Among those aged 12, nine were detained and four are back at home.
- Of the 13-year-olds, 29 were detained, eight returned home.
- Of the 14-year-olds, 86 were held in detention cells since June last year, 16 are back with their parents.
- Of the 15-year-olds, 134 were held, 21 were reunited with their parents.
- Of the 16-year-olds, 217 were detained, 39 returned home.

● Among those who are 17 years old, 201 were detained, 34 are back home.

● Of the 18-year-olds, 192 were detained, 29 returned home. A total of 876 children under the age of 18 were detained since June 12 1986, 156 were reunited with their parents and 720 are still being held in detention.

The DPSC said since every society is judged by the way it treats children, it was sad that in South Africa the "ongoing war against the children continues".

"We do not claim to have records of every child detained, and no one can claim that. Nonetheless we believe our figures are reliable. Unrecorded numbers children in detention were revealed every day, the DPSC said.

The Free the Children Alliance (FCA) has called on the Government to release children under the age of 18 detained under emergency regulations.

A spokesman for the FCA, an alliance of 28 organisations, said they were deeply concerned about the large number of children still in detention.

"These children must be released immediately to continue their education in the interest of peace and with the stated Government intentions to see all black children resume their schooling."

Last week Mr Vlok said he realised the detention of juveniles was a contentious and exploitable issue.

"The communist methods of penetrating the ideas of the youth has resulted in several youths being guilty of crimes including the public burning of people. I am referring here particularly to the reported Kinikini murders," he said.

Mr Vlok said children as young as 12 had acted as judges in people's courts and had even condemned people to death.

664 children wait for aid that will change their lives

By Janine Simon

There are 664 South African children waiting desperately for sponsors to help pay for food, immunisation and education.

And, by giving only R21 a month, a sponsor would be helping the family and the entire community, according to Mr David Cuthbert, World Vision's marketing manager.

World Vision Southern Africa supports 18 000 children through the child sponsorship programme — almost 11 500 of these through overseas sponsors.

The organisation is urgently seeking South Africans to spon-

sor the 664 children on its waiting list.

Each child will receive a minimum benefits package to cover primary or supplementary feeding, educational costs and immunisation against diseases from whooping cough to polio.

Said Mr Cuthbert: "A portion of the monthly sponsorship will be allocated to the community to help upgrade its standard of living. It enables people to learn proper nutrition and hygiene while providing materials, skills training and employment."

● Contact World Vision head office at (011) 674-2043 for sponsor programme details.

CLARKE COLUMN

CAPE TIMES
27/1/87

Overnight vigil to focus on children in jail

Staff Reporter

SEVERAL organizations will hold an overnight Free the Children Vigil at St George's Cathedral this week to highlight the plight of children in jail.

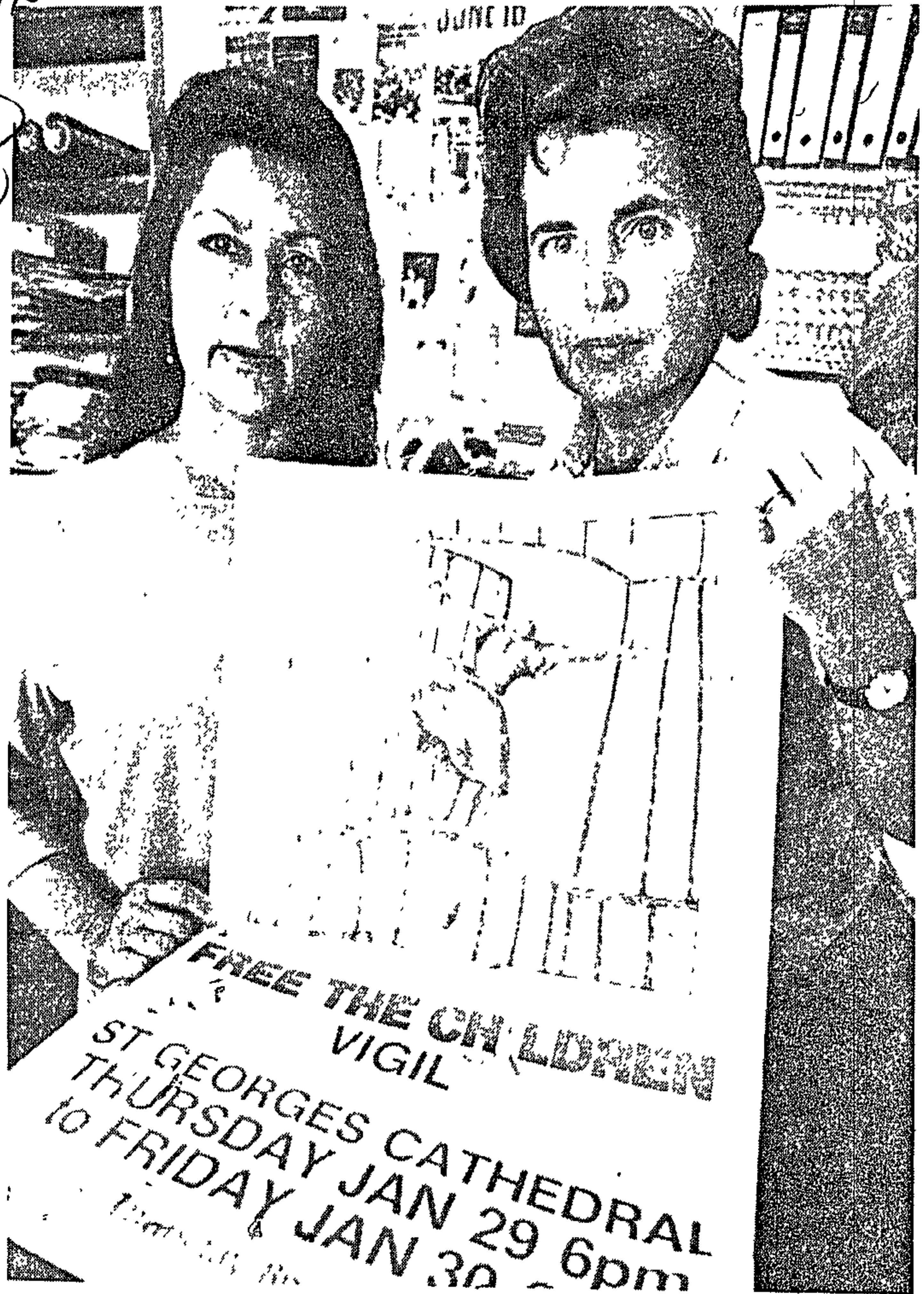
The organizations include the Black Sash, the Western Province Council of Churches, Child Welfare Society, the Call of Islam, the Detainees Parents Support Committee and the Civil Rights League.

The national president of the Black Sash, Mrs Mary Burton, said yesterday that the vigil, from 6pm on Thursday until 2pm on Friday, would coincide with the opening of Parliament and focus particularly on children in jail and the conditions that cause them to be there.

"We believe this constitutes the most serious threat to the future of South Africa," she said.

The last figures on the number of children in detention were released by the Commissioner of Police, General Johan Coetzee, in December when he disclosed that 256 children under 16 were in detention.

The Dean of Cape Town, the Very Rev Edward King, said yesterday that the event would be a bona fide prayer vigil and include a "Mothers Speak" service on Thursday night at 8 and an interfaith service on Friday at 2pm.



The Black Sash national president, Mrs Mary Burton (right), and a Detainees Parents Support Committee spokeswoman, Mrs Farieda Omar, are among the several individuals and organizations taking part in an overnight vigil at St George's Cathedral to highlight the plight of children in jail.

CITY PRESS 11/11/87 (298) (291)

More children being held - DPSC

By SELLO SERIPE

DESPITE the one-month-old "Free the children" call by the Black Sash, 112 minors and 141 adults were reportedly detained under the state of emergency during November and December in the PWV area.

Last month the government admitted that 256

were being held under the emergency regulations and, according to the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, 57 people were released during December and were able to spend the Christmas period with their families.

On Christmas Eve 21 people - mostly kids - were

released. These included two 11-year-olds - Velaphi Nyembe and Petrus Khambule of Soweto

But the number of detentions during December could be high as the DPSC has not yet consulted other regional offices to build up a national picture.

The DPSC said some of

the detentions reported were from an earlier period, but most were detentions leading up to and including the Christmas period.

The DPSC noted that in spite of the campaign for the release of kids in detention, the number of children being detained "actually increased markedly".

"Our statistics show that over the entire emergency at least 8 800 young people of the ages of 18 and under have been held - about 40% of detainees.

"During the period under review, children of 18 and under number 145 - 59% of the total.

"But we must stress that these figures are necessarily partial as they represent only those cases which have passed through our hands," said DPSC.

The DPSC also released the following figures of detainees reported to its office last month:

Detainees aged 12 - 1; aged 13 - 1; aged 14 - 15; aged 15 - 32; aged 16 - 33; aged 17 - 30.

Detainees aged 18 - 33; aged 19 - 25; aged 20 and over - 57; and 26 others whose ages are unknown.

In all, said the DPSC, 253 people were detained in December.

CITY PRESS 11/11/87 (298) (291)

SA students find unity in the US

By KHULU SIBIYA

THE formation of a historical political organisation by SA students in the United States this week has been described as a "new dawn" that would have far-reaching implications for the black struggle in a post-apartheid South Africa.

US political analysts see the coming together of members of the rival African National Congress and Pan Africanist Congress and the Azanian People's Organisation or Black Consciousness Movement of Azania as a long awaited goal.

They said after many years of bickering dating back to 1959 when the

late Mangaliso Sobukwe and others pulled out of the ANC to form the PAC because of a different ideology, a new era has finally dawned in SA.

The SA/Azanian Students' Movement was formed at a two-day conference in Nashville, Tennessee, by 300 students, some of whom are in exile.

"This is a historic moment for all of us," said newly elected SAASM president Saths Cooper, who was once also Azapo president.

"People of one political persuasion will now speak with one voice."

Cooper, who is studying at Boston University, said SAASM must be seen as a unifying factor.

"The coming together will prepare us for development in a future society."

In a message to activists in SA and other countries, the conference said South African students opposed racism and exploitation. They were united in this despite political differences.

The SAASM deputy president is David Ndaba, a medical student in Natal before he fled SA during the 1976 Soweto uprising. Ndaba served as the ANC mission to the United Nations for four years.

Other office bearers are secretary general Itumeleng Mokati, treasurer Moyise Matjeke and information director Dumisani Mahlasela.

Jobless parents battling babies

(298) 11/18/71

JOHANNESBURG—Thousands of children in South Africa are being abandoned or abused by unemployed parents.

The National Council for Child and Family Welfare has found in a

preliminary survey that incidents of parents losing control had increased tremendously over the past few months, in particular during last month and this month.

Council director Miss Joan Oberholzer said that although research had not yet been finalised, initial results pointed to the abandonment and abuse of thousands of children countrywide because of the financial inability of parents to care for their young.

This leads to parental stress, which is compounded by unemployment.

Mercury Correspondent

ment, a lack of self-esteem and the prohibitive costs of necessities such as school-clothing, she said.

Johannesburg topped the list of areas where the two problems were rife.

There is an abandoned baby crisis, child-bashing has become an everyday occurrence and sexual abuse within families has caused great concern.

Miss Oberholzer urged parents to exercise restraint in dealing with difficult situations and to rather seek help from professional people, such as those at the council, before losing control.



Examining sketch plans for an SOS Children's Village, which is in the pipeline for Port Elizabeth, are (from the left) Mr DAVID JACKSON, national director for SOS Villages, Mr ELWYN HARLECH-JONES, the project's architect, Mr WERNER HANDL, secretary-general of SOS Kinderdorf International from Austria, and Mrs BUNTY MANN, president of the National Confederation of Women.

Picture by MIKE HOLMES

Children's village planned for PE

By BARBARA ORPEN

PLANS to establish a non-racial SOS Children's Village in Port Elizabeth — the first of its kind in the Cape Province — will be finalised as soon as the go-ahead has been given for use of a selected site in the city.

Visiting Port Elizabeth last week were the national organiser of the project, Mr David Jackson, and the secretary-general of SOS Kinderdorf International, Mr Werner Handle.

Approval of the proposed site in Standford Road rests with the Northern Areas Management

Committee.

However, sketch plans for the village — which would consist of a cultural community centre, an administrative centre, 18 cottages and a school — have already been drawn up by architect Mr Elwyn Harlech-Jones.

Should the NAMC approve the application for land, the SOS village will be in operation in a year's time.

More than 600 SOS children's villages — aimed at improving the lot of underprivileged children — have been established in more than 80 countries around

the world

Only two at present exist in South Africa — and both are in the Transvaal.

Mr Jackson said the groundwork for the project in Port Elizabeth had been laid at a public meeting in the city in July.

Since then a non-racial committee of about 30 people had been hard at work in attempts to gain approval from grassroots organisations and communities

The Rev De Villiers Soga, chairman of the Interdenominational African Ministers Association of South Africa, has been

appointed chairman of the PE SOS Village committee.

Mr Jackson said because the scheme would cater for only 160 out of the thousands of underprivileged children in the Eastern Cape, an attempt to establish an outreach project would be made

"We plan to hold parental education projects, youth development projects, to use the pre-school as a base for training other teachers in the area and to encourage church and community groups to establish satellite homes for other children in the area."

Alarming increase in sexual abuse of children in W Cape

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ARGUS 20/1/87

SPECIAL ARGUS REPORT

EIGHT girls aged between two and 13 have been brutally assaulted sexually in the Western Cape in the past two months.

Three of the youngest children were killed.

Staff reporters SUE LUPTON and REHANA ROSSOUW asked psychiatrists, psychologists, Rape Crisis and social workers about this alarming problem.



As the child moves into adulthood, she has problems of ego development.

As an adult, she is likely to develop identity problems, passivity and over-compliance, low self-esteem, self doubt and self rejection. Relationship difficulties are common.

Rape Crisis sees a strong link between rape and the false perception that women are thought to withhold sex, even when they want it. In other words, men are led to understand that when a woman says "no" to sex, she really means "yes".

In some men, this perception can be so strong that they think it applies to every woman of every age.

So the seemingly-absurd claim by a man on trial for rape that a toddler or an aged invalid agreed to have sex with him, or even asked for it, could be sincere sometimes.

Rape Crisis does not see the legal system as the solution to the problem and disagrees with the often-expressed opinion that punishment should be heavier.

"Getting a man convicted for rape would be easier if sentences were lighter. And sending a rapist to jail doesn't solve the problem. In fact, it just makes him more angry and violent," said a spokeswoman.

"Society has to change before this stops"

The Child Welfare Society offers a protection service for all abused children.

"The most common offenders in sexual abuse of young children are male relatives, usually stepfathers and mothers' boy-friends," said a Child Welfare psychologist.

"Incest is seldom coupled with violence. Because the offender is familiar with the child, he can coerce her into having a sexual relationship.

"Daddy won't love you anymore. Don't tell mummy or she'll run away and you'll never see her again," are common threats used to prevent children telling anyone of their experiences.

Pre-school children believe that familiar adults are always right and they are wrong to feel hurt by something that the parent tells them is right.

"If incest takes place over a long period, healthy children learn to live with it. There can even be pleasurable aspects if there are rewards for them, such as extra hugs and kisses or presents," said the psychologist.

The organisation follows up all reports of child abuse. They stress the importance of counselling, giving the family an opportunity to solve the problem before resorting to the courts.

Each investigation begins with a visit to the home

where the counsellors look for clues of sexual abuse.

"Every member of the family has to take responsibility for what has happened. The signs were there — but they chose to ignore it."

In many cases, mothers preferred to ignore the situation because they were afraid of losing their husbands.

"In one case a father had sex with his daughter in the same bed as his wife — but she denied it for six months before finally admitting it," said the psychologist.

A group of counsellors helps families work out their responses to the situation.

Statements are taken from each member of the family, to be used later if court proceedings are implemented.

The child is made to understand that the situation was not of her making.

"We have to tell her over and over again that it is not her fault," Mr Giles said.

"She feels betrayed by someone she trusted. It takes a long time before she can trust again."

"She feels stigmatised and different from her peers because she has experienced sex, which most children are innocent of and joke about."

Counselling helps the child to have more control over her life. In most cases, families work out rules which are applied strictly.

Some families decide that the offender may not enter the house for a period. Others rule that the offender cannot enter the child's bedroom or go into the bathroom while she is bathing.

There are no second chances. If the offence is repeated, the case is taken to court.

course to show dominance and power, said Dr Zabow.

Children treated for sexual abuse at Red Cross Hospital have injuries ranging from minor abrasions to severe tearing needing extensive surgery.

Others are not injured, but have venereal disease, which alerts the authorities to the fact that they have been sexually abused.

Miss Yvonne Herring, the hospital's principal social worker, believes that recovering from the emotional and physical trauma of rape by a stranger can sometimes be easier for a young child than recovering from incest, which often takes place over a long period and is part of a severe breakdown in the family structure.

What happens to children who are sexually abused?

According to Ms Anne Levett of the University of Cape Town's psychology department, the early consequences of sexual abuse may be physical ailments such as urinary tract infections, discharge or venereal disease or behavioural changes such as the child becoming withdrawn, tearful or moody.

Learning problems may develop.

As the child reaches adolescence she may display truancy, delinquency or promiscuity, as a way of "acting out" what has happened to her.

Several studies have shown that a large percentage of teenage prostitutes have a history of sexual abuse in childhood, usually incest.

Social isolation is common among adolescents who have been sexually abused as children, or who are still suffering this abuse.

ankles and made her take her shoes off."

"She kept trying to pull her clothes up and he kept pulling them down."

"He started fondling her and the three-year-old, who saw what was happening, ran and told her mother that the 'uncle' was 'being naughty'."

"She immediately confronted him and he denied doing anything wrong."

"She called the police and they took statements."

"When my husband arrived,

the police advised him not to lay a charge as it would mean that my daughter would appear in court. My husband decided not to press charges."

"I am so upset by the incident. Not because my daughter was traumatised by it — we haven't noticed any changes in her behaviour — but because this man got off scott free."

"Maybe next time he would actually rape a little girl. We've got to stop such men by charging them and taking them to court."

Neighbour abuses five-year-old girl

THIS is a true story told by a Vrededorp woman to an Argus reporter.

"My five-year-old daughter was sexually abused by someone who is well-known to our family."

"We were visiting friends and ... and her three-year-old friend ... in the garden. The neighbour called them to the fence ... offered them sweets."

"He shoved the three-year-old away and told her to go upstairs."

"He told my daughter that he wanted to take photos of her. He ... her panties down to her

Some popular myths about rape

POPULAR myths about rape:

MYTH: Only strangers and dirty old men interfere sexually with children.

REALITY: In 80 percent of serious cases of child abuse, the offenders are known to the children.

MYTH: Child abuse is rare.

REALITY: Although there are few statistics available, child abuse is a rife throughout the

population.

MYTH: Girls who have been raped would want to have sex again.

REALITY: Children who have been raped need special care, or they will never want to form a relationship with a man.

MYTH: A girl who has been raped is now a woman and knows all about sex.

REALITY: A little girl is still a little girl, and is be-

wildered by what happened to her. Sexual passion is experienced in adolescence and not before.

MYTH: My child will let me know immediately.

REALITY: Only a quarter of girls who are sexually abused tell their mothers. When the adult is known to the family, the child is even more reluctant to report what happened, as they are afraid they will not be believed.

JACKIE came close to battering her son when he was a toddler. 'At times I really hated him,' she says, ruffling the white-gold hair of the boy, now a good-looking six-year-old.

For Jackie, the nightmare of sitting sobbing on the stairs, wondering if she could go through another day without harming her son, is over.

Thanks to a revolutionary mother-and-child therapy, based on the notion that where child abuse is concerned, prevention is better than cure, she and Alex are now the best of friends.

For many of the wom-

en who use it, the Mothering Centre, housed in an uncompromising grey stone community centre inside the walls of ancient York, is the final reprieve before the social services step in.

There, in the company of other mothers, some from local council estates, others from young professional families buying their own homes, they learn to overcome their problems — by holding their fractious

children in a no-escape bear hug.

Philippa Flimhurst, who runs the sessions, says 'The sort of battering we are seeking to prevent here is the sort that happens when a mother has tried and tried and tried with a difficult child, and then found that something has snapped. There are obviously some situations we can't prevent.'

She learned about holding therapy from an American psychiatrist

A new way of handling difficult children is being put into practice at a British 'mothering centre'. NICOLA TYRER reports.

21/1/87

MM

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The power of holding

The doctor, who worked with autistic children, had discovered that when held in this way by their mothers, the children became calmer, less withdrawn, and more communicative.

After seeing how successful it was when used on an autistic girl whom she tutored for 10 years, Philippa, a psychologist, decided to try holding 'normal' children who were distressed.

When she first began her sessions, both mothers and the health professionals were sceptical. Five years and more than 100 happier families later, mothers are spreading the word and doctors and health visitors regularly refer mothers with 'difficult' children to the centre.

Emotional

The basis of holding, Philippa explains, is that it allows the child to express anger in safety. A hold, she stresses, is not to be confused with a cuddle.

'A cuddle takes place voluntarily between people who feel good about each other. A hold is when one or both people — the child's behaviour affects his mother — are feeling angry.'

It is a noisy and emotional business. The

children struggle to get away, fight not to look into their mothers' faces, and cry. But when the hold is finished, they seem palpably calmer and happier.

In the sessions, which should take place each day, the child is encouraged to say what he feels — even if that includes that he hates another member of the family.

The hard part for the mother, says Philippa, who is married with two children of her own, is learning to take hold of the child when it is behaving badly, and to stop taking its anger personally.

'Most children don't expect to be allowed to touch their mothers when they are misbehaving. The mother's instinct is to reject them, especially if the child is screaming "I hate you".'

'Taking hold of them when they are behaving badly hammers home the message "I do love you".'

Holding is a simple answer to a problem that can seem insoluble to a hard-pressed mother, but then the best solutions are often the simplest. Mother and child clearly enjoy it.

If it is as effective as these women believe in

defusing the frustration, and anger which can lead to child abuse, it seems a pity there are not more Philippa Flimhursts spreading the word.

Support

'I support this method 100 percent,' says Annagie Esterhuyzen of Durban's Childline.

'I wish we had a facility like the Mothering Centre, because many mothers who have problem children would benefit from group therapy. By sharing their problems with other mothers, they would become more confident, and therefore communication with their child would improve.'

Annagie also supports the 'bear hug' method of controlling difficult children.

'Mothers feel rejected when their children have temper tantrums, and so they usually react with anger and frustration. By holding the child, they will be showing they are in control, and the child will feel reassured and loved.'

She said that a matter of deep concern to her was that parents who went to professionals for help were often told to lock up their children when they misbehaved. 'This is not a solution,' she said. 'It makes the child feel more rejected and the problem will just continue.'

And a psychologist from the Children's As-

essment and Therapy Centre in Sherwood said the 'bear hug' sounded like a very good technique.

'We have suggested holding in the case of hyperactive children,' she said, 'but not for temper tantrums. I am certainly receptive to the idea and



would like to try it out at the centre. Holding a child firmly was preferable to punishment, because 'you are showing you are in control, and you are controlling the child, but in a positive way'.



blazered whites and barefoot blacks



Love in the ruins: a father and son in Athlone, one of many moving and dramatic photographs in the book

social psychological research he outlines to confirm racial stereotyping and to neglect questions about how young people have managed to resist and challenge the pervasive racist ideology in South Africa — an issue of which Foster is aware, but which he himself does not explore.

It is explored in an evocative article by Pieter le Roux on "Growing up an Afrikaner". Here he shows how and why Afrikaner youths have in many cases successfully challenged the religious, sexual and cultural injunctions of their elders. Far less successful has been the resistance to racist ideology, because we never heard dissenting voices. "It seemed to be rational, and it seemed to serve the interests of all of us".

This piece is part of the middle section, the most interesting in the book, which includes articles on children in an Indian community in Natal (by Gina Buijs), in a resettlement camp in the Eastern Cape (by Ina Roux), in the Jewish community (by Sally Frankental and Milton Shain), in the remnants of District Six (by Kay McCormick) and those children in Cape Town calling themselves the "strollers" (by Scharff, Powell and Thomas) — the children who guide people to parking bays outside supermarkets, restaurants and other emporia of leisure.

These articles are fascinating, precisely because they deal with children marginalised by apartheid — barring the Jewish children — but not expressing their experience in political resistance. The aspirations of the Indian Barracks children are white-collar and professional work, while the children of the

"surplus people", having lost faith in the Christian values of their parents, seek riches and security through education. The expectations of the street children of Cape Town, by contrast, are to occupy houses, raise families and ensure that their children do not become "strollers". These, like the farmworkers' children described by Nasson, have "no wider, visible and readily accessible alternative cultural traditions upon which (they) might draw".

They contrast sharply with the youth described by Frank Chikane in his consideration of the effects of the unrest on township children. These are the youth who "became the activists of youth congresses joined the ranks of COSAS and through police harassment and violence came to the conclusion that there was only one option open to them, and that was to take up arms".

These are the youths who "have been captured and who have been executed" in pursuit of their vision of a non-racial and democratic South Africa.

The final section includes an article on the deficiencies in SA legislation dealing with children, and a curiously ahistorical and theoretically uninformed piece by Preston-Whyte and Louw on a black teenage pregnancy in Natal and what this meant in cultural terms. "Culture" is unproblematically assumed to be unchanging customs and rituals. For the teenage parents, the pregnancy was the end of childhood, equivalent to the beginning of work. A meticulous description of the rituals between the two families is provided, and an assessment

of the implications of life for Thulani, the illegitimate child, now growing up in the back of a white liberal family's suburban house, as the domestic servant's grandchild.

The authors note that "many writers have commented on the fact that early love affairs and sexual encounters between today's black teenagers are kept from their parents. This is said to be in keeping with tradition". Is this a tradition not shared by people of another colour? Missing from this article is an awareness of the "tense kind of connection" between different class-cultural experiences urged by Nasson.

The two last-mentioned articles encapsulate the central paradox running through the book.

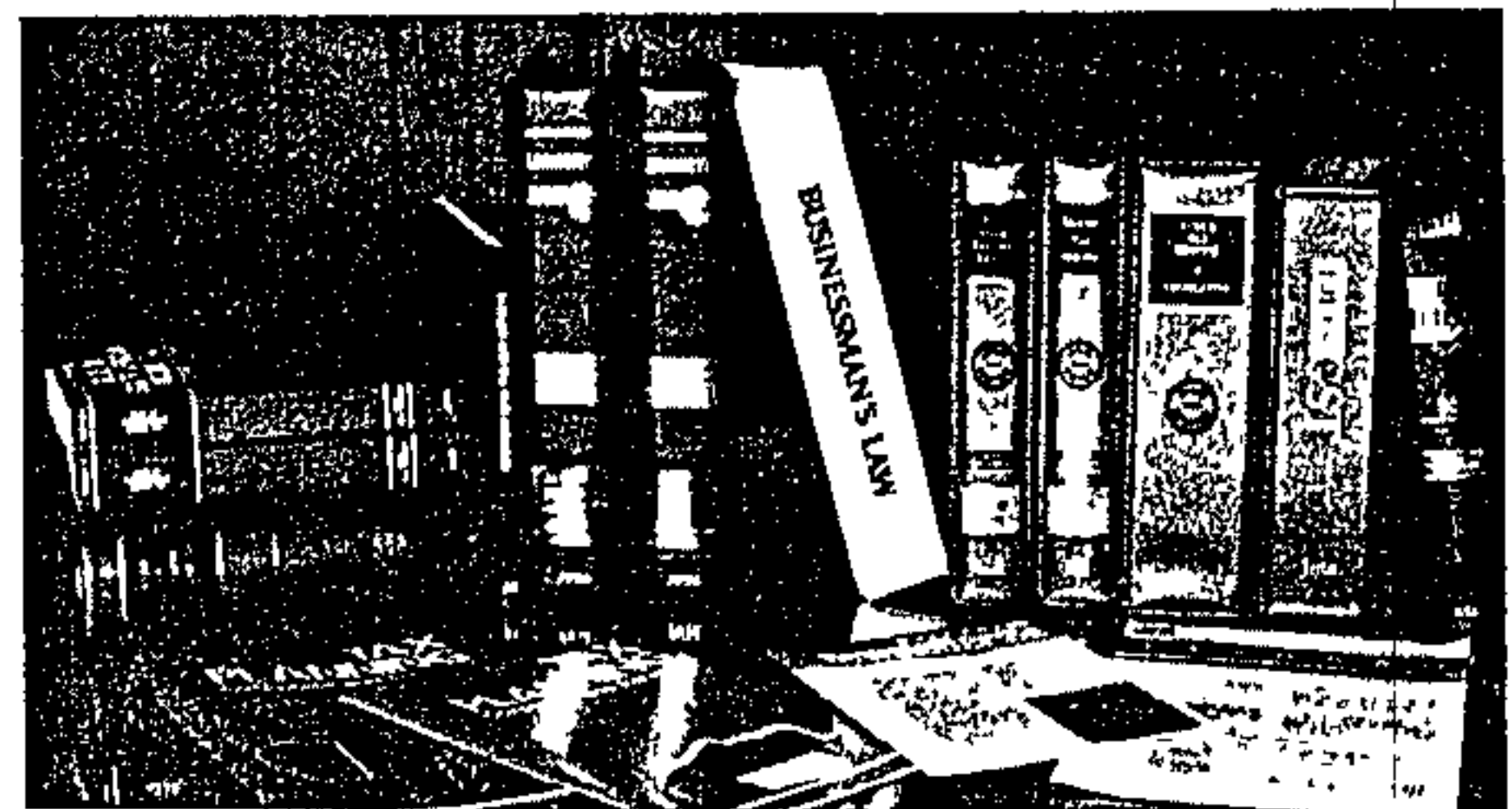
The stimulus of the book was undoubtedly politicised youth, and state brutality towards them and others unwittingly caught in the cycle of violence in the townships. And yet there is a tendency by the editors (certainly not all the authors) to suggest a depoliticised concept of youth. This is not to negate the value of the book which lies precisely in bringing to light the lives, dreams, hopes and ambitions of those who are constrained as much by structural as ideological webs of control. It supplements and adds nuance to a growing literature on the consciousness of youth in South Africa.

It is rather to question the aim of studying "children as children" at a time when the maturity of youth in certain conditions is so manifest, signified by their insistence that they are not pupils or children, but students and youth. More than this, it is to question studying "children as children", ignorant of the concept of childhood as construct, and meaning different things in different places at different times. What one hopes this book will stimulate is examination of how children and growth have been understood in South African history.

The question of what ought to be done to limit the state's repressive power over youth is a distinct and exceedingly complex one. In a cautious afterword, Pamela Reynolds considers and rejects the idea of a Children's Charter embodying children's rights. (Interestingly, the 1937 Children's Act, on which the later 1960 Act was based, was extolled as South Africa's "Children's Charter" at the time.)

She concludes that "academics have a duty to ensure that research efforts and funding priorities are focused on theoretical and methodological issues that reflect the interests of children. Knowledge is power. We should concern ourselves with the question of who possesses awareness (and power) and what it is that we do not know about the conditions and consequences of actions as they affect children." A noble enough aim. I would have added and how we can democratise this knowledge, this power.

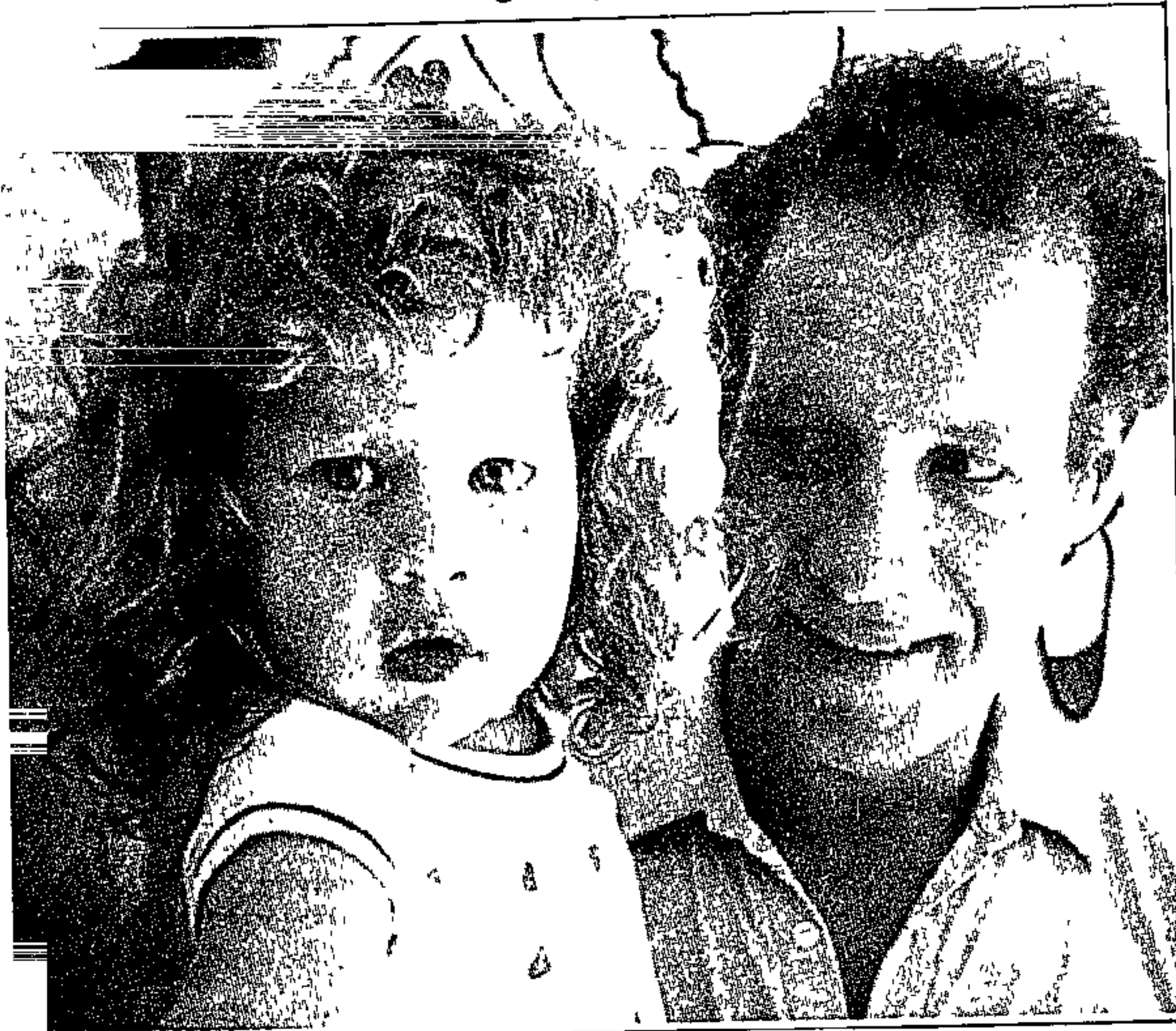
Linda Chisholm



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ARGUS 11/2/87

The Lady Buxton is sparkling under a new coat of paint. This stately building in spacious Claremont grounds has been a source of care and shelter for mothers and children since it was built as the Lady Buxton Emergency Home in 1923.



TODAY'S WOMAN

Above: The Lady Buxton restored to its original beauty. Below: Toddlers play in the grounds of the new custom-built centre. Left: Educare centre director Eric Atmore with his daughter Elizabeth, 2.

Photographs: HANNES THAIRT, The Argus

A child's world at the Lady Buxton

TRISH HANDLEY

THERE is no doubt who comes first at the Buxton Educare Centre: it's a child's world, and intended to be that way.

Doorhandles are low, toilets are pint-size, and handbasins and mirrors are toddlers' height — all to establish independence from having to reach up to an adult world.

On arrival one is greeted by the sounds of children at play echoing across the grounds, and in the office there's a colourful declaration of children's rights adorning the wall.

There have been recent changes in Bowwood Road — where the Lady Buxton Emergency Home for children was established in 1923.

The Educare Centre has moved into new custom-built buildings. Also, a piece of land has been sold off, and Family Focus, the Child Welfare Society's adoption unit and a breastfeeding clinic have moved into a renovated Lady Buxton House.

The new centre consists of an administration complex and three separate units for varying age groups: the "babies", the toddlers

and pre-primary children.

The entire complex has been designed in consultation with the staff, from professional to domestic, to meet the specific needs of the children it cares for.

In this world the adult stoops to the child's.

All light switches, door handles and windows are a child's height.

"Here we have to bend down to exist in their world," director Eric Atmore explains.

"It's difficult to explain or define our philosophy," he says. "We allow children to be children. Discipline is mainly from themselves and peer group pressure, rather than the big adult with the big stick."

"As long as the children are happy and smiling, the staff are happy and smiling. It sounds very simplistic, but that's the way it is."

The land was given to the then Society For The Protection Of Child Life nearly 70 years ago.

"It is only now being used to its full potential," says Mr Atmore surveying the playground areas.

The pre-primary centre operates full-day throughout the year,

"because the target group we are trying to reach is working parents and the less affluent parents".

Priority is given to admitting children of low income and single or working parents, and fees are adjusted according to a parent's income.

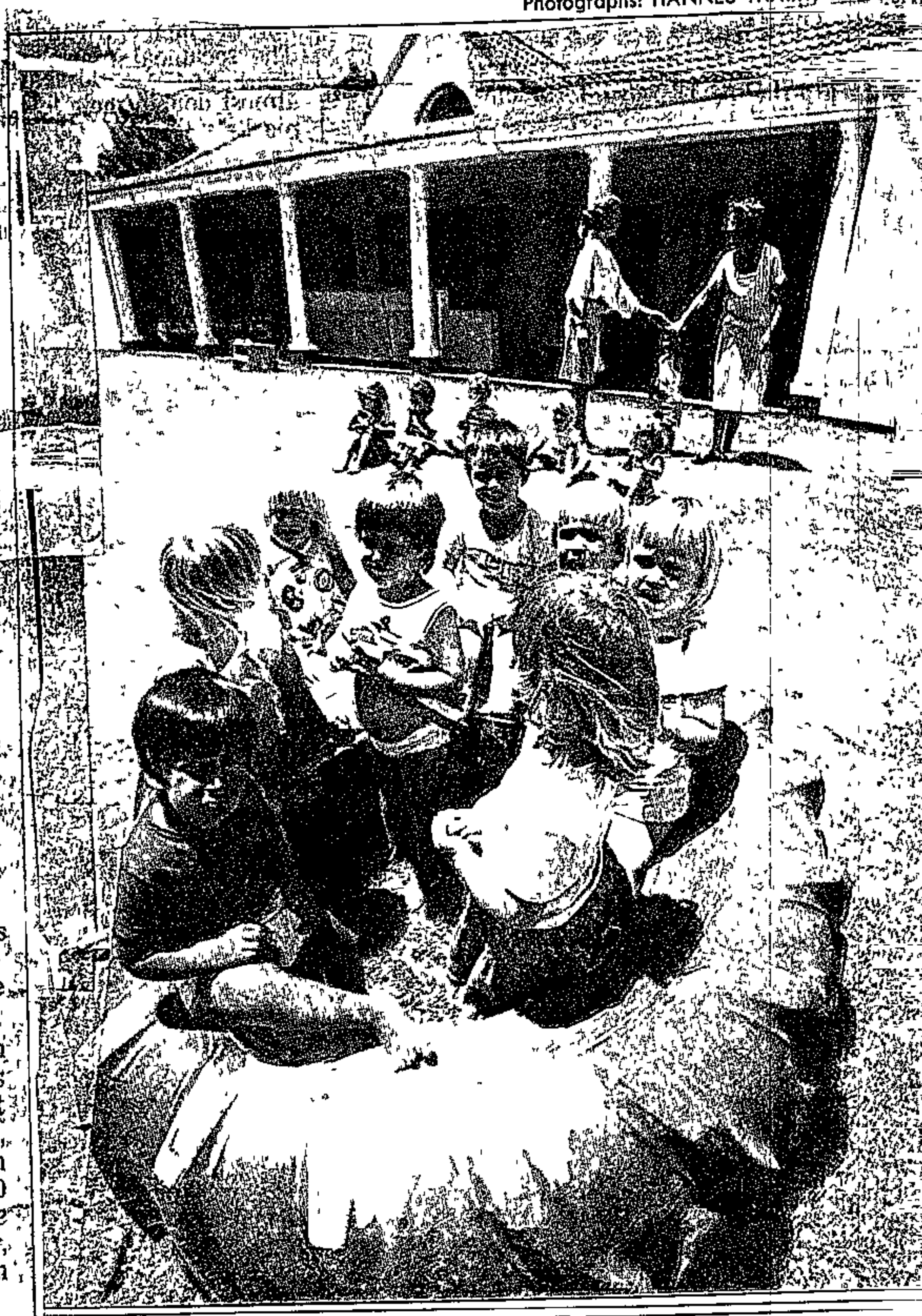
Demand for admission is high. At the end of last year a file on Mr Atmore's desk contained a waiting list of 200. Another list reserved places for 11 children who had not yet been born.

"I turn away about 30 applicants a week," says Mr Atmore.

A pressing need, he adds, is afternoon care for children who attend primary school but go home to an empty house.

"I am inundated with requests to take children for after care — but we just don't have the facilities."

It costs R300 000 a year to run the centre. The State contributes about R3 000 a year, for the rest the centre runs mainly on fees, and on fund-raising events which bring in about R18 000 a year. 50 years ago the Buxton fête was the event on the Cape Town calendar, attended by the likes of Jan Smuts.



Baby nursed on a diet of pain

By DIANE CASSERE

298

MARY is only three, and already her undernourished body is covered in strap weals and cigarette burns.

She cries incessantly and is remote and suspicious of all other human beings.

She is a typical abused child, one of hundreds of cases dealt with annually by the Child Welfare Society — and experts say that is only the tip of the iceberg.

Mary's mother gave birth to her when she was a teenager. She worked during the day and left Mary with her unemployed father, who beat her when she cried or was hungry.

When he drank, he stubbed his cigarettes out on the child's body because she was "naughty." When Mary's mother came home, he beat her too, and sexually abused her.

Mary's nightmare finally ended when a neighbour complained to her grandfather. The neighbour, a woman, could no longer bear the child's repeated crying.

Once the grandfather had reported the case to a social worker, events moved quickly. A medical examination, necessary as evidence in such cases, was followed by the child's removal to substitute parents.

Mary's parents have since expressed their willingness to co-operate in re-constructing the family. Hopefully, she will one day return to a happy, sane family unit.

□ Child abuse — tip of the iceberg — Page 9

Dr Thomas works towards a world that doesn't need her

ONLY seven months into the job, the head of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society speaks out strongly against the detention of children, openly defies the Group Areas Act and hopes to help build a future South Africa where professional social workers will become superfluous.

Dr Adele Thomas's stand is unusual in a country where welfare organisations have a reputation for being apolitical and paternalistic. But, the Rand Afrikaans University graduate argues, the 1985 State of Emergency changed all established notions about social work.

"In the past, social workers could deal with their clients on a one-to-one basis without particularly considering the socio-political situation. Now we can't ignore it." From 1985 counselling child detainees and their families became an integral part of the society's work in the townships. In January this year, the society became the first — and only — welfare body in the country to appoint two full-time social workers to deal specifically with detained children.

While autonomous, the society falls under the government's four racially segregated welfare departments. And although Thomas and her staff of 200 have the full support of their board, they have only begun testing the state's response to their unconventional policies.

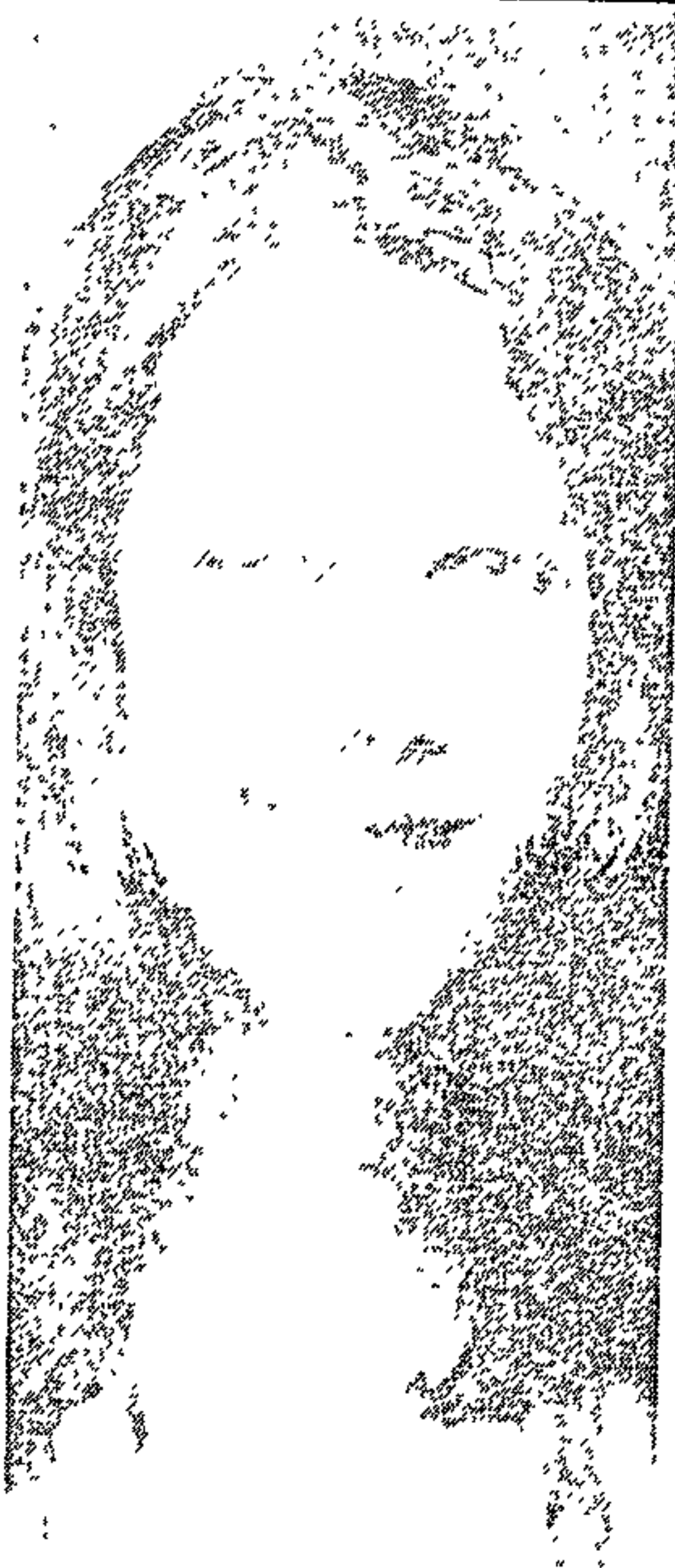
The first indication of official reaction came a few weeks back when the society's social workers were barred from visiting detainees in prison. Thomas called a press conference to express the organisation's outrage. Subsequent petitions asking the authorities to overturn their decision were met with a brief reply reiterating that the two social workers were not permitted to see detainees.

But Thomas is not prepared to let the matter rest there. The social workers — who work closely with the Free the Children Alliance and the Detainees Parents Support Committee — are at present concentrating on counselling 80 released detainees and their parents. And Thomas is negotiating to employ a lawyer to challenge the detention of children and ensure each detained child is given maximum access to his or her parents and social workers.

Another potential area of confrontation is the society's creche in Doornfontein, Johannesburg. Although registered for white children only it is run as a non-racial establishment, openly defying the Group Areas Act. Thomas says she will fight any attempts to enforce the legislation.

"It's about time welfare organisations started taking a public stand," she adds, "but many are afraid of los-

The new voice of child welfare: bold, even defiant, aiming for a future where social work will be redundant. JO-ANN BEKKER reports



Dr Adele Thomas ... taking welfare from paternalism into politics

ing their state subsidies." With the Concerned Social Workers' group, she is planning a meeting of all directors of Johannesburg welfare organisations "to get them to qualify their stance on children in detention. This will enable us to have a visible network of people who can help us."

Born and raised in Johannesburg, Thomas enrolled at the University of the Witwatersrand to study social work after a teacher told her she was "too lazy to consider a teaching profession". She graduated *cum laude* in 1977 with the top marks in her class and subsequently completed her masters degree and doctorate at RAU.

Practical work as a student opened her eyes to conditions in townships — "I was always struck by the poverty and pain, the tremendous social problems which were the basic norm — lack of education, inadequate housing facilities, poor social schemes, the breakdown of the ex-

tended family."

A spell as a locum at a Johannesburg boys' home in 1978 exposed her to the degree of depersonalisation in some welfare institutions. "The children were known by numbers, not by their names. They would come and ask me if Number 21 was going out for the weekend. It was really incredible."

She is proud that the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society's children's homes are structured around cottages, and that the children live in small families.

For three and a half years, Thomas ran her own private practice. She has also lectured at Wits, and pursued research into the causes and treatment of alcoholism.

From 1984, however, she moved increasingly into managerial positions. Her first appointment was as assistant director of the South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence. In 1985 she was appointed director of the South African National Epilepsy League. Thomas, who is now 30, joined the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society as director designate last July, and was appointed executive director on November 1.

She said her team of social workers had noted a marked increase in poverty in both white and black communities in recent years. "In white communities the most common effects we have seen are a rise in alcoholism, and sexual and physical abuse of children. In black communities, the main trends we have observed are a rise in alcoholism and child abandonment." In Soweto, she said, up to 60 children were abandoned a week.

Thomas said social workers were coming up against "a lot of anger and suspicion, a lot of fear" in townships. "This is particularly true with counselling detainees. It takes a long time for trust to build up."

"The common problems we see are depression, anxiety and fear and lack of self esteem. Children come out of detention hardened and angry. It takes a lot of time to break these feelings down."

She is hoping to establish a crisis centre for children released from detention.

Thomas is unequivocal in her opposition to the detention of children, a practice which, while outlawed by the Child Care Act of 1983, is permitted indefinitely under the Emergency.

"Right now social work has to become more relevant to the community we work in. It is not cost-effective to consider one-to-one counselling. We must concentrate more on group work. And we want one state welfare department, with equal services, pensions and grants for all."

w/g ARGHS 13/6/87

CHILD

by SHERYL RAINE
in JOHANNESBURG

TWO sensational court cases have thrust the chilling issue of child abuse to the fore in recent weeks but it is the thousands of silent cases which never get to court, which are not sensational but just as cruel that cry out for urgent attention.

And therein lies the torment of the innocents who survive.

Burgeoning case loads, inadequate funds and insufficient social workers are the grim South African realities.

Take Johannesburg. Right now the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society has 1 088 abused children of all races on their files — and only 70 social workers to deal with them. Not all of these children are still being abused, but all have been abused in the past five years — and therefore are still part of the society's case load, requiring monitoring and follow-through attention.

Apart from child abuse there are many other problems social workers have to deal with. For example, child abandonment. In the Johannesburg black community alone during the month of April 1997 children were abandoned as were 28 white children and 275 coloured youngsters.

The society's total case load for the month of April this year was in the region of 5 600.

This means that the average case load of each social worker is around 80 a month but, as Mr Willie Jacobsz public relations manager for the society points out, in some black townships the case load can rise to as much as 120 a month.

COMPARE these figures with those supplied by Professor Daan Eloff, chairman of the board of management of the SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare. He said that to be effective social workers who specialise in child abuse should not have a case load of more than eight.

Nationally the same lack of funds and too few social workers means that in many cases social workers are handling a triple case load.

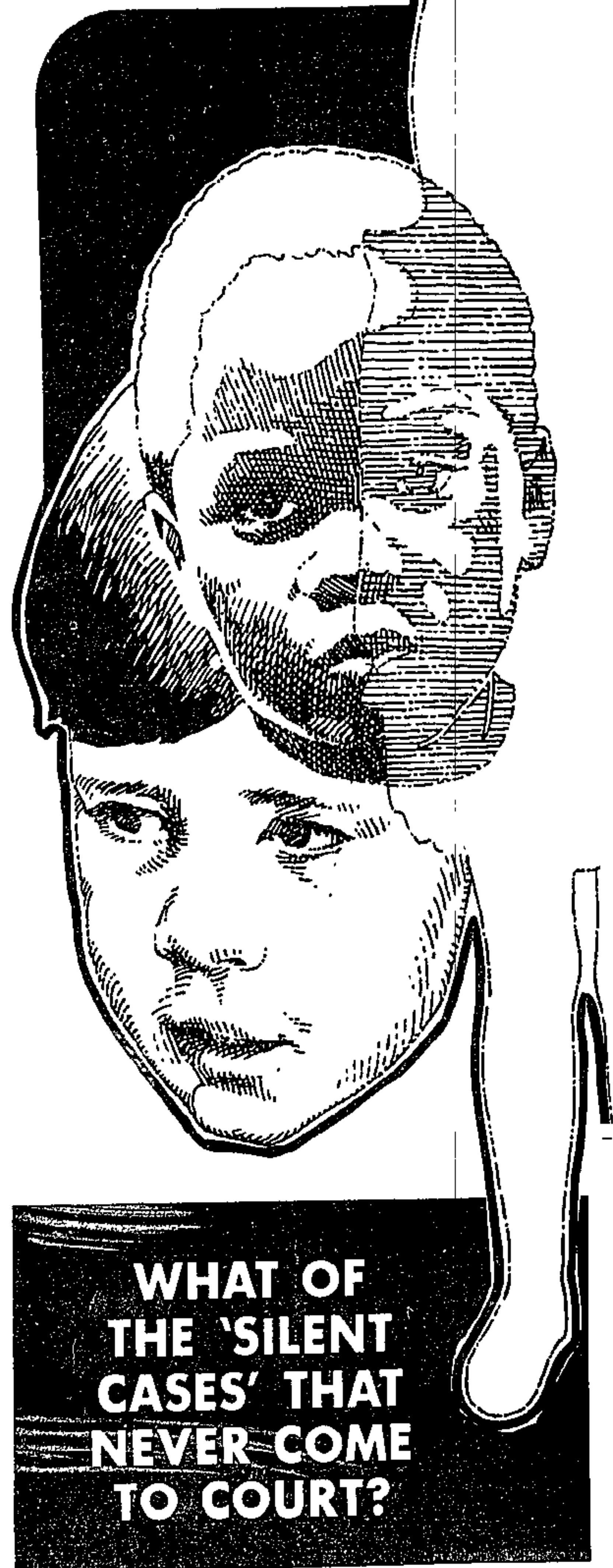
Add to this scenario the fact that South Africa has experienced a serious recession and that child abuse appears to be correlated with unemployment, rising costs, financial strain and a drop in self-esteem on the part of the parent.

Under the circumstances we can expect to read more stories like the one about Richard Opperman (21 months) from the West Rand who was beaten by his parents and finally killed by his mother, and Pieter Stander (2) of Pretoria who was strangled by his mum.

And, the experts readily admit, the cold statistics do not reflect the true extent of a problem buried deep in the privacy of the home and often protected by a conspiracy of silence on the part of neighbours and other adults.

Richard Opperman's case confirms the expert view: His father, Willem, told a social worker he had hit the child when it threw tantrums. A neighbour complained twice about the child's abuse. Another neighbour knew about it but didn't complain. A grandmother also knew he was being abused and said nothing.

There are eight forms of child abuse. "Many parents don't recognise this. Many people think that killing a child or battering it to within an



**WHAT OF
THE 'SILENT
CASES' THAT
NEVER COME
TO COURT?**

inch of its life is child abuse, without realising that it takes many other forms," said Mrs Mary Ahlers, a member of the national council of the Southern African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (SASPCAN).

Physical abuse is often committed in the name of discipline. Then there is sexual abuse, nutritional neglect, emotional deprivation and drug abuse practised by a parent who "knocks" out the child with drugs or alcohol for convenience sake.

Medical care neglect, safety neglect, emotional abuse or persecution by an adult are the other categories.

"Invariably the abused child becomes a child abuser. We have to break the vicious cycle and it is a highly complex subject to tackle," says Mrs Ahlers.

THE long-term impact of child abuse is enormous. It can result in lasting damage to the child's body or brain, can cause developmental delay, result in inadequate social and educational skills, delinquency, detachment, the inability to form relationships later in life and in extreme cases, psychotic behaviour.

"A small group of people have been working very hard for the last 15 years to bring about an awareness of child abuse in South Africa," said Mrs Ahlers. "When it gets to the stage of people murdering their children there is very little we



ABUSE

What sort of person 'bashes' children...?

by JON QWELANE

WHAT sort of person abuses a child — even to the point of killing him?

And what sort of child falls victim to such abuse?

The head of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, Dr Adele Thomas, says the parents who abuse their children are often — though not always — people who were themselves abused as children.

Many of the children who get abused may be illegitimate, premature or children who have not bonded with their parents. They may also be children not born of the same parents.

The child abusers may be young and emotionally immature people, perhaps single parents living in isolation from the rest of their neighbourhood.

Most often abused children "protect their parents, fearing that if they tell on them something might happen to the parents and they would lose them. Another thing is that child abusers instruct children not to tell on them, and the orders are obeyed".

Dr Thomas says: "We do not condemn the parents, though we do not condone their actions. We realise the child abusers themselves need help to cope with the stresses and pressures which drive them to their actions.

"Very often it may happen that the majority of parents who abuse children are single people, young and emotionally immature, living by themselves in most cases, and having been victims of abuse themselves when they were children.

"But it also happens that many children are abused within established families.

"Sometimes the parent is isolated, has a child to look after and support, has no friends and her relatives are far away, and sometimes has no one to turn to but the child she sees 24 hours every day.

"These are very real tensions which build up inside the parent, coupled with the fact that she is emotionally immature and has no one on whom she can unburden. The child then becomes the sufferer."

NORMALLY, says Dr Thomas, incidents of child abuse come to light because teachers, doctors and nurses report them. Sometimes concerned neighbours of people who abuse their children alert the social workers.

"But you must appreciate the fact that the workload is very heavy for our social workers"

She says the pressures which a mother would go through, leading to her killing her own child, are great. Because there is tremendous pressure of all kinds on the parent "she takes it out on the child as the child cannot hit back.

"That is why it is important for people to understand that the Child Welfare Society does not break up families; it helps to build them. We take abused children away from their parents only in very serious cases where the child's life is certainly at risk, but even then we make provision for the parents to visit the child as often as possible.

"At the same time we give the parents counselling and when we are sure that things have normalised, we reunite the family with their child and monitor the situation closely," she says

But the exercise will be futile if the whole family is not involved.

can do. Sadly all that is left is for the legal people and the mortuary attendants to sweep away the pieces.

"Prevention is really the name of the game — prevention by education and changed attitudes towards parenting. And, this is not a task which can be accomplished overnight."

Experts believe that several steps could be taken to prevent child abuse and help child abusers.

Mrs Annetjie Esterhuysen, senior social worker at Addington Hospital in Durban, suggests treatment centres for abused children, where both parents and children could be admitted for help from a team of professionals. She has also suggested that the training of social workers needs to include more emphasis on the practical side to help social workers deal with manipulative parents

The computerisation of the Child Abuse Register would also help to make a child's history of abuse available nationwide at the touch of a button.

The establishment of family courts could also help in the early detection and treatment of the problem

An abused child can be spotted through abnormal behaviour — being withdrawn from people and surroundings, not doing too well at school, and sometimes having a tendency, particularly as he grows older, towards violence because "he has learnt that if someone angers him the way to settle it is by violence".

"But the children can be saved when there is intervention in their lives. This comes about when say, an abused girl marries a man who is patient and understanding and helps her back on the road to emotional recovery.

Study: State reaction escalated violence

Education Reporter

BY REACTING so violently to the student protests of 1976, the State escalated the confrontation to an entirely new level, two researchers of the University of Cape Town have concluded in a study for the United Nations Children's Fund.

"There is no doubt that the harsh repressive measures by the State led to an increasingly desperate search by schoolchildren to find effective means of changing the structures, in which they were trapped," the study says.

Professor Francis Wilson, professor of economics at UCT, and Dr Mamphela Ramphele, senior research officer in the department of social anthropology, recently completed the report, "Children in South Africa".

"The cycle of violence which starts with protests, followed by the violent reaction by the State and then by further protests, and further State reaction, has grown ever more vicious, particularly during 1985 and 1986," it says.

Dr Ramphele and Prof Wilson conclude that the "horrifying spectacle of children summarily executing informers, collaborators and sometimes merely

political opponents" by means of the notorious "necklace" resulted in a loss of innocence, which was a human tragedy whose full cost remained to be counted.

The children who are the executioners run the risk of permanent damage to their psyches, the researchers say.

Under a sub-section on education, Prof Wilson and Dr Ramphele said that the turmoil of the past 10 years began as a peaceful demonstration against Afrikaners, the language component of their syllabus.

In the end, the children won that particular battle but in the process of doing so they brought down upon their heads the armed wrath of the State.

The protests by black children against the content and quality of their education then had to be seen in the context of three entwining strands at the heart of the issue:

□ The racist, separatist philosophy underlying the present government's policy of "Christian national education" which led to the "bitterly resented Bantu education" and separate education departments for different race groups.

□ The gross inequalities of resources between education of blacks and whites and consequent lack of quality in black education.

□ The economic environment in which school-leavers, half of them not even properly literate, found themselves when they leave school, with unemployment rife and worsening.

Education offered absolutely no guarantee of work except for the few.

For about 10% of students who went beyond Std VIII, employment in white-collar jobs was the only realistic alternative facing them. For those who failed, the prospects are bleak.

Prof Wilson and Dr Ramphele conclude that there are "few countries in the world, at any time in history, where children have found themselves so much in the front line of a determined and violent struggle for change or where so much historical weight has been placed on such young shoulders".

Black children in South Africa began by protesting against an inadequate and racist educational system, and in subsequent years, fought on a broader front for political change that would stiffen the resolve of their elders and lead to the transformation of the society in which they were trapped.

Hunger drives Reef children to beg for food

1988 1/16 KBY Melanie Gosling

A seven-year-old, Alberton child who had not eaten for three days was found begging for food outside a local restaurant.

Ms Gill Martini-Ryan of Alberton City Shopping Centre's management investigated and found the child and his brothers and sisters living in a tent on the lawn outside their home.

"Their parents were not there and, when they came home, they were both drunk," she said.

"The little boy had asked a waiter at a restaurant in the shopping centre to keep left-over food for him because there was no food at home."

The incident highlights the plight of scores of children in and around Johannesburg's southern suburbs who go to school hungry and are lucky to get something to eat when they return home.

A spokesman for Alberton Child Welfare said she knew of at least six primary schools in Alberton alone which ran feeding schemes for some pupils.

"There may be more — those are the ones which have been in touch with us," the spokesman said.

Ms Martini-Ryan said the shopping complex was so concerned about the number of children who were going to school hungry they had started a school feeding programme.

"With the help of local charities we are distributing food to certain schools every day this week," Ms Martini-Ryan said.



Hungry children at an Alberton primary school crowd around their teacher to get a free meal distributed by the management of the local shopping centre.

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF INFORMATION.

(1) Yes

(a) 20 May 1987.

(b) (i) Major-General P H Groenewald.

(ii) The Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut (AHI)

(2) Yes.

(3) Yes. In view of the fact that the remarks were made in confidence during a closed meeting of the AHI, they cannot be revealed without breaching this confidentiality. The remarks were not part of the briefing but were made in reply to a question from the audience

(4) No, although some newspapers published critical articles in connection with this matter

(a) and (b) fall away.

(5) Yes, an inquiry about the issue was made by me and a press release was issued on 28 May 1987 in response to incorrect perceptions which were reflected in certain news articles.

Blacks' acute spinal injuries

*19 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of National Health and Population Development.

Whether any facilities are available in (a) the Transvaal, (b) Natal, (c) the Orange Free State and (d) the Cape Province for the treatment of acute spinal injuries in Black persons, if not, why not, if so, in what hospitals in each case?

The MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH AND POPULATION DEVELOPMENT.

(a) Transvaal Yes

(i) Kalafong hospital;

(ii) Baragwanath hospital,

(iii) Natspruit hospital;

(iv) Ga-Rankuwa hospital.

(b) Natal Yes.

HOA

(i) All Natal Provincial Hospitals.

(c) Orange Free State Yes

(i) Pelonomi hospital, Bloemfontein,

(ii) Botumelo hospital, Kroonstad,

(iii) Welkom hospital.

(d) Cape Province Yes.

(i) Conradie Hospital.

*Dr M S BARNARD Mr Speaker, arising from the hon the Minister's reply, I should like to know whether these units for acute spinal injuries are specialised, as is the case with, for example, the Volks Hospital, or whether they are just general hospitals

*The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I did not hear the first part of the question of the hon member for Parktown. Could he repeat it please? Could he just speak a little more clearly?

*Dr M S BARNARD. Mr Speaker, maybe the hon the Minister should listen more clearly

*The SPEAKER: Order! The hon member for Parktown must just repeat his question

*Dr M S BARNARD Mr Speaker, I just want to ask the hon the Minister whether these units for Blacks in the other provinces are specialised like the Volks Hospital, or if their patients just receive treatment in general wards?

*The MINISTER Mr Speaker, the reply is that they are specialised institutions.

Foreign passport

*20 Dr M S BARNARD asked the Minister of Home Affairs:

(1) Whether a certain person, whose name and identity number have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, has applied to his Department for permission to obtain a foreign passport, if so, (a) when and (b) what is her name,

(2) whether permission was granted to her; if not, why not; if so, when,

(3) whether any other members of her family have applied for permission to

possess a foreign passport, if so, (a) how many, (b) what is their relationship to the above-mentioned person and (c) what was his response?

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS:

(1) No. (a) and (b) Fall away

(2) Falls away.

(3) The person's husband has not applied for permission to possess a foreign passport. Other members of the person's family are not known to the Department

(a), (b) and (c) Fall away

Jan Smuts Airport: air-ticket privileges

*21 Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Transport Affairs

(1) Whether an inquiry was instituted recently into an alleged abuse of air-ticket privileges at Jan Smuts Airport, if so, (a) when and (b) what were the circumstances surrounding this inquiry.

(2) whether the inquiry has been completed, if not, when is it anticipated that it will be completed, if so, what were the findings.

(3) whether any action has been taken as a result of the inquiry, if not, why not, if so, what action

(4) whether he has received a report on this inquiry, if not, why not, if so,

(5) whether he will table the said report, if not, why not, if so, when?

*The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS:

(1) Yes

(a) 19 January 1987

(b) Irregularities regarding air-ticket privileges

(2) No, towards the end of July 1987

(3) No, the inquiry is still in progress

(4) No, the matter will be dealt with by the S A Airways and the S A Police.

HOA

(5) No, it is a departmental and police inquiry.

Vryheid: foster parents

*22. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Justice:

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 20 on 17 February 1987, the commissioner of child welfare in Vryheid in Natal has received any request from the couple in question for written consent to act as foster parents of the child concerned in this matter; if not, (a) what action has been taken in respect of this child, (b) what is the (i) race and (ii) age or date of birth of this child, (c) where is this child residing at present and (d) what is it anticipated will be done with this child, if so, on what date.

(2) whether the said commissioner of child welfare gave his written consent to this couple, if not, what reasons did he furnish for denying his consent, if so, when;

(3) (a) what is the (i) race and (ii) marital status of the couple concerned, (b) what is the (i) race and (ii) age or date of birth of the child concerned and (c) who are the (i) parents or (ii) guardians of this child,

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

The MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (for the Minister of Justice)

(1) to (4) With reference to my reply to Question No 20 on 17 February 1987 the hon member's attention is drawn to the fact that the couple concerned initially went to see the Commissioner of Child Welfare, Vryheid. After the provisions of the Children's Act, 1960 (Act 33 of 1960), which was then in force, had been explained to them, they were referred to the Commissioner of Child Welfare, Melmoth because the child concerned was originally admitted to a hospital within the magisterial district of Melmoth. I caused enquiries to be made and it appears that the proceedings of the Children's Court, Melmoth has already started in this case. In view thereof the hon

HOA

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TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 1987

member's attention is drawn to the provisions of section 8 (3) of the Child Care Act, 1983 (Act 74 of 1983) which, *inter alia*, provides that no person shall publish in any manner whatever any information relating to proceedings in a children's court which reveals or may reveal the identity of any child who is concerned in those proceedings.

Joint Security Commission

*23. Mr C W EGLIN asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs

- (1) Whether, since 1 January 1986, any requests have been made by the Government of (a) South Africa and (b) Mozambique for a meeting of the Joint Security Commission provided for in terms of the Nkomati Accord; if so, on what dates in each case;

- (2) whether this commission has met since the above date, if so, when; if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House).

- (1) (a) Yes (b) No

1 1 Mozambique suspended its participation in the Joint Security Commission (JSC) after the publication of the so-called "documents of Gorongosa" in July 1985. Although the allegations contained in these "documents" were discussed on various occasions by delegations of the governments of both countries culminating in talks at Komatipoort in November 1985, no session of the Commission has been held since.

1 2 Contacts between the two Governments led to the meeting between State President Botha, accompanied by myself, and President Samora Machel in Swaziland on 25 April 1986, on the occasion of the coronation of the Swazi King.

1 3 This meeting was followed by a meeting between Ministerial delegations of the two countries at Skukuza on 2 May 1986 for talks on

a wide range of subjects including security.

A "Joint Liaison Committee" (JLC), was established, distinct from the JSC, but whose terms of reference included, as a question of priority, the security situation underlying South African/Mozambican relations.

1 4 The second meeting of the JLC was scheduled for 27 May 1986, but was postponed by the Mozambican authorities. A tentative arrangement for a meeting on 12 June 1986 was subsequently found by the South African side to be inconvenient.

1 5 On 2 September 1986 the Deputy Director-General of Foreign Affairs, Mr N P van Heerden, visited Maputo to convey a proposal for a meeting at Ministerial level to engender confidence and for a further discussion of the security situation Mozambique requested time to consider the proposal.

1 6 On 21 January 1987 Mr van Heerden again visited Maputo to arrange for a discussion to take place at the level of Ministers of Defence. It was stated by the Mozambican side that the time was not yet right for such a meeting, but agreement in principle was given for talks to continue.

1 7 The Mozambique Minister of Co-operation was invited for talks in South Africa on 25 March 1987 en route to Geneva. He met with me in Pretoria. During the ensuing talks I made it clear that Southern Africa needed peace if we were to bring about development and stability and that the onus was on myself and the Minister of Co-operation of Mozambique to take steps to bring this about, at least as far as our region was concerned. I again suggested a meeting of the Ministers of Defence of the two countries as an important step towards bringing about peace. Although this was

TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 1987

approved by the Mozambican side in principle, they made it clear that it was still too early for such a meeting to take place at Ministerial level and that such a meeting should be preceded by a meeting of officials, which could prepare the way for the Ministers to meet one another in due course.

1 8 Although this matter was subsequently pursued by the South African Trade Representative in routine talks with the Minister of Co-operation, no progress was made until 4 May 1987, when the Minister intimated that a possible date could be discussed after his return from the Presidential visit to the United Kingdom later that month. No discussions could be arranged before 29 May when the Trade Representative was summoned to hear the Minister's Condemnation of South Africa's Alleged involvement in an attack in Maputo the previous night. Later on the same day a Note was handed to the Mozambique Government in which the South African Government conveyed the statement issued by the SADF and added the following message:

"The Trade Office wishes to take this opportunity to renew, on behalf of the South African Government, its request, frequently conveyed to the Mozambican authorities in the past, for urgent, high level talks on all aspects of security which concern South Africa and Mozambique."

1 9 This message was also conveyed to the Mozambican Minister of Co-operation on 30 May 1987. In a telephone call to the Minister that night, the South African Trade Representative offered to arrange the said meeting within two days of the Mozambican Government's communication of their preparedness to enter into the envisaged talks.

1 10 The Mozambican Minister of Co-operation departed for Japan on

5 June without communicating a reply to the South African Trade Representative. Nevertheless, the Trade Representative then asked for an urgent meeting with the Mozambican Minister of Labour on the same afternoon, on which occasion he once again requested an urgent response to the proposal for security talks between the two countries.

1 11 No reply has been received to date.

1 12 I trust that the hon member would agree that South Africa has consistently attempted to improve relations with Mozambique through talks and discussions but has been thwarted by emotional outbursts by the Mozambican government such as in the case of the recent incident in Maputo for which South Africa was onesidedly blamed for the attacks.

- (2) No. Reasons as given above

Detainees charged

*24. Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Law and Order

- (1) Whether any persons detained in terms of the Internal Security Act, No 74 of 1982, since 12 June 1986 have been charged; if so, (a) how many (b) with what offence in each case and (c) in respect of what date is this information furnished.

- (2) whether this information includes persons detained in the national states, if not, why not?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER

- (1) Yes

- (a) 95 persons on 110 counts

- (b) On a variety of counts *inter alia* contraventions of—

section 54 (1) of the Internal Security Act, 1982, terrorism.

Child abuse is family danger signal

CHILD abuse is a clear sign that the South African family unit is being violently affected by the stress of life here.

The toll of keeping up the image needed for an "acceptable" lifestyle in a depressed economy and in an unstable environment is showing deep-rooted strain on the individual white family.

The director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, Dr Adele Thomas, said one of the blatant signs that the family was strained was child abuse

By ANN PALMER

"We have experienced an increase in the number of cases of abuse, but this could also be explained by the fact that more people are reporting abuse to the authorities," she said

"However, families are stressed by the economic and socio-political situations which are present.

"We find that in the black community more often we deal with cases of abandonment rather than abuse.

"For example, a woman who has a family in one of the homelands will migrate to the urban area for work. Then, if she falls pregnant, the baby could be a threat to her livelihood.

"In this case the baby is

abandoned and it will be left on the doorstep of one of our care centres. We are dealing with about 60 cases a month."

In the white community, she pointed out, of the 802 cases on their records, 776 were abuse-related.

Programme leader for research into mental health Dr Louise Olivier said there were numerous factors causing individual stress.

"According to research which we conducted during 1985 and 1986, it was shown that 61 percent of black and 39 percent of white, coloured and Indian families were under strain due to financial problems," she said.

Baby's death investi

Social Welfare

may tighten up

on child abuse

13/6/87

SMR

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JANINE SIMON

The departmental investigation into the social worker's handling of the case of baby Richard Opperman, who was murdered by his mother, is complete and is being studied by the South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare.

The social worker concerned is employed by the Krugersdorp Child Welfare Society, which is an affiliate of the national council.

The investigation was carried out by the regional offices of the House of Assembly's Department of Health Services and Welfare.

According to evidence in the Rand Supreme Court at the trial of Mrs Carolina Opperman last week, the child died after three visits by a social worker. His plight had been reported to welfare authorities by neighbours and relatives.

Baby Richard's mother was sentenced to eight years imprisonment and her husband, Willie Opperman, was given a four-year sentence.

Carol Opperman gave evidence that Richard's ill-treatment came in an atmosphere of tension caused by her inability to bear her husband a child. Richard was the child of a lover who had deserted her. She admitted to 'bashing' the 21-month-old baby's head against a wall.

The judge found that Opperman, a shunter on the railways, had continually beaten, punched and kicked the child since shortly after he had married Carol when Richard was nine months old.

Mr Willem van Wyk, the department's director of social welfare said the report had been received on Thursday and that, after discussion, it had been decided to hand it over to the national council.

Earlier this week Mr van Wyk said a decision on implementing stricter controls over social workers in the case of child abuse would be made when the report had been completed.

According to a statement the national council will discuss the Opperman case, as well as the departmental reaction, when its executive meets on Monday.

Chairman of the Krugersdorp society, Mrs Merle Knight, will also attend the meeting.

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PARLIA

Social workers under fire

PARLIAMENT — If child and social welfare workers continued to use their organisations for political purposes, the House of Delegates would take control of statutory cases, chairman of the Ministers' Council, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, said in the House of Delegates yesterday.

He was speaking during the committee stage of the own-affairs budget debate.

He said some welfare workers were using their organisations for political purposes.

He added: "If they continue to neglect their work, we will be forced to consider taking over all statutory cases ourselves after discussions with leaders of other political groups in the House."

PRP leader Mr Pat Poovalingam said he would support Mr Rajbansi if steps were taken against social workers who did not do their work properly. — Sapa.

Subsidies for 'rural disabled' criticised

By Janine Simon

Delegates to a rehabilitation conference criticised government pensions and subsidies to disabled people in rural areas, saying they encouraged dependence on the State.

The conference, the third of its type in southern Africa, focused on rural rehabilitation and was attended by 140 delegates. It was held in East London by the South African Federal Council for Rehabilitation of the Disabled.

Conference chairman, Mr Lage Vitus, said government money would be more beneficial if spent on basic transport and health infrastructure and on raw materials, tax incentives and a system of government contracts to workshops for the disabled.

He added: "Many delegates felt they did not want pensions or subsidies as they made disabled people dependent on the Government."

Grants did not address the problems of isolation, unemployment and lack of facilities for the disabled in rural areas — who form an estimated 60 to 70 percent of all disabled people in South Africa.

INVESTIGATION

Mr Vitus said the conference discussed ways to help disabled people become independent and that the Federal Council's affiliates would investigate use of protected workshops to train rather than employ disabled people.

The council's affiliates comprise the national councils for mental health, the deaf, the blind and the physically disabled, as well as the National Tuberculosis Association, National Epilepsy League and Disabled People of South Africa.

Said Mr Vitus: "We need to train people so they can go home and set up small businesses and home industries."

"We need to identify the materials available in a community and its needs."

"The mechanics of setting up an industry and marketing techniques were also discussed."

"Delegates were advised that goods be marketed on quality rather than 'charity'."

Training of community-based rehabilitation workers was also discussed. A kwaZulu occupational therapist, Mrs Pam Haynes, is to investigate adaptation of a Unesco manual on primary health care to meet their needs.

y June 18, 1987 5

Hillbrow ^{smr} shelter ²⁹⁸ ^{19/6/87} renovated

By Janine Simon

The Twilight Children shelter for street children in Hillbrow has been substantially renovated and now houses 89 boys, Twilight's chairman Mr John de Villiers said yesterday.

Twilight had also raised more than half the money needed to start a centre outside of Johannesburg, he said.

Improvements to the shelter included the installation of showers, electricity and hot water as well as repairs to its windows, walls and kitchen.

According to shelter workers, about 150 children passed through the shelter each month, he said.

Twilight Children had also staged a highly successful fund-raising appeal which had brought in R57 000 in ten weeks. This was 55 percent of the money needed to start work on a centre in an area outside of Johannesburg.

5 June 1987
Hillbrow
shelter

of the Marxist view on...
Villiers provides us with an interesting application

Apartheid for hospital creche kids

South *18-23/6/87* *298* *(298)*

By SAHM VENTER

JUST down the road from race-row Groote Schuur Hospital, the children of staff members attend an apartheid creche.

The creche is strictly divided into a "white" side and a "black side" (excluding Africans).

An "imaginary" line divides the playground and children are instructed not to venture over to the other side. The hall is divided into three with concertina doors.

"Graduation" for pre-school children is held on separate days and the children's nativity plays are held separately.

Children, whose parents may work side by side in the hospital, are not allowed to mix at any level. Only the after school and weekend facilities are not segregated — "for more efficient staff utilisation".

The National Medical and Dental Association (Namda) condemned the segregation of the creche.

"There should be integration at all levels — for patients, all health workers and their children," a spokesperson said.

Groote Schuur's senior medical superintendent, Dr G Lawrence, said the "stumbling block" in the integration of the creche was the provincial authorities.

"We are not a free agent."

The "white" side was run by the Cape Education Department which did not permit integration. The "black" side was staffed by the hospital, he said.

The separation of children in the playground was "a spinoff" of the segregation of schools.

He could not say why African children were excluded from the creche.

The former Observatory Boys High School, set behind a colourful and well-

stocked playground, looks like a very luxurious play school. But the Groote Schuur Hospital run creche is divided in two — each side a mirror image of the other. One side the children are black ("coloured and Indian — no Africans) and on the other, white.

There are no offensive apartheid signs. Here the language of apartheid speak is sophisticated. "Silver Tree" is the sign marking the entrance to the "white" side and "Oak Tree" shows the way to the "black" side.

Explaining the segregation of the playground, a senior staff member said: "But they do run over, you know what children are like".

One "coloured" parent said her child once ran across to the other side of the playground when the other children had gone home. She said: "Can I quickly play on this side before I go home — there are no whiteys there now."

The only "mixed" activities are weekend and after school facilities as well as karate, drama and ballet classes.

The hall is usually divided into three sections — a "black" a "white" and a neutral section (for the "mixed" after school children).

According to one parent, the hall was undivided at the last Christmas party but the white children and their parents sat on one side of the hall while the black children and their parents sat on the other side.

"Father Christmas started by giving presents to the five-year-old on the white side, and then went across to the five-year-old on the black side. He then went back and gave presents to the different age groups on each side."

President's Council report

Calls for stricter media censorship

Cape Times
298 18/6/87

Political Staff

PRESIDENT'S Council report has called for stricter censorship of publications such as which feature violence, assault, sexual activities, drugs, alcohol and satanism, which have a negative influence on young people.

The report by the Committee on Social Affairs on the Youth of South Africa says evidence was critical of media material, especially on television, with elements of:

- Free sex and also legitimate sex within marriage.
- Disregard for the value of life through violence.
- Music which breaks down moral standards.

Evidence presented showed certain types of music, "physically and spiritually demoralizing effects" and certain music uses "elements of satanism to alienate the Christian listener from his faith".

Discussing the role of the media, the committee expresses concern about the over-emphasis on and "insensitive presentation" of sexual activities and the popularization of "deviant and harmful relationships".

In addition, the continual showing and description of acts of violence as part of the normal way of life of civilized people are cause for concern.

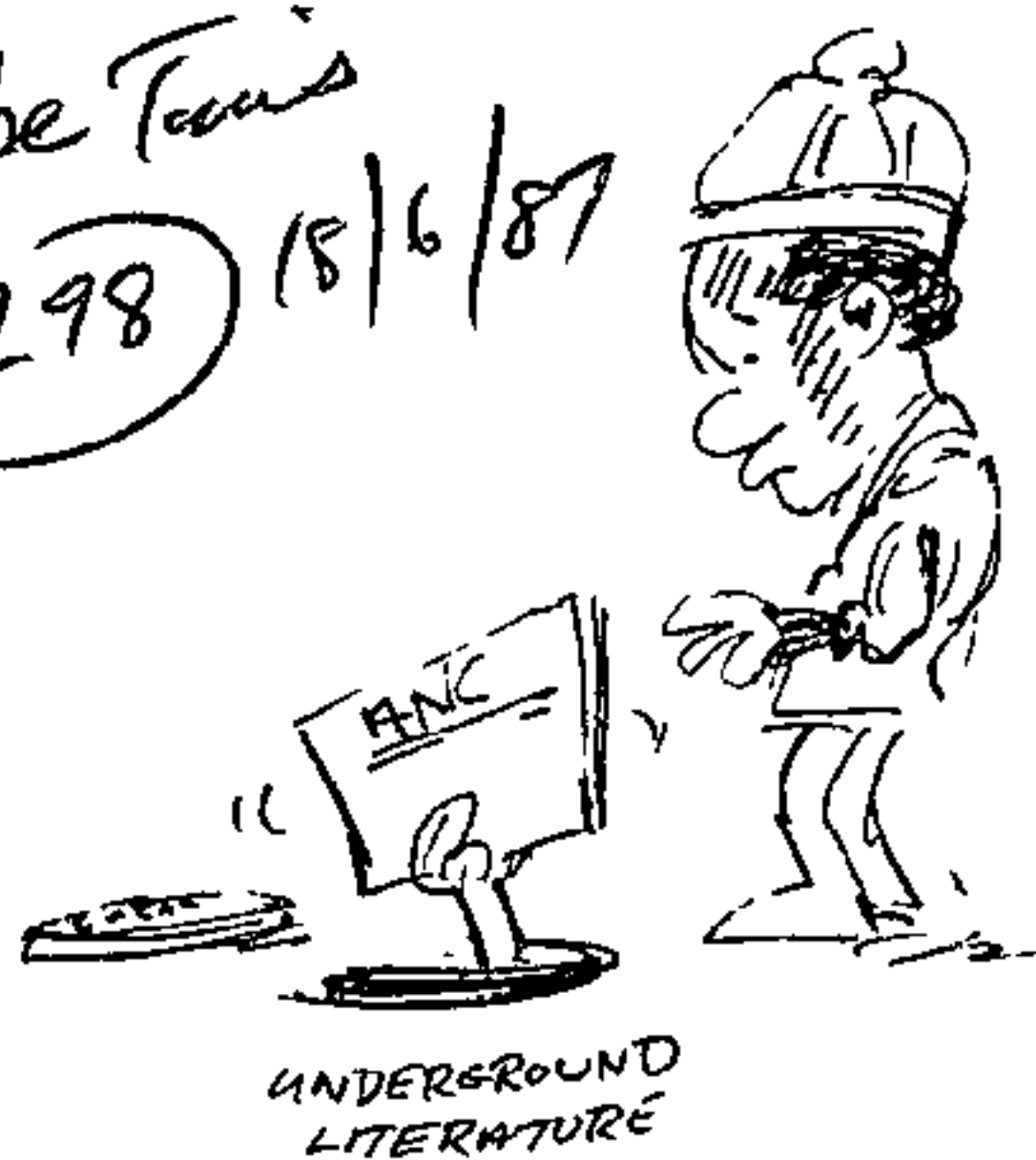
The committee states that there are too many programmes on television which "fulfil no positive educational or recreational function" and border on the vulgar.

"Undermining and demoralizing" video tapes are freely available. Instead of programmes promoting proper discipline, "unrestrained sexuality and all types of crime are depicted".

"Demoralizing videos, drug abuse, promiscuity and aggression, crime, rebellion, cruelty and satanism go hand in hand."

The report says "unhealthy narrow-mindedness" has no chance of finding favour with young people.

The report proposes that the youth be involved in "sport and song and games".



350 000 in SA are alcoholics

Political Staff

MORE THAN 350 000 South Africans are alcoholics and one of the most noticeable characteristics about today's society is its orientation towards the use of chemical drugs.

These were among the findings of the President's Council's inquiry into the youth of South Africa which was tabled yesterday.

It said about 6% of all South Africans became alcoholics and drinking played a role in 75% of crime.

The report said a survey by the Human Sciences Research Council in 1982 among young men who had just completed their schooling showed that 82% of the subjects had drunk alcohol at least once.

About 60% of 2 653 subjects drank at least once a week, 32% drank between two and four times a week and 8% drank five times a week.

Drug experimentation

It said that more than half of the subjects had used alcohol by the time they reached Std 8.

It also said that out of a sample of 4 588 people between 16 and 21, 20% had used drugs illegally at least once.

However, the vast majority had done so by way of experimentation.

The report said young cigarette smokers were more inclined to use drugs than non-smokers.

"The increase in experimentation with drugs by schoolchildren — even in the primary phase — is cause for concern."

It also said the example children got from their parents frequently led to the use of drugs.

'Re-education' for 'political deviants'?

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

THE PC's Social Affairs Committee has backed the establishment of rehabilitation or "re-education" camps for "intimidators and politically motivated juvenile delinquents".

A report of the committee on "Youth of South Africa" tabled yesterday recommends the move "in view of the fact that many young people are involved in acts of intimidation and terror, which have cost the country many millions of rands and have claimed many lives".

The goal of the camps would not only be to foster "meaningful ideals" in political deviants "but also to protect orderly and peace-loving members of the community from ... intimidation and terror".

The chairman of the PC's Social Affairs Committee, Mr Nic Treurnicht, said at a press conference that attempts should be made to get the co-operation of parents and community leaders to get politically



deviant youngsters to attend facilities where they could be "re-educated and enlightened".

The report, which recommends that experts become involved in programmes with an "anti-communist drift", warns that the politicizing of young black people in anti-government organizations is taking on "frightening dimensions".

It says that — because of the "clearly perceivable" influence of communism — "the majority of organizations, particularly among black

"It is obvious that a number of South African young people are totally negatively motivated and that their actions carry a clear communist stamp. Their objective is an unqualified overthrow of the existing order," the report states.

It noted that it was clear that the dissatisfaction among blacks could to a large extent be attributed to the fact that they are not involved in the political decision-making processes.

In view of the "visible differences" in social standards of housing, facilities and economic welfare of different races "it is understandable why many young people tend to see the differences as proof of injustice and discrimination".

It says it "regards it of extreme and urgent importance that a comprehensive, acceptable and feasible 'plan' or political dispensation should be worked out forthwith to prepare the way for the constructive involvement and participation of all population groups in the process of government".

Spread military discipline to all races — report

Political Correspondent

MILITARY service should be extended to all races in South Africa, according to the Social Affairs Committee of the President's Council.

The PC report on the "Youth of South Africa", tabled yesterday, states that "the wide influence that the country's security forces already have, should be extended further."

"The full spectrum of young people in South Africa may be reached by the training channels of the security forces to motivate them to think positively and to work in the interests of South Africa."

The report notes that in South Africa "only white males enjoy the advantage of discipline instilled during military service", although a "growing stream" of coloured and black young people were volunteering for military training.

"As far as possible the intake of young people from the developing groups should be extended so that the disciplinary influence of this training can be felt in the various communities."

False perception

"The false perception that the maintenance of law and order is a white concept and that order is maintained by whites or a white government at the cost of the developing groups should be allayed," the report says.

□ The chairman of the PC's Social Affairs Committee, Mr Nic Treurnicht, told pressmen that the State did not now have the money or the manpower to allow for conscription for all races.

□ The report notes that the SADF is involved in a nationwide youth programme among all races. Among other things, this programme offered youth adventure camps and "youth leadership" camps.

The Cape Times Defence Correspondent comments: For practical, financial and political reasons the recommendations are little more than a pipe-dream. However, the wording of the committee's statement is such that it could also cover an expansion of the other-races volunteer intake if, say, the lowest medical category of white conscripts was exempted from service.

'Kremlin instructions'

By BARRY STREEK

THE United Democratic Front (UDF) was, like the ANC, not only a front organization for communist Russia but it also received instructions from the Kremlin, the President's Council Committee on Social Affairs said.

Revolutionary incitement among young people and communist incitement were contributory causes of the riots in SA, the committee said.

Some experts ascribed the riots, which had been dragging on for almost two years, to the economic recession, but "a great deal" of evidence highlighted other contributory causes.

In its report on the youth of South Africa, which was tabled in the President's Council yesterday, the committee said: "Young people, and especially young blacks, are the target group of revolutionary agitators."

The large number of unskilled and frustrated unemployed young people, especially among coloured people and blacks, had created "a climate favouring an attitude of rebellion against the existing order".

The role of communism, especially the way it made use of organizations such as the ANC, was "unmistakable". "Young people are integrated as 'comrades' into the 'liberation struggle'."

"Student organizations such as AZASUM and AZASO play a significant role in these activities."

(This is understood to refer to AZASM, the Azanian Students' Movement, a black-consciousness youth organization; and AZASO, the Azanian Students' Organization, a UDF affiliate which was renamed SANSKO — South African National Students Congress — in December last year.)

Kids behind bars

SOME NOT

YET BACK

WITH THEIR

PARENTS

SAYS DPSC

HUMAN rights organisations have acknowledged that hundreds of child detainees have recently been released, but warn against the conclusion that the vast majority are now home with their parents.

While the release of children detained in terms of the emergency regulations has clearly been widespread, it appears that a substantial number of young people are still being held, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee and the Free the Children Alliance said.

SOWETAN Reporter

Spokesmen for the organisations said releases appeared to run into several hundreds — but they pointed out that the precise picture was uncertain and that more than 1 000 children could still be in detention.

Increase

The police directorate of public relations has declined to comment on DPSC reports of a marked increase in the release rate of young detainees in

the last week.

Asked to comment, the police said: "Because of the provisions of the emergency regulations regarding detention or releases in terms of the detention, it has been the policy of this office not to comment on detention or releases in terms of the emergency regulations."

Alliance spokesman Mrs Gill de Vlieg said: "The picture is confused and until official confirmation is given of both detentions and releases it is going to remain so."

DPSC spokesman, Mrs Audrey Coleman, said that reports of releases were widespread but "we haven't yet seen that great a number of released people coming into our offices."

According to official figures, 1 424 persons under the age of 18 years were being held as emergency detainees as at April 24.

Many of the recently freed children joined in a programme of activities planned by the Alliance to mark International Children's Day on Monday.

The all-day programme, held at a central Johannesburg church complex, was attended by about 800 people of all ages, by former detainees and children who had never seen a prison cell.

Drama, music and poetry presentations dominated the day, with additional "junior" features such as puppet shows and face-painting.

Grandmother tells prison to keep baby in detention

By Jo-Anne Collinge

What kind of a grandmother is Mrs Sarah Mthembu of Alexandra township that she would refuse to consider removing her newborn grandchild from Diepkloof Prison to more domestic surroundings?

A loving mother, first and foremost, she insists. One who wants her detained daughter, Maria, home with the baby — and who will do without both until then, she says.

Miss Maria Mthembu (21) was detained on January 22 in terms of the emergency regulations. She gave birth to a girl, named Nkululeko (Freedom) Precious, in Hillbrow Hospital on May 24, her mother said.

Mrs Mthembu said she had firmly turned down the option put to her by officials that she take the baby home.

She had seen Nkululeko in the hospital nursery and had since visited her daughter back at Diepkloof, where she is presently in the hospital wing.

"They are both all right and we are glad about the baby. But our house is lonely without them. We want them both at home."

The Mthembu household has survived many a blow since violence flared in Alexandra in February 1986. The worst was the death of the only son, Jerry, who was 16 years old when he was shot dead in conflict between residents and security forces.

Shortly after that the Mthembu home was burnt when unidentified men rampaged through the township at night attacking homes, especially those of community leaders.

Both Mrs Mthembu and Maria were detained for short periods last year and released without charge.

Mrs Mthembu says that Maria complains that the last meal of the day is served before 3 pm and that she gets nothing after that till next morning.

● Asked to comment on the Mthembu case, the Department of Prisons Services did not confirm the birth, but released the following statement:

"It is the policy of the South African Prisons Services to admit to prison with female prisoners their infants who are wholly or partially dependent on breast-feeding and to accommodate them at State expense for as long as it is considered essential.

"Prison nurses routinely record children's weights and are in daily contact with the younger children, helping mothers with their care. Any problems of a medical or nutritional nature they notice are referred to a prison doctor."

Commenting on Mrs Mthembu's claims about the early serving of supper, the department said "Due to practical reasons prisoners are locked up at 5 pm and therefore supper has to be served before that time."

"Dietary scales in prisons are very well balanced and comply with the minimum requirements with regard to nutritional values as laid down by, among others, the World Health Organisation. This is also the case with dietary scales for babies and infants."

"Should it be necessary for a diet to be modified for medical reasons, the medical officer will prescribe a diet to meet the specific needs of the prisoner concerned."

● The Police Directorate of Public Relations said it would not comment.

MNR man surrenders

MAPUTO — A Mozambique National Resistance movement guerrilla leader has surrendered to government forces in Niassa, *Diario de Mocambique* has reported.

The newspaper said yesterday Mr Lucas Manhaca had surrendered near the village of Mutetere.

It said government troops had recently taken over a major MNR base in the area — The Star's Africa News Service.

Refugees are short of food

LUSAKA — An unprecedented influx of Mozambican refugees is causing shortages of food in camps set up by the Zambian authorities to help Mozambicans who crossed the border recently.

In one camp in the Luangwa district more than 1 000 Mozambicans have arrived in the last fortnight.

The area governor said 3 000 Mozambicans were already in the camp — The Star's Africa News Service.

Swede group in Maputo

Child abuse — tip of the ice

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Cape Times 11/6/87

BY DIANE CASSERE

WHILE child welfare societies have hundreds of reported cases of child abuse every year, experts are aware that these are only the tip of the iceberg.

Three young mothers have been accused of killing their own children, highlighting once again what social workers already knew: All too often children have to be saved from the very people who should protect them.

It is one of society's cruellest realities, but crimes against children continue daily, whether the abuse is sexual, physical or of neglect.

"One of the chief abusers is society itself," says Mr. Chris Giles, psychologist for Cape Town's Child Welfare Society.

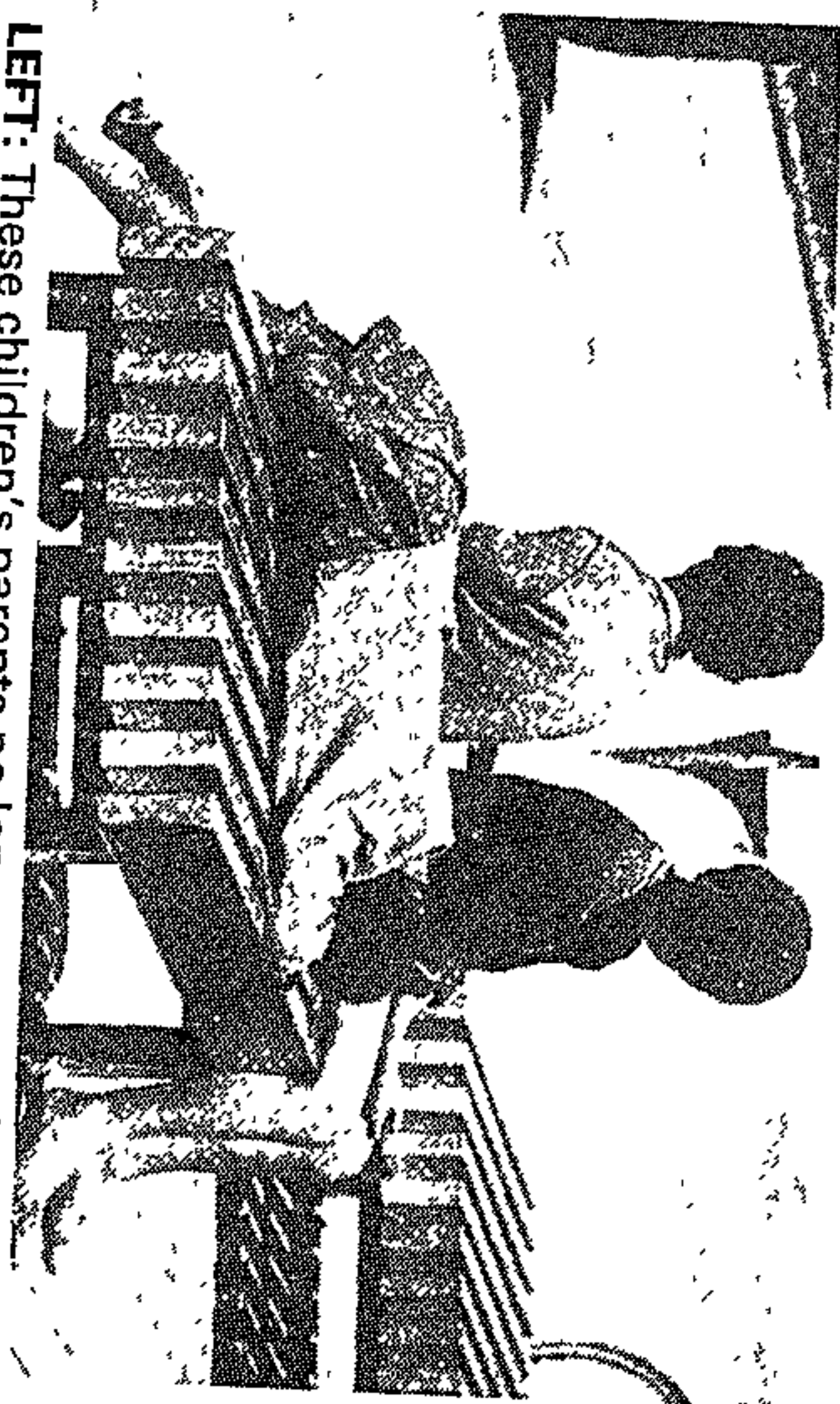
"In this country ideology and political factors have a brutalizing effect, creating conditions in which children, and people, will be abused.

"Abuse is a family problem and there is no point in witch-hunting to point a finger at individuals. Everything is a cause and effect of something."

For the past 18-month period, the society has 255 cases registered.

While exact current statistics for greater Cape Town are not available, Mr. Giles knows that the hundreds of cases a year that the society does see are only the tip of the iceberg.

"American statistics tell us that up to 15 children per 1,000 annually are abused in some way and need protection. They have better resources than we have here, but still much more goes undetected."



LEFT: These children's parents no longer care where they are. They beg, scabble for food in rubbish bins and are the prostitutes of tomorrow. **RIGHT:** This little boy was frequently beaten by his father. The father hit the boy with his belt.

Detection of child abuse by the "front liners" — the health clinics, family doctors, teachers and caretakers — is too often obscured by the taboos of our society.

Many people close their eyes to the harassment of a small child, believing that the parent will ultimately always act in the interest of that child. Doctors can and have been confused about the nature of an injury; a child could lie to a teacher to

protect its parents; neighbours might not want to get involved in court action, other family members could try to solve the problem within the unit.

What happens when the child is totally removed from possible detection, and when, one parent, or both, breaks down under pressure and crosses that line from anger to total despair?

"Willing and able are the words we use when talking about detection of child abuse," said Miss

diagnosis and take action."

Removal of the child from the family is a last resort. The ideal is to obtain the co-operation of the family.

"We would like to see more prevention of child abuse. Fortunately the community is now coming to us to ask us to give lectures at schools and clubs, for instance," she said.

"We deal with secondary prevention here, but education of the public is of paramount importance in preventing the horrific cases we see."

□ Anyone who feels they are witnessing a case of child abuse or that they can no longer stop themselves mistreating a child can telephone Lifeline, 46-1111. They will be given immediate advice and help and put in touch with the correct agencies.

Amelia Jones, Cape Town's Child Welfare Society's social work manager.

"The person must be willing to report the case and preferably, make a sworn affidavit.

"They must also be able to recognize abuse for what it is. It is up to those in positions of detection to educate themselves."

Once a case has been reported, the child welfare authorities investigate with the priority being the protection of the child. In extreme cases where the child's life may be in danger, investigation and decision will take place on the same day.

"The agency has set policies and procedures to protect the rights of the family and the child," explained Miss Jones.

"These procedures also protect the social worker and give him or her the back-up needed to make a

President's Council report:

Call-up for all races urged

PL2/190
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Quotable quotes

From the report by the PC committee on social affairs on the "Youth in South Africa" tabled yesterday:

- "Crime is an act which leads to punishment and punishment is in turn inflicted on the person who commits the crime because he has committed a crime"
- "Evidence was submitted that certain types of music have a physically and spiritually demoralizing effect on young people (and) ... employ elements of satanism."
- "Homosexuality in men and women is a serious social deviation and is irreconcilable with normal marriage."
- "In terms of the laws of the land divorce is possible only between two people who were legally joined in matrimony."
- "The present unrest situation is largely a manifestation of lack of discipline in young people."
- "Evidence has been received that the utilization of the SADF as a support organization for the SA Police in emergency and for the combating of unrest unfortunately stirs up resistance to the SADF amongst some young people."
- "The perception among many Black and also some Coloured and Indian young people is that the structure of society and the Government places them in an inferior, disadvantaged position. This perception is, to a high degree, the result of faulty communication and guidance ..."

By ANTHONY JOHNSON

A NATIONALIST-DOMINATED President's Council committee has recommended the extension of military service to all races, including blacks.

The council's Social Affairs Committee report on the "Youth of South Africa", tabled yesterday, also called for the establishment of "rehabilitation centres" for "youthful political criminals" and stricter media censorship.

The chairman of the committee, Mr Nic Treurnicht, a former NP whip in Parliament, said he was "quite hopeful" that the most important recommendations of the far-reaching report would be incorporated into government policy.

Some of the highly controversial recommendations — likely to have massive political and social fall-out if implemented — include:

□ Stricter censorship to counter the "negative influence" on young people of violence, sex, drugs, alcohol and satanism as depicted by the media, including films and television.

Security forces' 'influence'

□ The extension of military service or other forms of training "where the emphasis is to foster discipline". The report notes that "as a result of the fact that young black people in particular are incited to insurrection and unrest by certain radicals, many social problems in our community could be solved if our economy allowed the introduction of some form of special training or national service for all communities but especially for young black people".

□ "The considered opinion of the committee is that the wide influence the country's security forces already have should be extended further."

□ The establishment of "training and rehabilitation" centres for "intimidators and politically motivated juvenile delinquents" to foster "meaningful ideals" and to protect orderly and peace-loving members of the community from "their acts of intimidation and terror".

□ The establishment of an education and training programme with "an anti-communist drift" using "experts" from various fields, including the private sector.

□ The setting up of "community schools" for early school-leavers where "strict discipline, in-service training and the involvement of young people in the development of the community are emphasized".

□ The establishment of a youth council to co-ordinate youth programmes and development, to be mapped out in a youth strategy, and the formation of a youth trust to which both the government and the private sector can contribute for the benefit of the youth strategy.

Committee chairman Mr Treurnicht admitted that PC members, who had been busy with the investigation since last February, "did not have free access" to black, coloured and Indian youths in compiling the report.

The committee had no discussions with the ANC or members of "radical organizations" opposed to the government. "I must admit that we had difficulties in reaching them and had almost no opportunities to have frank discussions with them," Mr Treurnicht said.

□ The report also submitted that some of the music to which young people listened "breaks down high moral standards" and had a "physically and spiritually demoralizing effect".

□ Full reports, pages 4 and 13

'Good evidence' from Inkatha youth



THE report of the PC Committee on Social Affairs said unrest, rebellion and school boycotts "hardly occurred in areas where youth organizations functioned effectively".

MORE REPORTS PAGE 13

Political Staff

THE President's Council Committee on Social Affairs did not have free access to black, coloured and Indian youth when it gathered evidence for its report on the youth of South Africa.

The committee's chairman, Mr Nic Treurnicht, said this to journalists at a press briefing previous to the tabling of the report in the PC yesterday.

The introduction to the report said the committee regretted that "a certain section of the youth as well as certain organizations" were unwilling to testify before the committee.

However, he said the Inkatha Youth Brigade gave "very good" evidence.

"The Inkatha youth conversed freely with us — candidly," he said.

The report noted that it was significant that unrest, rebellion and school boycotts "hardly occurred in areas where youth organizations functioned effectively". It said evidence to the committee supported this view with

regard to areas where the Inkatha Youth Brigade is active.

Mr Treurnicht said at the press briefing that youth groups in the areas of development boards like the Southern Free State, at Roodewal near Botshabello, were very positive.

The report gave quotations from a submission by the Development Board of the Southern Orange Free State on their youth programmes.

This included the identifying of youth leaders in "every town and school" and transporting them free of charge to the "Roodewal Open Air Centre" in groups of about 60.

The board had followed up these sessions by establishing 58 "Eagle Youth Clubs" in that area with usually teachers as presidents.

The constitutions of these clubs — who have their own emblems and T-shirts — include objectives like peaceful negotiation, better race relations, resistance to school boycotts and violence.

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PC lays down the form that deviates from the norm

THOSE who believe South African youth is going to the dogs can take heart. The President's Council has come to the rescue.

In a report reminiscent of the Nationalist government's attempts at running other people's lives, the council's social affairs committee has produced its observations on the Youth of South Africa, "against the background of the harmful effect of the incidence of social deviations".

The report makes absorbing reading. Anything to do with deviant behaviour tends to. Anything to do with youth tends to, too.

There is nothing more absorbing for the less-young to contemplate the blemishes and shenanigans of the young. For one thing, the youth

tend to be smooth and shiny, and do not need ironing. For another, they indulge in all sorts of fascinating "social deviations" which the more elderly would have difficulty achieving, physically, even if the will was there.

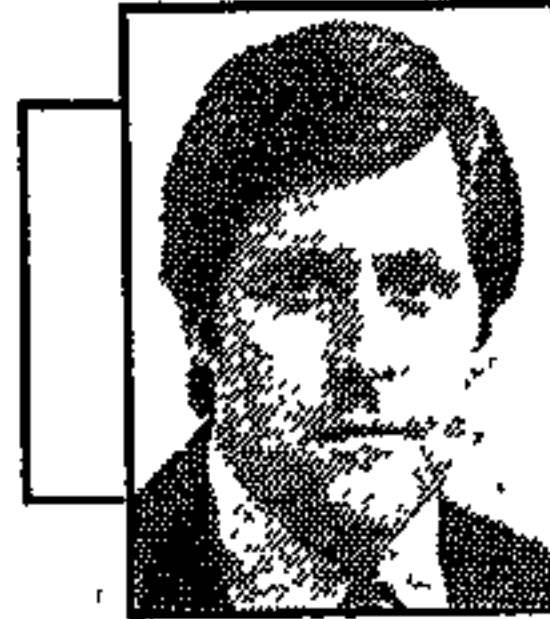
It can be assumed, therefore, that there will be considerable demand for the report, styled "PC 2/1987", Published by Authority. It is a mine of absorbing detail on moral standards, youth rebellion, communism, divorce, permissiveness, extra-marital sex, prostitution, homosexuality, drug abuse and so on.

No doubt some readers will emerge suitably impressed with the official determination to save the youth from the Gadarene slope. Others will feel, with Mr Robin Carlisle, the PC member who did not sign, that it is a load of rubbish.

The cut-off point for "youth", in the view of the report, is 24 years, which presumably means that a young-minded 70-year-old, whether deviate or not, is not included. Maybe a study of the problems of the not-so-young would be of value, for it is they who have created the world which is accepted or rejected by youth.

The report seeks to motivate the youth for "loyal citizenship" and participation in "development projects". It is distressed that young people are caught up in the "stream of deviations that erode the basic structure of our civilized society". There will be some who will feel that the major deviations of our society are not dagga or extra-marital sex, but police raids and apartheid; not too little discipline but too much emphasis on authority and bludgeoning people into line.

The committee was not able to launch a "special, in-depth investigation" into certain subjects, such as penal sanctions for sodomy and homosexuality and supply of contraceptives to teenage girls without their parents' consent. This suggests that there is



By ANTHONY HEARD



MOTIVATED FOR LOYAL CITIZENSHIP

The urban life is singled out as a major disturber of moral standards, with one witness mournfully identifying its evils: "atomism, fragmentation, anonymity, namelessness and lawlessness". The bucolic life beckons.

The section on the media attacks the portrayal of violence, fair enough. But the critical reference to "free sex and also legitimate sex within marriage assuming a prominent place" in the media is less clear. The distinction between "free" and "legitimate" sex is not immediately obvious.

The report identifies the role of music in breaking down "high moral standards". Certain types of music had a physically and spiritually demoralizing effect on young people, and sometimes employed satanism "to alienate the Christian listener from his faith". Future saints battling against the Dolby onslaught should be advised, surely: "Hang in there!" Or preferably just turn the hi-fi off.

The committee places stress on the role of "intimidation" in breaking down an orderly community, particularly at universities, but there is no meaningful discussion on the political conditions that give rise to the ferment, and play into the hands of the intimidator.

Closer to home is the admission that black dissatisfaction exists largely because blacks "are not accommodated in the new political decision-making process" (which might be news to Mr Heunis).

The report treads on controversial ground in ascribing the "riots" to factors such as "revolutionary incitement" and (just in case anyone had forgotten) communism. One eminent authority had indisputable proof of a link between the youth organizations AZASUM (sic) and AZASO and the ANC and the SA Communist Party. How this is achieved by black-consciousness organizations such as AZASM (correct acronym) which cam-

more absorbing work ahead for a committee which is reminiscent of Lord Longford's crusade against porn in the Sixties or the Cronje report on undesirable publications in the Fifties — both of which collapsed into history like lead balloons.

The committee attracted 116 written memoranda, plus oral evidence. But, in the nature of things, it is not surprising that a committee of a Nationalist-dominated advisory body which is part of a Parliamentary system rejected by the majority of the population, found that "a certain section of the youth as well as certain organizations were unwilling to testify . . . , some owing to the unrest situation and for fear of intimidation". A bit of "special, in-depth investigation" of the reasons for that might be instructive.

On occasion, the obvious is stressed in a way which suggests some blindingly enlightening moments, such as "during the first two or three years of the child's life maternal care is extremely important", or the quotations on the front page of the Cape Times yesterday.

The committee analyses what it sees as the characteristics of youth in critical detail, finding, for instance, denigration of leadership, an over-emphasis of individual freedom, egocentrism, permissiveness, lack of involvement, breakdown of parental authority, passiveness, an impulsive preoccupation with the "concrete here and now". It concedes that there is a spirit of innovation, for instance, a critical attitude to society, an own lifestyle, a search for the meaning of lives, etc. A brigadier in the Defence Force is used, in part, as an authority on such matters.

There is a heavy debate on "what are moral standards", how they came about and how they are to be preserved, and "What is the responsibility of government with regard to the preservation of moral standards." Plenty, it seems.

Some of the evil forces breaking down moral standards are dealt with, for instance foreign influences (through press, radio, TV and video), "relativism" (traceable to Einstein's theory of relativity, Marx's over-emphasis on material values, Freud's elevation of the sexual urge, Nietzsche's theory that God is dead), and existentialism (potted down to: "man is free to decide for himself on his actions", with the report adding that young people are, thus, more easily "swayed").

The committee sees the era of fascism and nazism as "passed", which some others will challenge, and concentrates its fire on communism. This it describes as "an international political phenomenon which has not disappeared after one or two decades" (hot news to those who thought the Russian revolution was in 1917, seven decades ago).

Then, of course, comes the ritual assertion that the communist onslaught is aimed at the young people, more specifically blacks "in line with the stated goal of a Black republic for South Africa". Black nationalism, we are told, is "abused" by the Marxists. This, presumably, is a "serious deviation".

paigns ideologically against the SACP is difficult to follow.

The United Democratic Front will be interested to know that it is a front for Communist Russia and receives instructions from the Kremlin.

Those who are concerned about the decline of moral standards will be encouraged by the decision of the committee not to deal with social deviations in detail. The report notes that "deviant behaviour is responsible for a considerable percentage of material damage", such as cost of crime, accidents, injudicious spending of money, waste of necessities of life.

There is no initial mercy for the person guilty of deviant behaviour. He should be "brought to book since he is prejudicing the interests of the community . . ." But the report softens: The community should not turn its back on the deviate "in disapproval".

There is much discussion about the major deviations, such as divorce, lack of authority and discipline, permissiveness, promiscuity, breakdown of self-image, lack of involvement, juvenile delinquency, alcohol and drug abuse and, finally, suicide.

Promiscuity is variously defined. It includes "unworthy association", "licentious intercourse", "extra-marital intercourse", or "free licentious association — especially sexual association" and "sexual intercourse with many partners . . ." I think the last mentioned is bang on, with respect to the others.

To clear things up, the committee offers its own definition of promiscuity: "Sexual intercourse without reservation, usually with more than one sexual partner and without consideration of accepted values." This, in the heat of the moment, will be a useful guide to those bordering on promiscuity, assuming they have the report to hand (costing R12,60; and R15,75 overseas).

In contrast to its determination to root out social ills on other fronts, the report seems fatalistic about the oldest profession, noting that, in spite of prohibitions, "the fight against prostitution has never been a success anywhere".

Homosexuality comes in for special treatment, and is described as a "serious social deviation". It sounds nearly as bad as Marxism abusing black nationalism.

Living together out of marriage, which resides under the general head "deviations", has increased by 336 percent in the last decade, which probably says something. But, before jumping in, potential co-habitees should consider a disadvantage listed — the "immorality inherent in such a lifestyle". Juvenile delinquency and alcohol abuse are dealt with in detail, complete with tables, as are many other subjects, and suggested remedies for the sad state of affairs.

The main drift of the report is that the youth can be controlled, improved. Some would argue that South African society must first be made just and that this would lead to an improvement in the quality of life of ALL, including the young. There will be young and older South Africans who will say to the committee: "Thanks for an unmemorable report. Don't call us; we'll call you."

Dedicated to destitute children

By Nana Kutumela

The best way Mrs Duduzile Mofokeng could thank her grandmother for having adopted her was to pledge, on the old woman's deathbed, to spend the rest of her life looking after destitute children.

Mrs Mofokeng (41) is the matron of the Othandweni Family Care Centre in Motolo South, Soweto.

She looks after 80 children ranging from two months to 16 years. She also counsels and looks after unmarried women, battered wives and their children.

She knows what it is like to be an underprivileged child: her parents died after being struck by lightning when she was 12.

"My eldest brother was too young to find work, so my grandmother took us in and schooled us until my brother was at high school.

"It was not easy for her, considering that we were living on our farm in Natal and she had to earn a living from washing white people's clothes," says Mrs Mofokeng.

Her grandmother could not see her all the way through a high school education, and finally her brother took over. The family moved to Durban where Mrs Mofokeng matriculated at the Amanzimtoti College.

"I wanted to do for others what my grandmother had done for me, but on a broader spectrum. When I was 16, I joined the Charles Johnson Memorial Hospital where I trained as a nurse.

"In 1967 I did midwifery after I had spent

three years working in the children's intensive care unit at Nguthu, Natal," she explains.

Mrs Mofokeng felt her qualifications did not give her enough scope to work with children. In 1971 she came to Baragwanath Hospital, Soweto, where she did a one-year diploma course in paediatric nursing.

She returned to Nguthu where she worked for the next two years until marriage commitments forced her to move to Soweto.

Between 1973 and 1983, she was matron at the South African National Tuberculosis Association (SANTA) where she specialised in child-care.

Her 10-year service came to an end when the Johannesburg Child Welfare built the Othandweni home. She has been matron there since the home was opened in 1984.

"Looking after so many children is not easy especially when they are in their teens. Sometimes the human element in me tells me to quit. But the love my granny showed under most difficult circumstances would have also transcended the problems I encounter with my large family," she said.

"Looking after destitute children is a vocation to me. My own children (two sons) may not see enough of me, but at least they know they have a mother who loves them. And they will have to learn to share me with my other bigger family.

"I have got so used to having many children around me that my life would not be made without them. They give me joy and they are a blessing from God," says Mrs Mofokeng.

DUDUZILE MOFOKENG: she knows what it is like to be an underprivileged child.



Picture: RUPHIN COUDYER.

Jo'burg to get lion's share of RSC vote

B/Day (298) 19/6/87
DOMINIQUE GILBERT

JOHANNESBURG will get 48% of the vote in the Central Witwatersrand regional services council (RSC) — while Soweto's vote will be worth only a quarter of that at 12,9%.

Councillor Tony Leon yesterday told the Johannesburg City Council that he had been informed by a management committee chairman of an RSC constituent that the votes apportionment would be — Johannesburg 48%, Roodepoort 13,4%, Sandton 4,7%, Randburg 8,39%, Soweto 12,96%, Alexandra 0,44%, Indian suburbs 1,5% and coloured suburbs 2,11%.

Leon, who described the quota formula as "racist arithmetic", said they ignored the hidden or indirect contributions made by millions of blacks.

"This determination of voting strengths is an unsubtle form of racism, penalising population numbers and rewarding consumption... it can only be explained in terms of a determination to maintain white domination, dressed up as reform," he said.

Leon said total losses from the Soweto rent boycott, if it continued for the next financial year, would be the exact equivalent of the total income of the Central Witwatersrand RSC.

RSCs and the management committee's "cavalier disregard for democratic decency" continued to come under severe criticism from PFP councillors during the city's two-day budget debate.

Numerous PFP speakers said the

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PFP city councillors slam RSCs

committee ruled by "despotism" and did not consider itself answerable to the council or the public.

Leon said committee chairman Francois Oberholzer had "savaged the tentacles of State control" over Johannesburg with the tenacity of "a dead sheep".

And the RSCs, he said, "vest massive powers in a political functionary — the Administrator — answerable only to the man who appoints and removes him, the State President. Thus the entire operation of general affairs in this province and thus this city, vests in a non-representative, non-accountable, non-democratic clique".

The transformation of third-tier government was "constitutional engineering

gone mad", he said.

Councillor David Neppe said the management committee perpetuated apartheid instead of eliminating it by operating on a "we'll-reform-it-later-syndrome".

Neppe mentioned two NP councillors' repeated statements to council that the RSCs were ill-conceived and flawed but who now said they felt the RSCs should be "given a chance".

"It becomes an NP excuse, at all levels, not to do the job right the first time round," he said.

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19/6/87

UDF rejects PC youth report

THE President's Council Social Affairs Committee report on youth should be thrown into the dustbin, UDF publicity secretary Lechesa Tsenoli, said in Durban yesterday.

Tsenoli said the report should be rejected because it was useless and because it would cause confusion among some whites.

The report said the UDF was not only a front for the ANC, but received instructions from the Kremlin.

"The problem is far from being who controls us, which we reject completely, but the issue is that all South Africans have a right to participate democratically in the running of their affairs at all levels."

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End Conscription Campaign spokesman Richard Steele, said the his organisation did not discourage young people from doing military service as alleged in the report.

"This would be against the law and against the principle of freedom of choice, upon which the ECC is founded.

"We are primarily an educational campaign, campaigning for a change in the law so that military service is no longer compulsory. We do not tell conscripts what to do — that is their own choice," he said.

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● See also Pages 3 and 4

'Gobbledygook' plan for re-educating militants

By JEAN LE MAY

intelligence of a Std 8 pupil.

Other highly controversial recommendations of the Nationalist-Party MP Ismail Jajbhay said in the House of Delegates that the NFP did not approve conscription as suggested in the report, but was prepared to negotiate the aspect once there is an equitable system.

Progressive Reform Party leader Pat Poovalingam, speaking in the House of Delegates, said the proposed youth centres would be "similar to re-education centres in communist countries".

The Progressive Federal Party representative on the committee, Robin Carlisle, was the only member who refused to sign the report. He has described it as "gobbledygook and rubbish" which would be a slur on the

An entire section of the report is devoted to the End Conscription Campaign, which is described as "undermining authority".

The trend towards reducing authoritative guidance could promote lack of discipline, it said. The ECC,

which has conducted a "well-planned programme throughout the country", was conducting a propaganda campaign against the SA Defence Force and the SA Police, and its influence should not be underestimated, it added.

The Ministry of Defence said in a written submission to the committee that "young people are being exploited in an attempt to create a revolutionary climate in South Africa".

The committee also recommended stricter censorship to counteract the "negative influence" on young people of violence, sex, drugs, alcohol and "satanism" as depicted by the media, including films and television.

The committee expressed the opinion that some of the music to which young people listen "breaks down standards and has a physically and spiritually demoralising effect".

The report said that the United Democratic Front was, like the African National Congress, not only a front organisation for communist Russia but also received instructions from the Kremlin.

Revolutionary incitement among young people was a contributory cause of the riots in South Africa. "Young people are integrated as 'comrades' into the 'liberation struggle'. Student organisations such as Azasum (sic) and Azaso play a significant role."

Carlisle commented that anyone who grouped Azasum with the ANC displayed "appalling ignorance".

"The report goes inadvertently to the heart of the security problem in South Africa — because it displays an absolute lack of understanding of the causes of the so-called security threat," he said.

LEGISLATION to establish "training and rehabilitation centres" for "intimidators and politically motivated juvenile delinquents" and to make military service compulsory for all races is contemplated by a committee of the President's Council.

The chairman of the Social Affairs Committee, former National Party whip Nic Treurnicht, said he was "quite hopeful" that the most important recommendations of a report tabled this week would become government policy.

Although few President's Council recommendations have reached legislation without substantial amendment, they are acknowledged as a clear guide to government thinking. Legislation frequently follows PC recommendations. It is unlikely, however, that any of the recommendations will be implemented this session.

The report was approved by all committee members sent to the PC by political parties in the House of Representatives and the House of Delegates. However, National People's Party MP Ismail Jajbhay said in the House of Delegates that the NFP did not approve conscription as suggested in the report, but was prepared to negotiate the aspect once there is an equitable system.

Progressive Reform Party leader Pat Poovalingam, speaking in the House of Delegates, said the proposed youth centres would be "similar to re-education centres in communist countries".

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PC CALL FOR YOUTH DISCIPLINE

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The President's Council (PC) committee on social affairs has recommended, among other things, that national service or similar training be extended to all races.

The committee's report, on the "Youth of South Africa," was tabled in the PC this week.

Some of its recommendations are bound to be extremely controversial and are likely to have wide-ranging political and social ramifications if accepted. They include:

□ Stricter censorship to counter the "negative influence" on young people of violence, sex, drugs, alcohol and satanism;

□ The establishment of "training and rehabilitation centres for intimidators and politically-motivated juvenile delinquents" in order not only to "foster in them meaningful ideals, but also to protect orderly and peace-loving members of the community from their acts of intimidation and terror;"

□ The establishment of an education and

training programme with "an anti-Communist drift" to inform young people of the opportunities in business and industry and the public sector;

□ The setting up of "community schools" for early school-leavers where "strict discipline, in-service training and the involvement of young people in the development of the community are emphasised;" and

□ The establishment of a Youth Council to co-ordinate youth programmes and development which will be mapped out in a Youth Strategy, and the formation of a Youth Trust to which both government and the private sector can contribute for the benefit of the Youth Strategy.

The committee, chaired by Nic Treurnicht, has been busy with its investigation since February last year. The report points out that 55,6% of SA's population consists of children or young adults under 24.

The report also claims that:

□ The demand for better education and training among blacks has increased to

such an extent that it is now impossible to meet the demand adequately;

□ There is a tendency towards the abuse of freedom among the youth "which is revealed in the denigration of the leadership of authority and over-emphasis of individual freedom;"

□ Some of the music to which young people listen "breaks down high moral standards" and has a "physically and spiritually demoralising effect;"

□ To a large extent, the riots in SA "have the characteristics of a youth revolution;"

□ The "perception" among young blacks that government places them in an inferior and disadvantaged position in society is, to a large degree, the result of "faulty communication and guidance in respect of the objectives of the authorities. . .";

□ The successes achieved by the End Conscription Campaign should not be underestimated; and

□ The present unrest is "largely a manifestation of a lack of discipline in young people."

PC youth report is 'whacky, out of touch'

By CLARE HARPER
Education Reporter

POLITICAL scientists, sociologists and educationalists yesterday described aspects of the President's Council social affairs committee report on the Youth of South Africa as "whacky ultra-rightist" and "down-right out of touch".

The report, tabled in Parliament this week, makes some highly controversial recommendations including the extension of the call-up for all races, the establishment of "rehabilitation centres" for "intimidators and politically motivated juvenile delinquents" and the establishment of education and training programmes with "an anti-communist drift".

munist drift".

Mr Robin Carlisle, a PFP member of the PC, said he did not think the entire report was "gobbledygook", but was "perfectly sure that the bulk of PC" members were embarrassed about certain aspects of the report.

Professor David Welsh, a department of political studies senior lecturer, said that although he had not read the report in full, the published extracts sounded "like some whacky ultra-rightists have had a field day".

The idea of such re-education camps was "totally abhorrent" and smacked of "Maoism or the Cambodia of Pol Pot"; and on the question of military service for all races, he said, "They can't surely be serious."

Certain aspects of the report,

he said, bore all the hallmarks of "classic conspiracy theory thinking".

A Western Cape Teachers' Union spokesman commented: "The people who need re-education are the ones who make such suggestions. Young people rebel just like the rest of the oppressed community, because they are sick and tired of repression and exploitation."

UCT political scientist Prof Robert Schrire said he tried "not to comment on nonsense" and was "quite sure the report will be completely ignored".

UCT sociology department head Professor Mike Savage looked forward to "using their report as an illustration of how avoidance of the analysis of the roots of inequality in South Africa leads to juvenile and

delinquent reasoning".

Azanian Students' Movement national president Mr Monde Ntwasa said the "government story on communism is an old bogey tale that only the extremely naive would believe".

Contrary to the findings of the report, Mr Ntwasa said that "black people are not influenced by any outsiders, but by Mr P W Botha's regime itself which subjects them to the continual violence of landlessness, abject poverty and dehumanization".

Azasm rejected the "warped" notion the committee had of the organization, and described the notion of extending conscription to blacks as "grossly absurd".

□ Leading article — Page 14

MEMBERS of the President's Council social affairs committee which compiled the report "Youth of South Africa" were not experts, but "listened to people with expert knowledge and studied papers and books", the committee chairman, Mr Nic Treurnicht, said yesterday.

He said the committee consisted of 19 members of whom there were about 10 in the working group.

Mr Treurnicht said that several teachers, including Mr O G Godden and Mr S Mohangi, and an education planner, Mr Fred Backman, were involved in the compilation of the report.

On the committee were also Rand Afrikaans University professor Dr B J Piek, former members of Parliament, a medical practitioner involved in agricultural affairs, and others.

□ Mr Edwin Jackson, who in May this year admitted signing a letter of resignation from the Labour Party "in a moment of weakness and while under the influence of liquor", was also a member of the committee.

Other members of the committee are: Mr R Carlisle, Mr E R Gorden, Mr I N Jajbhay, Mrs M E Kemp, the Hon H B Klopper, Mrs A C Routier, Mr S P Shilkin, Mr A W Tiry, Mr J M van Aswegen, Mr P A van der Merwe and Mr J J N van der Westhuyzen.

Music satanism 'an old wives' tale'

A PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL report irreconcilable with normal marriage" that certain music listened to by young people used "elements of satanism" was dismissed yesterday by a UCT music educationist as "an old wives' tale".

Dr M Rink said there was no evidence to suggest that pop music was bad for children.

"I think that is an unsubstantiated and hare-brained story."

Sociologists and educationists said that aspects of the report, particularly those dealing with "social deviations", were outdated, ludicrous and "dumbfounding".

The report recommended stricter censorship to counter the "negative influence" on young people of violence, sex, drugs, alcohol and satanism as depicted by the media, including films and television.

Among other examples of social deviation, the report describes homosexuality as "a serious social deviation

and "living together" as immoral.

The head of the Department of Sociology at UCT, Professor Mike Savage, said yesterday "Judging from the excerpts of the President's Council report, it appears that its social affairs committee has collectively taken leave of its senses".

The report tabled in Parliament on Wednesday by the committee for social affairs on the youth of South Africa, said evidence collected by the committee was critical of media material, especially on television, which contained, among other things, music which broke down high moral standards.

The report said that evidence presented showed that certain types of music had "physically and spiritually demoralizing effects" and certain music used "elements of satanism to alienate the Christian listener from his faith".

Child abusers unlikely to get parole

KROONSTAD — People serving jail sentences for child abuse would in future not be entitled to parole although special cases would still be considered, the Minister of Justice, Mr Kobie Coetsee, announced yesterday.

Speaking at a passing out parade of prison warders, he said one of the most tragic aspects of the increasing number of convictions for violence were assaults on or abuse of defenceless children.

These deeds filled one with horror and the first reaction was that those found guilty should be severely punished.

The courts, however, had the necessary machinery and it should be left up to them to judge each case on its merits.

It was possible for sentences to include compulsory weekend community duty, such as working in a hospital's casualty section.

“Recently in the United States a convicted man was sentenced to display a sticker on his car which read: ‘Be careful, stay away — I am a child basher.’”

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Child abuse

● From Page 1

“There is no reason why such sentences could not also be promoted in South Africa,” Mr Coetsee said.

Over the seven years up to June 1986, there had been 1 502 convictions for child abuse in South Africa.

There were clearly many more cases which did not come to the attention of the authorities, and more public involvement was needed to bring the culprits to book.

Prevention in the social and economic spheres was the correct way to solve child abuse but from the legal side, he, as the Minister responsible, had authority over certain categories of parole for prisoners.

“I have therefore decided that people convicted and sentenced to prison terms for such crimes will from now on not be entitled to parole.”

“Each case will be specially considered by myself, however, and I might decide to refer some of them to the Release Advisory Board,” Mr Coetsee said — Sapa

29/12/86 20/1/87

A REPORT commissioned by a United Nations body has revealed disturbing reasons for the transformation of South African children into executioners.

It paints a frightening picture of how children — some younger than 10 years — are caught up in conflict, both as victims and perpetrators of violence.

The study, entitled "Children in South Africa", was researched and written by two Cape Town academics, Professor Francis Wilson and Dr Mamphele Ramphile.

The authors say the "portraying spectacle" of children executing people by "neck-lacing" was brought about by children being thrust into the

Tragedy of children pushed into conflict front line

By SYBRAND MOSTERT

"similar to those committed during the Khmer Rouge reign of terror".

front line of a "determined and violent struggle for change" — a struggle in which age appeared to be irrelevant in street confrontations, as well as detentions.

With so much historical weight placed on such young shoulders, they warn, there is a danger of raising a generation of black children capable of perpetrating atrocities

Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

Sketching a background to the conflict which erupted on the country's streets 11 years ago, the report lists "inequalities" within South African society which were responsible for the ignition of the "powder keg" in June 1976.

The lack of political, economic and social power was experienced by a very large proportion of black South

African men, said the authors. This "inferiority complex" was perceived by the child, who lost respect for his elders.

They cited a "racist, separatist philosophy" underlying the Government's policy of "Christian National Education" which was introduced more than 30 years ago.

Although much had

changed since then, people remained suspicious of the goals of "Bantu" and "coloured" education.

To complete a vicious circle, said the authors, it was found that education offered absolutely no guarantee of work — except for the lucky few.

The turmoil of the past 10 years had begun as a peaceful demonstration against the language component of the black children's syllabus, said the report.

The children had won that battle — "but in the process they brought down upon their heads the armed wrath of the State which, in reacting so violently to the protests, escalated the confrontation to an entirely new level".

Said the authors, "There is no doubt that the harsh repressive measures by the State led to an increasingly desperate search by school-children to find effective

means of changing the structures in which they were trapped."

Referring to what this "State Violence" achieved, the two academics turned to the "horrifying spectacle of children summarily executing informers, collaborators and sometimes merely political opponents — by means of the 'necklace' method."

"Growing concern is not only expressed at the barbaric

in nature of the deaths suffered by the victims of the 'necklace', but more at the long-term consequences of these acts on the children who are the executioners."

"The loss of innocence that flows from these acts is a human tragedy, the full cost of which remains to be counted."

The report called for the creation of an independent, non-governmental Children's Institute to co-ordinate and expand the already mushrooming number of private

initiatives (some with partial State support) seeking to come to grips with some of the problems facing children

● The Medical Association of South Africa has meanwhile announced a draft code of conduct for the treatment of children in detention.

Main points are: — ● Guidelines for the interrogation and holding of children.

● Creation of a special police unit to deal with children. ● All children should be tried in a children's court, not held for longer than two days and should have access to parents, legal representa-

Report on SA youth sparks chaos

By NORMAN WEST and
GEORGE MAHADEER

THE President's Council report on South African youth has created confusion as signatories scramble to distance themselves from its more drastic recommendations.

At the centre of the dispute is a key recommendation by the Social Affairs Committee's report, tabled this week, that compulsory military service be extended to all race groups.

In a bizarre turn of events:

- One of the Indian signatories has admitted he had not understood a word of the report because it was in Afrikaans.
- Labour Party members on the council have attacked their colleagues for signing the report with its far-reaching conscription clause.
- In an unprecedented move, the Labour Party has written to the chairman of the President's Council to distance the party from the report, signed by one of their own members.
- The Progressive Federal Party member of the committee took the unusual step of not even signing the report because it was "gobbledegook".

Tough

The controversial report by the Social Affairs Committee takes a tough line against sexuality and violence in the media and films; calls for re-education camps for "intimidators and politically motivated juvenile delinquents"; suggests an extension of compulsory military or other national service to all race groups and calls for "anti-communist" instruction for pupils.

Now committee member Rajaram Mohangi of the National People's Party admits he signed the report without understand-

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Chaos in PC

□ From Page 1

ing it — because he had seen others doing so. Mr Mohangi, a retired schoolteacher and sugarcane farmer, said "The whole report was in Afrikaans. I don't read or understand the language. "I didn't care to ask anyone what it was all about I saw the other members signing, so I did the same". But Mr Arnichand Rajbansi, the NPP leader and a member of Mr P W Botha's Cabinet, said the signing of the report by Mr Mohangi without his understanding its contents was "not a serious matter".

"This has happened in the past when members signed documents and later made their feelings known.

He emphasised, however, that the NPP was against military conscription for Indians.

On Friday the NP supported the LP motion while the LP supported the controversial report which was accepted by 34 votes to eight — among the latter two dissident members of the Labour Party.

First for some

A MULTI-RACIAL group of 32 children aged between eight and 18 leave Johannesburg for Durban today on the first weekend trip organised by "We Care", an organisation who aims to provide holidays for underprivileged children.

In a release issued on Wednesday, "We Care" said the group would travel to Umhlanga Rocks. For many of the youngsters it will be their first holiday ever.

"One of the aims of the 'We Care' Foundation is to give deprived children of all races a chance to broaden their horizons and to enjoy a carefree holiday away from their homes and institutions - often dreary environments from which they have never ventured," the release said.

The Anglo American and De Beers Chairman's Fund has donated the first R20 000 for the project.

The board of trustees include Emsie Schoeman, chairperson of Kontak, Sally Motlana, president of the Black Housewives' League, and Bishop Reginald Orsmonde, Catholic Bishop of Johannesburg. - Sapa.

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THE transcripts from the tapes have the eerie feel of nightmare. Matter-of-factly, the voices tell of scenes which would not be at all out of place in a South American banana republic.

Take this one: "They swung me for a very long time and I was tossed right up and I came down, tumbling. I think they did this about twice or thrice.

"There I went flying and back to the floor, and I would always try to break the impact of the floor, but I would always fall — I mean, either fall on my back, fall on my head, and so on . . .

"It's very easy for one to break your leg, to break your neck, to break your arm, but they used it, and whenever you tried to break that fall, you'd fall in a more awkward way and you'd start screaming.

"They" would laugh,

look at you and say: "Ag, hy's nie net 'n student leier nie, hy's ook 'n akrobaat.

"You see . . . the amount of pressure they are putting on you, the amount of punishment they are meting out, for the first time in your life you are subjected to this type of torture.

"But to them it's something quite simple, something to laugh about, they'd so much got used to torture, that they are no longer feeling themselves when they mete it to another person.

"Surely, even yourself, you can be a coward but when you see a person hitting another person, hitting him with a kierie, even see blood flowing at one stage or another, you try to intervene, because you can't expect one person to deliver that type of treatment or that type of torture to another human being . . ."

At this point the questioner asks. "Did this horrify you at the time?"

"It really did. I was shocked in fact. I thought perhaps one of them would say, 'No man, it's enough, this fellow has had enough,' but no, there was nothing like that.

"They were so unanimous in this agreement of theirs, torture after torture . . .

"When you are tired you can no longer stand up, then they themselves would lift you up, one would hold you this side, and one would hold you

TORTURE

TONY SPENCER-SMITH looks at the first detailed academic study of the treatment of political detainees in South Africa. Entitled *Detention and Torture in South Africa; psychological, legal and historical studies*, it was published by David Philip in 1985 and talks of conditions prior to 1985.

this side and one of them came with one of these big rifles of theirs, and they would start *stomping* on your foot with the butt, just like that."

This is not some luckless Chilean talking, or a person who has fallen into the hands of the notorious Greek military junta: it is one of more than 150 South African former detainees interviewed in the only major empirical study of detention conducted in this country, two decades after detention without trial became a permanent feature of the SA legal system.

The interviews were conducted before the declaration of the first state of emergency in 1985

The study was led by Don Foster, associate professor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Cape Town, with research assistance from Diane Sandler and legal contributions from Dennis Davis, associate law professor at UCT.

It gives a horrific

glimpse of the dark underworld of white power, where terror and pain are used to maintain the political status quo

It is a haunted basement into which most whites would far prefer not to look. In fact, if they talk about it at all, it is usually to deny it exists.

But it would be difficult for any reasonable person to read *Detention and torture in South Africa* and not be deeply disturbed.

Books

The book is written by Foster, with the exception of some legal sections by Davis.

When, in late 1985, the main findings were released in a preliminary report, the police vigorously denied them, and no less than three Cabinet Ministers — including the then Minister of Law and Order, Louis le Grange — lashed out at the researchers. Mr le Grange said

• Only 13.7 percent of Section 29 detainees between 1982 and 1985 had reported complaints or laid charges of assault, so the researchers' figures must be wrong, and in none of these cases of alleged assault had the allegations been proved in a court of law.

• The report was "thoroughly subjective and politically biased", its sole purpose being to "bring into disrepute and under suspicion the government, the security police and the system of security legislation."

But in the book — the first full report on the study — Foster says the findings "cannot be dismissed on scientific, political or any other

"Findings with respect to interrogation practices and treatment of security detainees are quite clear, if thoroughly unpleasant.

"Torture, in terms of both physical and psychological abuse, is thoroughly unpleasant.

"Torture, in terms of both physical and psychological abuse, is relatively standard procedure."

Foster writes that physical torture was claimed in no less than 83 percent of the cases of detention dealt with, despite numerous claims by the authorities that no torture occurs in prisons, police stations and security police headquarters

"The most frequent form of torture (75 percent), was beating, which included punching, hitting, kicking, slapping as well as beating and whipping with a variety of implements, and other forms of assault.

"The next three most frequently reported forms of physical abuse were forced standing (50 percent), maintaining abnormal body positions, which included crouching, standing on toes with arms upstretched, holding chairs or other objects above the head, and holding a position as if sitting in an imaginary chair (34 percent), and forced gymnasium-type exercises (28 percent).

"In addition 25 percent reported having been subjected to electric shock, 18 percent to strangulation either by hand or by means of a cloth or towel, and 14 percent to suspension in various forms

"Other forms of physical torture were reported by 27 percent of cases

"Hand analysis of these other descriptions revealed the following most frequent forms of abuse: Manacling (including handcuffs), legs constantly chained and chains placed round neck (15 percent); pulling out

you. It's indescribable, it really is like a huge punch in the stomach."

A researcher asked another former detainee: "How did you feel when you were left alone in the cell?"

The reply: "Well, for the first time it is very different, because there are so many questions that you are asking yourself, what wrong have I done, how long am I going to stay here.

beard (five percent); genital abuse (three percent); placing pins or needles under feet or into the body (three percent); use of cold-air fan (three percent); and falanga, which involves beating on the soles of the feet with some implement (three percent).

"A further range of abuses was reported by one or more cases and included: Being wrapped in canvas, kept barefoot, having burning matchsticks placed under nails, or sand in shoes while doing exercises, being thrown into the air and allowed to fall, given salted water to drink, having hands cut with knife, being placed in boot of car, having nose twisted, fingernails crushed by a brick, petrol poured over body and set alight, or breasts squeezed, being hurled out of a moving car, tied to a tree, and scrubbed on face and body with a hard brush.

"Even this substantial list does not entirely exhaust the range of abuses reported."

Detainees

Such statistics are useful, but they do not convey as much as the descriptions given by detainees.

Said one. "In fact when they applied the electric shocks I felt as if some muscles were moving away from my body, and because of a certain thing that they put on my private parts — it was as if they were tearing apart and I'd sweat all of a sudden.

What is it like for someone who finds himself alone for the first time in this subterranean world? Said one person who was held at Cape Town's Caledon Square:

"I think that it is probably, if you take the interrogation and detention as a total reality, it is probably one of the most traumatic moments in the whole, that moment of being locked up, being thrown into a cell and that door

CRK Times 22/6/97

(22/6/97)

Child detentions: Masa publishes code of conduct

By SHAUNA WESTCOTT

A CODE of conduct for the treatment of children in detention has been published by the Medical Association of South Africa (Masa), which intends putting pressure on the government to give it the force of law.

"Fourteen thousand of the 18 000 doctors in the country are Masa members and there's going to be pressure to get statutory protection for children," drafter of the code Dr O J Ransome said yesterday.

Dr Ransome, who teaches at Wits University and is an executive member of the Paediatric Association, described the code as "a bill of rights for kids who run foul of the State".

He said the code, published in a supplement to the association's

magazine, was "our statement against the current emergency regulations".

"We are absolutely against anyone, let alone children, being held without charge," he said.

One of the key points of the code is that no child should be imprisoned for longer than two days without a court order.

Another is that a report clearly stating why it was deemed necessary to arrest the child should be available within 24 hours of the arrest for scrutiny by parents, legal representatives and child welfare officers.

An important proposal is that no child should be interrogated other than in the presence of their parents, guardian or a legal representative.

The code proposes the creation of special police units trained to handle children and urges policemen arresting children to

act "with the utmost discretion and gentleness" to minimize the trauma of the experience for the child.

It says children awaiting trial should be released into the care of their parents and imprisoned children should be segregated from adults. All children should be tried in a children's court and a probation officer's report should be mandatory.

The code includes detailed advice about adequate environment and facilities — including education, recreation, medical and psychological care and liaison with parents.

"If the State decides to remove a child from its home environment where its chances for growth are optimal, then it is the responsibility of the State to ensure that the environment it provides is conducive to growth," Dr Ransome said.

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More children abandoned

JOHANNESBURG — A dramatic increase in cases of children being abandoned by their mothers has been noted in the Pretoria region over the past seven months.

Mrs Linda Nell, director of Child and Family Welfare in Pretoria, said that in 1986 there had been 10 reported cases of children being deserted by their mothers.

This year the incidents had increased to an average of three a month with the largest percentage of children being abandoned by coloured or black mothers. Two white women abandoned their children last year. — Sapa

THE potential consequences for child political offenders held under the Internal Security Act are "very disturbing" as the Act makes no special provision for children, says the Medical Association of South Africa.

This is stated in a manual entitled *Children in Places of Detention: A Code for their Handling*, prepared by the South African Paediatric Association for Masa, and inserted in the latest issue of the *South African Medical Journal*.

In the preamble to the eight-page manual, Masa said the code's purpose was "to lay down a set of rules for the handling of all children in detention of which we as South Africans may be proud".

The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, was studying the code his Press spokesman, Brigadier Leon Mellet, said yesterday.

Ideal state

Masa said it believed the code represented the "ideal state of affairs" regarding the detention of children, but realised it would take time and effort to achieve it.

The code lists four Acts: the Prisons Act, the Child Care Act, the Criminal Procedure Act and the Internal Security Act, under which children, which Masa defines as youths between seven and 18, may be imprisoned.

Of the Internal Security Act, Masa said: "This Act, which deals with 'terrorism', 'subversion', 'sabotage' and 'communism', gives wide powers to the Minister and to the police.

"Children are not granted any special protection in terms of this legislation, physically, mentally or legally.

"The potential consequences for child political offenders are therefore very disturbing."

In a section on children and detention generally, Masa said the State assumed an "awesome responsibility" when it removed children from their homes, parents and schools.

"This responsibility is the greater when one considers the possible ill-effects, including the physical, psychological, emotional and criminalising effects of detention. The purpose of this document is to emphasise and categorise these responsibilities.

"While it is most regrettable that any child should fall foul of the law, it is recognised that

childhood delinquency exists and that the State is obliged to act for the protection of society.

"This obligation, however, includes that of minimising the ill-effects of detention and of rehabilitating the delinquents"

Masa said the primary purpose of detention must be to provide an environment for development which was superior, in the view of the courts, to that of the child's home.

"The juvenile delinquent must in fact be regarded as 'a child in need of care'."

It continued: "The concept of detention as a retributive punishment is totally without justification for children. Protection of society by detention of a child is only justifiable if every effort is made to return the child better able to take a full place in society"

Traumatic

On arrest procedure, Masa said "In view of the possible traumatic consequences of arrest, consideration should be



ADRIAAN Vlok . . . studying the code.

Masa guideline on detained kids

FOCUS

given to the creation of special police units with special training, to deal with children"

No child, whatever the circumstances, should be held in detention without being charged for longer than two days unless a court order existed

On interrogation procedure, Masa said no child should be questioned by the police without

his or her parent, guardian or legal representative being present

Masa said it was essential that magistrates and commissioners be made "fully aware" of the ill-effects of imprisonment of children "The younger the child, the more appropriate should the sentence be with regard to the child's development."

TUESDAY, 23 JUNE 1987

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"(i) The funeral shall take place on SATURDAY the 31st day of JANUARY 1987 between the hours 10h00 and 13h00. All proceedings in connection with the funeral including the service in the PHILLIP SMITH HALL, and the burial in the CEMETERY must be completed between the abovementioned hours.

(vii) That all people attending the burial shall leave the CEMETERY immediately after the conclusion of the burial and in an orderly manner".

Children detained

(ii) The number of persons attending the funeral shall not exceed 250

(iii) Only the ordained ministers, to wit, the Rev Mei of the Methodist Church, Thabong and the Rev Thothahemajoe of the Assemblies of God, Thabong are allowed to conduct the burial service and to be speakers in the PHILLIP SMITH HALL and at the burial in the CEMETERY

(iv) The bodies of the two deceased are to be transported from their home to the PHILLIP SMITH HALL and from there to the CEMETERY, by mechanically driven vehicles only

(v) The cortège as a whole and at all relevant times during the proceedings shall consist of motor vehicles only and no pedestrians shall form part of the funeral procession

(vi) The hearses carrying the bodies of the deceased and the funeral procession as a whole, shall follow the shortest possible route from the home of the deceased to the PHILLIP SMITH HALL and to the CEMETERY.

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

*31 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether any children as defined in the Child Care Act, No 74 of 1983, were being detained in the Republic as at 10 June 1987, if so, (a) how many children who were under the age of (i) 18 and (ii) 16 were being detained as at the above date or the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) at what places were they being held?

In commencing I wish to point out that the hon member gave no indication to which category of detainees he refers. Therefore I furnish particulars in respect of children who were in detention on criminal charges.

Yes

(a) (i) 51 children.

(ii) 190 children

(b) At different places in the Republic

Note. I want to point out to the hon member that these persons were detained only to ensure their presence in court and because of the seriousness of the reasons for their detention, it was not feasible to detain them in places of safety, or to release them on bail, or to hand them to their parents or custodians.

Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, do I understand him correctly that his definition of "detention" refers simply and solely to criminal charges?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, I have just replied to the question that the hon member put on the Question Paper. If he wants any further particulars, I am prepared to try to help him, but then he must table his question, please.

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Mr R M BURROWS: Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, do I understand that his definition of "detention" refers exclusively to criminal charges? If not, then the definition of "detention" is a broad one

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, as I have said, I replied to the question the hon member put to me. If he wants further information he must please put his questions on the Question Paper

Education money: financing formula

*32. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of National Education:

(1) Whether a certain common financing formula for the allocation of education moneys, particulars of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, is available for public information; if not, why not

(2) whether he is obliged to (a) table and (b) publish any general policy on education, if so, (i) in terms of what statutory provisions and (ii) what is this policy,

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

†The MINISTER OF NATIONAL EDUCATION:

(1) No. General financing formulae for education have already been drafted, but have not been formalised as general education policy, as certain parties concerned still have to be consulted. Although these formulae are already being used as an interim frame of reference for the calculation of the education budget, these formulae will be announced later as part of general education policy.

(2) (a) and (b) Yes.

(i) Section 2 (2A) of the National Policy of General Education Affairs Act, 1984 (Act No. 76 of 1984)

(ii) Policy on any matter referred to in section 2 (1) of the said Act.

(3) No

Khayelitsha: housing

*33. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) What was the estimated number of persons living at Khayelitsha in (a) conventional or starter-core housing and (b) informal or squatter-type housing or tents as at the latest specified date for which information is available,

(2) whether the development of Khayelitsha differs in any way from the original development plan announced in March 1984, if so, (a) why, (b) in what respect, (c) (i) when was it decided to deviate from the original plan and (ii) who took this decision and (d) what will be the effects of these deviations on the economic viability of Khayelitsha,

(3) whether any members of the Black community were consulted in regard to changes in this development plan, if not, why not, if so, (a) what persons were consulted, (b) why were they chosen to be consulted, (c) when were they consulted and (d) what were their views;

(4) whether a new development or structure plan for Khayelitsha has been drawn up, if not, why not, if so, (a) (i) by whom and (ii) when was it drawn up, (b) who was consulted in the matter, (c) how does it differ from the original plan and (d) where can copies of this plan be obtained by members of the public?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING:

(1) (a) ±36 000.

(b) ±100 000. 15 June 1987

(2) Yes.

(a) To accommodate the increasing number of squatters in the Peninsula area.

Mixed reaction to detained children code

Political Staff

MOST of the provisions of a Medical Association of South Africa (Masa) code for the treatment of children in detention were already being applied by the authorities, according to three Ministers.

This was stated today in a joint statement by Dr W A van Niekerk, the Minister of National Health, Mr Adriaan Vlok (Law and Order) and Mr Kobie Coetsee (Justice).

The code has been published in a supplement to the South African Medical Journal and Masa is pressing for statutory protection for children.

The Ministers' statement said officials of their departments had deliberated with Masa before the publication.

Code "just tinkering"

"From the discussions it became apparent that most of the provisions which form part of the code are already being carried out as part of the various departmental policies."

The Argus Correspondent in Johannesburg reports that a

spokesman for the Detainees Parents Support Committee (DPSC) said the code was "tinkering" and did not address the real issue.

He said the DPSC was totally opposed to any suggestion that the detention of children could be made acceptable by improving prison conditions.

"The Medical Association should be calling for the total abolition of detention of children without trial — and of everyone else," he said.

Special unit urged

He described the code, which laid down guidelines for the arrest, detention and physical conditions of detainees under 18, as "Band-Aid stuff".

Mrs Ethel Walt of the Black Sash welcomed the code and said it was long overdue.

"This is an enlightened step for the Medical Association and one we have campaigned for for years," she said.

Commenting on the code's proposal to create a special police unit trained to handle children, Mrs Walt said she hoped these would differ from the ordinary police.

CMG Times
Wednesday, June 24, 1987 ★

Vlok: Torture claims a plot 'by dissidents'

THE Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said yesterday that dissidents had planned a new campaign of "false, unfounded and exaggerated" allegations of torture and brutality designed to undermine the security forces.

"We are again to be made out as torturers, vicious and violent," Mr Vlok told coloured police recruits at a parade in Bishop Lavis.

He said police had information that dissidents planned to attack the credibility of the police with charges of torture and brutality.

"To try to prove their case, so-called witnesses will again be produced, most of them with untested and one-sided allegations. It is a pity these false, unfounded and exaggerated stories are spread into the world," he said.

Lawyers and civil-rights groups have recorded hundreds of affidavits and statements alleging that police tortured blacks detained without charge under a year-old state of emergency.

Allegations by children, adults and priests have included whipping, electric shocks, suffocation, teargassing in confined spaces and assault with bricks, sticks and batons.

State of emergency restrictions prohibit the publication of allegations against the police without the permission of a magistrate, even when the charges are made in court evidence.

In a related development, Mr Vlok and other cabinet ministers yesterday rejected proposals by the independent Medical Association on the treatment of children in political detention and in prison.

The Medical Association published its code in the Medical Journal last week.

The code emphasized the "awesome responsibility" of detaining children without charge.

It urged authorities not to hold any child for more than two days without bringing charges and to ensure that every child is returned to the care of its parents as soon as possible.

Other proposals included a prohibition on interrogation without parents and lawyers present and the formation of a unit specially trained to deal with children.

"At present," the association said, "children are not granted any special protection in terms of (security) legislation physically, mentally or legally.

"The potential consequences... are very disturbing."

Mr Vlok and other ministers involved with prison administration said the code was unnecessary.

"Most of the provisions which form part of the code are already being carried out," they said in a statement released in Cape Town.

Mr Vlok has acknowledged in Parliament that up to 300 children under 16 years of age have been in detention for 30 days or more at any one time.

Civil-rights groups including the Detainees' Parents Support Committee say that children up to 17 years old account for up to 40% of the estimated 30 000 people held without charge for periods of a few days to a year.

Children detained under emergency rule are sometimes held with adult prisoners. They have no right of access to parents or lawyers and there is no formal limit on how long they can be held. — UPI

It's the younger ones who need most attention

It has always seemed to me strange that, in 10 years of Establishment waiting and gnashing of teeth about the low educational standards of 16-year-old school-leavers, so little has been heard about school beginners.

Five-year-olds are the raw material with which the teachers, who are so often blamed for all our national ills, have to work.

And, while politicians and educationists have concentrated on secondary schools, there has been a startling growth in the already large body of evidence corroborating the old Jesuit maxim, "Give me a child for the first seven years, and you may do what you like with him afterwards."

Indeed, much modern research suggests that the Jesuits could safely part with their charges even earlier, and that teachers may have only a slim chance of turning an untutored, five-year-old sow's ear into a silk purse. The Har-

vard Pre-School Project concluded in 1979, after a 14-year study of the development of children from six months to six years, that the magic age was as young as three.

"To get to the heart of the matter," wrote Burton L. White and his Harvard team, "it appears that a first-rate educational experience during the first three years of life is required if a person is to develop his or her full potential. While excellent early development does not guarantee lifelong excellent development, poor progress in the early years seems to be remarkably difficult to overcome."

William Fowler, professor of applied psychology at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, looked down the telescope the other way and declared he could not find a single individual of high ability who had not experienced this "intensive early stimulation."

Compared with North Americans, British educationists

She

have been largely sceptical about the value of pre-school education and British politicians have missed the point of it, regarding it as an optional aid for working mothers rather than a vital resource for growing brains. With the publication this month by the Oxford University Press of Osborn and Milbank's book, *The Effects of Early Education*, these attitudes must surely change. For this is the first British study to show conclusively that nursery schools and playgrounds give children a lasting educational advantage.

Based on data from the national Child Health and Education Study of all the children born in Britain in one week during 1970, plus a 1975 survey of all pre-school institutions and a battery of tests on the children



Pre-school children are a precious national resource ... but do we pay enough attention to their educational needs?

at five and 10 years, the study offers a unique evaluation of Britain's eccentric and haphazard arrangements for the under-fives. The policy implications are often surprising.

For example, small playgrounds run from somebody's dining-room consistently produced the best results, and nursery classes tacked onto primary schools — currently the favoured technique for improving our notoriously skimpy state-provided nursery education —

consistently produced the worst.

Local authority nursery schools, as opposed to classes, were seen to perform creditably after allowing for the fact that they specialise in poor and problem children. (There are so few places that there is only room for "priority" cases) Children did not learn to be- have particularly well there, but they did learn to think. At 10, they were still well ahead of non-attenders in reading and maths. Osborn and Milbank found

that any sort of early education is better than none, but before local authorities use this book as an excuse to close nursery schools and disperse the expensive trained staff, and opt for sponsoring cheap playgrounds using free labour (mothers) instead, they should heed the researchers' warning: well-educated, middle-class mothers may be able to make the most of a playground with a small number of well-adjusted children, but the hard cases in state nursery schools need trained staff who can

compensate for the children's inauspicious background.

Above all, we must urgently review the way that nursery classes are run. If they are treating three-year-olds like five-year-olds, as Osborn and Milbank suspect, it is no wonder they fail. Neurophysiologists and psychologists now believe the brain of a child passes through distinct stages associated with specific kinds of learning, after which it will never be easy — may even be impossible — to mas-

ter these things. Thus, missing the boat with say, language in infancy may mean missing the boat for life.

Primary teachers have been ticked off by headmistresses and college tutors for teaching five-year-olds to read, because "the first year school is for teaching children to relate to one another." Goodness, did Maria Montessori not teach children to do both these things, and more besides at an earlier age back in the early 1900s?

Courting disaster for children?

21 Day

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NEW LEGISLATION to provide "children's advocates" in divorce cases involving minor children will be difficult to implement, lawyers and social workers warn.

While they welcome the idea of children's advocates to protect the interests of children involved in divorces, they point out several problems contained in the new law.

The Mediation in Certain Divorce Matters Bill, providing for these children's advocates as well as "family counsellors," has been passed by Parliament and is soon to be signed into law.

However, the new law does not, for example, provide for payment for the services of the children's advocates, nor does it issue guidelines on the cases in which they will be employed. And some social workers warn that the existing manpower shortage could be worsened by new demands for this type of service.

The legislation is the result of a study by the Law Commission of family courts internationally, including the US, New Zealand and Australia.

One of the reasons for apprehension, say lawyers, is that a family advocate is effectively a feature of a family court system. But, as yet, this system has not become law. The family advocate will have to operate within the existing court structure meanwhile, for which his role is not ideally suited.

In terms of the Divorce Act of 1979, it is mandatory for the judicial officer to call for a social welfare report if he is not satisfied

that the minor children's best interests are catered for. It would appear, say lawyers, that this provision has not worked adequately, and therefore the family advocate concept has been introduced by the legislature.

The family advocate will represent the interests of minor children, although only at quite an advanced stage of divorce proceedings. He can also initiate an inquiry into the case, appear at trial, lead evidence and generally expose aspects of the case which may otherwise have been neglected.

Public Service

He is to be appointed by the Minister of Justice, from the public service, and must hold an LL.B. Essential details of the criteria for his selection are not provided, except that the "family advocate should be experienced by virtue of his involvement in family matters".

One lawyer said the question to be asked is: where is he to gain experience for this role before the establishment of a family court?

"It is unlikely that a person with the necessary qualifications (in the public service) would have gained the necessary experience; it is perhaps just as unlikely that an experienced advocate, used to matrimonial cases and practising for his own account, would consider assuming this office."

No mention is made of how the family advocate is to be paid or whether his services will be re-

quired on an *ad hoc* or permanent basis.

HELEN WISHART

The Minister of Justice may also appoint a "family counsellor" at each Supreme Court division to assist the family advocate with the inquiry. No details are given as to whether this person will come from a welfare or other organisation, what his qualifications must be or what his role will be.

There are no guidelines for how, when or where the inquiry will be conducted.

There is, however, provision for payment of the family counsellor: The State is entitled to recover the cost of the counsellor from the parties to the proceedings.

"This aspect draws attention to two issues the legislation has not only failed to address, but which have been worsened, legal costs and the length of time taken to resolve bitter divorce matters," said a senior counsel.

She suggested that the legislation was apparently aimed at undefended divorce cases. "In cases where opposing parties are contesting who should look after the children, the question of the interests of minor children are thoroughly aired. Child psychologists, psychiatrists and social welfare workers are involved in the proceedings," she said.

At present in undefended matters, the presiding officer only

hears one side of the story, put forward by the plaintiff's advocate.

She questioned whether there was any data on the size of the problem being addressed by the legislature and whether any survey had been done of the number of children whose interests might have been inadvertently neglected by the court in past divorce cases. Susan Bedi, University of the Witwatersrand academic, stressed the need for greater co-operation between the legal and social welfare professions: "There is much conflict between the two, due to a mutual lack of understanding of the respective roles of the professions."

Understanding

"There is a greater need to educate students following these careers; for example, law and social work students could benefit from closer participation in one another's law and social welfare clinics. This would provide direct exposure to the respective roles and services to be rendered."

She suggested the appointment of a family advocate and a family counsellor from these two spheres might facilitate a better understanding of the complementary services that each representative could play.

Pam Rutter, director, Family Life Centre, and Roberta Johnstone, Women's Legal Status Committee, agreed the legislation provided some positive steps along a difficult route to create a functional,

constructive arena for the resolution of matrimonial disputes. The emphasis is on achieving the least traumatic resolution possible.

A Child Welfare worker highlighted the problem relating to insufficient manpower. Others involved in family welfare work suggested the law will worsen, not ease, the manpower situation.

They agreed that, often, only young and inexperienced social workers are available to provide court. Meanwhile, experienced staff perform administrative tasks not requiring "family" expertise.

As a possible solution to this shortage it was suggested that perhaps those (registered) experienced social workers presently their own families, could be drawn into active service when the new legislation is implemented.

A lawyer said: "Only time can tell whether the problems at which the legislation is ostensibly aimed will be positively alleviated. It may be that the new provisions speed up the process towards an establishment of a fully fledged family court system."

"Alternatively, if practical problems which arise (as the result of the introduction of a 'token' of the envisaged system) assume overriding importance, we can but hope for a 'return to the drawing board' for the reassessment of those methods by which the courts can cope with the growing problems attendant on South African matrimonial disputes."

Child abuse register not updated

298

EP
25/6/87

A CHILD abuse register to enable his department to keep track of children and their abusers had not been kept up to date, the Minister of the Budget and Welfare, Dr Dawie de Villiers, said yesterday.

Replying to debate on his welfare portfolio budget vote, he said the handling of child abuse was very difficult because it was mainly perpetrated by people who were psychiatric cases.

In 1980, his department had instituted a child abuse register, for statistical purposes, but also to keep track of the incidence and spread of it in an area.

He had found that the register was not properly kept, as there was no law to compel people to keep the register properly.

He called on child and welfare organisations as well as medical people to keep the register.

Dr De Villiers said he had instructed his department to investigate liaising with the South African Medical and Dental Council to set up panels to keep track of child abuse.

● Twenty cases of child abuse in Bloemfontein since January have come to the attention of three social workers of the Society for Child and Family Care in the city, said Mrs Marina Loubser, public relations officer for the society.

Launching the annual winter fundraising campaign in Bloemfontein yesterday, she said that in addition, cases that involved Children's Court proceedings have risen from 32 in 1982 to 42 in the past year. — Sapa.

598 8/18 5/16/87

Surge in number of abandoned children in Pretoria

Pretoria Correspondent

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of young babies and toddlers being abandoned or lost by their mothers in Pretoria during the past seven months.

Mrs Linda Nell, director of Child and Family Welfare in Pretoria, said an average of three children a month were abandoned. The largest percentage were abandoned by black and coloured mothers.

She said that in 1986 there had been 10 reported cases of children being deserted by their mothers, compared to an average of 21 children during the first seven months of 1987.

Two cases of white women abandoning their children were reported last year.

She said babies were abandoned from birth to about the age of six months.

LOST

Another form of abandonment occurs after children between the ages of two and five are lost in busy areas. "Parents are separated from their children while shopping and then go home without them," said Mrs Nell.

"Once they realise that the child is lost they search for the child, but if they fail to find the toddler they go home and leave the child in the city."

She said this was most common among black people who did not have the resources and contacts to trace their lost children.

Major causes for the increase, said Mrs Nell, included financial inability to care for the child.

Many black women abandoning children did so out of fear of losing employment as domestic help. White cases often resulted from the stigma attached to single parenthood.

DETAINED CHILDREN

A medical

code for

children

behind bars

The Medical Association of South Africa's code for the treatment of children in detention has been welcomed, but criticised for not differentiating between detainees and juvenile delinquents.

RUTH BECKER reports

The code is detailed and emphasises throughout sensitivity to a child's development and the importance of contact with family, unless this is detrimental to the child. The code refers to pertinent legislation, and provides guidelines for arrest, custody, trial as well as recreational and medical care. A child is defined as an individual under the age of 18.

The National Medical and Dental Association and the Organisation for Appropriate Social Services this week welcomed Masa's contribution.

"We feel it's appropriate that such a professional body should be addressing this issue and welcome particularly Masa's desire to co-operate with others who genuinely have the interests of children at heart," a Nanda representative said.

A representative of the Free the Children Alliance, which groups more than 30 organisations including the Detainees' Parents Support Committee, the Central Methodist Church, Women for Peace, the SA Catholic Bishops' Conference and the Black Sash, said "we believe any improvement of the conditions in detention must be welcome, but our goal is not to have any children in detention at all." The DPSC similarly opposed any suggestion that the detention of children could be made acceptable by improving conditions in prisons.



A two-year-old celebrates his release after eight months in detention with his mother

Picture: CHRIS GWAZI, Eena

lives negatively."

The Masa code states that "the concept of detention as a retributive punishment is totally without justification for children."

Describing legislation affecting children the code notes the Internal Security Act "gives wide powers to the Minister and to the police. Children are not granted any special protection in terms of this legislation, either physically, mentally or legally. The potential consequences for child political offenders are therefore very disturbing."

Under guidelines for arrest, the Masa code suggests an arresting officer should act with "the utmost discretion and gentleness"; a police report should be filed within 24 hours and should be available for scrutiny by the child's parents or their legal representative. In addition, the local commissioner of Child Welfare should be informed.

"Every effort" must be made by police to inform parents of a child's arrest and place of detention and these should be documented with dates and

times, the code states. For children awaiting trial, the guiding principle should be to release them into the custody of their parents or guardians.

"In the event that a child is remanded in custody, it should be mandatory that the child be segregated from adult prisoners and convicted juveniles. No child shall be interrogated by the police without his parent or guardian or his legal representative being present," the Masa code states.

"No child, whatever the circumstances, should be held in detention without being charged for longer than two days unless a court order exists ... The present practice of holding children in need of care in police or prison facilities for prolonged periods is highly undesirable."

Children in places of detention should be segregated from adults (people over 18), from children of a different sex, those over two years' age difference.

The code goes on to detail living conditions and exercise and recreational facilities as well as medical facilities. These include no more than

four children per sleeping area, with a bed or bunk for each, as well as two hours daily to play outside. In addition an indoor area should be available where children can gather and read.

Nanda questioned how Masa would monitor and enforce the recommendations regarding aspects of the conditions of detention, "in the light of the major provisions of the 1983 Masa recommendations on detention not being heeded by the authorities".

Amongst its medical guidelines, the Masa code proposes that "all children who are detained for seven days or more must have a full medical examination within two days of admission". Medical, including psychological and social, records should be kept. The code stresses confidentiality and that the autonomy of doctors, clinical psychologists, social workers and dentists be respected by the authorities.

Regarding the code's suggestions for medical care in detention, the Nanda representative stated: "We

detainees will identify psychologists and doctors provided by the prison authorities as part of the detaining authorities. A minimum requirement would be the access to truly independent health professionals chosen by the detainee or his/her family."

With particular reference to clinic psychologists, the Oassa representative said "attempting to alleviate conditions by using clinical psychologists challenges the codes of clinic psychologists. The World Medical Association Tokyo Declaration suggests that treating any individual under conditions which may threaten their mental health would be unethical. Thus the ethical role of any mental health professional is challenged as detention is hazardous to mental health."

"Furthermore, for a clinical psychologist to treat somebody in conditions which threaten that person's mental health also goes against section 50(1) of the South African Medical and Dental Supplementary Health Service Professional Act of 1974."

The Masa code suggests every institution accepting children for detention should have the services of clinical psychologist available, at least in a part-time capacity, to establish the child's mental and emotional state on admission, provide "some alleviation of the trauma occasioned by institutionalisation" and to "acquire information concerning the child's state prior to admission".

On behalf of the Ministers of Justice, National Health and Law and Order, a representative for the South Prisons Services said yesterday:

"Officials of the Department of National Health and Population Development deliberated with the Medical Association of SA before publication of the code of conduct in respect of children in detention. In view of the nature of their concern with this matter, members of the SA Prisons Services and the SA Police were called upon to participate during further discussions. From the discussions it became apparent that most of the provisions which form part of the code are already being carried out as part of the various departmental policies."

Protecting the disabled

A PROGRAMME which will recommend to the Government that disabled people be protected by law was launched in Pretoria yesterday.

The launching was held at a Human Sciences Research Council headquarters and was attended by representatives from several Government institutions and disabled people's organisations. The programme is being run by the HRSC and the National Training Board.

Mr Derrick Gray, co-ordinator for the council, said the project was a follow-up to work done during the International Year of the disabled. He said it was aimed at solving problems they had identified.

"We intend improving the disabled people's lives by implementing an action programme which

By ALINAH
DUBE

they will also participate in. "We will use existing organisations as models to promote the idea of looking after these people," said Mr Gray.

Legislation was one of the most important factors to be looked into for the protection of the handicapped. The law has done little to protect the disabled, he said.

Ways in which employers treated the handicapped would also be investigated. He said the disabled were entitled to the same opportunities as the non-disabled with the same educational background.

'Disturbing' results for child detainees

(298) C/press 28/6/87

CP Correspondent

THE Medical Association of South Africa has warned that the consequences for child political offenders held under the Internal Security Act were potentially "very disturbing" as the Act makes no special provision for children.

The SA Paediatric Association has prepared a manual for Masa entitled "Children in places of detention: A code for their handling", which is inserted in the latest issue of the *South African Medical Journal*.

Masa said the code's purpose was "to lay down a set of rules for the handling of all children in detention of which we, as South Afri-

cans, may be proud".

The code represented the "ideal state of affairs" regarding the detention of children, but realised it would take time and effort to achieve, said Masa.

Masa named the Prisons Act, the Child Care Act, the Criminal Procedure Act and the Internal Security Act under which children, defined by Masa as youths between seven and 18, may be imprisoned.

Masa said of the Internal Security Act.

"This Act, which deals with 'terrorism', 'subversion', 'sabotage' and 'communism', gives wide powers to the Minister and to the police.

"Children are not granted any special protection in

terms of this legislation, physically, mentally or legally.

"The potential consequences for child political offenders are, therefore, very disturbing."

On children and detention generally, Masa said the State assumed an "awesome responsibility" when it removed children from their homes, parents and schools.

"This responsibility is greater when one considers the possible ill-effects, including the physical, psychological, emotional and criminalising effects of detention. The purpose of this document is to emphasise and categorise these responsibilities.

"While it is regrettable

that any child should fall foul of the law, it is recognised that childhood delinquency exists and that the State is obliged to act for the protection of society

"This obligation, however, includes that of minimising the ill-effects of detention and of rehabilitating the delinquents.

"The primary purpose of detention must be to provide an environment for development which was superior, in the view of the courts, to that of the child's home," said Masa.

On the arrest procedure, Masa said: "In view of the possible traumatic consequences of arrest, consideration should be given to the creation of special police units with special training

to deal with children.

"No child, whatever the circumstances, should be held in detention without being charged for longer than two days unless a court order existed."

Masa said that no child should be questioned by the police without his or her parent, guardian or legal representative being present.

Masa said it was essential that magistrates and commissioners be made "fully aware" of the ill-effects of imprisonment on children.

The Minister of Law and Order, Adriaan Vlok, was studying the code, said his Press spokesman, Brigadier Leon Mellet.

AD: 29/6/87 (298)

More children being dumped

A dramatic increase in cases of children being abandoned by their mothers has been noted in the Pretoria region over the past seven months, SABC radio news reports.

Mrs Linda Nell, director of Child and Family Welfare in Pretoria, said today that in 1986 there had been 10 reported cases of children being deserted by their mothers.

This year the incidents had increased to an average of three per month with the largest percentage of children being abandoned by coloured or black mothers. Two cases of white women abandoning their children were reported last year.

Major causes for the increase, according to Mrs Nell, included financial inability to care for the child. Many black women abandoning children did so out of fear of losing employment as domestic help, while white cases tended towards social stigma attached to single parenthood.

Disorganised family structures caused by low financial input also contributed greatly to child desertion.

298 STM 30/6/87



Young residents of the SOS villages at Ennerdale and Mamelodi were treated to a picnic at the Syringa Spa at the weekend.

Company pull-out hits SOS drive for funds

By Janine Simon

Estimates of children in need of care in South Africa ranged from 50 000 to 150 000 at any one time, Dr W A Kulhanel, chairman of the SOS Children's Village Association said at its annual general meeting last night.

SOS could play only a small part in alleviating the suffering of these children and saw its special role as serving the black community, which had only nine homes for children in need of care, he said.

This number was disturbingly and unacceptably low and SOS would strive to increase its villages for black children.

SOS was also concerned that authorities, though sympathetic to the SOS cause, still turned a blind eye to disparities in subsidy payments and saw fit to provide black children with only a third

of the amount provided for other community groups.

SOS had moved into a new phase and was now a multi-million rand operation requiring a high level of professional and managerial skills.

It had largely achieved the six aims set for 1986, of which the establishment in January of a children's village in Mamelodi was one.

SOS had been considerably affected by sanctions and a number of companies pledging support had pulled out of South Africa and had not delivered the promised assistance.

One multi-national had promised R250 000 for 1987, but after their decision to withdraw had contributed only R100 000.

Future SOS plans included the development of priority villages in the eastern and western Cape and later in the Eastern Transvaal, northern Free State and Natal.

SOCIAL SECURITY — CHILDCARE

1987

JULY — DECEMBER

Anti-apartheid lobby builds up pressure

US liberals link child detainees to tougher sanctions

By Neil Lurssen,
The Star Bureau

WASHINGTON — Liberal Democrats have hit on a new ploy in their determination to tighten the economic squeeze on South Africa — linking the detention of children to a threat of tougher sanctions.

The first move in this direction has come from the influential chairman of the US House of Representatives budget committee, Congressman Bill Gray of Pennsylvania.

He has introduced a House resolution calling for strong and sweeping sanctions unless all the children detained in South Africa under the emergency regulations are released immediately.

The resolution must pass through various committee stages before it goes to the floor of the House where it is likely to be approved without much opposition.

While it does not specify the

type of sanctions that must be imposed, nor commit the Congress to a particular course of action, it does help set the tone for the big sanctions debate expected in the US Congress later this year.

President Reagan has to report to American lawmakers on the progress or absence of reform in South Africa in the year following the 1986 sanctions.

Liberal Democrats, disturbed by an apparent decline of public interest in the anti-apartheid debate and by evidence that some congressmen and senators have had second thoughts about the value of sanctions, have seized on the detention of children as a powerful and emotive issue.

KEY ROLE

"There is no doubt that Americans are upset by what they are learning now about children being held in South African prisons," a spokesman for Congressman Gray said.

Congressman Gray, reputed

to be the most powerful black politician in the US, played a key role in last year's sanctions.

The Democrats fired their first big guns last week with well-publicised hearings on the detentions.

"The issue is not whether it is 20 children, 200 children or 2 000 children. This is not a calibrated situation, but it is a situation of basic human rights," Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland told the hearing.

The American Committee on Africa, a New York-based group of anti-apartheid activists, has launched a nationwide campaign to collect keys to demonstrate opposition to all political detentions in South Africa.

The keys are being dropped in goldfish bowls in churches and other collection points. The plan is to take the keys in a wheelbarrow to the South African mission in New York and present them to officials there, while newsmen record the event.

298 001/7/87

DAILY DISPATCH, WEDNESDAY,

New children's home opened

Dispatch Reporter

EAST LONDON — Malcomess Children's Home yesterday officially opened the first in a series of group homes here, a concept aimed at caring for children in a family orientated environment rather than an institutional one.

The ceremony was performed by the Mayor of East London, Mrs Elsabe Kemp, who congratulated Malcomess House on pioneering the successful project and urged East Londoners to support the venture financially.

"The advantages of group homes are enormous, as this arrangement encourages the child to develop in all areas and ultimately to become a well-adjusted adult who will be a credit to society," she said.

The house will be known as R. D. Vos House in honour of Mr "Rusty" Vos, a dedicated member of the committee who has served Malcomess House for over 30 years, during which time he has been responsible for bringing about considerable ad-

vances in child care.

The director of Malcomess House, Mr Barrie Lodge, explained that Malcomess House offered only dormitory accommodation for 57 children.

"Such an institutional arrangement is not ideal, so we began to look at alternative models in other parts of the world and hit upon the idea of community based care," he said.

"Legal restrictions have prevented us from building additional houses on our existing plot, so we bought this house

when the opportunity arose.

"It accommodates 8 children between the ages of 7 and 17, and has been running extremely successfully for over a year now. This has been an enormous encouragement and we will soon open similar houses in Berea and Cambridge," Mr Lodge said.

"A small group home concept approximates the lifestyle of a family and the enormous growth we have seen in children exposed to this form of care justifies our taking this step," he said.



Mr "Rusty" Vos with the Mayor of East London, Mrs Elsabe Kemp, at the unveiling of the plaque yesterday.

ARGUS 11/7/87 (298) (129) (37) (28)

Liberal Democrats to link detained children to new threat of sanctions

By NEIL LURSEN,
Argus Foreign Service
Dateline:
Washington

LIBERAL Democrats have hit on a new ploy in their determination to tighten the economic squeeze on South Africa — linking the detention of children to a threat of tougher sanctions.

The first move in this direction has come from the influential chairman of the US House of Representatives Budget Committee, Congressman Bill Gray of Pennsylvania.

He has introduced a House resolution calling for strong and sweeping sanctions unless all the children detained in South Africa under the emergency regulations are released immediately.

The resolution must pass through various committee stages before it goes to the floor of the House where it is likely to be approved without much opposition.

While it does not specify the type of sanctions that must be imposed, nor commit the Congress to a particular course of action, it does help set the tone for the big sanctions debate expected in the US Congress later this year when President Reagan reports to American lawmakers on the pro-

gress or absence of reform in South Africa in the year following the 1986 sanctions.

Liberal Democrats, disturbed by an apparent decline of public interest in the anti-apartheid debate and by evidence that some congressmen and senators have had second thoughts about the value of sanctions, have seized on the detention of children as a powerful and emotive issue.

Most powerful black politician

"There is no doubt that Americans are upset by what they are learning now about children being held in South African prisons," a spokesman for Congressman Gray said.

Congressman Gray, reputed to be the most powerful black politician in the US, played a key role in last year's sanctions legislation and is expected to take a lead again this year.

The Democrats fired their first big guns last week with well-publicised hearings on the detentions, and they

plan to keep it in the public eye until the last youngster is released.

"The issue is not whether it is 20 children, 200 children or 2 000 children. This is not a calibrated situation, but it is a situation of basic human rights," Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland told the hearing.

Senator Mikulski, who has led Senate moves to pressure the South African Government into releasing the children, has declined an invitation by the South African Ambassador in Washington, Dr Piet Koornhof, to investigate the situation for herself.

Meanwhile, the American Committee on Africa — a New York-based group of anti-apartheid activists — has launched a nationwide campaign to collect keys to demonstrate opposition to all political detentions in South Africa.

The keys are being dropped in goldfish bowls in churches and other collection points. The plan is to take the keys in a wheelbarrow to the South African mission in New York and present them to officials there — while newsmen record the event.

A student swipe at academics

W/ Mail 3-9-77
By MONO BADELA

ONE of South Africa's youngest and most vociferous political organisations has advised workers to be wary of intellectuals and academics with their "half-baked theories" on political struggle. (298)

Rapu Molekane, general secretary of the South African Youth Congress, told black workers who attended the launch of the newly established National Education, Health and Allied Workers Union (Nehawu) at the University of the Witwatersrand at the weekend that these academics confuse workers with "half-baked theories of a working class struggle in their attempt to cause divisions within the workers' movement".

He said some of these intellectuals with "workerist tendencies" had introduced "confusing jargon" like "worker control", "populist" and the "workers' charter".

"These so-called socialists should be isolated," he said. "The criterion for having people working for trade unions should not be a university degree. We are not rejecting the intellectuals as such, but we are against those who want to hijack the people's struggle."

The Freedom Charter, said Molekane, was not in conflict with socialism. "The charter is actually laying the basis for socialism."

Molekane said Sayco was against the idea of the United Democratic Front or those leaders in prison entering into dialogue or negotiation with the government. "Prisoners cannot enter into negotiations; only free men can negotiate. Why is this racist regime turning a deaf ear to our demands?"

FOR THE RECORD

Surviving on a sniff 298 of glue and handouts

By SINNAH KUNENE

THEY ARE called street kids, glue sniffers, delinquents and runaways ...

But they are a fact of life and something has to be done about their plight

Recently a young volunteer who had just parked her car in a street in Hillbrow extended a hand

It was a cold morning when Serna Kramer, an English teacher at Boys Town, a whites-only boys special school in Magaliesburg, spotted a barefooted youngster who had ushered her into a parking bay

"I looked for a few coins inside my bag and, as I was about to thank him, more hands stretched out from behind other cars. My God, I nearly wept," recalls Serna.

She went home and cooked them a pot of soup and bought them bread, but still had not solved

their problem

"They were living in squalid conditions, addicted to glue and drugs and were so disillusioned with life. All they wanted was food and their drugs," she says

"A centre for the twilight children at the Bishop's Cathedral in Doornfontein offered a temporary relief for them

"They received food rations, had a bath and played games. Then at dawn it was back to street life and glue sniffing," says Serna

At the moment the kids are based in Esselen Street in Hillbrow. Another camp is situated in the Magaliesburg in the western Transvaal

On Sunday *City Press* will be publishing more information on Project Street Children - Social and Education Support (Process) - the project looking after these kids.



For these two boys life's only pleasures are glue-sniffing and food.



'Twilight kids' ...already disillusioned with life.

Disabled urged to discuss needs

By Janine Simon

A fledgling Azaadville community services group has appealed to the community's disabled people, their families and friends to meet and discuss their needs.

Miss Shehana Kajee, a teacher at a school for deaf children in Lenasia, said the Azaadville Community Services for the Disabled was founded by four residents in March. The group, all able-bodied, aim to establish a self-help type facility and for disabled people to take it over as soon as possible.

Professionals contacted by the group and members of Disabled People South Africa (DPSA), a disability rights movement to which they planned to affiliate, had been enthusiastic and supportive about the project, Miss Kajee said.

WORKSHOP

They had helped organise a recent workshop on disability in Azaadville, but this had been poorly attended.

An awareness day, where speakers including DPSA head Dr William Rowland and Mr Friday Mavuso, founder of a self-help project in Soweto, would be speaking, would be held at the Azaadville Civic Centre in August, Miss Kajee said.

From this the group hoped to stimulate enough awareness for it to be able to conduct a survey on the extent and type of disability in the area.

For further information contact Miss Kajee at 699-1569, Mr Shaheen Boothia at 699-1075, Mr Ashraf Essack at 699-1944 or Mr Lesley Jordaan at 692-0186.

14/7/87 298 smm

Child mental health care probe begins

Pretoria Correspondent

A 13-man committee of inquiry into child mental health care services has been appointed by the Minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr Willie van Niekerk.

His deputy, Dr M.H. Feldman, said yesterday at the opening of the first meeting of the committee that its establishment flowed from the need for an effective national service for the mental health care of all race groups.

He added that the committee would give attention to the absence of adequate personnel in all professions in mental health services.

The committee was also expected to give attention to the gap between training centres for mentally retarded children and job situations, the shortage of facilities for children with psychiatric disturbances and the fact that children were often referred too late, resulting in more expensive services and a bigger financial burden on the state.

It was expected that the inquiry would be completed within six months, after which a report on its findings and recommendations would be released, Dr Feldman said.

WOMAN'S FORUM

DO YOU think parents are obsessed with the thought of creating geniuses out of their children and are selfish when they do not allow them to play the types of games they themselves used to play when they were young? That they deprive them of the time they should enjoy while they have still not started school by teaching them how to read at the age of two, buying them computers when they are four and not allowing them to engage in any other type of play which they think is not educational enough and hence not relevant?

Or do you think that time no longer allows for leisure? That children should use all the time they have preparing themselves for the heavy demands of the classroom? That a child who is not armed is doomed therefore the parent should forget toy cars and dolls and buy constructive toys?

Write to the WOMAN'S FORUM at the Sowetan, Box 6663, Johannesburg 200, and give us your views. You might be lucky and win R25, the prize for the best letter.



Mrs LOUISA Maseko . . . parents should not interfere.

Child's play is a serious business

By SIZA KHUMALO

PLAY is a tool aimed not only at preparing a child for the classroom but also at educating him for life.

This is the view of Dr Andre Venter, a pediatrician at the Baragwanath Hospital who also believes that a child's perception and personality can be developed with any kind of play it engages in.

"There is more pressure on the present generation child to be well rounded and ready for education when he goes to school.

"But that does not mean that parents should only concentrate on the type of play that gears the child towards classroom education," Dr Venter says.

"Educational toys are good for stimulating school readiness in a child but ordinary play and other cheap toys also have an important role in a child's overall development.

"Children should therefore be given a chance to engage in the various types of activities rather than be restricted to one. Through all of them he becomes able to conceptualise what is in the environment, to understand time, sequences and to develop visual, audial and motor skills."

To parents who believe that there are ideal toys that can raise their children's intelligence to miraculous levels Dr Venter says that toys can only stimulate and increase the child's competence in class but not turn him into a genius.

Brilliant child

"The child's heritage and environment together will determine his level of intelligence. A brilliant child put in a stimulating environment will excel in his work but a child of average intelligence put in the same environment will not necessarily perform like the other one.

"Parents should not put pressure on their children if even when stimulated their performance still remains average. This can create a sense of failure in the child and it can eventually make him refuse to accept challenges.

"Another danger is with parents who give their children excessive stimulation at a young age. These children obviously develop faster and are more competent than most others their age but they are also bound to get bored and lose interest just as quickly."

Mrs Louisa Maseko, who specialises in early childhood education and trains teachers for a



EDUCATIONAL toys like this puzzle and Lego stimulate a child and increase her competence in class.



DR ANDRE VENTER . . . toys increase child's competence.

childminding programme at the 'Entokozweni Early Learning Centre' in Soweto, says that she has had experience with parents who want the best for their children, academically, but do not give them a chance to find themselves and explore their environment through the various types of play.

"I have come across parents who restrict their children from some types of play because of the dangers or irrelevance of the activities to the child," Mrs Maseko says.

Observers

"Children should be left to discover and learn things about their environment through mud and waterplay, art toys and participation with the parents in their household duties.

"Parents should only act as supervisors and guides of their children's play. They should not interfere or steer the children to a different type of activity.

"They should be observers and let the children direct the activity. This way a child develops mentally with the knowledge he acquires and physically through the exercise he gets when playing."

Child care workers strike

By Mudini Maivha

Workers at the Entokozweni early learning and child care centre stopped work yesterday, demanding increased salaries and better working conditions.

The director of Entokozweni, Mrs Mapitso Malepa, prepared meals for children as 29 out of 31 domestic workers, teachers and house visitors refused to work until their demands were met.

The workers, members of the General and Allied Workers' Union (Gawu), want R200 a month across-the-board increase.

The workers, who stayed on the premises all day, also demanded:

- Job security. They claimed there were unfair dismissals, that disciplinary procedures were not followed and that reasons for disciplinary action were not made known to staff.
- An end to alleged favouritism. They claimed salaries were based on favouritism.
- Access to facilities such as vehicles and telephone.
- Job descriptions.

The workers said the lowest paid employee, who had been at the centre for 10 years, earned R180 a month. They said they had met management three times and had twice submitted letters listing their demands.

Mr Laurel Angoma, chairman of the board of management, said the problem was receiving the board's attention. They hoped to resolve the problems soon.

**SOUTH AFRICAN
reporter
CHRIS
GUTUZA had
a secret
meeting
last week
with the**

'Scarlet pimples of Bonteheuwel

298

THEY have become known as Bonteheuwel's "scarlet pimples".

They are pupils who are members of the Bonteheuwel Inter-School Congress (Bisco) who have been evading the police for several months.

After considerable effort, SOUTH was granted an interview by a group of the pupils at a secret venue of which we had no prior knowledge.

There they told how they organised themselves in the face of consistent harassment.

They said a number of members were detained and harassed by the police soon after the formation of Bisco in August 1984.

"We have become targets especially since the beginning of 1985. At the height of the unrest certain members were picked up for no other reason than being members of Bisco," a member of the group said.

Early in 1986 more than 50 Bisco members were detained for a short period after a placard demonstration at D.F. Malan Airport.

Public violence

Charges against students ranged from public violence to disturbing the peace and attending an illegal gathering. A number were convicted of public violence and received suspended sentences.

"Most of us were harassed during a Bisco promotions period and key figures were detained under the State of Emergency," said Jenny, another member of the group.

Jenny is now a student at UWC and was detained for six weeks while still at school last year.



"While in detention I was told I would not be allowed to write my June exams. After being released I went back to school and passed matric. I applied to the Department of Internal Affairs to become a teacher.

"The inspector who interviewed me said he could not foresee problems if I dissociated myself from Bisco activities but I refused. Soon afterwards I received a letter saying my application has been refused," she said.

"Most of our members have in a sense gone underground. Although they attend school and work, they do not stay at home because the branch visits known addresses at any time of the day.

"I think the only reason why they do not arrest us at school is because stu-

dents would retaliate. We know our schools are sometimes under surveillance," a member of the group said.

"Bisco and Cayco (Cape Youth Congress) meetings still proceed normally and still has huge support although meetings are held at secret venues. We hosted a number of campaigns and programmes this year in spite of police pressure.

"A few months ago we held a 'Release Colleen' campaign, for one of our members who was in detention at the time. We distributed posters, which we made ourselves, and pamphlets. Our programmes focused mainly on awareness programmes. We also held a number of workshops recently," said Karen, an SRC mem-

ber at one of the three Bonteheuwel schools.

They said the community was also supportive and they would have been seriously hampered if people in the Bonteheuwel area did not provide "safe houses" for those who feared arrest.

"Of the three high schools in the area more than 40 pupils do not sleep at home.

"If one of a group who stay at a safe house is arrested, the others move out immediately," said the group.

Five Bisco members are presently being held under the Emergency regulations. A number of others, including a Cayco member still have to appear in court on charges ranging from furthering the aims of the ANC, in-

timidation, public violence and possession of banned literature and arson.

The Cayco member who is to appear later this month on charges of furthering the aims of the ANC, said he was picked up after a pamphlet which is said to be subversive, was found on him.

Underground

The group agreed their "underground lifestyle" affected their academic progress.

They said they were determined, however, to complete their schooling. "In the beginning we were shocked and afraid when some of our members were detained, but since we have strengthened ourselves through our own experience and our sense of commitment. We have also learnt that our strength lies in our unity and our dedication."

Bisco survived because of the structure of the organisation, one member said.

"Our SRCs and Bisco are open to all students. We have no rigid system of leadership."

The SAP Public Relations Division in Pretoria refused to answer questions regarding Bisco and Cayco members who claimed they were being sought by the security police.

The spokesperson said the police do not harass people.

He added: "Should anybody feel they have a legitimate complaint against the police, they can lodge their complaints (by written affidavit) with the SAP through any of the existing, recognised channels."

'Vital' to abolish corporal punishment

Abolishing corporal punishment was a vital step towards ending all forms of parental and adult abuse of children, Mrs. Elinda Bramwell, chairman of the Committee of Concern for Children (CCC) said yesterday.

Mrs. Bramwell told a child abuse conference organised by the Southern African Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect that South African law stated corporal punishment was a last resort but, in practice, it was used often and for trivial offences.

She gave an example of a rugby team from a leading private school whose members were beaten every time they lost a match.

"The whole situation has an aura of sadistic frivolousness and is certainly not in keeping with the rules as prescribed by the education departments," she said.

In January 1986, the CCC sent a memorandum appealing for the abolition of corporal punishment to several provincial administrators and education authorities.

"Apart from the Administrator of Natal, replies received were depressingly unsatisfactory. It would appear the use of the cane as a method of discipline is very firmly entrenched in the minds of the authorities, the parents and the teaching profession," Mrs. Bramwell said.

Phrases used in the replies included "any haphazard and casual administering is frowned upon" and "corporal punishment, if applied moderately in exceptional circumstances and provided it is accountable, is justified".

This made it clear that much was left to the good will of the person administering the punishment and that physical force was still accepted as a means of control.

Reasons for child abuse

The yardsticks by which child abuse could be measured were discussed at a conference at Rand Afrikaans University yesterday.

Dr. W. H. Winship, vice-chairman of the Southern African Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Saspan), said nutrition, health, security, stimulus and love were needed for the child to develop into a satisfied adult.

The key was planned parenthood. Statistics at Durban's Addington Hospital in 1986 showed that 75 percent of mothers who abused their children were under 20.

"They had been precipitated into parenthood without preparation."

Topics included children in detention and street children.

The three-day conference aims to develop a multi-disciplinary approach. Speakers were drawn from the medical, nursing, social work and educational professions.

Lack of places of safety for child detainees highlighted

By Janine Simon

Research had shown there were children held in every police station in the country, often on petty offences, because the places of safety and rehabilitation facilities for black children were full, Mrs. Priscilla McKay, director of the Pinetown Child Welfare Society said yesterday.

Children were often only taken to rehabilitation facilities six or seven months after detention, she told a Johannesburg conference on child abuse organised by the Southern African Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect. This was in addition to the thousands of children who had been detained under emergency regulations.

Mrs. McKay said such societal abuse of children had to be included in discussions of child abuse.

Conditions created by apartheid, such as the breakup of family life, poverty, shortage of housing and overcrowded homes and facilities, and the "wholesale deprivation" in townships, made it clear children were abused simply because they were not getting the nutrition, health, security, stimulus and love they needed to flourish.

All children under 18 should be protected by the Child Care Act but this legislation was overridden by the emergency regulations.

While it was clear some children had been involved in acts of violence, she also deplored violent actions of officials towards the children while they were in detention.

Eighty percent of children coming out of detention had been abused physically and emotionally. Her society had statements from two 14-year-olds regarding their abuse.

One said a tyre with newspaper doused in petrol had been put round his neck and he had been given a box of matches and told to light it or confess.

Another said he and seven other boys had been stripped naked and lined against a wall for police to stone. Each hit to the genitals or head scored 100 points, Mrs. McKay said.

Certain conditions for children in prison had to be met. These included that they be in separate cells from adults to prevent sodomy, they be questioned only in the presence of a parent or social worker, and that magistrates and judges be made aware of the ill-effects of prison on children.

The deputy minister of National Health and Population Development, Dr. M. H. Veldman, said yesterday the Government had a crisis plan to provide desperately needed places of safety for black children.

Incest rife in SA, conference hears

Weekend Argus
Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Child sex rings run by adult perverts are in operation in all South Africa's major cities, it was disclosed this week.

Six rings were smashed in Durban and their organisers prosecuted, says Detective Sergeant Grant Robinson, the first trained police specialist in child abuse.

The shock disclosures were among many startling facts to emerge at a conference on child abuse at the Rand Afrikaans University in Johannesburg.

The Southern African Society

for Prevention of Child Abuse conference was also told that one in eight South African fathers sleeps with his daughter.

But few of the tens of thousands of incest cases reached court.

The number of daughters so abused by the head of the household range from one case reported to the Child Welfare Society in Johannesburg of a father who tried to have sex with his 10-month-old daughter to a two-year-old baby girl in Durban who needed extensive surgery after a rape attempt.

Numerous teenagers' cases have been reported with difficulty because of family "loyalties".

Sergeant Robinson told the conference that child sex rings had become the "hidden factor" in child abuse.

"Many people may not know about them, but as the saying goes, you'll find them when you look for them," he said in an interview.

Child sex rings consisted of adults who lured multiple young partners into sex, sometimes paid but often free. Some also involved adolescents.

He told the conference: "Adult men that have been prosecuted probably molested many children for years".

Much greater awareness of the problem was needed, but

also co-operation with the perpetrators to "help reveal other abuses".

Sex rings were a particularly difficult to detect because "even if children are aware of the ring very few are willing to disclose it".

To eventually smash such rings victims should be interviewed in turn and alone.

Turning to child sex abuse generally, the conference heard that at Durban's Addington Hospital, the number of sexually molested children had risen from 11 percent four years ago to 42 percent last year.

Dr Jillian Key, Addington Hospital paediatrician, said the problem was now so serious that professionals handling cases of sexual abuse among the young agreed that "the current legal system in South Africa is failing to protect our children".

She called for a corps of policemen specially trained to handle the difficult cases of sexual child abuse and a change in "the present system of trial by ordeal and ambush for our child victims".

Dr Asa Maree, criminologist of the University of Bophuthatswana, called for harsher sentences and jail for fathers who slept with their daughters, and the establishment of a national data bank in the absence of incest incidence information.

South Africa should try a system used in California, she said, through which incestuous fathers were sent to treatment institutions at nights and weekends so that the families of such men would not be destroyed, yet the daughters remained protected from further attacks.

"The majority of offenders are psychopaths and on the whole tyrants, rapists of the worst kind who attack children in the only safe place they know, and men who insist on repeating what they have done, men who often drink to gain courage for their acts," Dr Maree said.

Mansell: 306km/h blow-out

SILVERSTONE. — Nigel Mansell, whose 1986 world title hopes ended when a tyre on his car disintegrated in the Australian Grand Prix, revived memories of that near-disaster when he had a puncture in practice for tomorrow's British Grand Prix.

The Williams driver had "a very nasty moment" when his right rear tyre blew out as he approached Beckett's Corner at 306km/h.

"I thought I was going to carry head-on straight into Beckett's, but I managed to steer through it. It was pretty nasty, especially at that speed," said the British driver, who had to settle for second-fastest time in the first qualifying session for the race.

Mansell hopes to score maximum points at Silverstone and overhaul Brazilian rivals Ayrton Senna and Nelson Piquet and the French champion,



PC member defies party call to resign

By GEORGE MAHABEER

THE President's Council member who boomed by signing a controversial report on youth without knowing its contents is defying a call by his party leader to resign.

Mr Rajaram Mohangi said he would not quit the PC — although National People's Party leader Mr Amichand Rajbansi and other NPP members want him kicked out for signing the report.

The report recommended compulsory military service for all races. It also said the United Democratic Front and the African National Congress took orders directly from the Kremlin.

The Progressive Federal Party slammed the report as "gobbledygook and rubbish" and the UDF said it should be thrown into the dustbin.

The report was in Afrikaans — a language Mr Mo-

hanghi does not understand.

Shortly after Mr Mohangi made his amazing admission to the Sunday Times, National People's Party leader Mr Rajbansi called on him to resign from the PC.

Mr Rajbansi said Mr Mohangi had acted against the NPP's policy. The NPP was opposed to compulsory military training for Indians while apartheid was in force.

Mr Rajbansi sent a telegram to Mr Mohangi asking him to resign as the NPP's nominated member on the PC.

Honest

Mr Mohangi, 70, said this week he was determined to remain a PC member after his blunder until his term of office ended in 1989.

"Only the State President can remove me from the PC. I did not commit a crime by signing the report."

"And I believe Mr Rajbansi is not justified in calling for my resignation."

"I was honest. I told the Sunday Times exactly what I had done. I believe there are many others like me in the President's Council and the House of Delegates who sign and pass reports and Bills without understanding Afrikaans."

"Why should I now be singled out and crucified by the NPP? If they want me to resign then they must ask other NPP MPs and PC members who do not understand Afrikaans to do the same."

Objection

"If this happens, there will be hardly any Indian representatives in the House of Delegates and the PC," said Mr Mohangi.

But in future, he said, he would refuse to sign reports in Afrikaans.

"I will write to the State President lodging my personal objections to compulsory military training for Indians."

"I will also tell him that from now on I want all reports translated into English."

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Spare the rod and SAVE the child — Slotar

Education Reporter

Education Without Fear chairman Mr Allan Slotar says corporal punishment in schools may have helped shape the personalities of the couple convicted recently for a fatal assault on their baby.

Carolina Opperman (23) was sentenced to eight years for murdering 21-month-old Richard; her husband, Willem Opperman (23), to four for assaulting him.

Education Without Fear has been campaigning since 1984 for the abandonment of physical punishment in all schools, in line with all European countries as well as the Soviet Union, Israel and some states in the US.

"Ours is a sick society: even our educational departments teach violence to our children."

The rest of the civilised world had implemented non-violent disciplinary systems, but South Africa still persisted in perpetuating a system of violence.

Children experiencing violence as a disciplinary measure would use it on their children and others around them in later life.

STUDIES

"This has been proven by thousands of studies, including 'Fifteen Thousand Hours' published by Harvard University in 1979. Professor Michael Rutter and his associates studied 2 700 primary schools in Britain over 10 years. These resulted in England abolishing corporal punishment.

"In many schools throughout South Africa children are beaten for chewing gum, having long hair, standing out of line or forgetting their gym equipment."

One of the dangers inherent was that the caning of boys during their years of puberty could lead to sexual perversion.

"Children caned for not achieving 10 out of 10 can suffer long-term harm. Education will become synonymous with pain and the learning process impaired.

"We recommend that a certain period should be set aside once a week, or as often as necessary, for behaviour modification at all schools.

COUNSELLING

"Extra lessons can be given and community duties handed out to correct behaviour problems. Counselling can be given."

His group spoke to members of Parliament in 1985. The following year it sent information leaflets to all members of Parliament.

"The only country to reinstate corporal punishment in schools was Germany during the time of Hitler, which was immediately rescinded after the war."

"Corporal punishment in schools has been proved to be the cause of much of our society's ailments. Those who try to justify corporal punishment as a betterment of our society should take heed of our alarming statistics. High rate of child suicides, divorce, road accidents, alcoholism and adult suicides.

"The need to teach children how to cope with life is of vital importance and teaching them to solve problems with the example of violence is irresponsible."

Boy (12) detained for 10 months for stoning

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Why should a 12-year-old child have to spend 10 months in detention — in a town far removed from his family — before being brought to court to face charges of public violence relating to the stoning of a vehicle in which R400 damage was done?

And if this could happen, what was the public to make of the guarantee given by Law and Order Minister Mr Adriaan Vlok that detentions were being continually reviewed?

Detainees' Parents Support Committee spokesman Dr Max Coleman posed these questions at a public meeting of the Release the Children Alliance in Johannesburg on Tuesday.

The questions, he made clear, were not hypothetical. They related to the experience of a child from the Parys township of Tumahole.

The boy may not be named as minors facing trial may not be identified. He and three others, aged between 14 and 16 years, have been charged with public violence and are to appear in the Parys Magistrate's Court later this month. None has yet entered a plea.

On July 9 last year the boy in question, referred to as John although that is not his real name, was held as an emergency detainee. He was taken to Potchefstroom where he was held as a detainee. On May 25 he was transferred to awaiting-trial status and appeared in court in Parys next day.

During the 10-month detention his parents were able to visit him only twice, his lawyers have been told. Neither earns much money and they simply could not afford to travel back and forth.

John's detention was officially confirmed in writing to his Johannesburg lawyers. The letter from the Ministry of Law and Order in February gave several reasons for his detention. When John appeared in court on May 26 the only charge was public violence. The charge sheet makes it clear that the allegation relates to the stoning of an official vehicle to which R400 damage was caused.

At John's first appearance his mother was there. But he was not released into the custody of his parents as is usual with children accused in court. He remained in jail for another month before being released into his parents' custody on June 25.

The Department of Justice has given the following explanation for the failure to release John immediately he was charged: "The case was postponed for procedural reasons and the possible joining of further accused (which occurred on June 4).

"The accused was remanded in custody after submissions of a serious nature were made by the State prosecutor. The probation officer's report also recommended the accused be remanded in custody."

The Police Division of Public Relations has not responded to questions about the length of detention before a statement was taken from John and before he was charged.

It has stated: "We do not comment on emergency detentions and in fact we do not confirm such detentions or releases."

The police also state that they are not prepared to "discuss the merits of the case as it is sub judice" and it is not their policy to identify minors.

Finally, the police warned The Star that their response does not clear the paper of "ensuring that the stipulations of the emergency regulations or any other regulation or law have not been transgressed".

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A slide show full of horrors. Only, these horrors are for real

BEHIND Walter Loening's office door is a filing cabinet full of horrific slides: constant reminders of adults' cruelty to children.

Many of these victims are patients he has seen during his work as a paediatrician at Durban's King Edward VIII Hospital.

From these experiences and the research they provoked, he has concluded that child abuse is not just a matter for individual parents and children: responsibility for the problem must be shared by the whole community.

Now Loening, professor of maternal and child health at Natal University's Medical School, is preparing to shoulder his share of the responsibility in a new way. At the recent AGM and conference of the Southern African Society for the Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect he was elected to chair the society for the next 12 months.

Interviewed this week, he said during its two year existence the society had already made a great impact in raising public awareness about the problem of abused children. There had also been some success with sensitising officialdom, including the police.

For example, one of the society's members, Detective-Sergeant Grant Robertson, has helped start a three-person police child abuse unit in Durban.

"Unfortunately they are limited to dealing with white children," Loening said, "but we hope their work will soon be extended".

The society's very active Durban branch started "Child Line", an emergency phone counselling unit based at St Augustine's Hospital, and has done extensive work with parents and school teachers who are often the first people to notice the effects of abuse.

One aim of the society is to have a special "child protection team" in every centre, even the smallest.

"There is already one such team being set up in Tongaat. The idea is that everyone in the town, especially those most likely to identify cases of abuse, know there is a qualified team to whom they can refer problems.

The new chairman of a society for the prevention of child abuse plans 'child protection teams' in every centre. CARMEL RICKARD reports

"Doctors traditionally shun the issue of child abuse, even when it is clearly presented, not wanting to get involved because it is a messy business.

"We hope that with the establishment of these special teams, doctors will become more active in identifying abused children, since they will have the assistance of qualified professionals who know the correct steps to follow in cases of abuse."

However, Loening believes responsibility lies even wider, and that apartheid laws are fundamentally responsible for much of the abuse of children.

"The best protection for a child is to live in a well-established, well balanced family.

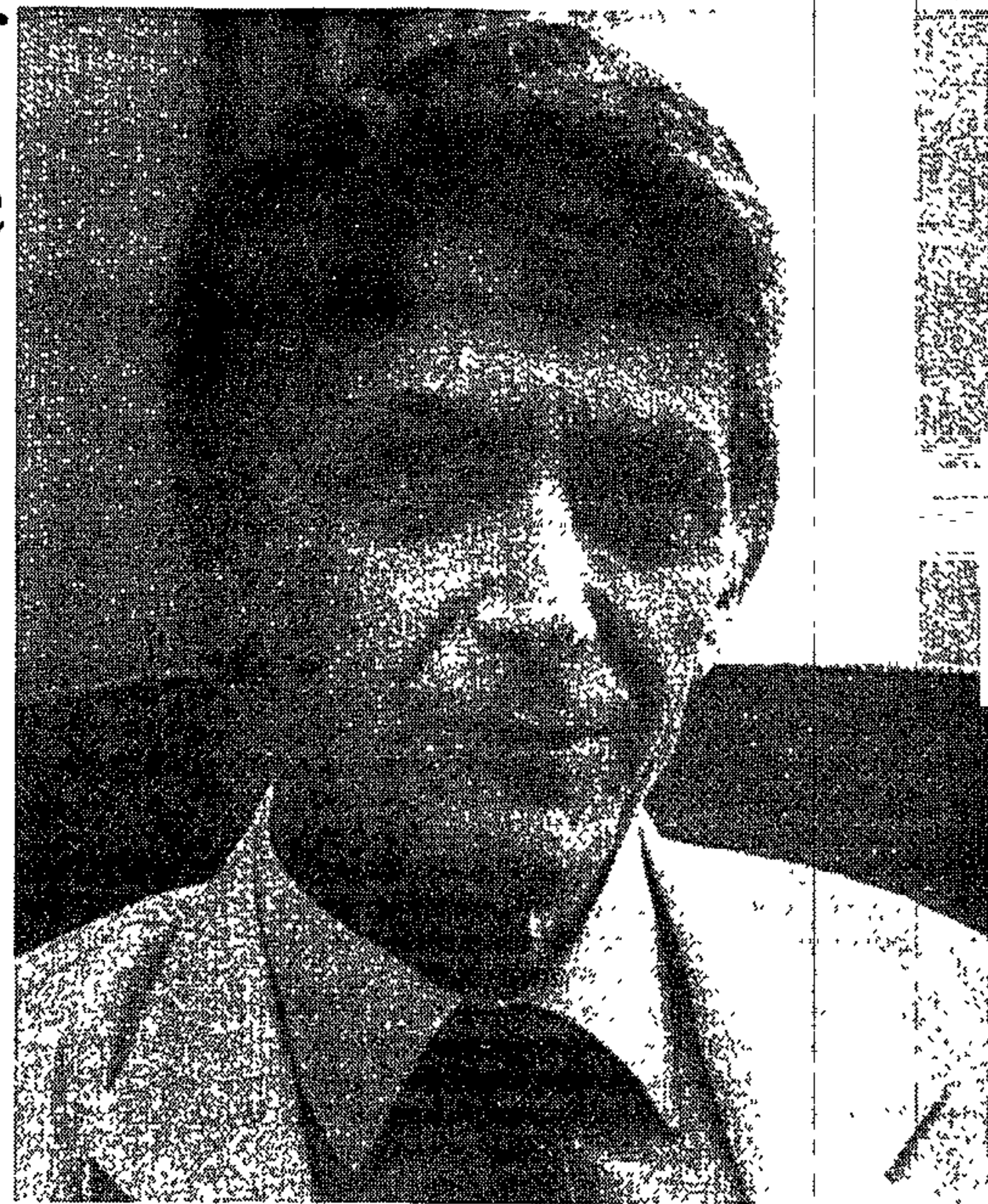
"Anything which disturbs this, potentially permits child abuse.

"It is obvious that influx control, the Group Areas Act, inferior schooling and few job opportunities are all factors which prevent families from being together, and thus lie at the root of much child abuse."

Loening quotes statistics from recent Eastern Cape research, which he believes probably reflects the position in other parts of the country: 86 percent of children suffering from kwashiorkor had fathers who are migrants; on the other hand, 83 percent of children who were well nourished lived in a family group.

"White people concerned at the level of child abuse in the black community, should remember that when a woman is employed to do domestic work she almost certainly has children who need care.

"Particularly when she lives in (her place of work), it means her children have been handed over to someone else to look after. However caring such a person might be — and they are sometimes not caring at all — this is a situation in which the family is no longer living together, and it is a



Walter Loening: "Doctors shun the issue of child abuse."

Picture: CARMEL RICKARD

situation filled with potential for abuse."

On children in prison — whether in "criminal" or "political" detention — the society's attitude is clear. They have adopted the code drawn up by the South African Paediatric Association on children in prison.

"Among the provisions of this code is that children should never be interrogated unless in the presence of their parents or lawyer; that no child should be kept in detention for more than two days without being charged; that the parents of child prisoners must be informed immediately of the detention and that parents must have access to their children.

"The paediatricians and the society feel that the present detention of children under the Emergency is completely unacceptable," he said.

Loening says the society is currently trying to see the Minister of Health to put before them the information they have about abuses in detention.

"In fact we want to say that detention as such is a kind of abuse.

"We feel that the practice of political detention of children is unacceptable and that the Child Care Act should not be superseded by the State of Emergency regulations. The Act is

there to protect children because they are vulnerable, and no other law should be allowed to remove its protection.

"Even leaving aside the question of detained children, research by our members shows that many children tend to be kept in police cells because police do not know what else to do with them.

"Where a white child would be sent to a place of safety, the equivalent centres for black children are full or inadequate, and so they are often just kept locked up.

"We feel that it is essential the (paediatrics) code is applied in all situations where children are detained — for whatever reason.

"Then you would not have them in jail for lengthy periods; they would have to be let out into the custody of their parents or guardians, or a place of safety — and if there is no place of safety, that is the state's problem.

"Resources are found very quickly to put up homes for members of the houses of Delegates and Representatives and to house the bureaucracies.

"If the state can do that, they must deal with the problem of inadequate accommodation for children sitting in jail. That need is far greater and more urgent."

**Little
sisters
from a
home
of hell**

Help for

By JENNY CULLUM

A SPECIAL unit of professionals has been formed in Port Elizabeth to deal with cases of child abuse. Sexual abuse of children is widespread in South Africa and urgent action is needed in Port Elizabeth to combat this horrifying problem.

This was stated in the city this week by Child Welfare Society senior social worker Mrs Eugene Kommel, who said that reported cases formed only the "tip of the iceberg" and most cases of sexually molested children went undetected outside the family circle in which they occurred.

Shock disclosures of an estimated one in eight fathers who commit incest with their daughters and of child sex rings run by adult perverts were made at a conference on child abuse which Mrs Kommel attended in Johannesburg recently.

Paediatricians, a police specialist in child abuse, criminologists and social workers gave reports of growing numbers of child victims.

Family members, fathers, mothers, grandparents, brothers, uncles and other trusted people were very often the sexual offenders against the children.

Secrecy, misguided "loyalties" and pressure on the victims hampered investigations.

Liquor was often an aggravating factor.

Sexually transmitted disease (previously known as venereal disease) and pregnancies were other results of incest which had a disastrous effect on victims and their families.

Children aged between five and nine are at the greatest risk but much younger children and even babies have been abused.

The conference was organised at the Rand Afrikaans University by the Southern African Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (Sascan).

"People who abuse their children sexually have usually been sexually abused themselves."

The growth of the incidence (or reported incidence) of child abuse was shown by statistics from the United States where cases increased in the last nine years from 6 000 to 113 000.

Mrs Kommel said that the senior paediatrician reported that at Addington Hospital between one and seven child abuse cases were seen every day.

A special Sascan unit including a paediatrician, social workers, a lawyer, police, a psychologist and an educationist has been formed in Port Elizabeth to deal with cases of child abuse and will hold its first formal meeting shortly.

"We have to recognise that child sexual abuse is no myth. It has recently exploded into public awareness.

"Society has reacted with shock and dismay.

"People are reluctant to accept that adults sexually abuse children, often their very own children.

"Social agencies, health and legal professionals have been caught unprepared for the emergence of the problem," said Mrs Kommel.

She said that a "child-line" 24-hour crisis intervention telephone service for child abuse and related problems was needed in Port Elizabeth.

In Durban, Cape Town and Witbank, childline services are operating.

In one year, the Durban service received 484 calls.

"Children need to know that they too have a place to phone if they are being abused.

"The childline deals with problems ranging from sexual abuse, neglect, incest, emotional abuse and even such matters as custody and child developmental problems.

"Many adults also feel the need to unburden themselves of abuse that took place when they were children," said Mrs Kommel.

Anyone who suspected a case of child abuse should immediately report it to the Child Welfare Society (☎ 28548) or the social worker at the Provincial Hospital (☎ 337811).

Information could be given anonymously and in any case names were kept confidential.

Child abuse was a crime and the abused child was often in a helpless situation.

She urged people to "err on the positive side" rather than the negative by reporting their suspicions.

"I believe that a greater awareness is needed before we can manage the problem effectively.

This picture is a re-creation of a colour slide, given to Weekend Post by official sources, of two sisters, aged five and eight years, infected with a sexual disease by a family member. They are among the tragic victims of child abuse receiving medical treatment.

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abused children

Unit formed to aid youngsters who can't cope when a relative becomes too familiar

During last year, 75% of the mothers who abused their children were under the age of 20.

The secondary abuse the child has to face during legal proceedings is of great concern.

"Appearing in court is a traumatic experience for adults but for the child witness it can be deeply traumatic, especially if the accused parent or guardian is legally represented.

"The child is cross-examined, sometimes in

such a manner that he or she is made to appear a liar, or to be muddled or confused.

"The child is frightened, feels guilty and feels disloyal and is often terrified because the parents have threatened to deal with her if the story is told.

"What is needed is to change the courtroom setting.

"Let the child give evidence in a playroom or paediatric unit of a hospital or a neutral place where the atmosphere is

relaxed and informal.

"We also need specially equipped recording rooms," she said.

In the US a video recording of the interview was used in court as evidence without the child having to appear to repeat the story.

Another suggestion was to introduce a specially designed children's courtroom with a one-way mirror.

The accused and the defence counsel would be able to see the child and hear the evidence but the

child would be protected from seeing the accused.

A "child hearing officer" was also suggested by Mrs Kommel.

This would be a specially trained attorney who would hear the child's evidence and ask the child questions relayed to him by earphone from the defence.

This suggestion is not favoured, however, by the Hoexter Commission of Inquiry into the Courts.

A programme to prevent child sexual abuse

was being introduced into Transvaal schools to teach children from four years to become "super-safe kids".

The emphasis of the programme was to "have fun while playing safe".

It aimed to enlighten, not to frighten, children.

In the same way that children were taught fire drills, to cross streets and instructed about first aid, they could be taught how to protect themselves.

"An uninformed child is

a vulnerable child. It is never too early to begin teaching a child that he or she can say no to unwanted touching," said Mrs Kommel.

She hoped that a similar programme could be introduced in Port Elizabeth schools soon.

Other measures suggested by Mrs Kommel were:

- Encouraging families to seek help and through this, help prevent child abuse.

- Greater public awareness and education on the subject.

- Professional co-operation and a team approach to the problem of people involved in abuse.

CP Correspondent

Over 15 schools in the Eastern Cape townships were razed to the ground and about 22 were partial-

Classes are extremely overcrowded, windows are broken, buildings are badly

As part of the breaking of its six-month silence, Ecasco this week released

- Allowing the establishment of parents' committees to co-operate with

He said any firm or company was welcome to broach this subject with the regional director.

No sex, please — you'll

HELP is on the way for South Africa's gymslip "prostitutes" and other youngsters who experiment with sex, alcohol and drugs at an alarmingly early age.

A government-backed counselling programme aimed at schoolchildren, their teachers and their parents is paying dividends as health workers combat a tide of social and sexual ignorance that has ruined many young lives.

They are doing their best to counter the sort of frustration or peer group pressure that drives a teenage "prostitute" to supplement her pocket money by having sex in a school toilet.

And they want to reduce, or preferably eliminate, unwanted teen pregnancies — another source of anguish for all too many schoolgirls and their families.

Youth health centres established by the Department of National Health and Population Development provide counselling services

Shocked

These including contraceptive advice for sexually active teenagers — as well as parent guidance.

The issue of teenage sex was raised at a recent teachers' conference in Paarl when Mrs Mienie Thomas, nursing service manager (youth) for the Department of National Health, surprised 500 delegates with accounts of widespread promiscuity among teenage girls.

Mrs Thomas revealed that South African schoolgirls be-

Government backs campaign to warn gymslip sirens against ignorance and promiscuity

By ALAN DUGGAN

came sexually active at an average age of 14.

And she warned that teen pregnancy had reached alarming proportions. Most teenage pregnancies — described by Mrs Thomas as "disasters" — occur in the 16-17 age group.

She told delegates it was a myth that the problem was confined to poor or underprivileged schoolgirls.

In fact, there was evidence that promiscuity among white "middle-class" schoolgirls was just as common.

Mrs Thomas said later that she was startled by the response to her remarks as she had no intention of shocking the conference with her revelations on teenage sex.

"We intend giving the youngsters enough information and the necessary skills to make the right choices for the right reasons, and not just because their parents, friends or teachers say so."

Parents tended to shy away from discussing sex with their offspring because

they found it embarrassing, said Mrs Thomas.

"The sooner we accept that humans are sexual beings, and the sooner we come to terms with that sexuality, the better it will be for everyone."

"Unfortunately, self-consciousness on the part of parents and teachers tends to create the impression that there is something dirty about sex — something which 'nice' people shouldn't discuss."

Experiments

Mrs Thomas said a disappointing number of South African fathers were still guilty of double standards.

"They still think in terms of 'good girls' and 'bad girls'. For example, a man might good-naturedly urge



Mrs MIEMIE THOMAS
Teenage disasters

his son to experiment and 'sow his wild oats' and at the same time threaten to kill anyone who touches his daughter.

"My question to that man is: Who would you like your son to practice on?"

Mrs Thomas said too few parents recalled those confusing adolescent years when hormones ran riot and sex was an exciting unknown.

"Despite their supposed sophistication, teenagers still experiment and still make sad mistakes," she said.

The Department of National Health's major objective was to postpone a first sexual experience as long as possible, and to postpone pregnancy at least to the age of 20, she said.

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regret it?

Fam Anon aims to help with rehabilitation

By Kate McKinnell

It takes guts to admit you are a child abuser with the current surge of public abhorrence, but a Cape Town mother has done so in order to help others like herself.

Founder of a Cape Town group to help abuser parents, she spoke frankly at a conference on child abuse in Johannesburg recently, and has asked that her name not be used purely to protect her family.

Rosemary, as she will be called, founded Fam Anon amid warnings that it would not work in South Africa, but her success has now won her ac-

tive professional support and several people are keen to follow her example in Johannesburg.

"I suppose my own experience has all the textbook factors — although I was 27 when I had my first child, I was immature, and had never learnt to give and take or deal with conflict.

"I was suffering from severe depression and premenstrual tension, my husband was very ill, we were under financial pressure and my three children were born soon after each other.

"To make things worse, my first child had a severe learning disabili-

Abuser mother offers support

ity and I blamed myself. I found myself rejecting her and gradually beginning to abuse her," says Rosemary.

Finally, she sought help after hearing a radio programme, but it was only after a long and often unsuccessful battle that the situation began to improve.

Rosemary found she

could identify other parents in the same predicament, just by observing them and listening to the comments they made, and she became determined to help.

"I felt no one can understand or help more than parents who have been through it, themselves.

"I knew there was a

support group in the United States but I was told it could never work here. I was determined and wrote to organisations all over the world," says Rosemary.

Starting off slowly, she began working with Lifeline, taking calls from abuser parents.

Soon she was invited to join a body working to prevent child abuse and more recently she has become a recognised Lifeline counsellor, helping parents over the phone and face to face.

Rosemary says Fam Anon works mainly to provide support and to link parents with helping professionals. It is entirely non-judgmental, and encourages abuser parents to seek help.

"We try to combat the 'monster' image which

abusing parents are being given so they may feel less hesitant to come forward.

"We hope more professionals will co-operate with Fam Anon so that we can refer parents effectively.

"Most important, we want to make more use

of the community by assisting parents who have been ap-
themselves to corner organisations to help others.

Fam Anon also aims to provide information and support, and interested can be contacted at the Johannesburg Cent 7736.



HELP AT HAND: Child abusers can now contact for support.

presentations differently but in general said that they dealt with the ecological impact which posed development on the natural area, the unsuitability of the area for the present, the problems to be expected and the fact that the supply of water had not been met by adequate

situation at this time the application was being investigated and different questions by the objectors objections are being taken into. The objections have been informed

en investigated Administration's and Environmental and the Department of Environmental Institute research of the impact of the physical effect of sediments and bay area before Keurboom environmental environmental part of the land also be

will be re-appointment of staff of the station on the development will be

R, the development which is expected, but it is studies will be out in collaboration with the Administration

tion's Department of Nature and Environmental Conservation.

- (3) A press statement was issued on 12 May 1987 and further statements will follow if deemed necessary.

Durban North: telephone services

*18. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Communications.

Whether any applications for (a) telephone services and (b) post office boxes are outstanding in the Durban North constituency; if so, (i) how many were outstanding in each case as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (ii) when is it anticipated that the backlog will be eliminated?

The MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS:

- (a) Yes;
- (i) 10 as at 31 May 1987, and
- (ii) a minor cable work to provide one applicant with telephone service is expected to be completed by the end of July 1987. Provision of service to four other applicants is dependent on the necessary entry pipes being made available by the contractors or owners of the relative buildings. The remaining five applications will be satisfied as soon as the buildings where the services are required have been completed,
- (b) yes,
- (i) eight at the Durban North and three at the Northway post office as at 13 July 1987, and
- (ii) owing to a shortage of space at the post offices concerned, the backlog cannot be eliminated by the installation of additional private boxes. New accommodation which will make provision for an adequate number of boxes is being planned for both offices, but will, according to present indications, only become available

by the middle of 1989. The waiting applicants can be accommodated at the nearby Glen Ashley or Red Hill Post Offices in the interim, but they do not wish to rent boxes at either of these offices.

Melmoth: children's court

*19. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Justice:

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 22 on 16 June 1987, the proceedings of the children's court in Melmoth have been concluded; if not, when is it anticipated that they will be concluded; if so, (a) when and (b) what were the findings?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

No. I caused enquiries to be made and it appears that the proceedings of the Children's Court, Melmoth, will be proceeded with on 30 July 1987.

Teachers detained

*20. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Education and Development:

- (1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 104 on 16 June 1987, the 147 teachers who were detained are still in the employ of his Department, if not, (a) why not and (b) when did they cease to be in the employ of his Department, if so,
- (2) whether any disciplinary action has been taken against any of these teachers, if so, (a) why, (b) what action and (c) with what result;
- (3) whether any of these teachers have lost any possible salary increases, benefits or other privileges attached to their employment; if so, (a) what increases, benefits or privileges and (b) why,
- (4) whether any of these teachers have been transferred for reasons other than their own request; if so, (a) how many, (b) what schools were involved

Cayco, former 'gangsters' in joint bid to fight crime

By VUYO BAVUMA

THE Cape Youth Congress (Cayco) and former "gangsters" have joined forces to curb crime in African townships in the Peninsula.

So far, the Guguletu Section 2 branch of Cayco, a UDF affiliate, has formed a joint interim eight-member committee with the former gang members.

The committee comprises four street representatives from each side.

The scheme is aimed at making the neighbourhood safe, according to a Cayco spokesperson serving on the committee.

tee.

"It was becoming difficult for many people to travel in some sections of our area.

"Violent crimes such as murder, stabbing and robbery were becoming the order of the day, especially over week-ends," she said.

Some of these acts were committed in broad daylight but people were afraid to report the incidents to the police.

"In one weekend three people were stabbed to death in the NY3A area. We then decided to take steps to remedy the situation.

"So far, we have had five 'educational' meetings with some of the perpetrators of these acts. We explained the short-comings of their actions. Initially it was difficult to persuade them. Some cited unemployment as reasons for their actions," she said.

She claimed the crime rate had decreased remarkably since the initiative started eight weeks ago.

She said more projects involving Cayco members, former members of gangs and unemployed youths would be started soon.

"We want to engage all the parties in some form of activity. The next stage is to sell the concept to the broader community. After all, the whole idea will crumble if everyone isn't involved," she said.

She said the plan was being hampered by the fact that they could not hold meetings freely in the townships.

A former gang member, said they agreed in principle with Cayco's views and would support their programme of action to eradicate hoodliganism in the townships.

guilt? We love you.

Winnie as patron of OFS youth

By VUSI GUNENE

THE Free State Youth Congress, launched in Durban last weekend, has elected activist Winnie Mandela, wife of jailed ANC leader, Nelson Mandela, and Patrick "Terror" Lekota, former UDF national publicity secretary and currently on trial for treason, as honorary presidents.

The launch was moved to Durban apparently because of problems involved in acquiring a venue in the Free State.

Fryco is an affiliate of the 600 000-strong South African Youth Congress, the largest UDF affiliate, launched four months ago. Six hundred delegates from 42 townships attended; the group claims a membership of 23 000.

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The spirit of Khayamnandi

1/8/87

Why the Hole-in-the-Wall gang are going places

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by IRVING STEYN, Weekend Argus News Editor

THE Hole-in-the-Wall Gang are going places.

Their one-block home, which was converted from the old Langa barracks after they were found living in a hole in the wall of the Liesbeeck River at Rondebosch, has become a project which will cost up to R500 000 and increase the number of boys from the present 25 to a possible 100.

Khayamnandi — Sweet Home — as it is called, is being run by the Western Province Baptist Association and is the only home for black boys in the Western Cape.

Bigger

With the help of Peninsula Round Table 77, plans have been drawn up to convert the remaining three barracks blocks, which are in ruins, to make the home four times bigger.

The scheme has largely been made possible by the Southern Baptist Convention in the United States through their local missionaries and help to the tune of R20 000 from Baptist World Aid. There has also been a lot of local public support.

The Round Table movement is investigating the possibility of tagging Khayamnandi to its annual Christmas tree sale while the official Baptist publication

less children, and most of all, to gain their confidence," said Mrs Terry Blakeley, Khayamnandi's vice chairman.

Most come from the Rondebosch area and from the vicinity haunted by the Hole-in-the-Wall Gang.

"We were able to get the Rondebosch Congregational Church Hall, a stone's throw away from the shopping centre and have held five soup kitchens, on Tuesday and Fridays."

Contact

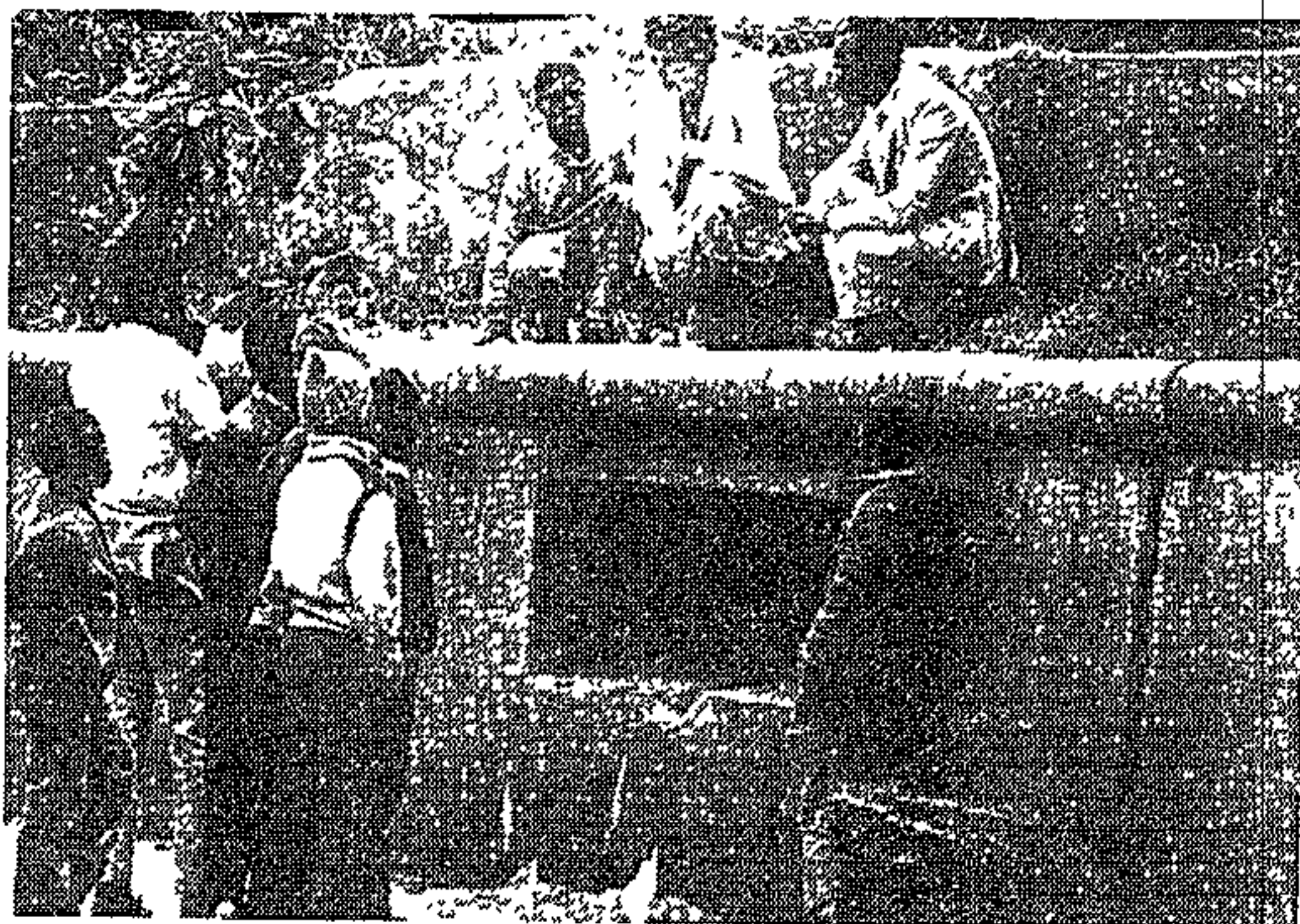
It was thought at first that the kitchen would attract about five children, and at the most 20. But after only seven sessions the average attendance is 25. Most of the utensils and soup are donated by Pick 'n Pay.

"It is a point of contact, somewhere the children can come to when they get into trouble and from where we can refer them to either Khayamnandi, the Homestead or even to hospital."

Mrs Blakeley said they were at first a bit wary of having a doctor and nurses in attendance because it was felt their presence may frighten the children off.

"But, to our surprise, they are queuing to see the doctor and to have somebody to talk to."

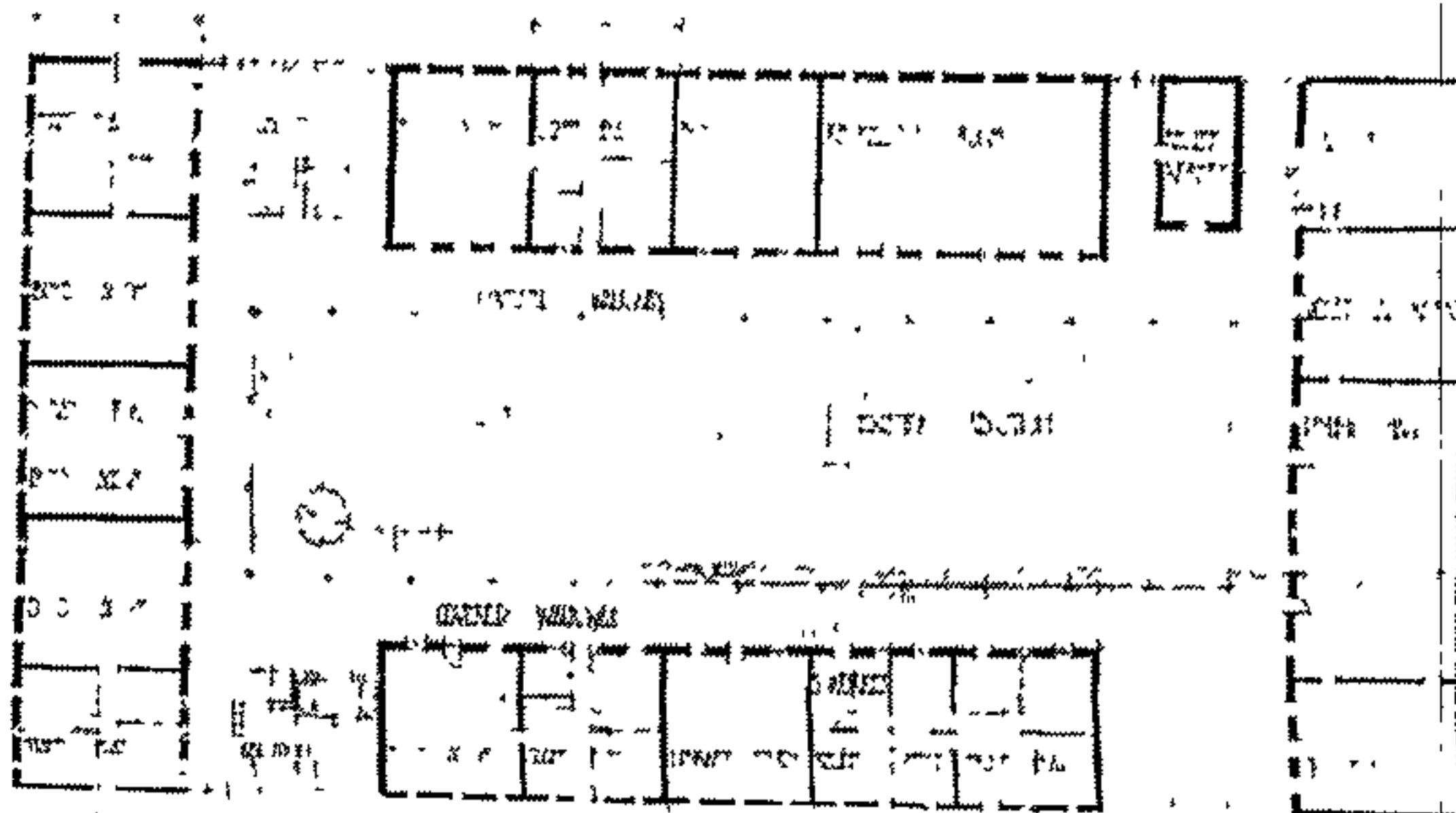
What it was: A HOLE



What it is: A HOUSE



What it will be: A MANSION



in the United States especially sent out a reporter and photographer to write about the project.

The first priority will be to establish a nerve centre for the home consisting of an office, reception area, a flat for the home's director, an office for the social worker, and a library/study.

Workshop

The boys will be divided into units of 15, each unit under the supervision of house parents. Three additional staff flats and two additional ablution blocks and a recreation room will be built.

The block the boys are occupying at the moment will be converted into a dining hall, a modern kitchen, a laundry, a store room and a vocational workshop.

According to the Rev Sydney Hudson-Reed, Western Province coordinator of the Baptist Association, "the response to the compassion which motivated the establishment of the home has been heart-warming".

Meanwhile, Khayamnandi has established a soup kitchen a stone's throw away from the Hole-in-the-Wall, the main purpose being to make contact with the black street children.

While the original gang does not exist as such anymore — most are still in the care of Khayamnandi — the problem still exists.

Tattered

Small boys still beg for money to buy glue to sniff from shoppers at the Fountain Shopping Centre next to the canal. They are still filthy and tattered and many have bad chests and colds. And they are always hungry.

"We want to find out more about these home-

Launch of OFS youth congress

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By SELLO SERIPE

TREASON trialist and UDF national publicity secretary "Terror" Lekota and community leader Winnie Mandela have been elected co-presidents of the newly launched Free State Youth Congress.

The launch was held in Durban at the weekend and was attended by 800 delegates from youth congress members in the OFS, as well as representatives from Cosatu, the SA Youth Congress, National Education Union of SA, Federation of SA Women and the National Education and Health Workers' Union.

Smangaish Mahlakazela was elected president of Fryco, the largest youth congress in the province, with 42 Free State congresses affiliated to it.

Fryco has already opted to affiliate to Sayco, which boasts 500 000 members and 700 000 active supporters.

As Fryco claims to have 23 000 members and 50 000 active supporters, it is possibly also the largest Sayco affiliate.

Fryco president Mahlakazela said that, in its program of action, the congress would commit itself to opposing the intended incorporation of Botsha-

belo location into Qwaqwa.

Fryco also resolved to back all campaigns undertaken by "democratic organisations" and wholeheartedly pledged its support for the "Save the 32 compatriots from the hangman's noose" campaign initiated by Sayco.

Winnie Mandela



Where Soweto's problem children find loving care

By Inga Molzen

Home from home for a group of "problem" Sowetan children is a corrugated-iron day-care centre in Roodepoort Road, Mofolo South, Soweto.

Since the Sanca day-care centre was started in December 1984, youngsters aged from seven to 15, who are dependent on sniffing glue or benzine, have found a refuge from their overcrowded homes — and two meals a day.

But when the 8 am to 4 pm classes are over the children have to return to their homes.

Mr Tshabalala, the centre's social worker, who has had 25 years experience in boys' recreation clubs, says giving up drugs isn't easy.

Most of the children start by sniffing benzine, then turn to glue for an immediate "high".

"Without treatment they may become addicts, dropouts or criminals."

These township glue-sniffers still live with their families, many in the poorest areas: White City, Jabavu and Mofolo South.

Mr Tshabalala monitors their home environment and school progress, and counsels the whole family.

Dependent on donations from Sanca's Johannesburg branch, the centre relies on temporary staff members — including a 22-year-old unqualified teacher. Monthly running costs are about R3 000.

There is also out-patient treatment for alcohol and drug dependants, which may include parents.

The rehabilitation process may take between six weeks and six months.



Learning new habits... from 8 am to 4 pm the children attend classes on subjects such as hygiene and table manners.

Homeless, glue-sniffing children appearing

By Seruthu Seruthu

BLOEMFONTEIN — Young glue-sniffing addicts are emerging in Bloemfontein.

They live in alleys and sleep in cardboard boxes with other homeless or runaway children. The children, who are five to 13 years old, roam the streets in gangs and are sometimes sexually abused. They beg outside cinemas or in the streets

and sometimes sell newspapers.

It is estimated there are at least 150 of these street children and the problem seems to be on the increase.

The children, who often come from poor surrounding areas, are drawn to the city by the possibility of work and are forced to sleep in town.

Social workers say the children often come from broken or foster homes where there

is frequent alcohol abuse and little money for the family.

Children often join gangs to meet the fundamental need to belong to a group and thus become susceptible to pressure which can ultimately lead to involvement in drugs and crime.

"Many of the kids are too young to understand the full implications of their activities," a social worker said.

Medics support children's code

Staff Reporter

THE Faculty of Medicine at the University of Cape Town hopes a code of conduct for the treatment of children will become the accepted, legislated and practised norm in South Africa.

The code of conduct "Children in Detention: A code for their handling" was drafted by Dr. O J Ransome who teaches at Wits University. He is also an executive member of the Paediatric Association.

In a letter to the August edition of the South African Medical Journal, the executive committee of UCT's Faculty of Medicine said the document was an important addition to the existing ethical literature dealing with the care of detained and imprisoned children.

The committee called for an end to prolonged detention without trial.

One of the key points of the code is that no child should be imprisoned for longer than two days without a court order.

Another is that a report explaining why arrest was deemed necessary should be available within 24 hours of the arrest for scrutiny by parents, legal representatives and welfare officers.

liament in terms of section 72 of the Internal Security Act, 1982.
(a) and (b) Fall away

Detainees: audio/video tapes

*12 Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Justice

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 6 on 26 May 1987, the audio and video tapes used to monitor the non-privileged visits of detainees held under emergency regulations are retained for any period of time after they have been checked by prison officials; if so, (a) why, (b) for what period, (c) where are they kept and (d) who has access to these tapes; if not, what happens to these tapes once they have been checked by officials?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER (for the Minister of Justice):

The hon member will probably agree that I furnished full particulars in my reply to Question No 6 of 26 May 1987, as to the reasons for the monitoring of non-privileged visits to prisoners. I also went out of my way to confirm that all such visits have to take place within the sight and hearing of a member of the South African Prisons Service, for certain understandable reasons and according to internationally accepted practice. Therefore, staff are present for the duration of such visits and are responsible for and mindful of making observations. I also mentioned that under these circumstances modern technology is used where it is available, but also added that I do not consider it in the interests of security to furnish further particulars regarding the technology used.

I did not say in my reply on 26 May 1987 that audio- and video tapes are used for monitoring purposes. The way in which the present question has been framed, makes it difficult for me to give a full reply, as I normally try to do.

I can only confirm that the South African Prisons Service deals very discreetly with the information that does come into its possession.

Mixed couples

*13 Mr F J LE ROUX asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:†

Whether applications for the issue of permits in terms of section 26 (1) of the Group Areas Act, No 36 of 1966, to couples who have entered into mixed marriages to reside permanently in White areas notwithstanding the provisions of the above-mentioned Act are considered on the basis of certain criteria; if so, what criteria are used for this purpose?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING

Yes. Applications are considered by the various Provincial Administrations in terms of the criteria laid down in section 21 of the Group Areas Act, 1966.

State President: advertisements

*14. Mr F J LE ROUX asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs:†

What was the total cost of advertisements published by the State President in this capacity in publications abroad from 4 September 1984 to 1 June 1987?

†The MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS:

No advertisement was placed by the Department of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the State President in this capacity in publications abroad between 4 September 1984 and 1 June 1987.

Children detained

*15. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Law and Order

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 31 on 23 June, 1987, any children as defined in the Child Care Act, No 74 of 1983, were being detained in the Republic as at 10 June 1987 without any charges having been brought against them; if so, how many children who were under the age of (a) 18 and (b) 16 were being detained as at the above date.

(2) whether these figures include children in the national states who were being detained without charges having been brought against them?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) and (2) A list of names of persons in terms of section 3 (4) of the Public Safety Act, 1953 (Act 3 of 1953) will be tabled in Parliament shortly.

NOTE: The list will include the names of persons detained in the national states.

Mr R M BURROWS: Arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, can he tell the House whether the listing will contain the ages of the persons detained?

The MINISTER: Mr Speaker, I am not sure, but as far as I know, the answer is no.

Policemen at political meetings

*16 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Law and Order:

Whether any policemen from the (a) Cape Town and (b) Wynberg police district were present at any political meetings in the course of their duties during the 1987 general election campaign, if not, why not; if so, (i) at which meetings, (ii) (aa) where and (bb) when were they held, (iii) who were the speakers at these meetings and (iv) who requested that policemen be present?

†The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(a) and (b) Yes.

(i) to (iii) At all meetings of the respective political parties in the police districts of Cape Town and Wynberg, which came to the notice of the South African Police and during which Ministers, Deputy Ministers and Members of Parliament acted as speakers.

Because election campaigns were conducted in an intensive manner, compiling the particulars is an enormous and time-consuming task and this information is, therefore, not readily available.

(iv) The Divisional Commissioner of the Western Province directed personal requests to the various political parties that they inform the South African Police of political meetings, so that they could as far as possible maintain a police presence at all such meetings, as this is a normal police function.

In only a few instances were the requests adhered to. Where the South African Police, however, had knowledge of meetings, an unobtrusive presence was maintained with the sole intention of ensuring law and order.

The South African Police complied with all such requests that were received from the political parties

Social pensions

*17. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

(1) Whether consideration is being given to paying social pensions to Black persons (a) on a monthly basis and (b) by way of transfers into savings accounts; if not, why not, if so,

(2) whether any progress has been made in implementing these changes; if so, (a) what progress and (b) when is it anticipated that these changes will be implemented; if not, (i) why not and (ii) what steps are to be taken in this regard,

(3) what is the most recent estimate of the number of Black persons in the Republic, excluding the national states, who are (a) of pensionable age and (b) being paid pensions by the State?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING:

(1) (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(2) Yes.

New unit will help children

A new facility for language and hearing-impaired children began to be built in Parktown today.

The facility, an extension to existing units run by the Witwatersrand University's Speech Therapy Department, was sponsored by the Kensington Round Table. It will have a home environment in which the children will receive therapy.

UNABLE TO COPE

It is hoped pre-school children treated there will be able to be integrated into normal schools.

Language and hearing-impaired children are unable to cope with normal schooling. Even everyday terms such as bed, cat, dog, house are unfamiliar to them.

Donations of building services, materials or furnishings would be welcomed. Enquiries should be directed to Barbara Evans at (011) 787-9700.

Koornhof ready for political onslaught

US puts pressure on detentions, rent

Star 7/8/8 298

By Alan Dunn, The Star Bureau

Washington

Senior United States congressmen and American multinational companies are urging the South African Government to act on the detention of children and to drop proposed legislation to deduct arrear rents from the pay packets of black workers.

Conservative congressmen have appealed to the South African Embassy in Washington for an independent verification of the number of youths in detention. They have suggested a complaints office to accept charges involving the abuse of these children.

This emerged yesterday in an interview with the South

African Ambassador to Washington, Dr Piet Koornhof, who has launched an early diplomatic offensive to counter another political onslaught against South Africa on Capitol Hill in the next two to three months.

Dr Koornhof is trying to defuse attempts, now being prepared, to increase economic sanctions against South Africa.

He said the issues of children in detention and black rents were the two main danger areas being brought to his attention by multinationals who wanted to remain in South Africa and by sympathetic congressmen.

American companies had told him they were "hanging on by their fingernails" in South Africa and that a law forcing them to collect rent from wages would cause another flood of disinvestment.

"It is a very important point we think, because it is an emotional issue here that will play straight into the hands of the disinvestment lobby," Dr Koornhof said.

Calls endorsed

Dr Koornhof also endorsed calls from conservative congressmen for independent confirmation of South African Government claims that there were fewer than 200 minor detainees, all of them being held in connection with serious crimes.

Human rights groups and anti-apartheid campaigners have so far ignored the South African Government's statistics published by Dr Koornhof in Washington on June 25.

On the alleged abuse of children, Dr Koornhof said a complaints office where people could make specific charges under oath would "certainly take us out of this rut".

He revealed that between 30 and 50 congressional aides were visiting South Africa or were about to do so.

"These people are young but are the eyes and ears of congressmen. They have an influence in this place.

"They work for very important people," he said, noting that two represented candidates for next year's presidential election.

THE ECONOMY

UNTIL very recently in South Africa, the fastest way to lose your job in a shop or factory was to become pregnant.

For many workers this meant instant dismissal. No severance pay. No guarantee of future employment. No guarantee of much future at all.

Desperation has led some into back-alley abortions or dangerous ploys to try hiding the fact from employers as long as possible (one woman strapped down her stomach until she miscarried); it has led others into private re-hiring deals with their bosses which have forced them to return to work almost immediately after the birth.

This was accepted practice, not even questioned by the workers themselves, who received dismissal as a necessary evil. And as far as employers were concerned, such Dickensian methods were not only acceptable but desirable ("There is no need to make concessions as there is a large working group to choose from," was one argument).

South African labour legislation, which stipulates that women must stop working for a month before and two months after a birth, has never offered protection from dismissal — if anything, this law exacerbates the problem by paving the way for employers to get rid of pregnant women altogether.

The historic first maternity agreement reached in this country was negotiated by the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union of South Africa and the OK Bazaars in 1983. A proposal, encompassing mostly job security and health and safety aspects of confinement, was put forward to a stunned management who refused for a solid year to agree even to negotiate such an issue. They referred scathingly to the document as the "maternity scenario", although today are quick to capitalise on having been "the first".

It is only in the last four years that, largely through the efforts of Congress of South African Trade Union affiliates, some workers have won such fundamental rights as the ability to bear children without losing their jobs, along with a degree of financial security during the period of absence — rights established by the International Labour Organisation 68 years ago.

Since then, significant victories have been gained in the retail, chemical, metal, food and textile industries.

Many of the agreements unions have signed with employers afford women six months' maternity leave. And some of the agreements further commit employers to pay workers part of their wages while they are away. The more comprehensive maternity agreements protect pregnant women from health hazards in the workplace and allow them paid time off to attend ante and post natal clinics.

It is telling of the level at which unions are having to push employers on this issue when it is revealed that negotiating points include the demand that pregnant workers be allowed to "go to the toilet whenever they wish and this shall not be monitored". It makes agreements such as those struck by Ccawusa with Metro Cash and Carry in 1985 and Chemical Workers' Industrial Union with Rolfes a year later, all the more astonishing.

The Metro agreement, regarded as the most all-round comprehensive deal struck to date, includes 12 months maternity leave with the guaranteed right to return to work, paternity leave, health and safety protection for pregnant and nursing workers and free baby goods. The Rolfes agreement, the most far-reaching yet on the pay issue, makes available six-and-a-half

South African law, which stipulates that women stop working a month before and two months after a birth, has never offered protection from dismissal — if anything, the law lays the way for employers to get rid of pregnant women. But some landmark agreements between employers and unions are changing that

months leave at full pay

It is not only in individual factories that maternity rights are being won. Two national industrial council agreements gazetted within the last month have made maternity rights statutory in the steel and engineering industry and in the textile industry. The leave periods and pay specified in these agreements are not as good as unions have been winning in factory level negotiations. But what is significant about minimum conditions won in the industrial councils is they cover entire industries — and give protection to unorganised workers.

The unions in these industries will be using the industrial council minimums as bases from which to negotiate more comprehensive agreements for workers in individual workplaces.

Some of Cosatu's unions have called for paternity leave as well — and in certain cases, particularly in retail, this right has been won, albeit at a basic level (two to three days). However, the principle of paternity rights is significant in terms of the new thinking emerging in union circles.

If only four years ago employers were outraged

by the notion of maternity rights, there is no telling — yet — how they may react to Ccawusa's latest proposal that both men and women receive the same benefits when a child is born under the sweeping new banner of "Parental Rights".

Pick 'n Pay is about to become the other team in South Africa's first parental rights agreement, compliments of Ccawusa which has used Sweden as its model on the subject. It leaves "maternity rights" standing alongside "bra-burning" in the archive of outdated concepts for change.

The objective of this agreement is to ensure that "women employees are not unfairly discriminated against on the grounds of pregnancy and that male and female employees who are parents of young children are able to fully exercise their parental responsibilities". The proposal further requires the company to acknowledge that the family carries the major expense of childrearing; that young workers entering the workplace were fed, clothed and educated by present workers, that the company profits from the labour of workers; and

that therefore the company agree to contribute "directly towards the making of the next generation of workers".

Demands contained within this novel proposal, which will reach other companies within the year, include:

- Fourteen months leave until the child is four years old. Of the 14 months, parents may save leave for later occasions until the child's fourth birthday. Both parents may share the leave if they both work for the company. This provision also applies to adoptive parents.
- Full normal weekly wages for the parent for 10 of the 14 months.
- Full pension fund and medical aid coverage during parental absence.
- The transfer of pregnant employees with physically demanding jobs with the proviso that if the company is unable to do this, they should be given an extra two months leave.
- That employees returning to work be entitled to any increase awarded during the leave period including bonuses.

THE NEW AGREEMENTS: BETTER JOB SECURITY, BETTER PAY WHILE ON LEAVE

THE basic right which all the maternity agreements negotiated by Cosatu unions has given workers is job security. The agreements, at plant or industrial council level, provide leave for or guaranteed re-employment for women due to give birth.

In addition, many of the agreements oblige employers to pay women at least part of their wages while they are on leave.

And some of them contain health and safety clauses which protect pregnant and nursing workers.

South African labour legislation provides no protection against dismissal for pregnant women. The Basic Conditions of Employment Act, which sets minimum working conditions for all manual workers, prevents women from continuing to work for a month before and two months after confinement. It's this provision which has often resulted in women losing their jobs.

Most of the maternity agreements which the trade unions have negotiated guarantee that their jobs will be kept for them for up to six months.

National industrial council agreements in the steel and engineering industry and in the textile manufacturing industry allow women to take six months off, to cover the period before during and after the birth.

The textile workers have won six months authorised unpaid leave, while in terms of the steel and engineering agreement, pregnant workers have to resign but are guaranteed their jobs back.

What is significant about both these agreements is that they cover all workplaces in these industries — thus providing protection even for unorganised workers — and their provisions have the force of law.

However, industrial council agreements, because they cover all employers in an industry, tend to cater to the lowest common denominator.

Trade unions which have negotiated maternity rights on a factory by factory basis have in some cases won much better terms. The Ccawusa agreement with Metro Cash and Carry gives 12 months leave. Some of the agreements in the chemical industry provide 10 months.

But in other industries trade unions have only succeeded in winning three months' job security. The maternity agreement at BMW, for example, only grants three months' leave. Agreements which the National Union of Mineworkers has negotiated also provide only three months.

Not all workers qualify for maternity leave. Usually, only those who have been on the company's payroll for at least 12 months are entitled to take time off.

Metro agreement is again an exception. There is only a one-day qualifying period and the company may not refuse to employ workers on the grounds that they are pregnant. But particularly stringent on this score is the engineering agreement — which grants rights only to women who have been with a company for two years.

This was a contentious issue in negotiations, says

Numsa's Adrienne Bird. The engineering employers initially insisted that there should be a qualifying period of five years. This would have meant women workers were limited to one pregnancy every five years if they wanted to keep their jobs. Numsa's members refused to accept this clause and the employers compromised on this, as they did on their initial demand that plants employing fewer than 10 women be excluded from the agreement.

The qualifying period is not the only problem in this industrial council agreement. In both textiles and engineering, the maternity clauses cover only those workers whose wages are prescribed by the industrial council agreement. This tends to exclude some women, for example teamleaders.

Ensuring that all workers are entitled to these rights will be one of Numsa's priorities in plant level negotiations.

Job security is an important victory for the unions. But perhaps even more significant is what is being won now in terms of pay.

For women workers, usually in very low paid jobs and often the sole breadwinners for their families, taking six months off work to have a baby may be an intolerable financial burden.

A survey of 885 black women workers by Jackie Cock, Erica Emdon and Barbara Klugman in 1983 indicated that over half of the mothers interviewed went back to work when their last child was six months old or younger. "Economic necessity propels most of these African women

into wage labour — often reluctantly," the three researchers conclude.

The consequences for the health of the babies — and of the mothers — can be serious.

The Health Information Centre has emphasised the importance of breastfeeding to combat diseases such as gastro enteritis and diarrhoea. 140 of every 1 000 black babies in South Africa die each year and the main cause is gastro enteritis, a disease related to socio-economic conditions.

"If a mother returns to work before her infant is six months old it will significantly affect the health of the infant. It will prevent optimum nutrition. The child will be liable to diarrhoeal and respiratory infections which are potentially fatal," says a document compiled by HIC.

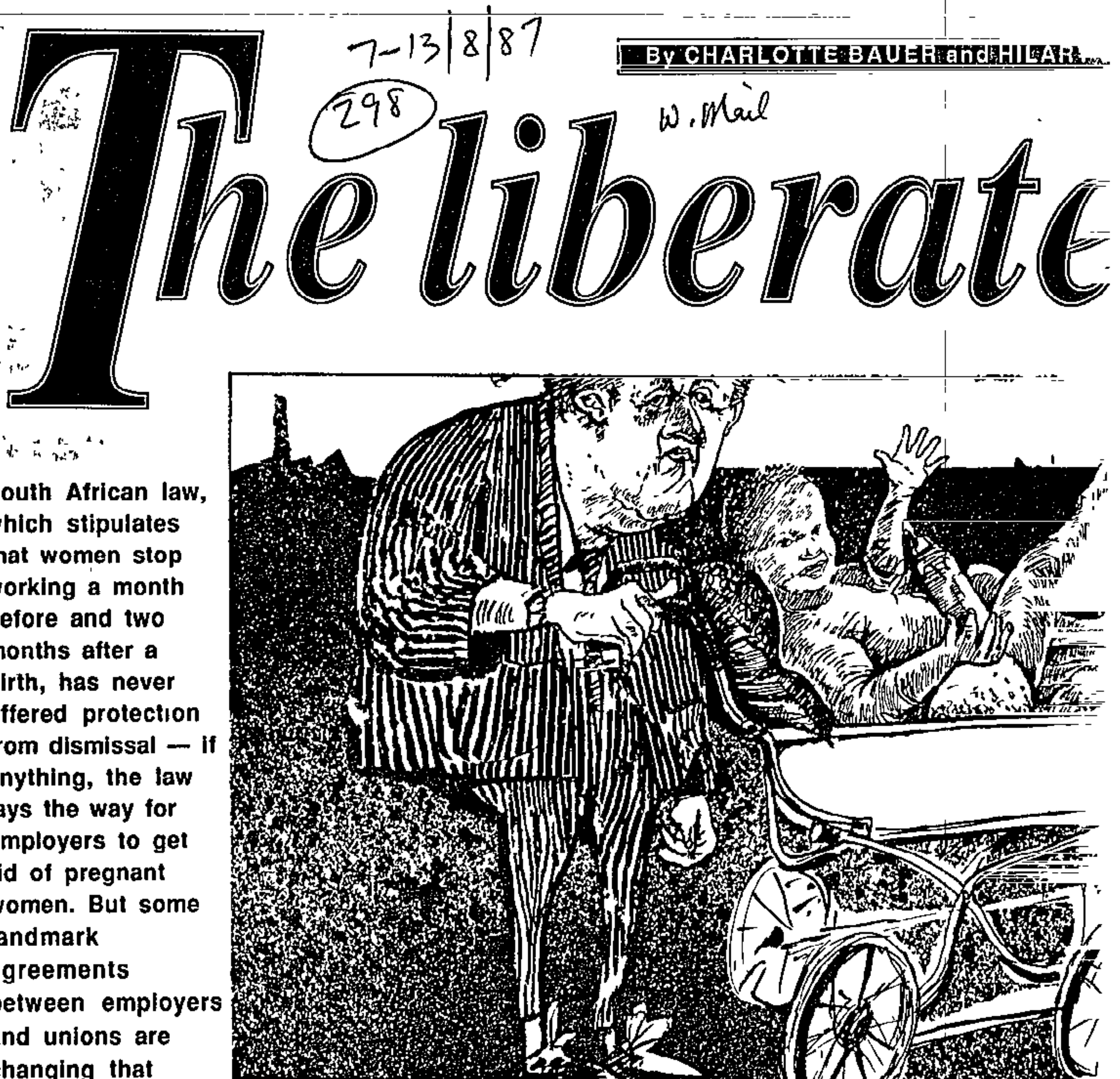
Women who stop work to have babies can claim from the Unemployment Insurance Fund.

But there are many problems for these women in the workings of the UIF system and it is these that the unions are trying to address in their negotiations for maternity pay.

UIF offers women maternity pay — but to get UIF benefits for a full six months a worker would have had to contribute to the fund continuously for three years.

The amount paid out is 45 percent of normal wages — and that is on condition the worker is not getting paid more than a third of her wages by her employer.

Many maternity agreements — Metro, for example — thus provide for employers to pay



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That it is agreed that women and men must have equal opportunity to combine gainful employment with family life.

A criticism of this non-sexist, family concerned approach is that many men will abuse such rights and not use the hard-bargained time off playing responsible parent.

Some labour movement sources have expressed reservations about the commitment of male workers to this issue and profess reluctance to negotiate extensively on their behalf.

Cawusa negotiations co-ordinator, Jeremy Daphne, disagrees. While admitting that the possibility existed of some men using parental leave as an opportunity to broaden their experience of shebeens, he asserts that a start must be made somewhere.

"It is important to establish the principle and provide the necessary space for men to at least start moving in the right direction in terms of being properly responsible parents," Daphne adds that as these provisions are being negotiated, the union is running education programmes on this

subject. "These days we're getting some very surprising and positive responses from men — especially the worker leadership, who are putting across the idea that responsible parenthood is an admirable characteristic for men too."

Turning around chauvinistic attitudes is not merely a matter of appealing intellectually and morally to die-hard prejudice, but increasingly, a practical necessity. Metro Cash and Carry shop steward Georgina Mbileni points out that, with the urban disintegration of the extended family in favour of the nuclear unit, men have little choice but to participate in child-care.

"Many young couples don't live with their families anymore, so men are being forced to help at home because often there is no-one else."

Mbileni, who was on the negotiating team of the watershed agreement with Metro, has three children — two born before it (the agreement) and one after. She comments that the financial and psychological effects on her own family after benefits became available, improved substantially.

"To know that with the birth of my third child I

women one third of their wages during the maternity leave period. The assumption is a worker will be receiving 78 percent of her usual wage.

But the UIF system is inflexible on maternity — women can only get paid for four months before and two months after the birth. And it means that a woman who can take six months off after the baby is born can claim UIF money for only two of these months.

This is a problem unions still have to address.

But certain unions have won far-reaching victories on the maternity pay issue. The Rolles agreement negotiated by the CWIU gives workers six-and-a-half months' leave at full pay. CWIU now has maternity agreements at 32 factories, of which 18 are paying full leave.

While all the agreements guarantee women their jobs, many still do not provide for pay. The two industrial council agreements in textiles and engineering cover job security but not maternity pay.

But in the steel and engineering industries, women workers can now claim maternity pay for six months from the Sick Pay Fund administered by the industrial council. The amount they can claim is 50 percent of the minimum wage for their pay grade. Since payments from the fund do not count as wages, women on maternity leave can claim these and still get UIF.

The National Union of Metal Workers is negotiating in individual workplaces for employers to make up the difference between amounts received from UIF and the Sick Pay Fund and women

workers' full wages.

In the homelands, getting UIF payments can be particularly difficult. At BMW the agreement negotiated by the union provides for women to be paid by the company in cases where they cannot get UIF, since many live in homeland townships.

Unions such as the NUM, Cawusa, and CWIU have also been demanding paternity leave for the biological fathers. Here, there has not been much success.

The NUM's demands for paternity leave have not been met by any employers. CWIU was the first union to win paternity leave for workers and now has this at 20 factories. Cawusa, too, has negotiated paternity leave in some retail chains.

An important issue in negotiations for maternity — or parental — rights for workers are those around health and safety. Unions have demanded that pregnant women be relieved of jobs which could endanger their health. And they have called for paid time off for pregnant women to attend ante natal clinics.

Neither of the industrial council agreements include such provisions, but health and safety clauses are a feature of many of the plant level maternity agreements.

Many of these maternity agreements have been negotiated by unions in industries where women workers are not a majority. This is an indication of the unions' commitment to the question as a broader working class issue rather than simply a "woman's issue."

would not be left financially destitute and with no guarantee of getting my job back, eased the pressure on the whole family. Now we must fight very hard for proper child care facilities."

Current moves to broaden maternity issues into not only family issues, but by implication, social and community responsibility, is still embryonic and mostly paper-bound. But then, so was practical progression on basic maternity rights five years ago. Education programmes in support of these issues are ceaseless.

Union negotiators agree that the mechanics of change in this area, as in many others, is a long, hard haggle. First you establish principles; most are rejected, a few accepted, you expect that. You put them forward again. Next time round a couple more are accepted and the stakes are upped on others ... and so it goes on.

CWIU's Chris Bonner is frank about the present limitations of the battlefield. "In practise the fight is still squarely on the maternity front in factories. This is now seen as an automatic issue and is pushed pretty hard. Company resistance has lessened and it is now very rare to find a company who won't countenance some kind of agreement."

"For the first time this year we tried to involve everyone, not only women because it is a social, political and economic issue not just a 'women's' issue."

A heady resolution about women passed at the first national congress of Cosatu in 1985 made an enormous impact on workers' goals in this area.

Mooted by Cawusa, the resolution resolved, among other things, to fight

● For full maternity rights, including paid maternity and paternity leave and job security

● For the protection of men and women from all types of work proved to be harmful to them, including work which interferes with their ability to have children and

● For child care and family facilities to meet workers' needs and make it easier for them to combine work and family responsibilities

A point significantly left out of the resolution dealt with contraception — it was considered by most unions "too controversial."

But Cawusa believes that the issue of contraception education is vital. Says Daphne, "Companies like Pick 'n' Pay give family planning clinics free access to workers who are then given contraceptive shots with no information back-up. We say the company must take responsibility for informing workers about various forms of contraception — and the drawbacks."

"Managements will still put across the view that it is better to have fewer children — not because they are concerned about population control, but because it becomes expensive for them to bear the costs of pregnant women. Some companies even build in conditions on maternity agreements whose available benefits relate directly to the number and spacing of children a woman has."

Child care is beginning to nudge its way forward as a vital and logical next step. Some progress has been made in terms of women being allowed to visit post and ante natal clinics and maternity leave obviously addresses some of the basic physical requirements of babies. But further than that, more comprehensive care of children up to the age of 12 remains principle-bound.

Again, as sociologist Jacklyn Cock remarks, "this campaign is not a 'women's issue' but a campaign about social responsibility for the care of children."

Cock points to the way in which Cosatu has been stressing the link between the exploitation of workers in the workplace and their oppression outside it. She sees struggles about maternity or paternity rights and childcare as another aspect of trade unions taking up issues affecting workers in the wider community.

This new thinking is becoming less tentative among unions generally, as more begin to address the subject as a working class right.

Cawusa, again using as a blueprint rights that have been established in Sweden, have put together a package on child care that has not yet been tested.

In the South African context, it appears no less than radical, its recommendations including: A six-hour working day for all parents of children under the age of eight, two days paid leave for parents when their children start school, pre-school and after-school child care facilities, a child minding allowance of R50 a month for each child under the age of six, and 18 days paid leave a year to enable parents to care for a sick child under the age of 12.

The priority is for the immediate creation of workplace nurseries to enable mothers to nurse their children during working hours.

The unions themselves have adopted a realistic approach to these seemingly utopian ideals and make no bones about how long some of these demands will take to materialise.

A daunting reminder of the arduous road ahead for the trade unions is that even the rights won to date affect no more than a few thousand workers in a limited number of industries.

Most black women are employed in agriculture and domestic service where there is no labour legislation to protect them at all and unionisation remains in its infancy.

Case study: The model creche at the factory

AFTER workers at BMW negotiated a maternity agreement with employers in 1985, they said to themselves "But we still haven't solved the problem — who is going to look after these children?"

And so the idea of the BMW creche was born. Two years later, the creche is nearing the final planning stage and could be in operation early next year.

When the trade union, then the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union, approached BMW, the German auto manufacturer agreed to the creche proposal in principle. A committee consisting of worker and employer representatives was set up to implement the plan.

The creche, which will cater for the children of all employees at BMW's Rosslyn and Garankuwa plants, is the first such facility negotiated by a trade union.

"We proposed to the company that it was part of their social responsibility to do something about childcare," says BMW shop stewards Solomon Ndlovana and Albert Mateunche.

They see the creche as playing an important role in educating workers' children, equipping them for school and hopefully university.

The committee visited other childcare centres and chose the Montessori model. It hopes to recruit a trained nursery school teacher as principal.

So the object of this creche won't just be to keep the kids off the streets.

At a seminar run in March this year by the Health Information Centre, which has assisted in research for the project, participants identified six objectives for the creche.

It should give parents the peace of mind that comes with knowing their children are safe. Mothers will have a chance to breastfeed. The children's growth will be monitored and they will receive adequate medical care. Proper nutritious food should be provided. Children will get a sense of love and security, stimulating the development of their minds and bodies.

Another benefit is the creche will be non-racial. "We believe it's a very good opportunity for black and white kids to mix," says BMW communications manager Michael Brandt.

BMW is to finance the building of the creche and will subsidise its running costs. But administration of the creche will be in the hands of a social responsibility committee made up of representatives of the company, parents and the union (now the National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa). It is hoped that the creche principal will join the team soon and be involved in the final planning stages.

Setting up a creche is not an easy nor a cheap matter. Stringent regulations, governing such things as the minimum space per child and the number of toilets, have to be met. Creches which take children under the age of two years have to meet particularly strict standards, in terms of facilities.

The BMW creche will cater for children from two to six years old but a decision has not been made on whether it will also take babies.

The major problem holding up the project was finding a site. The creche is likely to be situated at the Rosslyn plant and the company is negotiating the land.

There is a company medical clinic at the Rosslyn plant, with a full time nurse and a doctor who visits regularly. An advantage of having the creche at Rosslyn is children would have access to medical care.

Architects have started working on the plans — in consultation with the committee — but can't go much further until the site is finalised.

The creche planners favoured siting the creche at the Rosslyn plant — rather than where the workers live — because BMW draws its workers from a range of townships, such as Soshanguve, Mabopane, Garankuwa, which are far apart.

As the first project of its kind the creche may serve as a model to other trade unions pushing for employers to get involved in childcare and in the education of workers' children.

Four youths released on bail

By DAN DHLAMINI
POTCHEFSTROOM'S
four young detainees charged under the Internal Security Act, were this week released on R300 bail each.

The youths - 17, 16, and two 15-year-olds - were not asked to plead before Potchefstroom magistrate Schalk van der Sandt.

The 16-year-old, whose name cannot be mentioned because of age, has spent 11 months in detention under emergency regulations before he was charged.

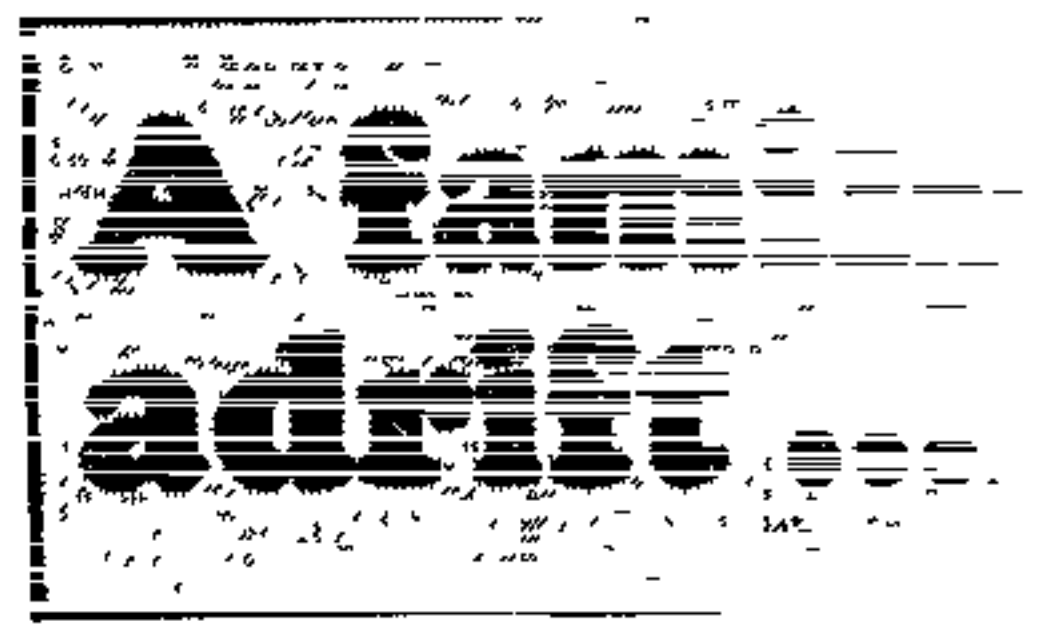
The youths were jubilant after they were released on bail but were visibly nervous as they left the court premises because, earlier on, the 16-year-old youth was redetained immediately after being released.

The magistrate adjourned the case, which was held in camera, until August 19.

Lawyer Shardon Reading said the trial was postponed because the State was awaiting forensic test results.



The sad eyes and faces of the Manyesa kids reflect the tragedy and confusion of these innocent children ... their mother died a few years ago and now their father has been taken away from them. But these brave young ones are not lying down. They are fighting to keep their little heads above water but in today's cruel world it is a difficult task even for the adults to do, let alone innocent children. 9/8/87



Kids face the world all alone

A DOBSONVILLE man, deported to Maputo in June by the authorities, left behind 10 children with no mother to take care of them.

Raphael Manyesa, who was born in Mozambique, had been living in the country since the early 50's.

Manyesa's South Africa born wife passed away in 1985.

Manyesa was not given the comfort to bid his children farewell.

When he was allegedly taken away by two black policemen and a white policeman, the children were at school and the youngest Thulani, 6, had gone out to play.

The children he left behind are Gugu, 22, who are at present serving a jail sentence. Zwelethu, 20, Nkosibantla, 19, Nondumisa, 17, Andrey, 15, Bongani, 13, Dumisane, 12, Joseph, 11, Thembinkosi, 7 and Thulani, 6.

The second eldest son, Zwelethu, who took over the responsibilities of both mother and father, said that their daily existence depend on the good samaritans who usually donated foodstuffs to them.

Story: SELLO SERIPE

Pix: ANDRIES MCINECA

Their father was a motor mechanic and spray-painter and he and Nkosinathi acquired the skills from their father.

"Nkosinathi and myself used to help our father with the work but since his deportation everything had come to a standstill. Unless we get customers, all of us would go to sleep without food," Zwelethu said.

Manyesa had also not paid off a fridge, a television set, a wardrobe and a grocery-unit he bought on hire purchase.

The children fear they would be left in an empty shack if the shop decided to repossess the furniture.

Nondumisa, who is a form one pupil, has to do the washing and help his brother Zwelethu with the house chores.

She fears she and her three little brothers would be forced to leave school because of financial setbacks.

The police said in a telex to City Press they do not have any knowledge of the matter.





HEARTLESS car thieves have found a cruel way to make themselves rich while depriving needy, physically disabled and severely mentally handicapped children, by stealing their only means of transport to and from school - four mini-buses.

Hundreds of school children at the Pumla Training Centre, Phomolong in Soweto, have been left stranded since the beginning of last month after car thieves stole their buses.

The school solely depends on donations to buy mini-buses to transport their pupils, who have already missed more than a month of schooling and medical treatment.

On each occasion police have been called in to investigate the heinous crimes to no avail. It is suspected that the buses are doing their rounds in Soweto as taxis or, perhaps, have been sold to people in neighbouring countries.

The buses are used by the school to fetch the children from their homes for the centre, where they, besides being trained to use their hands, also receive their medical treatment.

The children have not been able to get to the centre and only a few do attend classes.

The thieves first pounced last year when they forcibly broke the gates and drove away in a bus which was later found burnt near Emadwaleni High School, in Dube, Soweto.

No sooner had the school authorities -

through the kind generosity of the public - bought another bus, did the thieves strike again and it was never found.

On July 1, thieves stole another bus which was parked at the home of one of the teachers, Dichabe Monnathebe Monnathebe

said they came at night and drove off in the bus.

Last week Monday, driver Methyl Mokone was on his way to collect the children from their homes at about 7.45 am when he was confronted by three heavily-armed men near a Orlando West service station. The registration numbers of the bus hijacked from Mokone is HRB 136 T.

As a result of the latest theft, the children, some of whom are cerebral palsied with severe mobility impairments, are now without transport.

Mokone said as he approached a stop street, the three men swiftly opened the doors of the bus and forced him off the driver's seat, and before he could ask any questions he was struck with two heavy blows on his face.

"I was forced to sit in between the front seats and ordered to keep quite and not to look out of the windows. I was dumped at Mofolo Park and they vanished," said Mokone.

Acting principal Aaron Sedibane said they were appealing to businessmen and members of the public to help them with donations to buy other buses.

"We humbly appeal to the community to come to our rescue so that we are able to continue to render this badly needed service to the children of Soweto.

"It is a tragic experience that this kind of institution, which looks after the needs of mentally handicapped kids in Soweto, should become a target of vehicle thefts," said Sedibane.

It would seem that these heartless car thieves have, for some time, been preying on the helpless handicapped children by stealing their buses.

Other centres, which have lost their buses in a similar manner are Tsepong in Katlehong, Uncle Ted, Johannesburg, and Phillip Kushlick, Soweto.

Disabled forced to foot it

DERRICK LUTHAYI



(iii) R35 000 divided as follows:

R22 000 to the firm Brunette Kruger Stoffberg Incorporated, and R13 000 to the firm Transport Info who also participated in the project

(2) Yes.

(a) R22 000.

(b) The hon member is referred to my reply in paragraph (1) (b) (i).

(c) Brunette Kruger Stoffberg Incorporated.

(3) Yes, in three cases.

(a) The equipment used at three of the nineteen observation points was not updated to reflect adjustments in current maximum speed limits at the time the project was undertaken.

(b) (i) A reliable answer cannot be supplied at this point in time.

(ii) The results at three observation points were adjusted to reflect the following corrections:

to indicate that only 13,9 per cent of the motorists at Middelfontein exceeded the speed limit of 120 km/h, and not 51,7 per cent;

to indicate that 13,9 per cent of the motorists at Hibberdene exceeded the speed limit and not 1,3 per cent; and

to indicate that 11,0 per cent of the motorists at Wonderfontein exceeded the speed limit and not 47,9 per cent.

(c) Brunette Kruger Stoffberg Incorporated.

(4) Yes. In comprehensive traffic obser-

vation bulletins issued by the Department of Transport to provincial and local road authorities, consulting engineers, etc, mainly to be used for planning and design purposes.

(5) Yes, amended pages were distributed to users of the report.

Children's court, Melmoth

*25. Mr M J ELLIS asked the Minister of Justice:

Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 19 on 28 July 1987, the proceedings of the children's court in Melmoth have been concluded; if not, when is it anticipated that they will be concluded; if so, (a) when, (b) what were the findings and (c) what action has been taken in respect of the child in question as a result of these findings?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER (for the Minister of Justice):

Yes.

(a) 30 July 1987.

(b) and (c) In terms of section 15 (1) (b) of the Child Care Act, 1983 (Act 74 of 1983) the Children's Court, Melmoth ordered that the child concerned be placed in the custody of a suitable foster parent, to wit Mrs Bhalsiwe Virginia Dlamini, under the supervision of a social worker. An order was also made that, as far as the formal adoption of the child is concerned, the matter be transferred to the Children's Court, Eshowe, because the foster parent is resident in the magisterial district of Eshowe.

Amanzimtoti

*26. Mr C J DERBY-LEWIS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether it is the intention to alter the area of jurisdiction of the local authority of Amanzimtoti; if so, what

is the nature of the proposed alterations;

(2) whether any written representations have been submitted to his Department in this regard; if so, (a) when, (b) (i) by whom and (ii) on whose behalf and (c) what is the purport of these representations,

(3) whether these representations have been submitted to the Borough of Amanzimtoti for perusal, if so, (a) when and (b) what was the response; if not, why not;

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

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND FAIRS (for the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning) (Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House):

(1) The power to alter the area of jurisdiction of a local authority is not vested in me. This power is vested in the provincial administrators of the various provinces.

(2) Yes

(a) 6 May 1986

(b) (i) Mr N E Khan MP of the constituency of Isipingo

(ii) The residents of Isipingo.

(c) The expansion of the area of jurisdiction of the Borough of Isipingo by the inclusion of the industrial area of Amanzimtoti which is situated between Isipingo Rail and Isipingo Beach

(3) Yes, by the Administrator of Natal;

(a) on 6 November 1986 after such representations had been considered by the Administrator-in-Executive Committee of Natal, who resolved that the matter also be referred to the Demarcation Board for investigation and report;

(b) the Borough of Amanzimtoti requested that the Demarcation Board enquiry be abandoned.

(4) No. For your information it may be mentioned that the Administrator of Natal has requested the Demarcation Board for Local Government Areas in terms of Section 7F of the Promotion of Local Government Affairs Act, 1983 (Act 91 of 1983) to advise him on the desirability or otherwise of the alteration of the area of jurisdiction of the local authority of Amanzimtoti.

An announcement by the Administrator of Natal will be made in the Official Gazette after consideration of the recommendations of the Demarcation Board by the Administrator-in-Executive Committee.

Compulsory schooling

*27 Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

(1) Whether compulsory schooling has been introduced in respect of all Black children in the Republic and self-governing territories; if not, (a) why not and (b) in which areas has schooling not been made compulsory; if so, with effect from what date;

(2) (a) up to what age has schooling been made compulsory for Black children and (b) when was this age limit introduced;

(3) whether he intends changing this age limit, if so, (a) to what age, (b) why and (c) when?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF EDUCATION:

(1) No.

(a) Compulsory education was introduced only in the 379 schools where the school committees requested it.

(b) In those areas where the school committees did not request the introduction of compulsory education.

(2) (a) 16 years in those areas in which compulsory education has been introduced.

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SOWETAN, Thursday, August 13, 1987

PETITION FOR 32 ON DEATH ROW

BY SOWETAN REPORTER

THE South African Youth Congress yesterday started its drive to collect signatures as part of its campaign to save the lives of 32 people sentenced to death following unrest-related killings.

Sayco aims to collect at least 32 000 signatures by the end of this month — a thousand for each of the condemned people — to protest against the impending hangings.

The organisation held a Press conference yesterday where the first

protest letters were signed. First to sign was Mrs Albertina Sisulu, a president of the UDF and president of the Federation of Transvaal Women (Fedtraw).

Also present at the public meeting were representatives of some of the families of the 32 who are awaiting execution.

Among those who attended the meeting were Mrs Regina Sefatsa, wife

of Mojaletsa Reginald Sefatsa, one of five people sentenced for killing a Yaal policeman two years ago; Mr Reuben Mokhesi, father of Francis Mokoena, who was sentenced in the same case

Mrs Leah Mokoena, mother of Reid Mokoena, also sentenced in the same case; Mr Sonnyboy Tsawane, brother of Josiah Tsawane, sentenced last year for killing a Sebokeng policeman; and Mrs Millicent Ngidi, mother of Phillip Bekisizwe Ngidi, who was sentenced last year for killing a Soweto

policeman.

The family members of the 32, all signed the protest letters. Mrs Pauline Molosi, mother of hanged ANC cadre Benjamin Molosi attended the meeting and also signed.

Sayco's president Mr Peter Mokaba said his organisation had not lost sight of the fact that the "Save the 32" campaign was taking place during a time when miners were striking for better pay.

"Incidentally, three of the 32 who were sentenced to hang are members of the NUM. Sayco will call upon its youth structures to support the miners," Mr Mokaba said.

Protest

Mrs Sisulu said the Government must be warned that the day would dawn when "legalised murder" would come to an end. "We are also keeping an eye on those governments who are supporting South Africa. They must know that we shall be free one day," Mrs Sisulu said.

Sayco will distribute letters of protest throughout the country for people to register their protest against the impending hangings. The organisation will also campaign at international level.

By CHRIS GUTUZA

EXCESSIVE abuse of alcohol and other drugs is rife among Peninsula youth and schoolchildren.

This is claimed by several youths who spoke to SOUTH this week.

Four students, three of them matriculants, showed how they smoked dagga and a mixture of dagga and mandrax (also called 'buggins' or 'wit') through a bottle-neck.

"Everybody does it at some stage or other," said one boy of about 17, as the pipe was passed around.

"I do it for the kicks—I don't think I'll ever become addicted," said his companion.

The effects were soon visible. Their heads began to sag and they became quiet. They watched each other through slanted eyes and did not even notice

me leaving.

A former "roker", Gary, said some drug users saw excessive use of alcohol and dagga as a test of endurance.

"Smoking the 'white pipe' is seen as the ultimate. The more you consume, the greater the respect you earn in your social sphere," he said.

Gary started smoking

dagga at an early age, when he and his friends thought it mischievous.

"We only smoked at night so that our parents would not notice. The night smoking became a regular habit, although I was not hooked."

The first time he smoked was during a school outing.

"After that I steadily declined. I wanted to stop smoking, but it had become a part of my life. Then I started smoking buttons, because it became the in-thing."

"My schoolwork took a nosedive. Smoking became the centre of my life."

"It was when I began smoking by myself that

the absurdity of using drugs seemed to dawn on me. It was also with this realisation and a sudden obsession to pass matric that started to bring me back to reality. But it was a long hard struggle."

Gary said he went through pain, hallucinations and sleepless nights, "sometimes, I thought I was going in-

sane".
"On Friday, June 12, I lit a candle to celebrate my first year without drugs."

A spokesperson for the South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (SANCA) said social norms were responsible for excessive drug-taking.

SANCA runs workshops and programmes at schools to help students to help themselves to avoid using drugs.

Too late for some

32 000 children die in one year

By Toni Younghusband

More than 32 000 children under the age of five died in one year in South Africa, said a comprehensive report on death by the South African Medical Research Council.

The report said the greatest mortality rate was recorded among infants under a year old — 73 percent of all child deaths in 1984.

The *Medical News Tribune* wrote that this was the first comprehensive report on death statistics and the causes of death in South Africa.

The report recommended health care strategies for South Africa and highlighted areas of concern with a major effect on society.

It was critical of the reliability of information on deaths for the black population and recommended ways of improving information gathering.

Major findings of the report were:

- Unnatural causes of

death accounted for 36 percent of the total loss of potential years of life. This meant that of the 2.5 million years of life lost in 1984, nearly 1 million were due to traumatic injuries.

- The most common cause of death for the white community was disease of the heart and circulatory system.

Cancer ranked second and diseases of the respiratory system third.

Crèche which rose from ashes caters for 121

Staff Reporter *Mrs S. 19/8/81* (278)

THE Nyanga Educare Centre, the township's only crèche, has reopened after being burnt down during unrest two years ago.

The centre was established 15 years ago by the old Bantu Administration Board and administered by the Divisional Council. The community has since taken over control.

Besides extensive damage to the building, equipment, record books and furniture worth thousands of rands were destroyed in the fire. This included education aids worth more than R5 000 bought with a Grassroots Education Trust grant.

Mr Sonny Tyatyam, chairman of the centre's executive committee, said: "As the centre has been rebuilt, the committee feels the community will respect it as our own property."

DISCUSSED WITH COMMUNITY

"We have had numerous talks with the community on this matter and we are sure that we will not have another incident as we had in 1985."

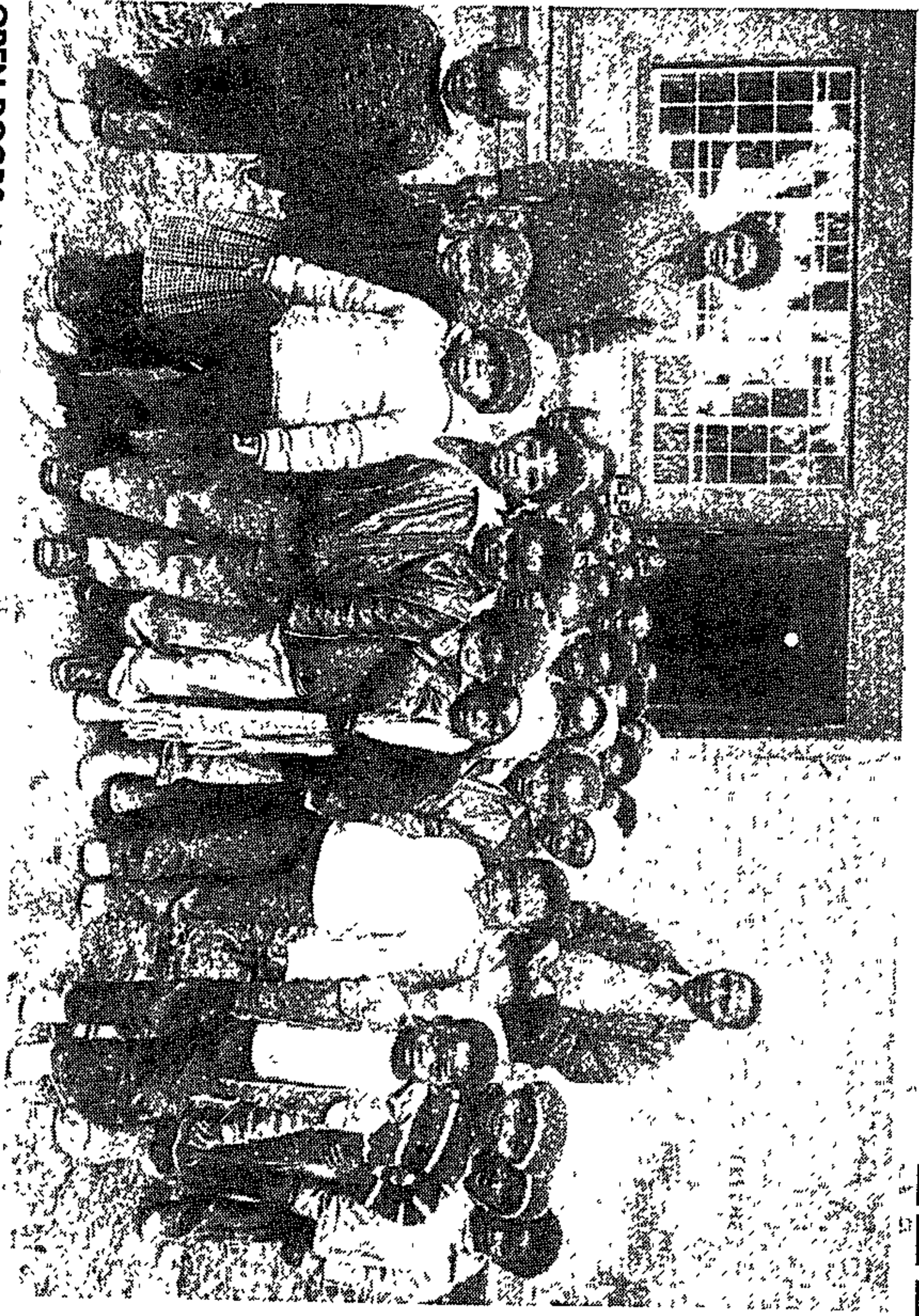
The crèche is attended by 121 children aged three to six and there is a waiting list.

Acting principal Mrs Caroline Mbanyana said she and the two teachers on the staff would do all they could to make the children comfortable.

STILL NEEDS EQUIPMENT

During the two years it was being rebuilt the centre operated in temporary premises at the Presbyterian Church.

Mr Tyatyam said: "The crèche is not fully equipped yet and there is still no playground. The few toys and books have been given by the community."



OPEN DOORS: Nyanga Educare Centre executive committee chairman Mr Sonny Tyatyam, acting principal Mrs Caroline Mbanyana and some of their charges outside the new building.

Question of pupils

ACTIVISTS in KwaNdebele say that scores of schoolchildren are in detention, but the Minister of Education and Culture, Mr Placid Kunutu, says he does not know of any children in detention.

The activists say that as a result of the detentions, which started early this year, many children are now afraid to go to school, fearing arrest.

Organisations monitoring activities and detentions in the homeland say about 150 people are presently in detention and about 100 of them are schoolchildren.

Asked about the 100 children, Mr Kunutu said "I have not been officially informed about any pupils being detained. Last year I managed to negotiate for the release of 300 pupils who were detained and I would do the same if I was approached again."

The latest detentions in the homeland, about three weeks ago, involve six people, five of them relatives of the former chief magistrate of Siyabuswa (KwaNdebele), Mr Ndaweni Mahlangu.

They are being held under the state of emergency.

Arrests

They are Mr Mahlangu's sons, Samson and Jeremiah. At the time of their detention they were pupils at the Buhlebethu Secondary School in Siyabuswa.

The others are Mr Mahlangu's younger brothers Bhuli, Julius and Aaron and Mr Daniel Mkgomo, who was buying groceries at Mr Mahlangu's shop when the arrests took place.

Mr Kunutu said he was not aware of this incident.

There have also been reports in the homeland

that the notorious Mbhokodo vigilantes had been revived and they were harassing people opposed to independence for the homeland.

There are allegations that members of Mbhokodo also raid schools looking for "trouble-makers". It is also alleged that some of the detentions are carried out by the vigilantes with the approval of the homeland's police.

Again, Mr Kunutu said he was not aware of these allegations.

The KwaNdebele Commissioner of Police, Brigadier H C Lerm, said only "a few school-children were detained under the state of emergency."

"They may be less than 10, but I am not sure," he said.

He also denied that members of Mbhokodo were assaulting and arresting people. He said Mbhokodo was "a peaceful" organisation and was not helping the police in any way.

"Mbhokodo is a cultural organisation," he said.

The *Sowetan* was last week told that hundreds of pupils in the homeland are in hiding and others have fled the area fearing detention or assault by the vigilantes.

detained in KwaNdebele

FOCUS

By MZIKAYISE EDOM



Mr PLACID Kunutu, the KwaNdebele Minister of Education and Culture.

A number of schools are half-empty.

As a result of the low attendance at classes in most schools in the area, the KwaNdebele government last month decided to close four schools - Hlanganani, Mabusabesala, Makhosana in Weltevrede and Bonginhlaha in Siyabuswa. All these are high schools.

Close

Mr Kunutu said his department had decided to close the schools following class boycotts by pupils which started in May.

But last week, the government reversed its decision to close the schools and Mr Kunutu says it was because he was asked by parents and pupils not to close them.

Mr Kunutu said the problem at the four schools was caused partly by teachers who did not report for duty. "How can pupils attend classes when there are no teachers at the schools?" he asked.

He denied that pupils and teachers were detained in the homeland after the unrest which broke out early this year after the announcement that KwaNdebele should ask for independence.

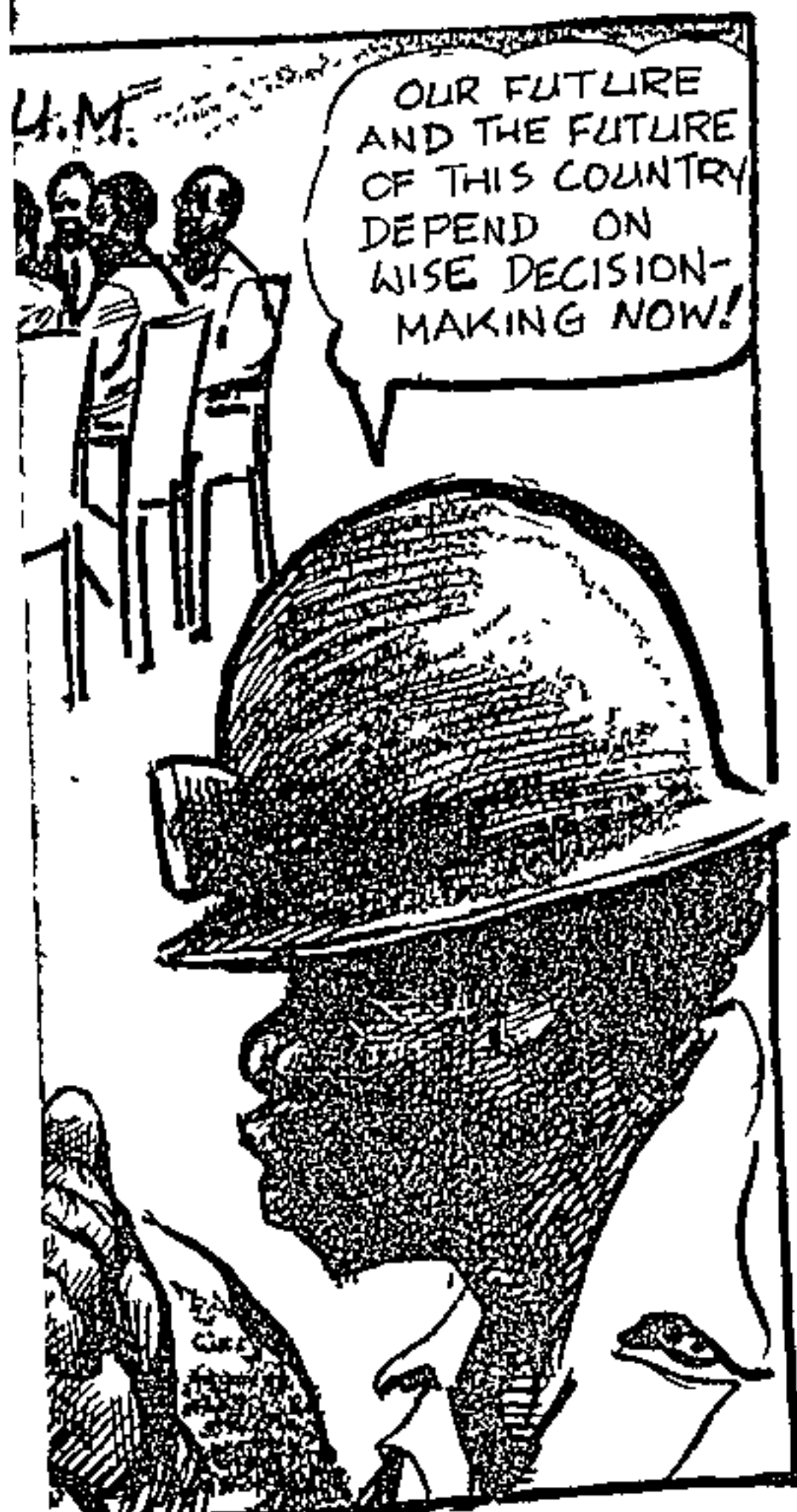
He said if any pupil or teacher was detained, he would have them freed.

The activists blame the government for the chaos at schools in the area. Many said there would be no proper schooling in the homeland for as long as pupils and teachers were detained for opposing the planned

independence of KwaNdebele.

Mr Kunutu, on the other hand, said he had not investigated the causes of the low attendance of classes in the area.

"Since we reversed our decision to close the four schools, attendance has improved," Mr Kunutu said.



Lest we forget

THE *Sowetan* today remembers journalists around the country who are in detention:

- Zwelakhe Sisulu, Editor of the *New Nation*, who has been in detention under the emergency regulations for 249 days;
- Mxolisi Jackson Fuzile, *Veritas News Agency*, who has been detained under the emergency regulations for 439 days;
- Phila Ngqumba, *Veritas News Agency*, 432 days;
- Brian Sokutu, Eastern Cape freelance journalist, 429 days.

Political comment in this issue by A Klaasie and J Thlooe. Sub-editing headlines and posters by S Matlhaku. All of 61 Commando Road, Industria West, Johannesburg.

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form for his next claim is posted to the claimant. In case the hon member or other hon members are interested, a copy of the information pamphlet wherein the procedures are full outlined can be obtained from the Commissioner for Customs and Excise.

- (2) A task group under the chairmanship of the Commissioner for Customs and Excise has been appointed to consider suggestions on the simplification of the procedure. The South African Agricultural Union is represented on the task force which had its first meeting on 21 August 1987. The present system was purposely designed to be as simple as possible and to date no further simplifications could be introduced. Any person wishing to propose acceptable simplifications to the system must submit it to the Commissioner for Customs and Excise, P O Box 678, Cape Town, or Private Bag X47, Pretoria, for consideration by the Task group.

Social pensions

*19 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning.

- (1) Whether there is a pay-out point for social pensions to Black pensioners in each magisterial district of the Republic; if not (a) in which magisterial districts are there no such pay-out points and (b) where do the pensioners concerned collect their pensions, what arrangements are being made for the payment of pensions to persons living far away from such pay-out points, if not, why not; if so, what arrangements?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL PLANNING:

- (1) Yes (a) and (b) Fall away.
(2) Yes Magistrate and regional offices of both the Departments of Home Affairs and Development Aid who pay out social pensions to Blacks on an agency basis, use vehicles to take pension monies to far away regions and to pay out at convenient places

such as shops, farms, etc where the necessary amenities exist

Schools of industry/reform schools

*20 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) Whether any Black juvenile offenders were sent and/or transferred by the courts to (a) schools of industry and (b) reform schools during the latest specified period of three years for which information is available, if not, (i) where were such offenders sent and (ii) how many were sent there; if so,

- (2) how many were sent to (i) schools of industry and (ii) reform schools and (b) where are these schools located?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL PLANNING:

- (1) (a) No (i) and (ii) This Department is not the functional Department that refers Black juvenile offenders to schools of industry and the information is therefore not readily available

(b) Yes. (i) and (ii) Fall away.

- (2) (a) (i) Not applicable.

(ii)	1984	353
	1985	271
	1986	314
Total		937

(b) Vuma—KwaZulu
Ngwelezana—KwaZulu
Isiko Lolutha—Ciskei
Eureka—Bophuthatswana
Elandsdoorn—KwaNdebele

Detainee: maltreatment

*21 Mr J J WALSH asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether an investigation has been instituted into allegations by a certain person, whose name has been fur-

nished to the South African Police for the purpose of the Minister's reply, relating to the treatment received while being held in detention in terms of the emergency regulations, if not, why not, if so, what is

the (a) (i) purport of these allegations and (ii) name of this person and (b) (i) who was in charge of the investigation and (ii) when was it instituted;

- (2) whether this investigation has been completed, if not, (a) why not and (b) when is it anticipated that it will be completed; if so, (i) when, (ii) what were the findings and (iii) what action has been taken as a result of these findings;

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

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes

- (a) (i) that during interrogation, his dignity was injured,

- (ii) the name which was supplied by the hon member,

- (b) (i) an officer of the South African Police,

- (ii) 21 August 1986

- (2) Yes (a) and (b) Fall away.

- (i) 24 June 1987

(ii) and (iii) on 24 June 1987 a case docket was referred to the Attorney-General for his decision. He decided that 6 accused had to stand trial on a charge of crimen injuria on 26 August 1987. He further decided that if one of the accused paid an amount of R200,00 admission of guilt, the other five accused would be absolved. One of the accused paid the admission of guilt fine on 11 August 1987.

- (3) No, except to say that the detainee concerned has already appeared in court on charges of illegal possession of arms and ammunition, dangerous

weapons and undesirable publications and is thus awaiting trial

Informers

*22 Mr J B DE R VAN GEND asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether the South African Police have informers in certain institutions and bodies;

- (2) whether he will furnish information in this regard, if not, why not; if so,

- (3) whether any branch of the South African Police has (a) members posing as students and (b) students who are paid to provide information to the Police on student activities at all South African universities; if not, (i) which universities do not have such persons and (ii) why have these universities been excluded,

- (4) whether any (a) registered political parties, (b) trade unions and (c) extra-parliamentary political community, student or single-issue organisations have Police members or informers amongst their membership; if so, (i) which organisations, (ii) why and (iii) what criteria are applied in determining which organisations will be infiltrated,

- (5) what total (a) number of persons are employed by the Police as informers at universities and the above organisations and (b) amount was budgeted in the latest specified financial year to pay these persons?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes, like all police forces across the world, the South African police also use informers to gather information of security interest. I wish to emphasise that such persons are expected to gather information and not to act as agent provocateurs

- I furthermore wish to refer the hon member to my press statement of 12 August 1987 which I attach for reasons of clarity.

- (2) No, because it is standard procedure

trolled animal diseases, two Senior State Veterinarians have recently been seconded to the KwaZulu Government to help combatting those diseases.

* so far this year 91 500 vaccinations against rabies have been undertaken in Natal.

(3) No

Mr R W HARDINGHAM: Mr Speaker, arising out of the hon the Deputy Minister's reply, has he received reports to the effect that the vaccine that is being used for rabies is not 100% effective? If so, has any action been taken in this regard?

The DEPUTY MINISTER. No, Mr Speaker. I have not received any such reports.

Kwaamevane Township

5 Mr R W HARDINGHAM asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning.

(1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 9 on 28 July 1987, his Department intends allocating funds for the upgrading of Kwaamevane Township, near Howick, if not, why not, if so, (a) when, (b) what total amount and (c) for what specified projects.

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

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL PLANNING:

(1) Yes

(a) As soon as funds for new projects can be made available from the National Housing Fund in collaboration with the Natal Provincial Administration and the Black Local Authority within the limits of the development priorities of the Natal Provincial Administration.

(b) Approximately R1,5 million.

(c) Upgrading of roads, sewerage reticulation, water reticulation and electricity reticulation as

well as upgrading of existing dwellings

(2) No

Persons awaiting execution

*6. Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister of Justice.

How many persons were awaiting execution as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER (for the Minister of Justice):

On 25 August 1987, 262 persons were in detention after having been sentenced to death. Nine were awaiting execution while the cases of the rest were still in various stages of the post sentence process, the largest group being involved in appeals.

Television transmitters

*7 Mr P C CRONJÉ asked the Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with Administration and Broadcasting Services.

(1) Whether he will furnish information on the erection of transmitters for television broadcasts, if not, why not, if so,

(2) whether a booster transmitter is to be erected in the Greytown area in Natal to improve television reception; if so, (a) when and (b) what aspects of television reception is it anticipated will be enhanced by this booster; if not, why not;

(3) whether any representations have been received from persons in the Greytown area regarding television reception; if so, (a) how many and (b) what was the (i) nature of these representations and (ii) response thereto?

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

(1) Yes

(2) (a) Such a booster transmitter could

possibly be erected when capital and operational funds could be provided for this purpose.

(b) TV reception at the town itself would be improved.

(3) Yes.

(a) From two organisations, namely the local Municipality and E. Bolland and Son (Pty) Ltd. General Dealers, and from one individual, a Mr R H Walker

(b) (i) The nature of the representations was for the provision of a TV1 signal for the town by the SABC or otherwise for the installation of a private station

(ii) At the request of the Municipality, the SABC approved the installation of a private station for TV2-4. An investigation into problems of TV1 reception was conducted *in loco*. The Municipality was informed that a TV1 booster transmitter would be needed to improve reception. A fixed date for this could not be given, but that the indications were that it would not be within the next 2 years.

Mr Walker was given an explanation of the position with regard to problems of reception, and he was provided with details concerning an aerial installation that could possibly resolve the problem.

Child detainees: rehabilitation

*8 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

(1) Whether a detention centre for the rehabilitation of child detainees is to be built in or near Stutterheim in the Eastern Cape; if so, (a) what is the total estimated cost of construction, (b) what facilities will be provided,

(c) what categories of child detainees will be sent there, (d) how many detainees will it be able to accommodate, (e) who will be in charge of the centre, (f) what is the nature of the rehabilitation programme planned for detainees at the centre, (g) what security arrangements will be made for the centre, (h) when is construction due to (i) commence and (ii) be completed and (i) who is to carry out the construction work;

(2) whether any other such detention centres are planned, if so, (a) where and (b) when are they to be built, in each case.

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

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL PLANNING.

(1) No (a) up to (b) Fall away

(2) The hon member is referred to the press statement by Minister F W de Klerk in his capacity as Chairman of the Cabinet Committee on Social Matters issued on 15 August 1987 and in respect of which the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning was consulted

(a) and (b) Fall away

(3) No.

Eastern Province: newspapers

*9. Mr D J DALLING asked the Minister of Economic Affairs and Technology:

(1) Whether proposed arrangements to merge the interests of certain newspapers circulating in the Eastern Province and those of an English-language newspaper circulating in East London, particulars of which have been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purpose of his reply, have been submitted to the Competition Board for approval; if so, (a) when, (b) what was the (i) nature of the arrangements submitted and (ii) decision of the said board and (c) what are the names of the newspapers concerned;

By Chris van Gass,
Pretoria Bureau

Govt announces plan to combat child bashing

A "new and comprehensive" strategy to combat the increasing number of child bashing cases in South Africa has been announced by the Department of Health Services and Welfare Administration in the House of Assembly.

One step it plans is to amend the Child Care Act to make it compulsory for social workers and teachers to report cases of child bashing.

"The department is deeply concerned by the apparent increased numbers of ill-treated child cases and child deaths as a result of ill-treatment," a statement said yesterday.

Child and family care organisations held "incisive discussions" on Monday on the matter with officials of the department's multi-disciplinary team and other State departments.

Among the issues which received

attention were:

- Commissioning a national register to monitor reported cases comprehensively
- Formulating procedures for the urgent handling of both identified and suspected cases of ill-treated children.
- Co-ordinating and controlling treatment services for ill-treated children and their parents.
- Amending Section 42 of the Child Care Act to extend the compulsory reporting of cases by doctors, dentists and nurses to social workers and teachers.
- Initiating purposeful community projects for the prevention of ill-treated children.

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SME

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said.

Children in jails

THE government was asked to explain yesterday why hundreds of black children convicted in South African courts have been sent to reform schools in independent and self-governing homelands — and the PFP has promised further action to find out if children have been kept in jails simply because other facilities are not available. The Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning, Mr Chris Heunis, confirmed this week that 937 black juvenile offenders had been sent to reform schools in Ciskei, Bophuthatswana, KwaZulu and KwaNdebele between 1984 and 1986.

Deformity fears allayed

Natal medical authorities yesterday dismissed speculation of a deformed baby epidemic in Natal.

Child specialists called for an urgent inquiry into a possible epidemic after it was learnt that at least 13 babies — some without arms and legs and others with gross bone deformities — had been born in the past month in Natal.

Reassuring mothers, Dr Bill Winship head of paediatrics at Addington Hospital said:

"After many hours' work, we have determined that there have been between eight and 20 deformed babies born a month for the last 18 months.

"This is in keeping with the accepted overall incidence of congenital defects in the rest of the world."

He said further investigation had shown that most of the past five weeks' deformities were caused by genetic factors.

A prominent scientist in the field of human genetics said yesterday that limb deformity cases were rare —

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Star 298
SARA MARTIN
about one in 20 000 births — and therefore had never been investigated in this country.

"They often come in cycles and we never seem to be able to put our finger on the cause," said Dr Jennifer Kromberg, senior medical scientist in the Department of Human Genetics at the University of the Witwatersrand Medical School and SA Institute for Medical Research.

The lack of local information on the subject had been further emphasised by Dr Molly Nelson, senior lecturer in the Department of Human Genetics at the University of Cape Town.

"Until very recently, paediatricians in South Africa had their time taken up by infections," she said.

"It is only now, with the slightly improved situation, that they are beginning to look at other issues like possible causes of deformities," she said.

Crisis kids need 'dads and mums'

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So many children are in need of foster homes in Johannesburg that welfare organisations are facing a crisis situation, according to the Child Welfare Association.

At least 2400 children, ranging from babies to 18-year-olds, are living in foster homes in Johannesburg, but more homes are "desperately" needed, says Child Welfare's director, Dr Adele Thomas.

Rather than send the children to institutions, the association believes in finding parents who will adopt them and make them part of the family.

The criteria for foster parents is that they are "caring and loving" and that they can offer a secure home environment, Dr Thomas says.

This does not mean prospective parents have to be wealthy. A State grant is available to families who foster a child. In the case of white families the amount is R133 a month and for black families, R59 a month.

Parents who take a child into their home are not left to cope on their own.

Instead they form part of a team with

SUE VALENTINE

Child Welfare. Social workers liaise with the families and there are several foster-parent groups who offer support and back-up for parents in their new role.

Foster care also requires a demanding commitment to "shared" parenthood. The foster parents must be prepared to act as a substitute family while the association attempts to "mend" the situation within the natural home of the child.

If after two years the natural parents are not able to care for their child, the foster parents may adopt that child.

In finding homes for children in its care, Child Welfare attempts to disrupt the child as little as possible. Every effort is made to match up the cultural background of the child with his or her new family and for this reason children from the Johannesburg area will not be sent to foster homes farther afield on the Witwatersrand.

Anyone interested in finding out more about fostering a child can phone Child Welfare at (011) 833-2500 or 836-5381 and ask for the foster-care department.

Grant to

foster a black child only R59

SUE VALENTINE

Families willing, able and qualified to foster children are being hampered from doing so by discriminatory State grants.

Figures released by the Child Welfare Association show that State grants available to families fostering white children are substantially higher than those for black and Coloured children.

A monthly grant of R133 is given for every white foster child, R59 for blacks and R103 for Coloureds.

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Govt slated on child detainee definition

By Janine Simon

The Johannesburg Child Welfare Society (JWCS) has criticised recent official reports on the detention of children for referring only to those under 15, saying the legal definition of a child is any person under 18 years old.

JCWS director Dr Adele Thomas expressed her society's concern over the apparent confusion which existed in some official circles as to the interpretation of the Child Care Act, which defined a child as any person under 18.

The fact that official reports referred only to children under 15 was a disturbing trend, as the community had a special responsibility towards all children until they were 18 years, a responsibility acknowledged and con-

firmed with the passing of the Child Care Act, Dr Thomas said.

The constant talk of the release of children under 15 might lull the community into believing that children between 15 and 18 were adult and could be treated as such, Dr Thomas said.

Dr Thomas said her society opposed all forms of detention of children. Authorities dealing with children should take special cognisance of the stipulations of the Act to secure their fair and just treatment.

The JWCS employed two social workers specifically to work with children affected by detentions, she said.

They found that children between 15 and 18 experienced much of the trauma and anxieties that children under 15 experienced, Dr Thomas said.

Father gets one year for incest

6/9/87
A PAARL man was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment by a local magistrate this week after being convicted of incest. In a similar case last Friday, Rossouw also sentenced a 52-year-old Paarl man to 12 months for having had sexual intercourse with his daughter over a four-year period. The court heard that the girl, now 16, had given birth to a child of which her father was the father. In a similar case last Friday, Rossouw also sentenced a 52-year-old Paarl man to 12 months for having had sexual intercourse with his daughter over a period of four years. — Sapa

Social workers bearing brunt of public anger over child abuse

By Janine Simon

Social workers have unfairly had to bear the brunt of public anger over the increasing incidence of child abuse, fuelled particularly by the conviction in June of Carolina Opperman for murdering her 21-month-old son Richard.

This is the opinion of the South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare, whose associated society, the Krugersdorp Child Welfare Society, dealt with the Opperman case.

In a leading article in its mouthpiece magazine *Kindersorg Child Welfare*, the council criticised the public for holding social workers accountable for child abuse without considering the weaknesses of the child protection system within which they worked.

Although child welfare societies had been aware of the alarming increase of child abuse during the past few years — in 1986 an average 549 cases a month were handled by its affiliated societies — it seemed as if it was only after the court case that the public awoke to these particularly shocking acts of violence, the article said.

The accountability of social workers was now being questioned and it seemed as if the community chose to blame social workers for the systemic and inherent weaknesses in a child protection system to which the profession was legally bound.

Social workers' actions were circumscribed by flaws in South Africa's legal and welfare system.

In a case of suspected child abuse the obvious first step was to remove the child from a potentially dangerous environment.

Legally, the Child Care Act allowed a social worker to temporarily remove a child to a place of safety pending an inquiry by the Children's Court.

But proof of child abuse was difficult to obtain before the child was either seriously injured or had died as a result of abuse.

A district surgeon examining a child often could not prove injuries noted were caused by the parents and not by the factors they suggested. A social work diagnosis of abuse was often equally difficult to reach, the article said.

Court commissioners who insisted on full personal details of persons lodging a child abuse complaint hampered social workers' attempts to encourage a reticent community to become involved in the interests of the child.

South Africa's welfare system was also completely overloaded and there was a serious lack of facilities, particularly in rural areas, and few specialised units. Thus vital elements in the prevention of abuse — multi-disciplinary work and co-operation between welfare systems — could not be met.

A national child register, imperative to combat the problem that child abusers were relatively mobile and notorious for "doctor-jumping" and "social service hopping", did not exist.

A central computerised child abuse register would act as an early warning system as a child's history of medical examinations and reports of suspected abuse would be recorded, the article said.

South Africa was not a welfare state and the claims on and expectations of welfare organisations were already unrealistically high. Staff, particularly in the child welfare field, had become very aware of public expectations that all incidents of child abuse should be prevented and the implication that those who failed to prevent were somehow culpable.

Worldwide assault on press freedom

By Sue Leeman, The Star Bureau

LONDON — Media censorship has many guises, from the seemingly insignificant government memorandum "suggesting" a certain stance to actual physical violence against journalists.

The New York-based Freedom House says that press freedom suffered on every continent last year. Nineteen journalists were killed (including two in South Africa), 13 kidnapped, 178 arrested and 40 expelled. In addition, there were 214 instances of harassment in 40 countries. More than 40 publications were shut down.

South Africa, the USSR and Chile are usually mentioned in one breath by critics and those who monitor the worst offenders.

SERIOUS PROBLEMS

But, according to the International Press Institute, there are also serious problems for the press in other, mostly Third World, countries such as Paraguay, Bolivia, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Mexico, Lebanon, Libya and Uganda.

In Paraguay, for example, the government of General Stroessner has imposed a total clamp on opposition demonstrations and the coverage of them, while in Bolivia, in spite of a recent return to democracy, several radio stations have been shut down and journalists detained.

The press corps in El Salvador says there is increasing pressure on foreign journalists to report only what the security forces consider fit. At least 12 journalists have been killed covering the war there.

Life for journalists in Mexico "continues to be fraught with danger", with 21 murdered and hundreds suffering harassment since 1983.

In Nicaragua, the opposition daily *La Prensa* was closed down last year after it heralded as a victory a US Congress decision to grant \$300 million to the Contra forces. For many years there has been an official media censorship committee along the lines of that envisaged in the latest South African legislation.

security forces and public vehicles;

- setting alight of vehicles including those of the security forces;
- erection of road barricades;
- throwing of petrolbombs at security forces;
- illegal gatherings;
- damaging of buildings with stones and bottles;
- attempted hijacking of public vehicles;
- possession of daggers;
- possession of unlicensed arms and ammunition;
- murder where a scholar's throat was cut after he had been removed from a classroom;
- burning of houses;
- threatening the lives of members of the security forces, their families and their property;
- attempted murder

(2) (a) Yes

(i) 2 persons

(ii) 2 persons

(b) No

(i) and (ii) Fall away

(3) No.

Juvenile offenders: detention

*24 Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Justice:

- (a) How many Black juvenile offenders were sent or transferred by the courts to (i) prisons and (ii) other specified places of detention during the latest specified period of three years for which information is available and (b) where are each of these (i) prisons and (ii) other specified places of detention located?

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

The question covers offenders sentenced

to imprisonment or detention in some institution or other as well as to those remanded in custody over a period of three years by all South African courts. Such information is not readily available and can only be obtained by the examination of case records at the seats of all courts country-wide. The information supplied earlier this year in reply to Written Questions Nos 146, 551 and 560 (Hansard, 23 February 1987, columns 267, 514 and 521 respectively) may, however, be of assistance to the hon member.

Mr K M ANDREW: Mr Chairman, arising from the hon the Minister's reply in respect of paragraph (a) (i), is he informing us that his department does not keep statistics on the number of juveniles sent to prison?

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, the hon member did himself foresee that such information might not be available because he put it rather conditionally in his question, namely . . . sent to other specified places of detention . . . for which information is available . . . Therefore he does foresee that such information may not be readily available. That is what I am telling him.

Mr K M ANDREW: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister's reply, may I first of all point out to him that the period for which information is available relates to the latest period for which information is available and not to whether the information is available at all. It relates to the latest specified period of three years for which information is available. Therefore the period may vary because there might only be figures available till the end of December or the end of June or whatever period. However the fact that there should be figures is important and I am asking the hon the Minister directly if he is telling me that his department does not keep figures of how many juveniles are sent to prison in this country.

The MINISTER: Mr Chairman, we do not keep statistics of categories at the moment. We do not keep statistics in the form that the hon member has asked for and I am telling him that that is the situation. Furthermore, the situation is that we may require many more staff members to carry out the research for which he has called. When

one bears in mind the load of work that has to be carried by the courts I want to ask the hon member to use his influence—if he has any—to help quell the unrest so that we can do our job.

Mr K M ANDREW: Mr Chairman, further arising from the hon the Minister's reply, may I ask him how they know how many prisons to maintain for juveniles or how many other centres for juvenile offenders to build if they do not keep those statistics?

Galeshewe: mayor/deputy mayor

*25 Mr P C CRONJE asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning:

- (1) Whether any official falling under the control of his Department has received any correspondence from members of the Galeshewe Town Council concerning a motion of no-confidence in the mayor and deputy mayor of Galeshewe passed by members of this council on or about 8 June 1987; if so, (a) (i) what is the name of this official or (ii) in what capacity is he employed, (b) (i) when did he receive the correspondence and (ii) what was the purport thereof and (c) what was his response to the members of the council.

- (2) whether any action has been taken as a result of this correspondence, if not, why not, if so, (a) what action and (b) when?

The DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT PLANNING:

(1) Yes.

(a) (i) Mr L J Schnahl.

(ii) Assistant Administrative Secretary of the Minister of

Constitutional Development and Planning

(b) (1) 3 July 1987.

(ii) That a motion of no-confidence in the mayor and deputy-mayor of Galeshewe was passed on 8 June 1987 by members of that town council.

(c) That the matter falls under the jurisdiction of the Administrator of the Cape Province and was therefore referred to him

(2) A senior official of the Cape Provincial Administration attended a meeting of the Town Council of Galeshewe and informed the councillors that the decision of the council could legally not be taken any further

Boschfontein 458-JQ

*26. Mr S S VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of Education and Development Aid:

- (1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 229 on 21 August 1987, the six White owners of Portion 4 of Boschfontein 458-JQ have been bought out by the South African Development Trust Corporation, if not, when is it anticipated that the matter will be finalised, if so, when was the sale concluded.

(2) whether this land will be made available for sale to the 92 Black persons living on the land to be incorporated into Bophuthatswana, if not, (a) why not and (b) to whom will this land be sold;

(3) whether, prior to this land being incorporated into Bophuthatswana, these Black persons will be consulted regarding their views on incorporation, if not, (a) why not and (b) who took the decision not to consult them, if so, (i) when, (ii) who will consult with these persons and (iii) what options will be offered to them in regard to the proposed incorporation?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND — *Own Affairs* —
DEVELOPMENT AID:

- (1) No Negotiations with some of the owners have not been completed as yet
- (2) (a) and (b) No decision has so far been taken about the future disposal of the undivided shares that will be acquired by the South African Development Trust
- (3) (a) and (b) The hon member is referred to paragraph 4 of the reply by the hon Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning to Question No. 229 on 21 August 1987. A decision on the incorporation of the area concerned was taken by Parliament of the Republic of South Africa by passing Act 112 of 1986

Text-books

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

(a) What text-books in respect of Std 10 History on the higher and standard grades were submitted to the evaluation panel or panels referred to in his reply to Question No 1 on 23 June 1987, for approval for use in the 1987 academic year in schools under the control of his Department, (b) when was each submitted, (c) which of these text-books were approved in respect of each provincial education department and (d) who were the authors of each of the text-books submitted?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE [Reply laid upon the Table with leave of House]

(a) and (b)

Geskiedenis St 10, Hoer Graad en Standardgraad	C J Joubert & J J Brnz	Aug. 1985
History Std 10, Higher Grade and Standard Grade	C J Joubert & J J Brnz	
History Alive Std 10	Callaway (Shuter & Shooter)	Aug. 1985
Tydkringe St 10	Lintvelt, et al (Maskeu Miller Longman)	Mrt. 1987
Timelines Std 10	Lintvelt, et al (Maskeu Miller Longman)	Sept. 1987
Geskiedenis St 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)	Aug. 1986
History Std 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)	Aug. 1987
History for Today	Graves, Eksteen et al (JUTA)	Aug. 1987
History Std 10	Breytenbach (Shuter & Shooter)	Aug. 1977

(c) and (d)

Transvaal

Geskiedenis St 10, Hoer Graad en Standardgraad	C J Joubert & J J Brnz
History Std 10, Higher Grade and Standard Grade	C J Joubert & J J Brnz

Arrangements have also been made for the submission of further manuscripts and text-books. Two manuscripts and two textbooks are presently being considered for inclusion in the quota of approved textbooks

Natal

History Alive St 10	Callaway (Shuter & Shooter)
Times Lines Std 10	Lintvelt et al (Maskeu Miller Longman)
History Std 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)
Geskiedenis St 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)
History for Today	Graves, Eksteen et al (JUTA)
History Std 10	Breytenbach (Shuter & Shooter)

Cape

History Std 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)
Geskiedenis St 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)
Timelines Std 10	Lintvelt, et al (Maskeu Miller Longman)
Tydkringe St 10	Lintvelt, et al (Maskeu Miller Longman)
History Alive Std 10	Callaway et al (Shuter & Shooter)

Orange Free State

History Std 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)
Geskiedenis St 10	Lambrechts, Bennisson et al (NASOU)

The Child and Family Care Society, Vereeniging

*2. Mr J H VAN DER MERWE asked the Minister of the Budget and Welfare:†

- (1) Whether the State has in the past rendered financial aid or other assistance to a certain body in Vereeniging, the name of which has been furnished to the Minister's Department for the purposes of his reply; if so, (a) what assistance, (b) when and (c) what is the name of this body;

- (2) whether this assistance has since been (a) reduced and/or (b) discontinued, if so, why, in each case?

THE MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND WELFARE.

(1) Yes

- (a) Subsidies are paid to the National Council for Child and Family Care in respect of 2 approved social work posts at Vereeniging.

- (b) The subsidies concerned are paid monthly and a continuous basis
- (c) The Child and Family Care Society, Vereeniging.

(2) (a) No
(b) No

African language as subject

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

How many (a) schools falling under his Department were offering, and (b) pupils

were taking, an African language as a subject as at the latest specified date for which information is available?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

- (a) 1 510
(b) 288 702—(31 August 1987)

Black teachers: African languages

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

- (1) Whether State schools falling under his Department are permitted to employ Black teachers to teach African languages in (a) primary and (b) secondary schools; if so, (i) since when and (ii) what total number of Black teachers was so employed as at the latest specified date for which information is available; if not, why not;

- (2) whether any investigations are being conducted into the teaching of African languages at White schools; if so, (a) what investigations and (b) what progress has been made;

- (3) whether there is any shortage of teachers available to teach African languages at White schools; if so, (a) what is the extent of the shortage and (b) what action is being taken in this regard.

- (4) whether any surveys have been conducted to determine whether there are schools wishing to offer an African language as a subject but are unable to do so; if not, why not, if so,

Local authorities: expenditure

*14. Mr W J D VAN WYK asked the Minister of Finance +

Whether his Department exercises control over the increases in the expenditure of local authorities; if so, (a) what procedure is followed in this regard and (b) what was the percentage increase permitted in respect of such expenditure in 1984-85?

The MINISTER OF FINANCE.

Yes

- (a) A percentage increase in the spending of local authorities is determined annually by the Minister of Finance and notified to local authorities, following which budgets are submitted to the Department of Finance for approval.
- (b) 10%.

Ekandustria: railway line

*15 Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Transport Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to his reply to Question No 321 on 24 August 1987, a railway line leading to Ekandustria has been constructed; if so, (a) when, (b) through what town or station does this line go to Ekandustria and (c) what was the total cost of constructing the line;

- (2) whether this railway line is being used, if so, (a) how many trains have used the line since it was constructed and (b) in respect of what date is this information furnished, if not, why not?

The MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AFFAIRS.

(1) Yes.

- (a), (b) and (c) A private siding was constructed from Fortar to Ekandustria by and at the cost of the Municipality of Bronkhorstspuit and completed on 7 June 1985.

- (2) No. Development of the industrial area has not yet taken place.

Child detainees: centres for rehabilitation

*16 Mrs H SUZMAN asked the Minister of Justice:

- (1) Whether the Department of Justice or the Prison Service is involved in the planning and provision of detention centres for the rehabilitation of child detainees; if not, by whom are such centres provided; if so, to what extent;

- (2) whether such a centre is to be built in the Eastern Cape; if so, (a) where, (b) what is the total estimated cost of construction, (c) what facilities will be provided, (d) what categories of child detainees will be sent there, (e) how many detainees will it be able to accommodate, (f) who will be in charge of the centre, (g) what is the nature of the rehabilitation programme planned for detainees at the centre, (h) what security arrangements will be made for the centre, (i) when is construction due to commence and be completed, respectively, and (j) who is to carry out the construction work;

- (3) whether any other such detention centres are planned, if so, (a) where and (b) when are they to be built in each case;

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

The MINISTER OF JUSTICE:

- (1), (2), (3) and (4) It is not clear what type of detention centres the hon member has in mind. The Department of Justice and more particularly the South African Prisons Service is, however, responsible for the planning and administration of prisons and for no other detention centres. The hon member possibly has a project such as the prison for sentenced juvenile delinquents at Leeuwkop near Johannesburg in mind. A similar prison is presently being put into operation at Polismoor Prison. These projects must, however,

ever, not be confused with the establishment of additional facilities which are being planned by the State in respect of juveniles and children who are referred to such facilities by a competent court. In this regard the honourable member is referred to the statement by the hon Minister of National Education on 11 August 1987.

Newlands East, Natal: police station

*17. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

- (1) Whether representations have been received for the construction of a permanent police station in Newlands East, Natal; if so, (a) from whom and (b) when were they received,
- (2) whether such a police station is to be built, if not, why not, if so,
- (3) whether a site has been identified for the construction of this police station; if not, why not; if so, (a) when and (b) where is the site located,
- (4) when is it envisaged that the construction of this police station will be completed?

The MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

(1) Yes.

- (a) and (b) Dukerfontein Taxpayers Association on 23 August 1979

Mr B Dookie, MP Red Hill on 7 May 1980.

Mr C J Kippen, MP Durban Suburbs on 30 May 1986 and 20 October 1986.

(2) Yes.

(3) Yes.

- (a) 22 June 1986

(b) Plots 5218, 5219, 5221 and 5222 to 5225 at Seacow Lake

- (4) The project is included in the 1987/92 five year building programme. It is anticipated that tenders to the total value of R10 million will be obtained for the construction of a police station and single quarters, and for 30

houses, during 1992 and 1993 respectively.

NOTE: This police station which will be known as the Seacow Lake Police Station will serve Newlands East, Newlands West, Parlock and Seacow Lake residential areas.

Utilization of icebergs for fresh water

*18. Mr P G SOAL asked the Minister of Water Affairs:

- (1) Whether, with reference to the reply of the then Minister of Environment Affairs and Fisheries to Question No 18, standing over, on 6 May 1983, any further international developments have taken place in regard to the utilization of icebergs as an alternative means of providing fresh water, if so what developments,
- (2) whether his Department is reconsidering the utilization of icebergs for this purpose, if not, why not, if so, (a) what are the circumstances that have given rise to this matter being reconsidered and (b) what action has been taken in this regard?

The MINISTER OF WATER AFFAIRS:

- (1) Yes. A German concern is studying the possibility of towing an iceberg in a plastic bag, allowing the ice to melt without losing the fresh water. This system has only been tested experimentally on a very small-scale under European conditions.

- (2) No. There is sufficient fresh water and reclaimed water available along the coast for the next few decades at prices that are competitive with iceberg water

- (a) and (b) Fall away

Government Departments/statutory bodies: reports on activities

*19. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister in the State President's Office entrusted with Administration and Broadcasting Services:

- (1) Whether (a) Government Depart-

Boy detained from school

298

10-16-1987
A 15-YEAR-OLD boy has been detained under the Emergency regulations.

Marius Snyders, a standard six pupil at Uitsig Senior Secondary School, was detained at school last Wednesday.

His parents, Andre and Grace Snyders, saw him the next day when police delivered a form for them to sign. Marius was seated between two security policemen in a car.

"I told him to remember that 'The Lord is my shepherd', but that was all I could say. I had a lump in my throat. Marius said nothing, the tears just ran down his cheeks."

The Snyders were given written confirmation that their son was being held under the Emergency regulations.

South

Teenage 'slave' scandal

is, September 12 1987 3

by MARK STANSFIELD, Weekend Argus Reporter

NAIVE teenagers are being lured from country towns to the Peninsula with promises of decent jobs — and end up as virtual slaves.

Some claim they are prisoners in the luxurious homes where they do menial and domestic labour. They are paid as little as R30 a month.

A Rylands resident recently contacted Weekend Argus because he was concerned when he saw a young girl giving another food through the window bars of a house.

I visited the house and could speak to the girl only through the bars. She said she was not allowed outside her employer's house and had been a "prisoner" for over a month.

The family had gone on a month-long holiday on August 6 and she had been locked in the house since.

When the employers were home they usually locked the entrances when they went to work.

The girl said she came from De Aar and her family had not heard from her since she was "recruited" in January.

Another girl said she slept on a blanket in a small bathroom and was allowed out of the house only on Sundays.

Attempts are being made to trace the parents of the teen-

agers who have been interviewed. Apparently they are unaware of the plight of their children, having been hoodwinked into believing they would be looked after in Cape Town.

The recruiting network operates in rural towns where unemployment has led youngsters to take up offers of work in town.

A De Aar woman who issues tickets to young people looking for employment said she arranged work for several girls after contacts in Cape Town asked her to find domestic workers.

"What I do is select a girl here, put her on the train and then contact those looking for

domestic workers in Cape Town and ask them to pick the girl up at the station.

"I know nothing about the working conditions and not one of the girls has ever complained to me ... I keep in contact with a lot of those who have been sent to Cape Town," she said.

A Rylands Estate resident, who asked not to be named, said when she contacted the woman about hiring a domestic worker, the woman said she was reluctant to send young workers to that area because she heard they were ill-treated.

Many Cape Flats residents are aware of the "slave" racket

(Turn to Page 3, col 8)

Teenage workers scandal

Continued from page 1

and, when interviewed, told horror stories about the treatment of the young workers. All refused to "get involved" because they feared reprisals.

Here are some actual cases. Names have been changed to protect the teenagers from possible reprisals:

● Betty, 19, was recruited from De Aar in January this year. For eight months she was employed by a Wynberg family before she was "transferred" to a Cape Flats home. In August her new employers left on a month-long visit to Johannesburg.

Betty said she was locked in the house for that entire period. Her cousin and some neighbours fed her once a day through the burglar bars.

When interviewed this week she was thin and had large black circles under her eyes. She cried when spoken to and said she desperately wanted to contact her family to help her.

However, she refused to be photographed through the window (she is still locked in the house), saying her picture in the paper could lead to "plenty of trouble".

"I would rather just remain locked up here than cause more trouble," she cried.

Betty "earns" her R30 a month by cleaning the large mansion which has become a prison for her. She has no set hours and sometimes works 15 hours a day.

● Cathy, 18, is forced to sleep on the floor of a small bathroom in the house she is expected to clean every day. Apart from that she runs errands.

"I don't mind the work but the running is very tiring and they expect me to go to their business at least eight times a day, apart from all the washing, cleaning and polishing I have to do around here," she said.

"They have a big house with plenty of bedrooms, so why must I sleep in the toilet?"

She earns R80 a month which she intends sending home. "But I haven't been paid yet," she said.

Cathy is only allowed out of the house for recreation on Sundays and is locked in every night of the week once she finishes her tasks.

No comment could be obtained from the House of Delegates MP for Rylands Estate,

HARARE — The forthcoming international conference on children, repression and the law in apartheid South Africa was another step in the worldwide struggle against Pretoria, the semi-state Zimbabwean news agency, *Ziana*, reported yesterday.

The agency was quoting the chairman of the local conference convening committee, Professor Reg Austin.

He was reported as having told journalists at a briefing on the conference, from September 24 to 27, that delegates would decide on action against the continued detention of children in South Africa.

This action, said the report "will broaden the scope of the Scandinavian campaign in which thousands of children are writing postcards to Pretoria for the release of children from detention. Other campaigns have also begun in the United States."

Ziana says the conference will bring together "hundreds of international experts, politicians, liberation movement activists, trade unionists, journalists and religious leaders from all over the world and from inside South Africa."

Victims

A Press statement by the conference organisers said it would be the largest of its kind ever to be held. It will be opened by Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

"Analysis of the problems facing children in South Africa will be accompanied by in-person testimony to the conference of some young victims of apartheid," said the statement.

Prof Austin said the conference was the brainchild of its convener, the Reverend Trevor Huddleston, because of his concern

A look at the kids behind bars



THE REV Trevor Huddleston... "concerned about detentions in South Africa."



DR ALLAN Boesak... will address conference.

FOCUS

for the plight of the children of South Africa.

It is being held under the auspices of the Bishop Ambrose Reeves Trust.

Major issues during the conference, which is expected to be attended by between 350 and 400 people from inside and outside South Africa, will be "the state of emergency, the arrest and arbitrary detention of children and their struggle to rid their society of apartheid,"

said the agency.

"The worsening media censorship in South Africa spurred the urgency for the convening of the conference," it added.

"The purposes of the conference are to expose the full extent of the problems facing these children, to achieve an understanding of their difficulties and to focus the attention of the international community on the crisis confronting young people in South Africa today," said the conference Press release.

The wife of Britain's Labour Party leader, Mrs Glenys Kinnock, and the Millbank Professor of International Law and

Practice at Woodrow Wilson School of International Studies at Princeton University in the US, Prof Richard Falk, are among the 100 international participants.

"Prof Falk is a radical international lawyer in the United States who has been concerned with US foreign policy over a long period of time," said Prof Austin in reply to a question.

Apartheid

Among the 120 South Africans invited were the president of the World Lutheran Alliances of Churches and anti-apartheid campaigner, patron of the United Democratic Front (UDF), Dr Allan Boesak, and the former general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Beyers Naude.

"We are expecting detailed and more precise information from child detainees and South Africans dealing with their problems from day to day," said Prof Austin, who is a professor of law and chairman of the University of Zimbabwe Law Department.

He was confident that the South African participants would be allowed to travel here for "the biggest ever focus on apartheid held in the Zimbabwean capital city since independence seven years ago."

"However we are dealing with an unpredictable government in Pretoria," he said.

"The people coming from South Africa have in the past been prepared to face the consequences of their actions by revealing the effects of the detention of children under apartheid," said Prof Austin — Sapa

HOW
AFRICA'S
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Child abuse law warning

298 POST 15/9/87

MARITZBURG — New child abuse legislation, which insists that doctors report suspicions of ill-treatment of children, could force child abuse further underground, says the director of Maritzburg's Child and Family Welfare Society, Mr Clive Willows.

Addressing the 19th Maritzburg congress of the Natal inland branch of the Medical Association of South Africa, Mr Willows referred to the new Child Care Act, which came into effect this year.

He said the most controversial part of this Act was Section 42, which makes it obligatory for dentists, doctors and nurses to report instances giving rise to the suspicion that a child might have been ill-treated.

The first problem was the issue of confidentiality.

"It is probably the first piece of legislation which has ever been passed insisting that doctors go against the pledge of confidentiality in revealing information regarding their patient," Mr Willows said.

"Should the public become very much aware of this section, they may

well choose not to take their child for medical attention when it is obviously required.

"They may feel that every time they approach the doctor with a bruise or suspected fracture, they are going to be reported to the authorities and this may have the exact opposite effect to the intention of the section — to force child abuse even further underground." — Sapa

Spotlight on detention of SA children

15/9/87.
The Star's Africa News Service

HARARE — Children and "young persons" who have been detained in South Africa are to tell of their experiences at an international conference in Harare from September 24 to 27.

The conference on "Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa" will be attended by 300 to 450 people and has been convened by the veteran anti-apartheid activist, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston.

Doctors, psychiatrists, social workers and parents of detainees are expected to attend from South Africa.

Also likely to attend will be the patron of the United Democratic Front, the Rev Alan Boesak, and the Rev Beyers Naude.

SEXUAL abuse is a crime referring to any forced manual, oral, visual, or genital contact imposed on one person by another without consent.

Reliable statistics are not available due to the secrecy and taboo around this issue. Contrary to what many people believe, sexual abuse is not perpetrated by a dangerous, weird-looking stranger who attacks little children. In about 85 percent of situations, the abuser is a person who is known to the child. It is usually a situation that develops gradually over a period of time, rather than a one-off event, and involves bribery and threats, rather than extreme physical violence. In 90 percent of cases, the abuser is a male and the victim a female.

Sexual abuse occurs in all economic, cultural, educational, religious and geographical strata of society. It can take place at home, in an open field or at school.

The education system lends itself to allowing sexual abuse. The structure is a hierarchical one, where decision-making, power and authority is vested in the top structure and imposed on students, rather than negotiated.

Accountable

This structure includes, from the top down, The Minister of Education, Department of Education, principals and teachers. Within this structure, accountability works upwards. Teachers feel accountable to the principal or department, rather than to their students and the community. This system reflects the broader political structures of South Africa, where the minority rules over a powerless majority.

Students experiencing problems have the following options available to them: They can approach the guidance/subject teacher or principal if they feel sufficient trust and confidence in those persons. If not, they can approach an external body, like the Department of Health Services and Welfare, which will appoint a competent social worker to confront the problem. Parents should be called

in at this stage to help resolve the problem.

The problem of sexual abuse at schools, however, is controversial and sensitive. Teachers may experience a split loyalty between their colleagues and students and tend to believe their colleagues rather than students. They might disbelieve the student, or fear that exposure will be more traumatic for the student. They may minimise the extent of the harm done and felt. These attitudes often only intensify and complicate the situation.

Students usually do not report sexual abuse by their teachers. The power exerted by the teacher over the student can be all encompassing, leading to an acceptance or expectation of such abuse.

One student said: "We all knew if we were girls and did not get top marks for maths tests, we would be punched under the party line. We all knew it, feared it — but we thought that's how it always was and always would be."

In the face of that power, students are defenceless, feel they have no right to challenge the authority and need much courage to identify and express the problem.

The experience of the abuse often renders the students helpless. They may feel guilty, embarrassed, fear victimisation from both teachers and peers, and fear being blamed for provoking the behaviour.

In 85 percent of sexual abuse cases, the perpetrator is known to the victim. It is usually a situation that develops over a period of time, involving bribery and threats. Our school system lends itself to sexual abuse, according to social workers at Micro's Cape Town branch who are involved in a programme to educate Peninsula teachers on sexual abuse.

Wierdo's not only ones guilty of abuse

Often the students will not tell of the abuse. Teachers need to know the signs and symptoms of abuse in the classroom situation. These include: A sudden change in behaviour; reluctance to be with a certain teacher or in a certain class; expression of affection in inappropriate ways; unusual interest in genitals of their own or others; sexual knowledge beyond their age; seductive behaviour; and fear of males.

The following could be symptoms of the general and/or sexual abuse. Sleep disturbances, for example nightmares, bedwetting, falling asleep in class; inability to concentrate; drop in performance; arriving late at school (an unsafe place); truanting; poor peer relationships; difficulty in trusting people; aggression; depression; marked loss and/or increase in appetite.

All these are behavioural changes that students exhibit to express what is happening to them.

Physical signs

Discharge on underwear — this could be normal but needs to be investigated. Vaginal bleeding; complaints of itchy sore genitals. These need to be picked up and investigated.

Teachers need to educate themselves about how to deal with sexual abuse. He/she would need to refer the student to the Child Welfare Society, Red Cross or Rape Crisis. Students' ability to recognise

students, and they should take responsibility for their behaviour.

Students need to know that they have the right to take responsibility for and control over their own bodies. They need to know that it is never their fault that they were abused, and that they did nothing to cause this behaviour. They do not have to do everything an adult tells them to do, particularly if it makes them feel uncomfortable and wrong, even if the adult is an authority figure like a teacher.

Adults do not always have the answers and, in fact, as in this case, can be the cause of the problem. Students can say NO!

If students find their first confidant does not believe them, they need to keep telling other people until somebody promises to help them, and tries to do so. There have been cases of a child telling somebody as many as nine times before she was heard and helped. The situation, despite what people may tell a child, will not simply "blow over".

Students' rights

The first offence might be the beginning and the end of the abuse. However, it is documented that an abuser will probably continue to abuse the child and other children until he is stopped.

A student confronting the problem individually will probably feel isolated and helpless. Organising other students with similar complaints and resolving the problem in a supportive unified group can become an empowering experience.

Parents often feel that they have no role to play in the education of their children, entrusting this responsibility to teachers whom they view as highly credible, reliable, and trustworthy.

They need to recognise that they play a vital role in supporting their children and getting involved in the resolution of their grievances. Parent-teacher-student associations are a viable means of achieving this end.

Mystery of Cape's missing kids

By AYESHA ALLIE

DOMESTIC strife is one of the major causes of young children leaving home in search of a better life.

This is one of the findings of a SOUTH investigation which also disclosed that parents are frantically searching again for missing children since the spate of killings linked to the Station Strangler.

Mr and Mrs Peter Hoaeane, of Larkspur Road, Lentegeur, said their 13-year-old son, Warren, went missing in November 1986. Because they lived in such a violent society, they expected to hear terrible news of their son's whereabouts.

Problems

The Hoaeanes admitted that Warren left home because of family problems. Their stable family life was deeply disrupted in 1982 when his father lost his job. Since then he had casual jobs, with weeks passing without any work.

"Warren, the eldest of three children, was spoilt and always got what he wanted. He just couldn't understand why suddenly there was no money," his father said.

Withdrawn

He said he noticed his son becoming withdrawn about six months before he left home. His wife, Irene, said Warren wanted to join the church brigade, but they could not afford the expenses as her husband was unemployed at the time.

She once caught him marching in the brigade and his father explained to him not to do things without their permission.

They never expected their



Sizizwe Skelly, 4



Clint Petersen, 14



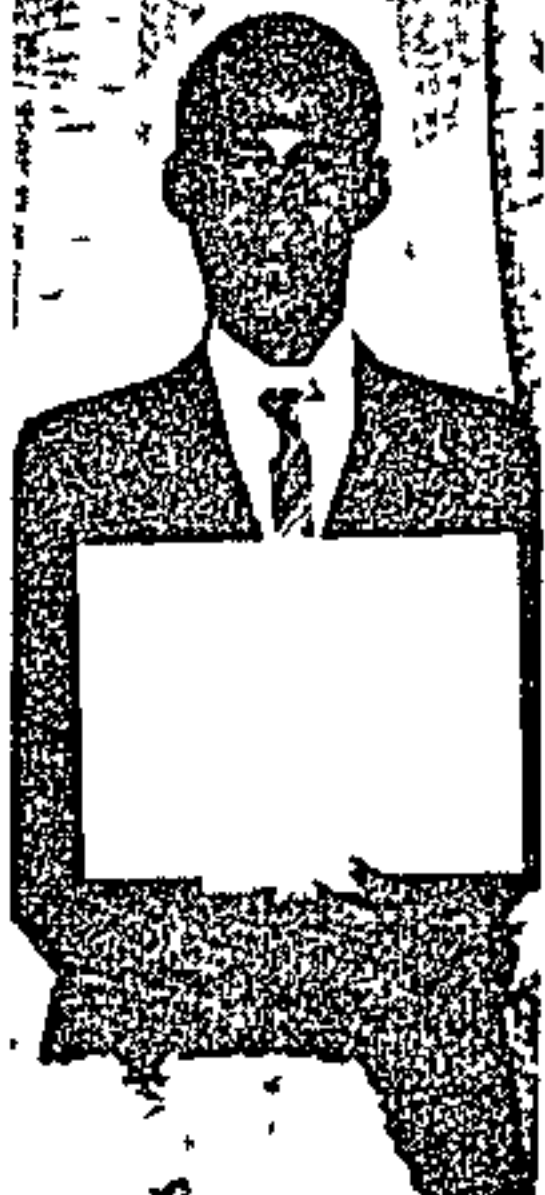
Warren Hoaeane, 13



Lena Hendricks, 9



Kevin Abrahams, 15



Percaville Wiehauer, 13

"As a family we went through hell. We had no money or food and the children were frustrated. Also there were the worries of the house being repossessed and the Council's eviction threats," she recalled.

But we would like to tell him that everything is back to normal at home. His father's found a job and we would like him to come home," she said.

When SOUTH arrived at the home of Lena Hendricks, Louisvale Court, in Clarks Estate, her anxious mother asked "Did you find my daughter? Just tell me where's she".

When she was told her daughter had not been found she referred us to her husband. Mr Simon Hendricks was reluctant to talk and said "How can a little girl like Lena survive the Strangler. She must be dead, and we'll never find her."

Strangler

Lena, 9, went missing two months ago just after she came from school. She had her lunch and went to stand on the balcony for a while. "That was the last I saw of my daughter," Mrs Katie Hendricks said.

Lena was wearing her blue school dress, a white shirt, blue jersey with red stripes along the sleeves, black school shoes and white socks.

After talking about their daughter, Mr Hendricks appealed to us to help him find their daughter.

Mrs Welma de Wet of 12th Avenue, Elsie's River, said her son, Ricardo, 14, left home because he no longer wanted to go to school.

"My husband and I refused to take him out of

school because we felt he was too young," she said.

The De Wets said they only wanted the best for their children. "But in our society we can never guarantee that. Our children are exposed to too much violence outside their homes," she said.

Mrs De Wet said Ricardo would not listen to her husband because he was his step-father. "Children want more out of life than what their parents can afford to

give them," she said.

The happy and relieved parents of 16-year old Mark Valentine, of Mandalay, who returned home after a week said their son left home because he did not want to go to school.

He is now working and very happy, his parents said.

Still missing are Kevin Abrahams, 15, Sizizwe Skelly, 4, and Clint Petersen, 14, all of Mitchell's Plain.

CAPE TEACHERS' PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CTPA)

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Inside Strangler's mind

THE Station Strangler might be someone who was well-liked by the community because of his quiet personality.

This is one of the theories about the child killer which is under investigation.

According to Dr M B Magner, a psychiatrist at Lentegeur Hospital, Mitchell's Plain, the Strangler could be reading newspaper reports on the killings, and, at the same time, condemn the deaths.

He outlined groups in which the Strangler could be classified:

Psychopath

A psychopath who is a cold, unfeeling and aggressive. When experiencing an aggressive mood, the psychopath's abnormal needs to obtain, say, sexual satisfaction, could drive him to seek blood and perversion.

A strange or introverted person who is usually withdrawn and does not talk easily to people. He is usually only liked once he is known.

A "Mommy's boy" who lives in his own world. He could be a quiet person not usually linked to violence.

Magner said the strangler could have a homosexuality problem which he did not want to admit.

The Strangler could be impotent. Killing boys could provide the stimulation and satisfaction he needed.

It was possible that the Strangler was sexually abused himself when he was a boy.

"He could have been abused at school or at a railway station," Magner said.

He once had a case of a young man who touched the private parts of young boys without hurting them. It was discovered that he was sexually abused by bigger boys while still at school.

"This person stands a good chance of being rehabilitated because he never injured or killed anyone," Magner said.

"But the chance of rehabilitation for the Strangler is nil. He has killed several boys and faces a death sentence or prison for the rest of his life."

The Strangler probably thought a lot about how to kill his next victim and the spot where it would take place.

After killing one victim, he would think about it, and then about what his next victim would be like. This would lead to his fantasising about the killings with the added element of sadism. The strangler might even have pictures of naked boys at his home.

His mind might soon become obsessed with the killings. As a result, at a later stage, he could be less careful and leave clues.

Magner said the publicity could have influenced the Strangler to change his "venues" and even delay the next killing.

The publicity would thrill the psychopath. He would enjoy the attention. He might even have joined the police force or community to "help" find the killer.

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Dept. of Xhosa: Lecturer Junior Lecturer

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For further information and an application form, please telephone Mrs O Williams on (021) 959-2704 or write to the Personnel Department, University of the Western Cape, Private Bag X17, Bellville, 7530. Closing date for applications, 25 September, 1987.



UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE

Harare conference on apartheid

AS many as 450 people could attend the conference on the effects of apartheid on South African children which opens in Harare on Thursday next week.

The organisers expect to stage "in-person testimony to the four-day conference of some young victims of apartheid".

Delegates include a number of international legal and medical experts, as well as other lawyers, doctors, politicians, trade unionists, religious leaders and journalists who are familiar with the effects of apartheid on young children.

Zimbabwe Prime Minister Robert Mugabe is to open the meeting, entitled The International Conference on Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa, and there is speculation that African National Congress President Oliver Tambo will also attend.

By HOWARD BARRELL,
Harare

The venue for the meeting is Zimbabwe's huge and plush Harare International Conference Centre.

The conference, the largest of its kind, is being convened by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, president of the British Anti-Apartheid Movement. He is being assisted by the University of Zimbabwe's law department and the British-based Bishop Ambrose Reeves Trust.

Personalities at the conference will include United Democratic Front patron Dr Allan Boesak, former South African Council of Churches general secretary Dr Beyers Naude, and activist international lawyer Richard Falk, who is Millbank professor of international law at Princeton University in the United States.

18-24/9/87 (298) W/Mail

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SPM 23/9/87

World eye on SA and the child under the law

HARARE — The international conference on children and the law under apartheid starts in Harare tomorrow amid growing concern about abuse and torture of detained minors in South African jails, the semi-official news agency Ziana reports.

The conference, which is being convened by Bishop Trevor Huddleston, leader of the British-based anti-apartheid movement, will discuss a wide range of topics including torture of children and its aftermaths, the military, the police, the vigilante factor and security laws versus the child.

A report of the United States branch of the Geneva-based human rights group, Defence for Children International says: "The incidents of torture, arbitrary killing and unlawful imprisonment of children (in South Africa), continue unabated."

The report estimates that by June this year, more than 10 000 children had been held without trial since the imposition of the state of emergency by President Botha's Government in June 1986.

The state of emergency was renewed in June this year.

The defence for Children International said: "Detained children reported that they had been beaten with rifle butts, suffocated with wet nylon bags and suspended from ceilings by chains around their wrists, then spun in circles, a treatment, they said, which police call the 'helicopter'."

Psychologists who counselled the child victims in South Africa, said they had noted severe depression, anxiety and paranoia as well as anti-social behaviour.

A recent report from a news agency said when police arrived at a Soweto home to detain an 18-year-old boy and found he had fled, they promptly detained his entire family, including a one-month-old baby and four other children aged five, six, 10 and 15.

Three months ago, the outspoken anti-apartheid activist, Rev Alan Boesak, told a meeting in Stockholm that: "The other day we buried a father who committed suicide when the authorities refused permission for his four jailed children to see their mother dying

of cancer"

But South African authorities, as pointed out by the trade representative in Zimbabwe in a letter to the press early this year, maintained that, by April 15 this year, there were only 1 405 children detained by the Pretoria administration.

These, said the representative, included two 12-year-olds, 75 14-year-olds, 110 15-year-olds, 312 16-year-olds, 461 17-year-olds and 445 18-year-olds.

However, the UN Human Rights Commission listed more than 10 000 arrests without trial and said children under 15 were particularly affected by the situation, which it described as the "most serious ever in the history of South Africa".

According to the Detainees' Parents Support Committee of South Africa, of the 28 471 people detained last year in terms of the emergency regulations, about 40 percent were children under the age of 18.

President Botha's Government denies the validity of outside reports and the charge that children were victims of its own system of apartheid.

In an attempt to refute allegations of mass detentions of children in South Africa, the trade representative said. "It must be pointed out that the children who are being detained are held for the sole reason of protecting the general public from acts of violence, perpetrated mainly by juveniles, the majority of whom revealed no political insight, utilised the banner of politics as cover to vent their riotousness, undisciplined nature and cruelty."

When the child conference begins, the more than 500 participants from all over the world, among them notable human rights campaigners, would therefore aim not so much to prove the Botha administration "a liar" as to prove the resilience of the young South Africans' determination to free their country from apartheid repression.

A Unicef report issued in June this year observed "There are few countries in the world, at any time in history, where children have found themselves so much in the front line of a determined and violent struggle for change." — Sapa.

Can Trip 24/9/87

Tambo at talks on children

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Own Correspondent and Sapa-AP

HARARE. — ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo and Dr Allan Boesak are among some 500 civil-rights activists who gather here today for a five-day conference on alleged torture, detention and systematic brutalization of children in South Africa.

The international conference on children, repression and the law under apartheid is to be opened today by Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwean Prime Minister.

It is being convened by the Rev Trevor Huddleston of the British-based Anti-Apartheid Movement in a bid to broaden the international campaign for release of children detained in South Africa.

Mr Huddleston last night told journalists that Mr Tambo, former SACC secretary-general Dr Beyers Naude, Dr Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, American black activist Mrs Angela Davis and the wife of Britain's Labour Party leader, Mrs Pat Kinnoch, would be among representatives of more than 30 nations.



Harry Belafonte



Dr Allan Boesak

Delegates also include singer Harry Belafonte and Mrs Lisbet Palme, widow of the late Swedish Prime Minister Mr Olof Palme.

Organizers last night waited to see how many of the 120 South African delegates would be allowed to cross the Limpopo.

Michael Hartnack reports Mr Huddleston as saying the identity of South African delegates would be kept secret throughout the session "because they have to go back".

"We know that children of seven years old have been tortured. We have massive evidence from lawyers inside South Africa of what is happening, and that will be presented," he told a press conference.

While it was not intended to imitate the Dakar talks, the conference would give South Africans a chance to meet Mr Tambo's delegation, said Mr Huddleston.



The Star's Africa News
Service and Sapa

HARARE — Evidence of torture of children in South Africa, some as young as seven years old, would be presented at the international conference starting here today on "Children under Apartheid", Archbishop Trevor Huddleston said last night.

But in Cape Town, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, had denied that any child under the age of 15 was presently being held under the emergency regulations.

He said that no youth was in detention unless it was "absolutely essential for the safety of the public or the maintenance of public order".

Only three 15-year-olds, 28 16-year-olds and 84 17-year-olds were being held, he said, most of them in connection with serious offences ranging from murder to arson and public violence.

Archbishop Huddleston said testimonies would be heard from children who had been detained. These included "teenagers of up to 18 and more".

The names of delegates from South Africa would not be revealed "for their own sakes".

He hoped that at least 120 people from South Africa would be present.

He disclosed that the ANC had been involved in the organisation of the conference, held under the auspices of the Ambrose Reeves Trust, part of the Anti-Apartheid Movement.

Delegates from 30 countries as well as from the PAC and Swapo will attend.

'REFORM IMPOSSIBLE'

"We want to come up with responsible recommendations challenging all governments to use their powers against apartheid. Reform of apartheid is not possible."

Mr Vlok said in Cape Town the government was aware of an international conference to be held in Harare this week on "so-called Children, Repression and the Law".

"Much of the false and slanted allegations and information originates from radical individuals and organisations from within South Africa and also from the Detainees Parents' Support Committee (DPSC).

"These groups and individuals appear to be committed in propagating biased and untested information which can be harmful to South Africa."

Detained children, he said, received excellent medication, were visited regularly by judges, district surgeons and their parents. They had access to lawyers and any complaint received prompt attention.

A strict code of conduct on the treatment of all detainees, especially children, was being rigidly enforced and no abuse was tolerated.

Mr Vlok said allegations of torture and abuse were often made, but investigations invariably revealed that they were either totally false or grossly exaggerated.

Mr Vlok appealed to the DPSC and other organisations "who wish to propagate allegations of torture and abuse" to produce the evidence

Charge the children, Suzman challenges Vlok

AKGWS 24/9/87 (298)

Political Staff

PROGRESSIVE Federal Party spokesman on Law and Order Mrs Helen Suzman today challenged the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, to charge the 115 children under 18 who he said were being held in detention.

She said this was especially necessary if, as Mr Vlok said, they were mostly guilty of serious offences such as murder, arson and public violence.

She was reacting to a statement on children in detention made by Mr Vlok to coincide with a Harare conference on "Children, Repression and the Law".

Mrs Suzman said the number of children in detention showed there had been a "dramatic re-

duction" since the start of the year

"This is no doubt due to the immense amount of publicity received here and more especially overseas, where the children have become an important issue, especially for the US Congress"

Wild claims

But she queried whether these figures included children being held under the Internal Security Act.

Mr Vlok said no child under 15 was being held under the emergency regulations

"Only three 15-year-old, 28 16-year-old and 84 17-year-old youths are in detention."

He said the Harare conference was apparently aimed at focussing world attention on

children being held in terms of the emergency regulations.

"According to my information, the conference will be attended by several hundred delegates who will try to create an impression that thousands of children are being held in South Africa under terrible conditions.

"It can be expected that wild claims of mass detentions of children and their so-called torture and abuse will be aired."

Mr Vlok said most of the 115 children were being held in connection with serious offences, ranging from murder to arson and public violence

"No youth is held unless it is absolutely essential for the safety of the public or the maintenance of public order"

Vlok: 115 children held

Political Staff

NO CHILDREN under the age of 15 were being detained in terms of the emergency regulations but 115 children under 17 were being held on "serious charges", Mr Adriaan Vlok, Minister of Law and Order, said last night.

Releasing statistics on child detainees in an attempt to pre-empt allegations which are expected to be made against South Africa at an international conference in Harare next week, he said three 15-year-olds, 18 16-year-olds and 84 17-year-olds were being detained.

"Most of them are being held in connec-

tion with serious offences ranging from murder to arson and public violence," said Mr Vlok.

"No youth is held unless it is absolutely essential for the safety of the public or the maintenance of public order.

"They are all being held under special circumstances of detention away from convicted criminals and as close to their parents' homes as possible."

Mr Vlok said the government was fully aware of the conference in Harare on "children, repression and the law"

"The conference is apparently aimed at focusing world attention on children being held in terms of the emergency regula-

tions in South Africa"

His information was that the conference would be attended by several hundred delegates, some of them from South Africa, who would attempt to create the impression that thousands of children were being held under terrible conditions and being subjected to torture.

"Much of the false and slanted allegations and information originates from radical individuals and organizations from within South Africa and also from the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC)," he said.

"These groups and individuals appear to be committed to propagating biased and untested information which can be harmful to South Africa.

"It can be expected that wild claims of mass detentions of children and their so-called torture and abuse will be aired at this conference."

Mr Vlok said it was because of this he had felt it necessary to release the details he had.

He said the young detainees received excellent medical attention, were visited regularly by judges, district surgeons and their parents. They also had legal access and any complaint received attention.

"A very strict code of conduct on the treatment of all detainees, especially children, is rigidly enforced and no abuse is tolerated," he said.

Allegations of torture and abuse were often made but, when investigated, invariably proved to be totally false or grossly exaggerated.

Two recent cases had been sent into the world by the DPSC concerning a 15-year-old girl and 12-year-old boy who it was alleged had been the victims of horrendous forms of torture.

Both cases had been thoroughly investigated and evidence obtained under oath had shown the allegations to be false.

However, the damage to South Africa had already been done.

"I appeal to organizations such as the DPSC and others who wish to propagate allegations of torture and abuse to bring evidence to my attention for thorough investigation," said Mr Vlok.

"All the evidence will be tested and should it be found an offence or offences had been committed, the law will take its course."

Minister says no children detained

Political Correspondent



MR ADRIAN VLOK

CAPE TOWN — No children under the age of 15 were being detained in terms of the Emergency Regulations but 115 children under 17 were being held on "serious charges", the Minister of Law and Order, Mr. Adrian Vlok, said last night.

ranging from murder to arson and public violence," said Mr Vlok.

"No youth is held unless it is absolutely essential for the safety of the public or the maintenance of public order.

"They are all being held under special circumstances of detention, away from convicted criminals and as close to their parents' homes as possible."

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"The conference is apparently aimed at focusing world attention on children being held in terms of the Emergency Regulations in South Africa."

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"Most of them are being held in connection with serious offences

Mr Vlok said his information was that the conference would be attended by several hundred delegates, some of them from South Africa, who would attempt to create the impression that thousands of children were being held under terrible conditions and being subjected to torture.

"Much of the false and slanted allegations and information originates from radical individuals and organisations from within South Africa and also from the Detainees' Parents Support Committee (DPSC).

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Both cases had been thoroughly investigated and evidence obtained under oath had shown the allegations to be false.

However, the damage had already been done, Mr Vlok said.

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249/87

(598)

WHAT exactly was the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, trying to prove when he said that only three of 5-year-old children are in detention under the emergency regulations?

Was he telling the world that although South Africa stinks, it does not stink as much as people believe it does.

Let us again spell out

PERSPECTIVE



what the world has been trying to tell Mr Vlok and the rest of the

Government: Children have no business behind bars, particularly

What's Vlok up to?

when they have not been tried and convicted by a court of law.

Mr Vlok, whether it is one child or two thousand children, that is immaterial.

Your system, Mr Vlok, provides for rapists, robbers and murderers to appear in court almost immediately after arrest.

Why not extend this privilege to the children and to the hundreds, or whatever, who are in detention without trial?

Reason

Answer that one, Mr Vlok, and you will be participating relevantly and logically in the debate. You will have stopped your dull dance.

Perhaps the reason Mr Vlok can see children in detention as more statistics is that he has a cushioning layer

of officials under him. By the time the information gets to him it has been wrung until it is dry figures with no emotional meaning and no relationship to the living people who were detained.

When you are a mother, a father, a sister, a brother, or just a friend, you don't have that type of cushion.

As I write this I remember Jaki Seroke, an editor at the book publishers Skotaville, who has been in detention since September 8.

Jaki is not exactly a child — he is all of 27 years old — but he is the most recent example of detention without trial I know.

Four days after he was detained I arrived at the office in the morning to find a young woman waiting

for me. She had come to ask if I had heard from Jaki.

Dikoneo was desperately searching for her fiancée. Her search was to continue for another five days before she heard that Jaki was in police detention.

A new game has now started for her. She wants to see Jaki, to convince herself that he is well, but she has not been allowed to see him.

Feelings

Twice, last Friday and Tuesday, she took clothes for him to the Protea Police Station in Soweto. She has not been given any dirty clothing from him.

One can only imagine Dikoneo's feelings. Only three weeks ago all that was on her

mind was the preparation for their wedding early next year. She has now joined hundreds of people who wait for loved ones: Jaki could be released today, next month, next year, or even never.

Mr Vlok, it is possible that the 15-year-olds are held "in connection with serious crimes like murder, arson and public violence", to use your words.

But I refuse to believe that it is "absolutely essential for the safety of the public or the maintenance of public order" to hold them without trial.

The picture is bizarre: a society as well armed as ours scared of its children? Mr Vlok, don't be facetious.



ARCHBISHOP Huddleston.

Talks in Harare

(298) SOWETAN 25/9/83

**SOWETAN
Africa News Service**

EVIDENCE of the harassment of children in South Africa, some as young as seven years, would be presented at the International Conference which started in Harare yesterday on children under apartheid, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston said.

The veteran anti-apartheid campaigner told an eve-of-conference gathering of newsmen that the names of all delegates from South Africa would not be revealed for their own sakes.

He was hoping that at least 120 people from South Africa would be present but the organisers did not know if all had been able to get out of South Africa.

The archbishop disclosed that the ANC had been involved in the organisation of the conference, the biggest of its kind to focus attention on the plight of children in South Africa.

It is being held under the auspices of the Ambrose Reeves Trust, part of the anti-apartheid movement and delegates from 30 countries are attending.

It would provide the

opportunity for young people from South Africa to make their voices heard.

He was hopeful that a declaration would emerge which would alert all people of goodwill to the kind of action they could take against apartheid.

Other issues, such as sanctions, were divisive but no "respectable" government would dare to say the torture of children was excusable.

"We want to come up with responsible recommendations challenging all governments to use their powers against apartheid. Reform of apartheid is not possible," said Archbishop Huddleston.

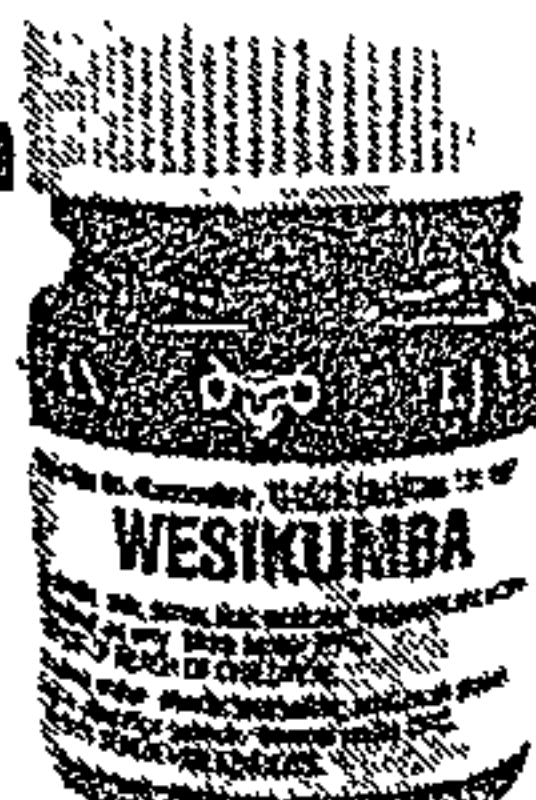
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Mr. Tink 25/9/87

13 boys held under IS Act

298

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By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

HOUSE OF DELEGATES. — One boy under the age of 15 and 12 boys between the ages of 16 and 17 were in detention at the end of July under the interrogation provisions of the Internal Security Act, the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, disclosed yesterday.

Mr Vlok said in reply to a question tabled by Mr Mahmoud Rajab (PRP Springfield) that 169 men over the age of 18 and 21 women over the age of 18 were in detention in terms of section 29 of the law.

Earlier this week, Mr Vlok said in a statement that a further 115 children under the age of 18 were in detention under the emergency regulations.

He said then no child under the age of 15 was being held in terms of the emergency regulations.

Mr Vlok told Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP Houghton) in the House of As-

sembly that no person had been held in any of the homelands in terms of the Internal Security Act since June 12 last year.

People who were detained in the homelands in terms of the emergency provisions were included in the lists of names tabled in Parliament.

He also denied, in reply to a question by Mr Peter Soal (PFP Johannesburg North) that a person had been removed by police from the Philadelphia Hospital in Dennilton.

The person was detained on May 16 in terms of emergency regulations by KwaNdebele police and was taken to the hospital on June 13.

He was guarded for the duration of his stay in hospital and was discharged from hospital on August 13.

He was then detained for one night at the Dennilton police station before being transferred to the Nylstroom Prison where he is still being detained under emergency regulations.

HARARE — SA had no legitimate claim to be part of the civilised international community for as long as the rule of law was not respected there, Prime Minister Robert Mugabe said yesterday.

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Opening an international conference on "Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa" in Harare, he said the rule of law did not exist in SA.

"The law, such as exists there, is only for the advancement and protection of the privileges of the few.

"The law and all the related state institutions have been designed and geared to protect and promote the interests of the white minority."

Mugabe said no society had a right to be regarded as part of civilised humanity unless and until its legal system and practice guaranteed the rights of all its citizens, regardless of race, sex, political and religious convictions.

"The prisons of SA are today full of children who, under civilised conditions, should be in schools undergoing preparation for their future roles"

He hoped the conference would en-

No rule of law in SA, Mugabe tells conference

hance international awareness of the plight of black children in SA, who he described as the weakest and most vulnerable of the South African population.

Conference chairman Archbishop Trevor Huddleston told delegates the conference provided a unique opportunity to tell the world what was happening inside SA.

Delegates had come to listen to "those people within SA, who have travelled, many of them at great risk to themselves" to tell them what was actually happening in SA.

He said children in SA had been the targets of oppression for many years. They had grown up seeing the destructiveness of apartheid, seeing how their leaders were imprisoned.

It was the basic moral evil of apartheid which had brought the children of Soweto on to the streets 10 years ago, the veteran anti-apartheid campaigner said.

They had been armed with nothing but the "justness of their cause, but had been met with guns and children as young as seven shot down."

Lisbet Palme, wife of the former Swedish PM, told delegates the system of apartheid could not be reformed and should be abolished.

Palme, who is representing the Swedish branch of United Nations Children's Fund, said it was unfortunate that some countries continued to support the Pretoria regime while it caused suffering to thousands of people. — Sapa.

Apartheid's children come under the spotlight

HARRE — Organisers of the first international conference on children and oppression under apartheid last night waited to see how many of the 120 delegates from SA would be allowed to travel to Zimbabwe.

Conference convener Archbishop Trevor Huddleston told journalists last night that ANC president Oliver Tambo, Beyers Naude, Allan Boesak, US black activist Angela Davis and British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock's wife Pat would be among rep-

MICHAEL HARTNACK

representatives of more than 30 nations. But anxiety focused on the SA internal delegates. The identities of most of them would be kept secret throughout the session "because they have to go back".

"We know that children of seven years old have been tortured. We have massive evidence from lawyers inside SA," Huddleston said.

While it was not intended to imitate

the Dakar talks, the conference would give South Africans a chance to meet Tambo's delegation.

Emphasising the plight of juveniles, he said: "I lived for 12½ years with the people of Sophiatown and it was the children who taught me all I know about the evils of apartheid."

"Because of their youth and their determination to have a better life they were the spearhead of opposition to apartheid. The same is true today." PM Robert Mugabe will open the four-day conference this morning. It

concludes with a rally on Sunday.

Sapa-AP reports that the Geneva-based human rights group, Defense for Children International, in June reported that 10 000 children were detained without trial in SA. The government in April said 1 405 children were being held as activists against the state.

Pop stars, politicians and preachers are among the delegates. They include singer Harry Belafonte and Tisbet Palme, widow of the late Swedish Prime Minister, Plof Palme.

Only Times 26/9/87

Torture 'part of SA scenario'

THE intensification of the struggle against apartheid has resulted in an escalation of torture by South African authorities, Professor Don Foster of the University of Cape Town's department of psychology said in Harare yesterday.

Ziana, the semi-official news agency, said Professor Foster alleged that Pretoria was using torture to destroy opposition and perpetuate the system of apartheid.

"Brutality had taken a new form in the 1960s and in the last 25 years torture has become a systematic part of the South African scenario."

Professor Foster is author of the book "Detention and Torture in South Africa".

He said torture had devastating effects on the individual and most of those who had been detained had suffered either physically or psychologically.

World must act — Naude

THE "frightening revelations" at the Conference on Children should convince the world that a more determined and concerted action against apartheid was desperately needed, Dr Beyers Naude said yesterday.

And Mrs Glynnis Kinnock, wife of British Labour Party leader, said after testimony given by children yesterday that Western governments could no longer claim ignorance of what was being done to children in SA.

She commended the bravery of the children who had spoken about their ordeals. — Sapa

Dr Orr on SA docs, detainees

SOUTH AFRICAN doctors should be compelled to report all cases of torture in police stations and prisons, Dr Wendy Orr, a member of the South African National Medical and Dental Association (Namda), said in Harare yesterday.

She told delegates to the international conference on children in South Africa that there was a need for an independent body to compel doctors in South Africa to report the "high rate of torture of detainees".

Dr Orr, who was the first doctor to report on torture of detainees while working as a district surgeon in Port Elizabeth in 1985, said that during the two months between the end of July and September 1985, she had seen hundreds of wounded and distressed detainees, most of them in their early 20s.

Another South African doctor, Dr Riedwan Pillay, told the conference that the Medical Association of South Africa (Masa) was becoming an instrument of government policy and should be barred from international groupings. — Sapa

CMC Trip 25/9/87

11-year-old 'held for 2 months'

AN 11-year-old boy, taken from his home in the night and detained for more than two months, was taken to a South African government mortuary and then to a dark room where he was tortured, the conference on children being held in Harare was told yesterday, Ziana reports.

"We were four in a cell. We did not have enough food. They allowed my mother and father only to visit me," Willim Modibedi told shocked delegates to the international conference on "Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa".

Surrounded by the world's press and facing a large audience, the boy clearly felt overwhelmed and a member of the Detainees' Parents' Support Committee, who was interviewing him in his own language, told delegates he had said he was afraid — Sapa

Harare Conference on Children

Vlok speaks on Harare meeting

THE South African Police yesterday responded to reports emanating from the Harare international conference on "Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa".

The SAP statement said. "Regarding (the) conference on children being held in Harare — we refer you to a lengthy statement by the Minister of Law and Order made on 23 September 1987, and which deals specifically with this conference."

In Mr Adriaan Vlok's statement of September 23 he said that no children under the age of 15 were being detained in terms of the emergency regulations but 115 children under 17 were being held on "serious charges".

He said three 15-year-olds, 18 16-year-olds and 84 17-year-olds were being detained. "Most of them are being held in connection with serious offences ranging from murder to arson and public violence," said Mr Vlok.

"No youth is held unless it is absolutely essential for the safety of the public or the maintenance of public order."

"They are all being held under special circumstances of detention away from convicted criminals and as close to their parents' homes as possible."

Mr Vlok said the government was fully aware of the conference in Harare on "children, repression and the law".

"The conference is apparently aimed at focusing world attention on children being held in terms of the emergency regulations in South Africa."

His information was that the conference would be attended by several hundred delegates, some of them from South Africa, who would attempt to create the impression that thousands of children were being held under terrible conditions and being subjected to torture.

"Much of the false and slanted allegations and information originates from radical individuals and organizations from within South Africa and also from the Detainees' Parents Support Committee," he said.

"These groups and individuals appear to be committed to propagating biased and untested information which can be harmful to South Africa."

"It can be expected that wild claims of mass detentions of children and their so-called torture and abuse will be aired at this conference."

Mr Vlok said it was because of this he had felt it necessary to release the details he had.

He said the young detainees re-

ceived excellent medical attention, were visited regularly by judges, district surgeons and their parents. They also had legal access and any complaint received attention.

"A very strict code of conduct on the treatment of all detainees, especially children, is rigidly enforced and no abuse is tolerated," he said.

Allegations of torture and abuse were often made but, when investigated, invariably proved to be totally false or grossly exaggerated.

Two recent cases had been sent into the world by the DPSC concerning a 15-year-old girl and 12-year-old boy who it was alleged had been the victims of horrendous forms of torture.

Both cases had been thoroughly investigated and evidence obtained under oath had shown the allegations to be false.

However, the damage to South Africa had already been done.

"I appeal to organizations such as the DPSC and others who wish to propagate allegations of torture and abuse to bring evidence to my attention for thorough investigation," said Mr Vlok.

"All the evidence will be tested and should it be found an offence or offences had been committed, the law will take its course."

CPA Trib 26/9/87

'Fridge, electric shock torture'

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A YOUNG South African yesterday made allegations of torture at the hands of the SAP which included claims that he was subjected to electric shock while dressed in a rubber suit, and was put naked in a fridge.

Buras Nhalabathi was 16 years old when he was detained in October last year.

He told delegates to the international conference on "Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa" that he had been involved in a students' organization.

Police raided the house he was in at about 3.30am on October 8 and spent about 25 minutes, he alleged, beating him with the butts of their rifles and with fists and boots.

"During interrogation, I was taken to a room and given electric shocks."

The next day he was given electric shocks, this time dressed in a rubber suit rather like a diving suit, he said.

"Then my clothes were taken off and I was put in a fridge."

After about 30 minutes in the fridge he was put back in the rubber suit for more shocks before being taken to a room with powerful searchlights. He was tied up in such a way that he could not avoid looking at the searchlights, he said.

And a 13-year-old girl alleged that South African soldiers attacked her home in the Botswana capital of Gaborone last year and shot her twice as she tried to run away.

The Ziana agency said that Nthabiseng Mabusa, who was born in Botswana and had never been to South Africa, was 12 at the time. She is now paralysed from the waist down. — Sapa

NEWS

Schoolboy (11) tells Harare conference of ordeal as a detainee in SA

HARARE — An 11-year-old South African schoolboy, William Modibedi, faced a battery of microphones and television cameras and an international audience of 300 people to tell of his ordeal as a detainee in South Africa.

Delegates, including distinguished academics, churchmen, and civil rights activists, brushed tears from their eyes as William told them he had been taken from his home in Krugersdorp in October last year and detained for two months and two days.

His mother, who sat alongside him in Harare's plush International Conference Centre, said her son had been taken from Krugersdorp to Roodepoort Prison.

BEATEN BY POLICE

At one stage, she said, William had been taken to the government mortuary and afterwards put in a dark room and tortured. He was beaten by white and black police.

William was the youngest of five young people to testify to their experiences at the international conference convened by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston to discuss the plight of children under apartheid.

Before his mother took up his story, William said he had been accused of burning cars and shops. "I was electric charged," he said, his voice almost a

ROBIN DREW and SAPA

whisper. He told his interviewer: "I was in Std 2. I never wrote my exams. I am back in the same class."

The questioning was stopped by Mrs Glenys Kinnock, wife of the British Labour Party leader, who put her arm around the boy and suggested the story be taken up by his mother.

Afterwards Mrs Kinnock spoke of the bravery and spirit of those from South Africa who had spoken at the conference. She said she hoped accounts like William's would shock the international community into action against South Africa, which had to be isolated.

Among the five young people who gave evidence was a 13-year-old girl, Nthabiseng Mabusa, who was shot at her home in Botswana on June 14 1986 by "soldiers" wearing masks. She is now paralysed from the waist down and confined to a wheelchair.

Nthabiseng is living in Harare with her mother and attending a school for the handicapped. A pretty girl with an appealing smile, she was cheered as she was carried off the platform to her wheelchair.

She had told how she had been shot in the stomach

and again in the back as she ran from the house when the shooting suddenly started.

Three others who spoke were:

● Naimkhula Mgamlana, an 18-year-old youth from Port Elizabeth, now at an ANC college in Tanzania, who said he had been tortured with electric instruments.

● Nadia Moltse, from Alexandra Township, now 22, who described his treatment at John Vorster Square after his arrest in December 1985.

● Bunas Nhalathi, who described his experiences at Kempton Park police station where he alleged he had been put into a rubber suit and gagged and afterwards shut in a fridge.

OPEN POLITICAL ACT

The testimony of the "young victims" of apartheid was a highlight of the conference which is continuing today.

Speakers from South Africa yesterday included Professor Don Foster, of the University of Cape Town, who said the use of torture in South Africa had become central to maintaining power, and was an open political act. "There is massive evidence of the systematic use of torture," he said.

There was a need to recognise the existence of psy-

chological torture so that challenges could be made in the courts.

It was no exaggeration, he said, to describe the situation in South Africa as "a systematic reign of terror".

Dr Wendy Orr, on the same panel, read from an affidavit of a detainee when she was a district surgeon in Port Elizabeth and spoke out against the "deadening silence" by members of the medical profession about the ill-treatment of detainees.

Doctors should be compelled to report all torture cases in police stations and prisons, she said.

Dr Greg McCarthy, a lecturer at Wits University and member of the Released Detainees Support Group, said that in May, June and July this year 83 children released from detention had been examined. Of these 68 were aged between 15 and 17.

Sixty-four of the released detainees had complained of assault and one in three were suffering from definable psychiatric illness.

"I believe it is the ethical duty of all doctors to speak out against brutality," he said.

Dr Beyers Naude, prominent anti-apartheid campaigner, said that the "frightening revelations" at the conference should convince the world that a more determined and concerted action against apartheid was desperately needed.

Pride in judiciary not shared — lawyer

MOST South Africans did not see the government's pride in an independent judiciary as justified, Mr Peter Harris, a South African lawyer, told the Harare conference.

Whatever decisions were made by the Supreme Court, criminal justice in South Africa was dispensed chiefly by magistrates' courts, which acted as agents of the government.

Mr Harris said he had been involved in many applications to the courts for the release of children and for orders restraining the authorities from assaulting detainees, including many children.

The facts related to treatment of 12- to 18-year-olds held in detention should have been aired publicly in court, but this was avoided by releasing them.

He gave extensive details of alleged assaults on detained children, which cannot be reported in terms of the emergency regulations.

The head of the Department of Adjectival and Clinical Law at the University of Natal in Durban, Professor David McQuoid-Mason, said about 150 000 South Africans were jailed annually without any legal representation. — Sapa

Reports on the Harare conference, particularly those containing detailed allegations of torture of children and security force actions, have been edited in terms of the emergency regulations.

Diplomats will ask SA not to victimize Harare delegates

HARARE. — Western embassies and Commonwealth high commissions which had observer status at the conference on Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa yesterday pledged to send diplomats to Jan Smuts Airport to dissuade the authorities from victimizing the 200 homegoing South African delegates.

This was announced at the closing session by one of the organizers, Professor Reg Austin of the University of Zimbabwe law department. He did not name the countries.

The conference closed with expressions of determination to "liberate" South Africa and singing and dancing in the aisles.

Veteran anti-apartheid campaigner the Rev Beyers Naude and Archbishop Trevor Huddleston received standing ovations.

United Democratic movement representative Mr Faried Esack, leader of the Call of Islam, called on delegates to pay tribute to Archbishop Huddleston, a man

who he said embodied whatever was good in the spirit of mankind.

The archbishop was clearly moved as delegates stood and gave him prolonged applause.

He thanked him for showing that religion was not the opium of the people and paid tribute to Mr Naude and Mr Joe Slovo, of the South African Communist Party, for helping to ensure that the struggle in South Africa did not become a black-versus-white racial struggle.

Earlier Archbishop Huddleston repeated his hope that "apartheid will be dead before 1 am", to great applause.

"Apartheid cannot be reformed," he said. "Apartheid is basically evil and you cannot reform what is basically evil. It is the enemy of God and the enemy of mankind."

He said the conference had not been one of words but of hard work by participants to convey to the world the truth about the horrors of South Africa's apartheid system.

Dr Naude appealed to the media outside

South Africa to devise effective ways of reporting latest information on events in SA.

"I'm convinced that the world media are able to find the ways and means of presenting the true events in South Africa."

British human-rights lawyer Mr Geoffrey Bindman said one of the practical results of the conference was a seven-point programme to mobilize lawyers throughout the world.

Mrs Janey Buchan, Glasgow member of the European Parliament, said that no mother could have listened to the testimony of South African children and remained unmoved.

The conference ended yesterday with a call to all South African judges to resign immediately, and a warning of committing "crimes against humanity".

Sources here say moves to get lawyers to "refuse to use their skills in any manner which could assist the apartheid regime".

The message from the Commonwealth secretary-general, Sir Shridith Ramphal, said apartheid was the modern face of slavery.

Young blacks 'refugees in their own country for fear of vigilantes'

YOUNG black South Africans have become refugees within their own country for fear of "sponsored vigilantes".

The vigilantes were sometimes convicted criminals and mainly unemployed people recruited with the promise of money, it was said.

A South African journalist told the conference there were three types of vigilantes.

The "brazen vigilantes", the "secret vigilantes", who assassinated people in the dead of night, and the virtually private armies operating in the homelands.

Black-on-black violence was

part of a strategy to crush opposition to apartheid, several speakers said.

A representative of the Natal Organization of Women said young South Africans no longer knew whom they could trust and were suspicious of everyone.

"Some have just come out of detention and been attacked by vigilantes," she said.

Earlier, the conference had been told that some detainees were terrified when they came out of detention and felt they were only being released into a larger prison because they could not move about openly for fear of

assassination.

Some were living in forest, others in sheds. Some were so hungry they would eat anything. Some were no longer attending school, it was said.

Faced with all this stress, some youths became drunkards or drug addicts.

South African Council of Churches (SACC) secretary-general, the Rev Frank Chikane, said student leaders feared a systematic plan to murder, kidnap and eliminate them.

Three South African student leaders have been brutally murdered in mysterious circumstances recently, he said.

A representative of the Maritzburg Agency for Christian Social Awareness expressed concern at the support some Western governments gave Inkatha.

She urged foreign organizations which gave money to Inkatha to re-examine the cause they supported — Sapa

'System must be disturbed'

A SYSTEM of law and order which forced men to live away from their families had to be disturbed, Moulana Faried Esack, of the United Democratic Front and the Call of Islam, told delegates.

He said the Minister of Law and Order had had the audacity to say, in relation to the conference, that people would not be allowed to disturb law and order.

The question was what sort of "law and order" the minister was talking about, he said.

He also said the international community had a responsibility to help the people of South Africa rid themselves of apartheid. — Sapa

Lecturer calls for aid for young SA exiles

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28/9/83
Sapa

HARARE — A South African clinical psychologist living in Ghana at the weekend called for the launching of mental health programmes to help South African children in exile live a normal life.

Mrs Zonke Majodina, a lecturer at the University of Ghana, told delegates to the International Conference on Children, Repression and the Law in South Africa that many South African children in exile had difficulties living normally outside their own country.

"Some of the children leave the country without

telling their parents and have a lot of psychosocial problems," she said, according to a *Ziana* report.

She said most of the children in exile had a "crisis of identity" and had some sense of guilt because of having broken away from their families.

The children identified themselves with the struggle against apartheid since that was the most meaningful cause to them.

Mrs Majodina said there was need for the establishment of exile communities whereby the adults provided unconditional parental

care and love for the children to enable them to develop into normal adults.

"It is important that the communities be democratic so adult and child can discuss freely because this is vital to the development of a child."

She said children had to be helped adapt to the situation in their host countries while maintaining a South African identity.

Mrs Majodina said she did a survey on 54 SWA/Namibia students in Ghana and found that more than 80 percent had a high rate of anxiety. — Sapa.

APARTHEID DESCRIBED AS 'EVIL' AS...

Huddleston slams State over policies

HARARE — Archbishop Trevor Huddleston told Anglicans at a service at the weekend apartheid was an evil and could not be reformed, Zimbabwe's semi-official news agency *Ziana* reports.

"Apartheid cannot be reformed," he said. "Apartheid is basically evil and you cannot reform what is basically evil. It is the enemy of God and the enemy of mankind."

He said God had endowed every human being with an infinite and unassailable dignity by becoming a man himself and taking on human weakness, even the weakness of a child.

THE

If, as Christians celebrating it in Africa, believed, this was true, then all Christians are bound to challenge any government, any state, any ideology which dares

**By Sapa
Reuter**

to destroy that dignity."

Father Huddleston, who is a priest in South Africa many years ago,

witnessed the first forced removal of black South Africans, many of whom were his parishioners, from their homes in Sophiatown, told the congregation that today was his golden jubilee, marking 50 years since his priestly ordination, and he was happy to be

celebrating it in Africa.

He said since thousands of Sophiatown residents had had their homes destroyed and been dumped at the edge of

waste ground, 3.5 million Africans had been forcibly removed from their homes.

Archbishop Huddleston attended the three-day International Conference on Children, Repression and the Law in South Africa which ended at the weekend.

He said: "For three days we heard of the terror which springs from what is basically evil."

"Until apartheid is destroyed, life is destroyed, the lives of thousands and thousands of children are destroyed," he said.

"You know, you cannot help but know what is happening inside South Africa to the African people."

"If you had had the privilege, as I had at this

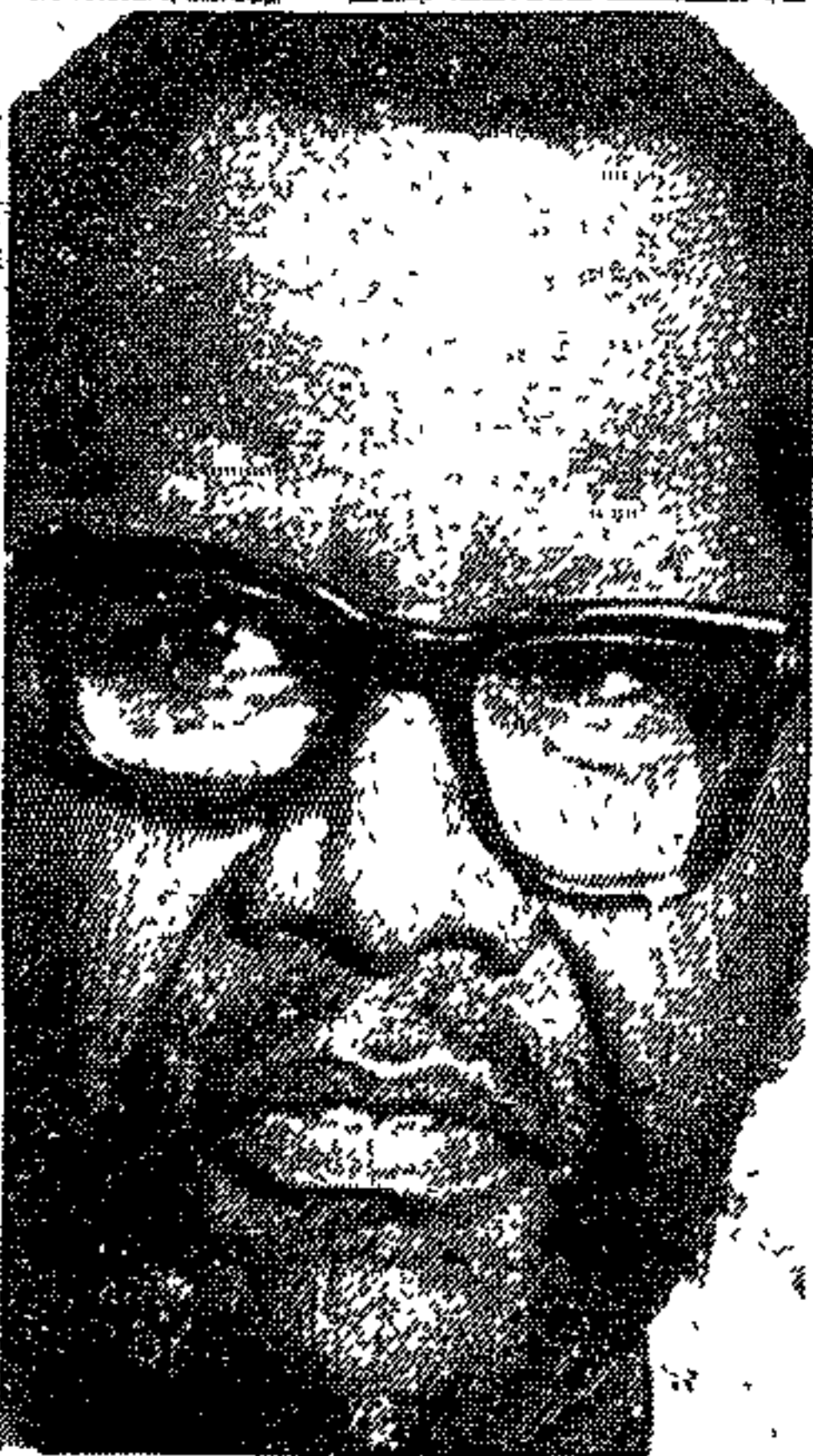
conference, of listening to the testimony of the people within that country to the torture, the brutal force, the determination to destroy the youth of that country, you could not remain without doing anything," he said. — Sapa.

HUDDLESTON: 'Apartheid cannot be reformed'.



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ANC slams brutal punishment



PRESIDENT Oliver Tambo.

STOP TYRE DEATHS

HARARE — "Neck-lacing" as a form of punishment should stop.

That is the message South African delegates, have taken home with them from the International Conference on the Plight of Children Under Apartheid.

The South Africans, several hundred from within and others in exile, were told this at a closed meeting with the president of the ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo.

Reliable sources said Mr Tambo made it crystal clear that he was against "necklacing" — it had become difficult for him to answer accusations that the ANC had not sufficiently dissociated itself from the killing in which the victims were set alight with a petrol-soaked tyre around their necks.

The closed meeting on Saturday night lasted for about an hour and

SOWETAN Foreign Service

was the climax to several days of ongoing consultations between a powerful ANC delegation and anti-apartheid South Africans, black and white, of various persuasions who attended the conference conveyed by Archbishop Trevor Huddleston.

Unity

Observers agreed that one of the most significant outcomes of the gathering was the opportunity it gave the ANC to put across its case, both publicly and in many private meetings with individuals or small groups of delegates.

Mr Tambo is understood to have stressed the need for unity at the session with South African delegates.

It is understood he referred to the need to try to win over

"vigilante" groups to avoid the emergence of an MNR or Unita type movement which would severely hamper the struggle to end apartheid.

There was a tremendous ovation at the closing ceremony yesterday for Imam Faried Esack of the Call of Islam, a UDF delegate, who spoke passionately of a future South Africa in which Muslims, Hindu, Christian and Jew would live together in harmony.

He was warmly embraced at the end of his address by Mr Tambo, by Archbishop Huddleston and by the Rev Beyers Naude, former General Secretary of the South African Council of Churches.

Dr Naude paid tribute to the courage of delegates from South Africa for their frank descriptions of life under apartheid.

But he warned delegates not to be blind to the fact that the struggle to end apartheid would be a long one.

Spurk 30/9/87

COSBY FIGHTS FOR SA KIDS

UNITED NATIONS

— A nationwide campaign called "Unlock Apartheid's Jails" began on Monday with a message: Apartheid is evil and no-one should be allowed to forget it.

Among the messengers were Bill Cosby, one of America's most popular entertainers, the mayors of several major cities and a priest who was detained, tortured and expelled from one of South Africa's black homelands.

"This is about children going out to play, going out to the store, going out to visit grandma and not coming back home," Cosby, the campaign's honorary chairman, told a news conference.

According to the Africa Fund and the American Committee on Africa, the campaign's sponsors, South African authorities have detained thousands of people, including children, since a nationwide state of emergency was imposed in June 1986 amid rising racial unrest.



BILL COSBY

Cosby and other speakers called on the media to keep the South Africa story before the public as they harshly criticised South Africa's system of race discrimination.

"I perceive the South African regime as the direct heir and descendant of Hitler's Nazi Germany," said New York City mayor, Edward Koch.

The graft-cancer spreads a lot further than Transkei

EXTENSIVE corruption in Transkei has led to the resignation, with a little nudging from soldiers of the Transkei Defence Force, of eight cabinet ministers and to demands for the officially convalescing prime minister, George Matanzima, to step down.

But graft in Transkei may be merely a symptom of a wider-spread moral cancer, permeating the structures of most, if not all, of the apartheid institutions established for blacks by South Africa's white rulers.

These apartheid-inspired institutions, with their proliferating bureaucracies, range from town councils in black townships to the governments of the four nominally sovereign TBVC states of Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei.

The six partially self-governing states, or "homelands", occupy an intermediate position.

In his investigation for the government into the causes of the 1984 revolt in the cluster of townships in the Vaal triangle, Professor Tjaart van der Walt concluded suspicion by residents that the councillors were corrupt was, "without a shadow of doubt", the most important cause of bitterness in the townships.

Van der Walt, a respected *Broeder* and rector of the University of Potchefstroom, referred earlier in his report to "incredibly many allegations of bribery".

He recommended that a separate investigation be conducted into these allegations to "identify the guilty ones and to rid innocent people of the cloud of suspicion hanging over them". The government did not heed his advice.

Since then a councillor from the Vaal triangle, Knox Matjila, has been prosecuted and convicted of corruption. More important, evidence has

surfaced of corruption in town councils beyond the Vaal triangle.

The deputy mayor of Dobsonville, Alex Jaca, was convicted of theft.

The mayor of Thokoza, Gerald Mamabolo, has been suspended after allegations of theft were made against him. He and the town clerk, Doris Thimane, face court charges.

The Thokoza Town Council has been dissolved and replaced by government-appointed administrators. The Tembisa Town Council has also collapsed and has had to be administered by government-nominated men.

Two officials of another town council, Ratanda, near Heidelberg, were dismissed after the disappearance of more than R500 from the council's treasury.

A probe by officials of the Transvaal Provincial Administration into suspected skulduggery in Jouberton's town council found that the town clerk, Alosius Shongwe, had granted himself a loan to buy a car without the council's consent. Shongwe was not dismissed.

In Soweto, councillors — who live behind razor wire in a specially guarded elite housing complex on the outskirts of Soweto — overpaid themselves for nearly 18 months, increasing their monthly allowances from R554 to R1 200.

Top council officials who were charged in court with theft and corruption include Steve Kgame, chairman of the Dobsonville Management Committee and, more important, president of the Urban Councils of Association of South Africa. Ucas is one of the few black organisations

The bribery scandal which brought down the Matanzimas was hardly an isolated case. Allegations of corruption are common in apartheid's burgeoning black bureaucracies which, lacking popular legitimacy, turn to self-interest instead.
PATRICK LAURENCE reports

which has agreed to participate in President PW Botha's proposed National Council.

The charges against Kgame and two of his co-councillors in Dobsonville were withdrawn late in March. A few weeks later, Minister of Constitutional Development Chris Heunis was the guest speaker at Ucas's annual conference.

Kgame and co-councillors, Jerry Zembe and Isaac Mashao, originally faced a total of nearly 110 charges of bribery.

According to a detailed report in *City Press*, published at the time that the charges were withdrawn, Kgame had amassed eight residential sites for himself in Dobsonville. One of his sons had been allocated another site and his daughter a further two.

The report gave the numbers of the 11 sites acquired by the Kgame family. As chairman of the management committee, Kgame had a major say in the allocation of sites.

Charges were withdrawn in August against another top councillor and

confederate of Kgame's, Steve Nkatlo, the mayor of Dobsonville. Nkatlo faced 62 counts of theft.

In the TBVC states, indications point to large-scale corruption.

There has been evidence of corruption in Transkei's neighbouring and rival state of Ciskei.

In 1985 a commission of inquiry headed by Ciskei's chief justice found that the former minister of health, Hendrik Beukes, and the director-general of health, HM Mdeleni, were guilty of corruption and bribery.

Last month the Ciskei National Assembly passed a law indemnifying President-for-Life Lennox Sebe against prosecution for the expenditure of R4.4-million from state coffers to extend and furnish his five homes.

Allegations of corruption in Venda go back to 1973 when it became a partially self-governing state under the then Chief Minister — now also President-for-Life — Patrick Mphahlele. In that year the anti-Mphahlele Venda Independence Party (VIP) won 13 of the 18 elected seats in the National Assembly.

There was a danger that enough of the 42 designated members — chiefs and their nominees — would defect to the VIP to unseat Mphahlele. The loyalty of 37 chieftains to Mphahlele was assured, however, after they were taken to the nearby Manyeleti game reserve, plied with alcohol, subjected to concentrated pro-Mphahlele propaganda and reportedly rewarded in anticipation with new suits.

Later, after Venda became independent in 1979, the law governing operation of the casino was changed by special decree. By waiving a requirement that the casino and the adjacent hotel in Thohoyandho should fall under the same control, it enabled businessman who had ingratiated himself with Mphahlele to run the casino.

Venda's image of moral decadence was epitomised by reports in 1984 that live donkeys were being fed to lions in the Lion Park because it made feeding time more exciting to watch.

Different explanations have been offered for the apparent vulnerability of apartheid institutions to corruption.

Former parliamentary opposition leader, Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, blamed it on the burgeoning bureaucracies associated with apartheid as an obsessive need to establish separate institutions for each race.

"Bureaucratic expansion is the necessary and inevitable forerunner of corruption and inefficiency in government," he said.

It creates a psychological climate where everyone wants to be the "driver on the gravy train".

Historian Gavin Lewis, author of *Between the Wire and the Wall*, a definitive study of coloured politics, offers another interpretation.

General antipathy to these institutions means those elected to them — chosen — if not actually nominated — on low polls.

Lacking popular legitimacy faced with condemnation "collaborators", they are inclined to adopt a cynical attitude, seeing their positions on the institutions as an opportunity to plunder for their self-enrichment rather than as a chance to serve the community.

Police held for Inkatha deaths

By CARMEL RICKARD, Durban

VIOLENCE in Natal has taken a new turn with the detention of three members of the South African Police in connection with the mass killing of Inkatha Youth Brigade members at the weekend.

Six people, including the three SAP members, were originally held but police said on Wednesday the three non-police suspects were released.

They added, "At this stage we cannot comment on the political affiliations of the three SAP concerned." The three suspects have, however, been suspended.

The incident in which they were allegedly involved was one of several mass killings over the last 10 months in which Inkatha or United Democratic Front-related people were victims.

A number of people — aged between 14 and 22 — were in a house in KwaShange, near Edendale, when the doors of the house were locked and the building set alight by a group outside.

When the people inside tried to escape from the flames, they were shot and attacked with pangas.

Altogether 12 people died immediately and a 13th, who was severely burnt in the attack, died in the Edendale Hospital. Seven others were being treated at the hospital.

Police released the information as part of their unrest report but added the deaths "were not unrest-related but the result of inter-group or faction conflict".

Although officials said they were unable to comment on the names and

political affiliation of the victims, senior Inkatha leaders said they had been members of the Youth Brigade.

Referring to the many incidents of violence in the area over the last few months, Pietermaritzburg Inkatha official Vitus Mvelase added, "These incidents are UDF elements attacking our people and now policemen have also joined the UDF. The police are failing to stop the violence."

Mvelase's claims were sharply denied by the divisional commissioner of police for the Pietermaritzburg area, Brigadier J Kotze.

He commented that the remarks were typical of Mvelase's attitude and added, "he has at times made complaints about individual policemen but when we look into the matter we discover that it was a policeman who refused to join Inkatha".

Meanwhile, talks lasting over three hours were held on Monday between members of Inkatha and of the UDF.

UDF president Archie Gumede and a number of youths from Mpumalanga, where there have been a number of deaths since February, met a delegation including Mtwé Mafole, national organiser of the IYB, and Sigfried Bhengu of the KwaZulu communications office, Ulundi.

The meeting, attended by between 15 to 20 on each side, was described as having covered useful ground and it was understood another meeting was scheduled for yesterday.

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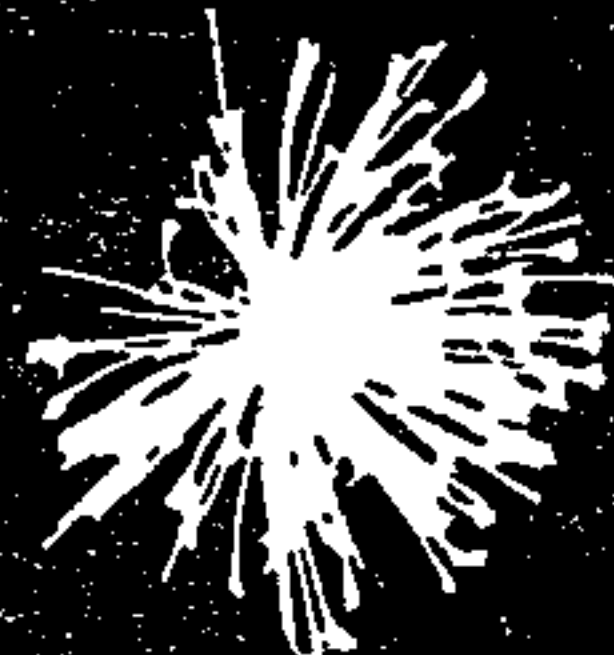
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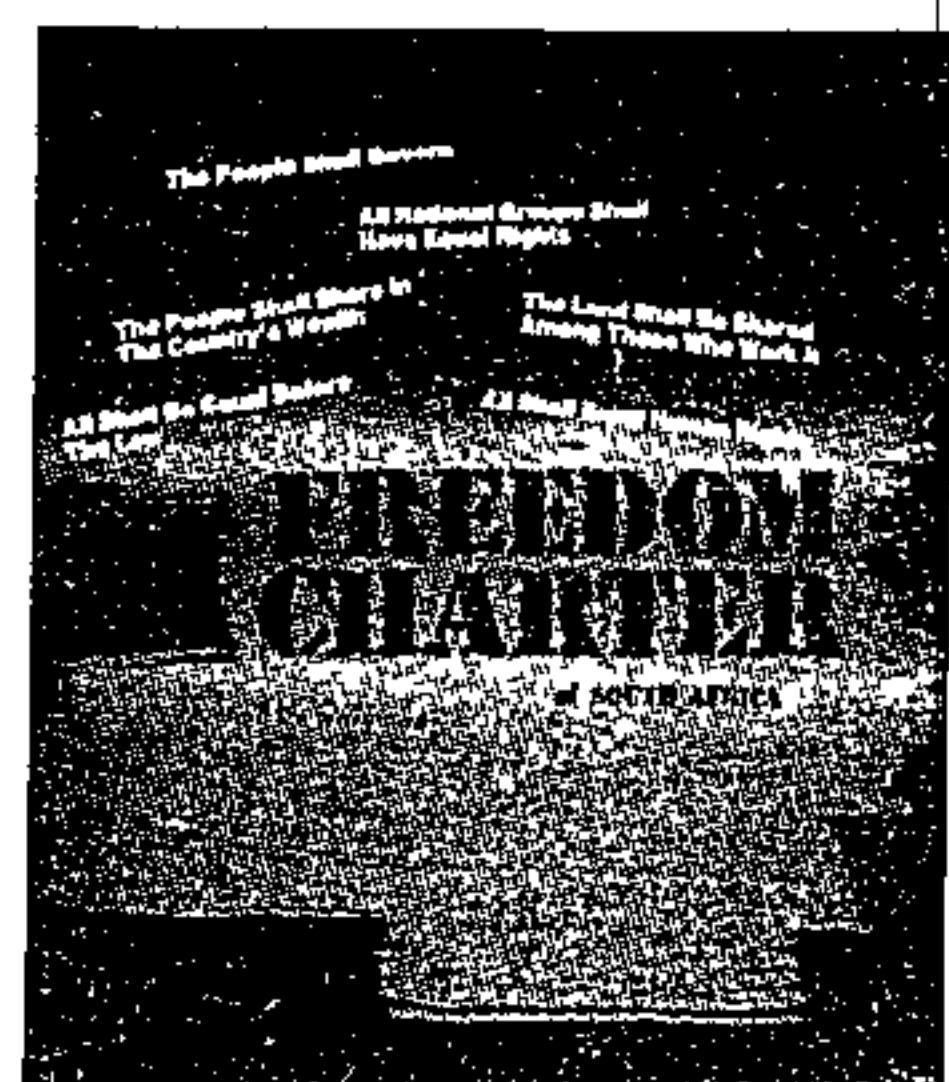
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Moscow rediscovers mum, dad and the family way

How do you catch cancer? From a fire 30 years back

Cancer was the last danger on Les Jenkins' mind when he was called in to help douse the blaze at a nuclear plant. Thirty years later, he's regretting it. By CHARLES SEARLE

WHEN Les Jenkins was told he had multiple myeloma, he hadn't a clue what the hospital consultant was talking about. It was only when, confused, he asked how he had caught it and the consultant replied, "How does anyone catch cancer?" that he grasped what was wrong with him. The answer to the consultant's rhetorical question was the Windscale fire of 1957.

Jenkins had been one of 50 men bused from the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's Capenhurst plant to clear up the radioactive mess after a human error and technological malfunction had sparked off an inferno which raged for four days.

The consultant gave him eight years to live "with no guarantees either way". That was in 1980. On the train back from the hospital to his home in West Kirby, Les sat in an empty carriage and "cried like a child". He had just turned 48.

It is hard to credit in these days of nuclear disillusionment but all the men volunteered to go to Windscale: "You've got to remember that it was all different then. It was the dawning of the nuclear age, the bright new future of clean energy and no electricity bills ... when the SOS went out from Windscale, we felt a sense of duty and responsibility. It was a bit like when you hear of a ship in distress, you don't question it, you just go."

When they arrived at the disabled plutonium pile, the fire had just been extinguished. But the personnel from Windscale tackling the clean-up operation had already been "grounded" by high doses of radiation and had had to be withdrawn from the active area. The contingent from Capenhurst were to take their place.



Flashback to the Windscale fire clean-up operation of thirty years ago.

In the panic to render the reactor safe, normal working practices went by the board, a fact which was to be crucial when Jenkins came to proving his case for compensation.

"While we were evacuating the fuel rods, all we wore were plastic overalls. All these protected us against was the contaminated dust; they were useless against gamma radiation which can penetrate anything except thick lead shielding.

"When we were cutting up the fuel rods we only had white cotton overalls. They issued us with radiation film badges and a QFE to see how much radiation you were receiving over the course of a shift. One day the reading in my QFE went right off scale and my film badge turned black and its edges curled.

"I reported this to the foreman but he just said, 'Oh, they're all faulty'. He just threw them in a drawer.

"And all the time the radiation alarms were going berserk. But no-one was taking any notice. They just didn't give a toss for health and safety. Their attitude was let's get this bloody pile safe and then we'll worry about the consequences."

When the clean-up was finished the men from Capenhurst were given a

collective pat on the back and extra "disturbance" pay. There was no debriefing and no medical checks.

Twenty-seven years later, during which time he had left Capenhurst, trained as a watchmaker and then lost the sight of his left eye and with it his job through encroaching illness. Jenkins decided to take out legal action for compensation. What he hadn't reckoned on was that British Nuclear Fuels Ltd, who had taken over from the UKAEA, were to prove an even more formidable opponent than the Windscale fire itself.

BNFL refused to acknowledge that a Les Jenkins had worked at Capenhurst — he had been there five years — and therefore couldn't have been at Windscale in 1957.

When a local newspaper took up the cause and unearthed a colleague who had shared his shift at Windscale, the company conceded that he had been there. Next, BNFL produced a curious set of radiological readings for Jenkins' time at Windscale which showed that he couldn't have received a high enough dosage to account for his cancer.

Given the discarded film badges and non-existent health and safety standards at the time these records did

not stand up to inspection.

BNFL then got down to the business of setting a price on the cancer. After 25 months of tough negotiation a figure of £30 000 (about R100 000) was settled out of court. BNFL reserved the final humiliation to the last. They got Jenkins to sign a document stating that the settlement was not proof that his illness had been caused by the fire and that any further claims he might have against the company should his health deteriorate had now ceased.

With the illness growing worse his marriage collapsed under the strain. Now he lives on his own, surviving on £46 a week and spending one out of every four weeks wired up to drips in a Liverpool hospital.

But the spirit which sent him to Windscale in 1957 has not been extinguished. On October 10 he will be returning to the scene of the accident to participate in a commemoration ceremony organised by anti-nuclear group Cumbrians Opposed to Radioactive Environment.

"The Windscale fire only gave us the smallest glimpse of what could happen if one of the larger reactors went up. We have to stop them now." — The Guardian, London

The Russians have awoken to a problem that's been familiar in the West ever since James Dean: juvenile delinquency. By JONATHAN STEELE

ALONG the banks of the River Neva in Leningrad is a small stretch of asphalt nicknamed "Sargon". It is a favourite hang-out of the *systemchiki*, homeless teenagers who roam around by day and at night sleep in doorways and corridors to the huge "systems" of housing estates which have mushroomed in the city in recent years.

They are only the most notorious of the vast army of abandoned, neglected or delinquent children and adolescents which as suddenly become the focus of public concern. Cult is a dirty word in the Soviet Union, but Albert Likhanov, the head of newly-created Soviet Children's Foundation, recently announced that the time had come "to rebuild the only possible cult in our country, the cult of the family".

"The theory that the state is primarily responsible for the upbringing of children has turned out to be a major blunder," he told the party newspaper, *Pravda*. Until recently, the whole subject of broken families and the ranges of institutions from children's homes to special schools where deprived children go, was taboo.

Likhanov revealed that 729 000 children are under the care of relatives or the state because their parent or parents were not willing or in a fit condition to look after them. He mentioned the growing phenomenon of young mothers who abandoned their babies in the maternity clinics.

He said that conditions in state-run children's homes were often so bad that thousands absconded every year.

The Communist Party's Central Committee itself took up the issue last month with a ringing resolution demanding that party organisations, the local authorities, trade union branches and society in general ensure an improvement in children's homes in their areas.

Shortly after the Central Committee resolution appeared in the press, I visited Moscow's Children's Home number 5 in the Kirovsky district. It had only been in its new building for six months and was clearly one of the best ones. Catering for pre-schoolers and with its nicely equipped playground, it looked like a superior kindergarten.

"Many parents in the flats round here ask if we can take their children, not at first realising we are a boarding school for special children," its warm and cheerful director, Isolde Peterson, explained.

Out of the 156 children aged between three and seven in this home, only five percent were orphans. Twenty percent had been sent by single mothers with large families who could not cope with all their children. They gave them up temporarily until conditions changed or their older children grew up. A quarter of the children had been abandoned by their mothers at birth. Often they were single girls from the countryside who came to Moscow for work, became pregnant and did not want to tell their parents. Forty percent of the children had been taken into care because of various family problems from parental drunkenness to physical violence.

Like children's deprivation, male chauvinism was until recently, a taboo subject. One aspect of Gorbachev's reforms is the drive for a kind of spiritual revival. As Alexander Yakovlev, the radical new central committee secretary, put it recently: "We have overthrown the tsars but we have not yet overthrown the petty monarchs hidden within ourselves."

Or in the words of Likhanov: "The family must cease to be a peripheral institution." — The Guardian,

Mugabe puts his weight behind Zapu crackdown

By HOWARD BARRELL, Harare

ZIMBABWE Prime Minister Robert Mugabe has thrown his weight behind a crackdown on Zapu which has now led to the complete dissolution of six rural councils dominated by Joshua Nkomo's party.

The latest moves against Zapu have not yet significantly affected Zimbabwe's political stability or even the prospects for unity between Nkomo's party and the ruling Zanu (PF). But Zapu leaders are worried matters could get out of hand if the campaign is taken much further.

Mugabe this week broke his silence on the crackdown initiated by Home Affairs Minister Enos Nkala. In an interview this week, Mugabe said there was "immense evidence" linking Zapu with an upsurge in armed dissident activity which has claimed 45 lives since mid-April when Zanu (PF)-Zapu unity talks were broken off.

He did not specify the evidence apart from saying subversive literature had been found during raids on Zapu offices over the past two weeks.

Mugabe also backed Nkala's deci-

sion to close Zapu offices nationwide, adding that the closures would be temporary only.

Some observers saw the closures and Nkala's order that Zapu structures be "set aside" as an unofficial ban on Zimbabwe's second largest party.

But Mugabe clearly did not see it this way in his interview published in Harare. He said that a government less patient than his own would have banned Zapu "a long time ago".

Some 104 councillors in the six Zapu-controlled district councils of the Matabeleland North province have been sacked, and their responsibilities have been taken over by district administrators.

The Zapu view is the crackdown is a personal vendetta against it by Nkala and the real motivation for the campaign lies in the fact that the ruling Zanu (PF) party has not yet succeeded in making any real headway in the two Matabeleland provinces

WEEK AT A GLANCE

PARIS, Monday — Mozambican President Joaquim Chissano visits France seeking support for his government's economic reform programme and military help against right-wing rebels.

BEIRUT, Monday — A pro-Iranian Lebanese group holding Western hostages says it would start killing Tunisian government officials if Tunisia carries out death sentences on seven Muslim fundamentalists.

WASHINGTON, Monday — Iran becomes the second largest supplier of crude oil to the United States, providing Tehran with about one third of its total oil revenues.

WARSAW, Monday — US Vice-President George Bush plans to pay homage at the grave of a prosolidarity priest murdered by security police, a visit that promises to be an emotional high point of his fourday stay in Poland.

NEW YORK, Tuesday — US Secretary of State George Shultz's visit to the Middle East next month, will be the first since 1985. The trip, is viewed widely as an effort to improve America's standing in the region after the disclosure of US arms sales to Iran.

BRIGHTON, Tuesday — The British Labour Party embarks on a major policy shakeup to seek new voters without losing traditional socialist support. Its annual convention has laid the foundations for political rethink after the shock of three successive general election defeats.

DENVER, Tuesday — Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder bows out of the 1988 democratic presidential race, disappointing those who hoped she would be the first woman to make a full-fledged run at a major party nomination.

CANBERRA, Wednesday — Australia's foreign ministry announces it will not recognise any government proclaimed by Fiji coup leader Colonel Sitiveni Rabuka and will suspend aid to the country. It says that Rabuka's actions in suspending the rule of law and declaring himself as head of government had no legal foundation.

TEL AVIV, Wednesday — Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir says a visit by US Secretary of State George Shultz next month would not soften his opposition to an international Middle East peace conference.

EAST BERLIN, Wednesday — East German leader Erich Honecker says that no class of weapon, conventional or nuclear, should be excluded from disarmament, and suggest that the Warsaw Pact was ready for substantial troop cuts in Europe.

WASHINGTON, Thursday — President Ronald Reagan's advisers plan to meet next week to consider whether to impose an embargo on oil or other imports from Iran, a US official announces.

NEWARK, Thursday — Authorities uncover a plot to export US missiles and F-14 fighter aircraft plans to the People's Republic of China, according to a disclosure by Cang Yao Chi, 65, arrested and charged with conspiracy to illegally export arms.

MANAGUA, Wednesday — Workmen begin greasing the presses, sweeping up shredded newsprint and gearing up for this week's publication of *La Prensa*, the opposition newspaper silenced 15 months ago by the Sandinista government.

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By MONO BADELA
in Harare

THE largest anti-apartheid conference since the declaration of South Africa's national State of Emergency opened in Harare yesterday with a stern warning to Pretoria: hands off South Africa's children.

More than 400 delegates, including 200 from inside South Africa, heard Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe and African National Congress President Oliver Tambo condemn what the conference called "Pretoria's jailing, torturing and killing of children".

Lisbet Palme, widow of the murdered Swedish Prime Minister Olav Palme, added her condemnation of the continued detention and torture of children in South African jails and police cells. The conference received messages of support from the secretary general of the United Nations, Pérez de Cuellar, and from the secretary general of the British Commonwealth, Sonny Ramphal.

The large ANC presence at the meeting included the president, Oliver Tambo, publicity secretary, Thabo Mbeki, Gertrude Shope, chief of the women's section, and national executive committee members Jacob Zuma, Ruth Mompati, Joe Slovo and Aziz Pahad.

The conference held in the plush conference centre of the Sheraton Hotel kicked off in grand style with the president of the conference, Catholic Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, describing it as "unique".

In his welcoming address, Huddleston said the uniqueness of the conference "lies in the fact that a large number of South Africans have assembled in Harare to tell us and the world through the media what is happening inside South Africa."

"We believe that the world community should act and not only speak about the detentions and torture of children in South African jails. We should make certain that words are translated into deeds."

"It is the future of the children which apartheid has destroyed. This basic moral evil can never end until apartheid is destroyed."

Palme said an Olav Palme trust fund had been set up in Sweden to help the victims of apartheid.

The opening of the conference was followed by a session on the rights of children under international law and South African security laws versus the child. The programme today will include discussions on torture and its aftermath, the child as a detainee, the child in the dock, and the child as prisoner.

The conference ends on Sunday afternoon with a rally which will be addressed by United Democratic Front patron Dr Allan Boesak, American civil rights activist Angela Davis, Huddleston and Tambo.

The conference was also attended by more than 600 observers and about 800 school children. Delegates included lawyers, psychologists and social workers, from South Africa and overseas.

●The South African government announced on Wednesday night it was "fully aware" of the Harare conference.

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok released statistics on child detainees in response to the "false and slanted allegations" he anticipated would be released at the conference.

He said there were no children younger than 15 in detention. Vlok gave a breakdown of the number of detainees under 18: three 15-year-olds, 18 16-year-olds and 84 17-year-olds.

He blamed the Detainees' Parents Support Committee for "propagating biased and untested information which can be harmful to South Africa".

Reacting to the attack, the DPSC yesterday said it had "an international reputation for the accuracy of its statistics and the soberness of its conclusions..."

Conference 'lies cause SA untold harm'

By BARRY STREEK
Political Staff

THE Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, yesterday challenged Dr Beyers Naude, Dr Allan Boesak and the Detainees Parents Support Committee to bring their "so-called facts" about the detention of children to the police for "thorough investigation".

He said it was evident from news reports from the Harare conference on "Children, repression and the law" and from other information received that "unsubstantiated, slanted and even false allegations about the situation in South Africa were made and spread worldwide.

"This was done with the obvious design to stir up emotional feelings in America and Canada in a bid to have renewed sanctions enforced against South Africa.

"These lies and evil propaganda are causing South Africa and its peoples untold harm.

"It is therefore disgusting to note that many of those responsible are South Africans who don't have the courage to stand up here in their own country and produce proof of their vile allegations."

Mr Vlok said it was ironic that the conference took place in Zimbabwe where freedoms had been systematically reduced since independence.

"Persons and organizations such as Dr Beyers Naude, Dr Allan Boesak and the Detainees' Parents Support Committee would do far better by ensuring that the information they spread into the world is at least truthful, substantiated and unbiased.

Challenge

"I challenge them to bring their so-called facts to the South African Police for thorough investigation and submission to our independent judiciary."

Everything possible was being done to charge or release as many youths as soon as possible, he said, while at the same time taking into consideration the interest of both the public and the country.

"At present only one 15-year-old, 16 16-year-olds and 52 17-year-olds are still being held in terms of the emergency regulations. This is a total of 69."

All those detained under the emergency regulations were being cared for "under the best possible conditions and have regular access to judges, legal representatives, district surgeons, medical practitioners and their parents.

"Anybody who disputes these facts is a public liar."

In spite of fearful intimidation, scores of youths had already been charged with serious offences ranging from murder, attempted murder, arson and robbery to housebreaking.

"Because of intimidation such as necklacings, beatings and stabbings, it is, however, extremely difficult to obtain witnesses who are prepared to testify against those being held in connection with serious offences.

"Therefore it is not always possible to bring to court immediately all those who are being held in terms of the emergency regulations in connection with serious offences.

"The false impressions which have been, and are still being spread into the world are, however, extremely serious and cannot be tolerated."

Mr Vlok appealed to people, organizations and institutions who had any information about the "so-called torture, abuse or ill-treatment especially of children or youths in detention, to bring such information to the attention of the police or my office".



SOME of the delegates who attended last week's four-day International Conference on Children in Harare. From left: Mr Oswald Mtshali, SACC's director of communications, Maulana Farid Esack, national co-ordinator of the Call of Islam, Ms Sophie Masite of the Detainees Parents Support Committee, Bishop Simeon Nkoane of the Anglican Church, the Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SACC, Dr Beyers Naude, former SACC's general secretary, and Mr Alan Jackson of the Free the Children Alliance.

Hope born in Harare

By NKOPANE MAKOBANE

THE international community had the belief and hope that something can be done to end apartheid, Bishop Simeon Nkoane, Bishop-Suffragan of Johannesburg East, said yesterday.

He was addressing a Press conference in Johannesburg. It had been called to report back on the four-day International Conference on Children, Repression and the Law in Apartheid South Africa that ended in Harare, Zimbabwe, on Sunday.

"It was attended by about 500 people of whom about 300 were South Africans. The other 200 delegates represented 150 organisations from all over the world.

These included lawyers, medical practitioners, religious and social workers, political and community activists, representatives of youth, student and women's organisations as well as trade unions.

Bishop Nkoane said it was distressing that life in South Africa is abnormal. He said it was impossible in such a situation to be only a pastor.

Experience

"Many things push us and we are bound to express disapproval. In this country you cannot say to an elderly person or a child that so long as you are innocent, the law will protect you. There is absence of normality which is distressing," he said.

The bishop described the Harare conference as "helpful, consoling,

comforting and encouraging". He said it gave an opportunity for South Africans — at home and in exile — to listen to each other and share the common experience.

Former secretary-general of the South African Council of Churches, Dr Beyers Naude, said he regarded the conference on State abuse of children as "one of the most meaningful and important held in southern Africa."

The Rev Frank Chikane, general secretary of the SACC, said the brutalisation of children at the hands of the security forces was not an accident nor the case of a few "bad policemen".

The brutalising and torturing of children, he said, will remain as long as there is a policy to repress the legitimate

grievances of the people

Mr Chikane said the conference adopted the Declaration of the Harare Conference. The declaration commits the participants to keep the world aware of the plight of South Africa's children

Elections

Some participants were elected to take care of follow-up operations. They are Archbishop Trevor Huddleston (president), Advocate Pius Langa, Mrs Pauline Molose, Mrs Caroline Motsaedi and the Rev Frank Chikane (all vice-presidents), Dr Beyers Naude (rapporteur).

Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC, and Mrs Lisbet Palme, whose husband Olof Palme, former Premier of Sweden, was assassinated last year, were elected honorary presidents of the conference.

Vlok calls for proof of child detentions

2/10/87 (58)

Political Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — The Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, yesterday challenged Dr Beyers Naude, Dr Allan Boesak and the Detainees Parents Support Committee to bring their "so-called facts" about the detention of children to the police for "thorough investigation".

He said it was evident from the news reports from the Harare conference on Children, Repression and The Law, and from other informa-

tion received that "unsubstantiated, slanted and even false allegations about the situation in South Africa were made and spread world-wide.

"This was done with the obvious design of stirring up emotional feelings in America and Canada in a bid to have renewed sanctions enforced.

"These lies and evil propaganda are causing South Africa and its peoples untold harm.

"It is therefore dis-

gusting to note that many of those responsible are South Africans who don't have the courage to stand up here in their own country and produce proof of their vile allegations."

"Persons and organisations such as Dr Beyers Naude, Dr Allan Boesak and the Detainees' Parents Support Committee would do far better by ensuring that the information they spread into the world is at least truthful and substantiated."

(1) Whether there are any teacher training colleges or colleges of education administered by his Department in the Western Cape; if not, (a) why not, (b) where is the nearest college to the Western Cape area situated and (c) what plans are there to provide this area with such colleges; if so, (i) what are the names of these colleges, (ii) where are they situated, (iii) what courses does each college offer and (iv) how many students (aa) applied for admission, and (bb) were admitted, to each such college in 1987;

(2) whether any (a) additional colleges and (b) additions to existing colleges in the Western Cape are planned for the next three years; if not, why not; if so, (i) what new colleges or additions to existing colleges will be constructed, (ii) where will they be situated, (iii) when will they open, (iv) what courses will be offered and (v) how many students will be accommodated;

(3) whether any specified (a) existing and (b) planned colleges will provide residential accommodation, if not, why not, if so, (i) when and (ii) how many students will be accommodated?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT AID:

(1) Yes.

(i) Good Hope College of Education

(ii) Khayelitsha.

(iii) Primary Teacher's Diploma (Pre-primary)

Primary Teacher's Diploma (Junior Primary)

Primary Teacher's Diploma (Senior Primary).

(iv) (aa) 510.

(bb) 231.

(2) (a) No.

(b) No, but a new permanent campus for the Good Hope College of Education, which is presently

temporarily accommodated in the Eluvolwen Primary School, is presently being planned for 634 students and will be erected in Lansdowne Road, Guguletu

No other new colleges or additions are planned since the above-mentioned college and the other two colleges in the Cape Province, namely Algoa and Cape, will be able to provide in the needs of the area.

(i) to (iv) fall away.

(3) (a) No.

(b) Not applicable.

The provision of residential accommodation for students is envisaged for colleges in rural areas, where most students reside far removed from the college

Algoa Regional Services Council, Port Elizabeth

641 Mr D J N MALCOMESS asked the Minister of Constitutional Development and Planning

With reference to his reply to Question No 5 on 6 October 1987 in connection with the renovation of the premises occupied by the Algoa Regional Services Council in Port Elizabeth, (a) how was the amount of R541 451 made up, (b) in respect of what specified services were amounts paid in each case and (c) to whom was each of these amounts paid?

THE MINISTER OF CONSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

The information forwarded on 24 September 1987 concerning Question 5 showed the total cost in respect of alterations to the 17th floor of Brister House as R541 451. This figure was obtained from the main agents appointed by the Administrator of the Cape on 7 November 1986 namely Port Elizabeth Municipality. When the main agents were called upon to give a break down of the figure of R541 451 it was found that they had duplicated some costs in their original calculations—they had also included the costs for the Banking Hall. The correct figure is

R441 702 for both the 17th floor and the Banking Hall

(a) The amount of R441 702.00 was thus made up by an amount of R80 391.00 for renovations to the Banking Hall and an amount of R361 311.00 for renovations to the 17th floor (Council chamber, Committee room, reception, offices, toilets, kitchen and store room).

(b) In respect of the Banking Hall amounts paid for specified services are:

Carpets	3 040.00
Ceilings	5 100.00
Air conditioning	13 510.00
Electrical	13 021.00
Plumbing	6 540.00
Labour*	20 060.00
Material*	19 120.00
	80 391.00

*Demolition of old premises, counting

er, interview room, scullery, room for safe, safe, back exit, security door, folding doors, blinds, painting, signwriting)

* In respect of the 17th floor amounts paid for specified services are

Carpets	65 245.00
Curtains	13 461.00
Ceilings	10 300.00
Partitioning	50 000.00
Wallpaper	15 000.00
Air conditioning	69 342.00
Electrical	38 134.00
Plumbing	10 229.00
Labour*	47 500.00
Material*	42 100.00
	361 311.00

*(Stripping old premises, kitchen, repair agents' toilets, new ladies' toilets, storeroom, doors, folding doors, door frames, pelmets, repair windows, repair floor, painting)

(c) Concerning the Banking Hall amounts were paid to

The Rug Doctor	Carpets
Ceiling Master	Ceilings
Improvair	Air conditioning
PE Municipality	Electrical
PE Municipality	Plumbing
PE Municipality	Labour
PE Municipality	Material

Concerning the 17th floor amounts were paid to:

CB Flooring and Curtaining	Carpets
CB Flooring and Curtaining	Curtains
Peet Laas	Ceilings
Peet Laas	Partitioning
W F Marketing	Wall paper
Industrial Air Conditioning	Air conditioning
PE Municipality	Electrical
PE Municipality	Plumbing
PE Municipality	Labour
PE Municipality	Material

Children held in places of safety

642. Mr R M BURROWS asked the Minister of Law and Order:

(1) Whether any children in need of care

or awaiting sentencing are being held in police stations regarded as places of safety; if so, (a) how many children of each specified race group in each specified region were being held

- in police stations as places of safety as at the latest specified date for which information is available and (b) for what period had each such child been held in police cells,
- (2) whether any steps are being taken to find alternative accommodation in other places of safety for children being held in police cells; if not, why not, if so, (a) what steps, (b) by whom and (c) what progress has been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND ORDER:

- (1) Yes, I, however, wish to point out to the honourable member that the Child Care Act, 1983 (Act 74 of 1983) which took effect on 1 February 1987, no longer makes an exception with regard to children in need of care or awaiting sentencing. Reference is only made to the protection and welfare of *certain children*
- (a) and (b) Because the compilation of this information country-wide, however, is voluminous and time-consuming, it is not practically feasible to furnish this information.

(2) Yes

(a) to (c) The South African Police and also those persons who, in terms of the Child Care Act, 1983 are concerned with the protection and welfare of *certain children* as defined in the Act, endeavour as far as possible to refer those children who must necessarily be detained, to places of safety, other than police stations.

Accommodation at places of safety is, however, limited. It often happens that such children must be detained at police stations, which in terms of the Child Care Act, 1983 are regarded as places of safety, until accommodation become available

Own Affairs:

Blind persons: telephone switchboards

84. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of the Budget and Welfare:

- (2) whether it is the intention to adapt

(1) Whether the Department of Budgetary and Auxiliary Services makes use of any telephone switchboards that have been adapted for use by blind persons, if so, how many switchboards (a) have and (b) have not been so adapted, if not, (i) why not and (ii) how many switchboards are in use by this Department;

(2) whether it is the intention to adapt any switchboards in use by this Department; if not, why not; if so, when;

(3) whether any blind persons are employed by this Department, if so, (a) how many and (b) in what capacities; if not, why not;

(4) whether this Department intends creating posts for blind persons; if not, why not, if so, (a) what posts and (b) when?

THE MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND WELFARE:

(1) No,

(i) no need has as yet arisen,

(ii) one;

(2) no, for the reason mentioned in (1) above. If, however, the need arises, adaptation will receive attention,

(3) no, for the reason mentioned in (1) above;

(4) no, blind persons can be employed in existing posts if the nature of the work makes it feasible.

Blind persons: telephone switchboards

85. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of the Budget and Welfare:

(1) Whether the Department of Welfare makes use of any telephone switchboards that have been adapted for use by blind persons; if so, how many switchboards (a) have and (b) have not been so adapted; if not, (i) why not and (ii) how many switchboards are in use by this Department;

any switchboards in use by this Department, if not, why not, if so, when.

(3) whether any blind persons are employed by this Department; if so, (a) how many and (b) in what capacities; if not, why not,

(4) whether this Department intends creating posts for blind persons; if not, why not, if so, (a) what posts and (b) when?

THE MINISTER OF THE BUDGET AND WELFARE:

(1) Yes.

(a) 7 big switchboards.

(b) 44 (small switchboards).

(i) The small switchboards can be operated by employees who perform other duties such as typing and enquiries

(ii) 51.

(2) No. At present no need exists and it would not be cost-effective.

(3) None in the employ of the Department of Health Services and Welfare Eight blind persons in the employ of the Department of Posts and Telecommunications, however, operate switchboards of the first-mentioned Department

(4) No. Due to the limitation of State expenditure and the curtailment of posts

(a) and (b) Fall away.

The honourable member's attention is drawn to the fact that although the Department of Health Services and Welfare serves two Ministers, only one Department exists in respect of which the above information is furnished. Kindly refer to the similar reply to Question No 89.

Blind persons: telephone switchboards

86. Mr K M ANDREW asked the Minister of Agriculture and Water Supply:

(1) Whether this Department makes use

of any telephone switchboards that have been adapted for use by blind persons, if so, how many switchboards (a) have and (b) have not been so adapted, if not, (i) why not and (ii) how many switchboards are in use by his Department,

(2) whether it is the intention to adapt any switchboards in use by his Department; if not, why not; if so, when;

(3) whether any blind persons are employed by his Department; if so, (a) how many and (b) in what capacities, if not, why not,

(4) whether his Department intends creating posts for blind persons, if not, why not; if so, (a) what posts and (b) when?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND WATER SUPPLY:

(1) Yes

(a) 1

(b) 33

(i) No need

(ii) 34

(2) Yes, as the need arises

(3) Yes.

(a) 1.

(b) Head Telephonist

(4) Posts exists.

(a) and (b) Fall away.

Blind persons: switchboards

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

(1) Whether his Department makes use of any telephone switchboards that have been adapted for use by blind persons; if so, how many switchboards (a) have and (b) have not been so adapted; if not, (i) why not and (ii) how many switchboards are in use by his Department;

Two boys, aged 14, held

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By RYLAND FISHER

TWO Bonteheuwel children, aged 14, have been detained

Police confirmed to the parents and lawyers that the two are being held under the State of Emergency regulations at Pollsmoor Prison

The detentions have been met with an outcry as they come shortly after the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, said no children under 15 were being detained. Vlok was responding to the Harare conference on Children and Repression

Fuad Hartzenberg, a Standard Four pupil at Cedars Primary School, and Lorenzo Brown, who works at a Bonteheuwel shop, are among at least eight Bonteheuwel children detained last Thursday and Friday

The others, all pupils, are aged between 15 and 19. They are believed to be held at Pollsmoor Prison

Mr Armen Hartzenberg said police had been to his house in Ikkalsvleitaal, Bonteheuwel, on Friday morning to tell him his son had been detained under Emergency regulations.

"They said he was being held at Pollsmoor. I asked when he would appear in court but was told he did not have to be brought to court. He will just be held in prison."

"They did not say when or where he was arrested."

A shock

Hartzenberg said his son's detention came as a shock

"We do not understand what is going on. If he was held under ordinary criminal laws, he would have been released into my custody or we would have been allowed to visit him."

"He has never been in any trouble before. He goes to school, madressa and mosque regularly."

Fuad was the most outstanding player of Juventus United football club last year.

"The lawyer has applied for us to be allowed to visit him. But we will not be satisfied with that. We want him to be freed," Hartzenberg said.

Mrs Elizabeth Brown, of Vlamboom Road, Bonteheuwel, said she was confused by her son's detention.

"They can't just hold a 14-year-old boy for nothing," she said.

Brown said her son had sometimes slept at the house of his employers.

"We did not suspect anything when he did not come home on Friday night. We were shocked when the police came to tell us on Friday that Lorenzo had been detained."

"This is the first time something like this has happened to him. We are worried," she said.

Mockery

Call of Islam national co-ordinator Maulana Faned Esack said the detentions "make a mockery of Vlok's rantings at the Harare conference participants."

Esack was one of the speakers at the Harare conference.

"We are disgusted at the latest detentions. One would have thought that in the wake of the Harare conference, the South African Police would have laid off for a while -- if not in sorrow, then out of a desire to deny credibility to the Harare deliberations."

"That, however, seems too much to ask for. Every government is judged by its treatment of children."

"We demand the immediate release of all detainees."

The National Education Crisis Committee's Western Cape executive committee said the latest detentions were "an attack on our children."

Vlok could not be contacted for comment.

Community organisations throughout the Western Cape will be focussing on detainees next week.



Principal who faces transfer

fter demoted

to with me," he said. He is a teacher for 28 years and said he was informed of the department's decision on the last day of last term. He said he brought a letter which they claim that he and his wife had not been satisfied with.

He said he would be on leave at Glendale until the end of the year when he would be demoted to vice-principal at a primary school in Durban.

He also has to take a 10% cut in salary. They said they would inform him in due time to which school he would be sent.

He did not tell anyone about the demotion immediately because he did not want to spoil his children's holidays. But the word leaked out and many people called at his home to pledge their support.

He believed the action against him was because of his school's support

for a community call to stay away on May 6, the day of the white elections.

When the first of 73 teachers appeared on July 20 on misconduct charges for refusing to administer the 1985 final examinations, Glendale's teachers went to the department's Wynberg offices to show support.

Carelse was called to a meeting by department officials in July and warned he would be disciplined.

Very upset

"I am very upset and angry over the way we as professionals are being treated. This issue raises questions about the nature of my appointment. I was on probation for five years after I opened the school in 1983."

"I do not consider myself guilty of anything worthy of this kind of action by the department. They will have to take responsibility for any upheavals or disruptions which their action may cause."

Two boys, 14, detained

TWO West Cape children, aged 14, have been detained causing an outcry in the community.

Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok recently gave an undertaking that no children under 15 were being held. This followed the Harare conference on Children and Repression.

Police confirmed to the parents and lawyers that the two Bonteheuwel boys, Fuad Hartzenberg and Lorenzo Brown, are being held under the State of Emergency regulations at Pollsmoor Prison.

See Page 38-14/108

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ad to Fame finalists
report, pictures page 14

AKGUS 8/10/87

(B27) (298)

US calls on SA to charge, free children

The Argus Foreign Service

WASHINGTON. — The United States Senate has called on the South African Government to release all children under the age of 18 held under emergency regulations or charge them in court.

Pending their release, a measure approved by the Senate said the Government should permit the detained children immediate and frequent access to parents and legal counsel, make known their names and where they were, and provide them with adequate food, clothing and protection.

Solitary

The Senate also asked that a "recognised, independent and impartial international humanitarian organisation" be allowed to verify that the provisions of the measure were being carried out.

It asked that the international organisation be allowed to verify that the children were not being abused, tortured or

held in solitary confinement, or held in detention with adults.

A further provision called for the apprehension and trial of all those individuals ... "who execute children by violent activities, including neck-lacing".

The measure was introduced by Democratic Party Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland.

The resolution, she said, was a message to South Africa that "children everywhere are special. They are the hope for the future".

Senator Mikulski, who is serving her first term, told her colleagues that she had discussed the detained children with Ambassador Dr Piet Koornhof and his predecessors and had written to both President Reagan and President Botha.

There was no reply from Pretoria.

She said the issue had been discussed throughout the US and internationally and there was debate on the exact number being held.

"But whether it is two, or

200, or 2 000, they should have the right of counsel and the right to visit their parents," she said.

"For most Americans, these children have names we cannot pronounce and faces we cannot see, but they are real, they are in jail and they are suffering," she said.

Distressing

Republican Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, who is sympathetic to the South African Government, said the measure addressed a distressing situation in South Africa.

"I thoroughly agree that the issue of detained children strikes at the heart of many, many Americans, including mine," he said.

South Africa was a violent section of the world where some youngsters had been taught to practise what amounted to terrorism.

"It should be noted that the African National Congress has stated its intentions to use children in its violent protests in South Africa," Senator Helms said.

(298) SMM 8/10/87

Detentions were discussed with Koornhof

Senate calls for children's release

By Neil Lurssen, The Star Bureau

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abused, tortured or held in solitary confinement, or held in detention with adults.

A provision called for the apprehension and trial of all individuals ... "who execute children by violent activities, including necklacing."

The measure, passed by voice vote in the Senate, was attached as an amendment to the State Department Authorisation Bill by Democratic Party Senator Barbara Mikulski of Maryland.

While it threatens no sanctions should the SA Government ignore the Senate call, the measure is politically significant in that it contributes to the hostile attitude towards South Africa in the US Congress.

Senator Mikulski told her colleagues she had discussed the detained children with SA Ambassador Dr Piet Koornhof and his predecessors and had written to President Reagan and President Botha. There was no reply from Pretoria.

She said the issue had been discussed throughout the US and internationally. There was debate on the number held.

"But whether it is two, or 200, or 2 000 ... they should have the right of counsel and the right to visits by their parents," she said.

"We may not know how many are detained. What we know is the children ... have been denied their civil rights, their human rights and, in many cases, have been tortured."

The practice, Senator Mikulski charged, stood in direct conflict with the rule of law embraced by every other nation.

"For most Americans, these children have names we cannot pronounce and faces we cannot see, but they are real, they are in jail and are suffering," she said.

The Senate resolution, she said, was a message to South Africa that ... "children everywhere are special."

Republican Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina, who is sympathetic to the SA Government, said the measure addressed a distressing situation in South Africa.



GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Vol. 268

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CAPE TOWN, 14 OCTOBER 1987

KAAPSTAD, 14 OKTOBER 1987

No. 10974

STATE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE

KANTOOR VAN DIE STAATSPRESIDENT

No. 2295.

14 October 1987

It is hereby notified that the State President has assented to the following Act which is hereby published for general information:—

No. 82 of 1987: Children's Status Act, 1987.

No. 2295.

14 Oktober 1987

Hierby word bekend gemaak dat die Staatspresident sy goedkeuring gegee het aan die onderstaande Wet wat hierby ter algemene inligting gepubliseer word:—

No. 82 van 1987: Wet op die Status van Kinders, 1987.

ACT

To amend the law relating to paternity, guardianship and the status of certain children; and to provide for matters connected therewith.

*(Afrikaans text signed by the State President.)
(Assented to 30 September 1987.)*

BE IT ENACTED by the State President and the Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, as follows:—

Presumption of paternity in respect of extra-marital children.

1. If in any legal proceedings at which it has been placed in issue whether any particular person is the father of an extra-marital child it is proved by way of a judicial admission or otherwise that he had sexual intercourse with the mother of that child at any time when that child could have been conceived, it shall, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, be presumed that he is the father of that child 5

Presumption on refusal to submit to taking of blood samples.

2. If in any legal proceedings at which the paternity of any child has been placed in issue it is adduced in evidence or otherwise that any party to those proceedings, after he has been requested thereto by the other party to those proceedings, refuses to submit himself or, if he has parental authority over that child, to cause that child to be submitted to the taking of a blood sample in order to carry out scientific tests relating to the paternity of that child, it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that any such refusal is aimed at concealing the truth concerning the paternity of that child. 15

Guardianship and custody of extra-marital children.

3. (1) If the mother of an extra-marital child is unmarried and a minor— 20

(a) the guardianship of that child shall, unless a competent court directs otherwise, vest in the guardian of that mother;

(b) the custody of that child shall, unless a competent court directs otherwise, vest in that mother. 25

(2) If the mother of an extra-marital child is under the age of 21 years but acquires the status of a major, the guardianship and custody of that child shall, unless a competent court directs otherwise, vest in that mother. 30

Act No. 82, 1987

CHILDREN'S STATUS ACT, 1987

Legitimation of
children by
subsequent
marriage

4. Any child born of parents who marry each other at any time after his birth shall, even though his parents could not have legally married each other at the time of his conception or birth, as from the date of the marriage be in all respects the legitimate child of his parents.

5

Effects of artificial
insemination.

5. (1) (a) Whenever the gamete or gametes of any person other than a married woman or her husband have been used with the consent of both that woman and her husband for the artificial insemination of that woman, any child born of that woman as a result of such artificial insemination shall for all purposes be deemed to be the legitimate child of that woman and her husband as if the gamete or gametes of that woman or her husband were used for such artificial insemination
(b) For the purposes of paragraph (a) it shall be presumed, until the contrary is proved, that both the married woman and her husband have granted the relevant consent.

10

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(2) No right, duty or obligation shall arise between any child born as a result of the artificial insemination of a woman and any person whose gamete or gametes have been used for such artificial insemination and the blood relations of that person, except where—

20

(a) that person is the woman who gave birth to that child; or

25

(b) that person is the husband of such a woman at the time of such artificial insemination.

(3) For the purposes of this section—

“artificial insemination”, in relation to a woman—

(a) means the introduction by other than natural means of a male gamete or gametes into the internal reproductive organs of that woman; or

30

(b) means the placing of the product of a union of a male and a female gamete or gametes which have been brought together outside the human body in the womb of that woman,

35

for the purpose of human reproduction;

“gamete” means either of the two generative cells essential for human reproduction.

Status of
children of
voidable marriage

6. The status of any child conceived or born of a voidable marriage shall not be affected by the annulment of that marriage by any competent court

Safeguarding of
interests of
dependent and
minor children of
voidable marriage

7. (1) No voidable marriage shall be annulled until the court concerned has enquired into and considered the safeguarding of the interests of any minor or dependent child of that marriage, and the provisions of section 6 of the Divorce Act, 1979 (Act No. 70 of 1979), and of section 4 of the Mediation in Certain Divorce Matters Act, 1987, shall *mutatis mutandis* apply in respect of any such child as if the proceedings in question were proceedings in a divorce action and the annulment of that marriage were the granting of a decree of divorce.

45

50

(2) The provisions of section 8 (1) and (2) of the Divorce Act, 1979, shall *mutatis mutandis* apply to the rescission or variation of a maintenance order or an order relating to the custody or guardianship of, or access to, a child, or the suspension of a maintenance order or an order relating to access to a child, made by virtue of the provisions of subsection (1).

55

(3) A reference in any law—

(a) to a maintenance order or an order relating to the custody or guardianship of, or access to, a child under the Divorce Act, 1979, shall be construed as a reference also to a maintenance order or an order relating to the custody or guardianship of, or access to, a child under the said Act as applied by subsection (1);

60

Act No. 82, 1987

CHILDREN'S STATUS ACT, 1987

(b) to the rescission, suspension or variation of such order under the Divorce Act, 1979, shall be construed as a reference also to the rescission, suspension or variation of such order under the said Act as applied by subsection (2).

5

Short title.

8. This Act shall be called the Children's Status Act, 1987.

COURT BRIEFS

Man guilty of trying to rape daughter

A MANENBERG man was found guilty in the Wynberg Regional Court of attempting to rape his 12-year-old daughter.

The man, who may not be identified, was last week sentenced to four years, suspended for five years.

The court heard that the man had a drinking problem and was aggressive towards his family. His wife said her husband had assaulted their daughter on several occasions.

He stopped after she had consulted a social worker.

"My husband is a heavy drinker, but a very good worker," she told the court.

The court was told that on September 1 this year, a boyfriend of the girl came to visit her.

Her father did approve, and reprimanded her. After the boy had left he took her into the bathroom where he tried to undress her. He held her close to his body.

The man, who pleaded not guilty, said he could not remember what had happened on the day of the incident as he had been drunk. He denied the allegations against him and said it did not suit his personality to do something like that. According to the girl, her father tried to rape one of her friends as well.

A social worker told the court the man had a drinking problem, but could stop if he wanted to. She said he beat his wife and children.

The court heard that the man had raped his wife 12 years ago, but married her because she was pregnant.

The magistrate, Mr M Knox, said every woman had the right to choose her partner. "If there is someone that a child must trust then it is her father. You have abused her trust in you."

Knox said he could not send the man to jail because his family would suffer.

Minister says

detainees not 14

15-21/10/87
South
(298)

Here's the proof!

By RYLAND FISHER

THE government has denied that two Bonteheuvel boys detained under emergency regulations are aged 14.

But SOUTH this week received proof from the parents of Fuad Hartzenberg and Lorenzo Brown confirming that they are 14.

Fuad, a Standard Four pupil at Cedars Primary School, Bonteheuvel, and Lorenzo, a shop assistant, were detained with at least eight other Bonteheuvel pupils two weeks ago. The others, aged between 15 and 19, are still being held.

In addition, parents of both 14-year-olds say they have not seen their children since their detention although the Minister claims the boys have access to their parents.

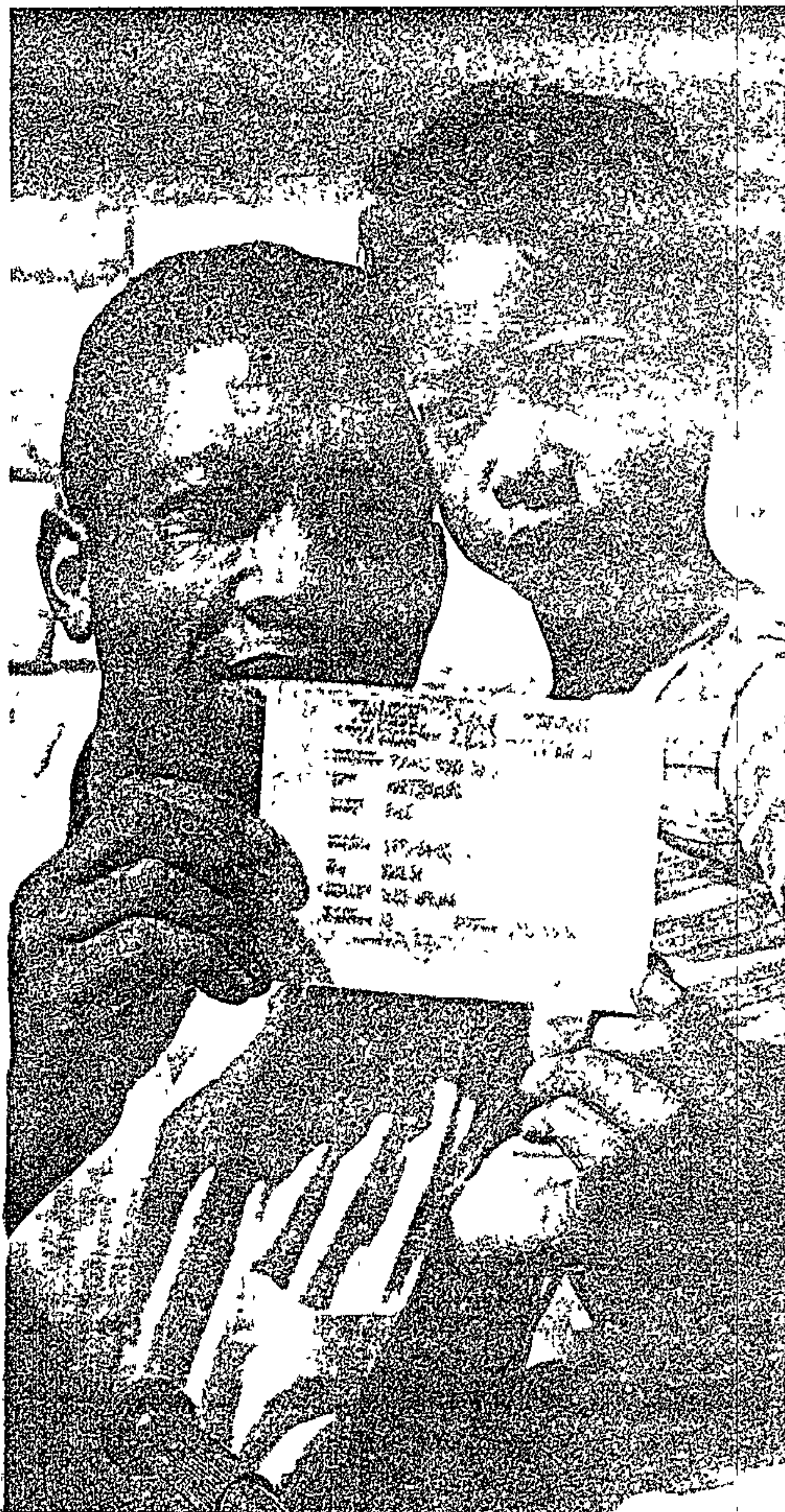
In a telex statement this week, Brigadier Leon Mellet, spokesman for Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok, says SOUTH's information on the ages of "the alleged 14-year-old detainees, is incorrect. Both are older and have access to their parents."

SOUTH had asked the Minister if the boys had been allowed visits and if they would be considered for early release because of their age.

Mr Armien Hartzenberg and his wife Shamiela said they had "heard nothing" since their son's detention. "We are still waiting for permission to visit him."

Mrs Hartzenberg said she had a birth certificate to prove Fuad was born on April 3 1973.

Mrs Elizabeth Brown said she lost her son's birth certificate when her handbag was stolen. She still had a clinic card to show Lorenzo was born on June 20 1973. She confirmed that she has had no access to her son since his detention.



THE picture that says it all. Mr Armien Hartzenberg with the birth certificate of his detained son Fuad. With him is Rameez, aged 6

DETAINED

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'Tears shed' over child detentions

Staff Reporter

NO-ONE at the Free the Children Alliance conference in Harare could avoid shedding tears, according to Dr Don Foster of the University of Cape Town, one of a number of speakers at a report-back meeting in Cape Town.

Dr Foster, associate professor of psychology at UCT, said: "Despite the despair, the gruesome detail of the testimonies we heard from children abused under the repressive South African regime, there was an astonishing sense of warmth, humanity and caring at the conference.

"It gave us all a glimpse of the new

society that is before us and in the making."

The report-back was held at UCT last night. About 300 people attended.

Civil rights lawyer Mr Essa Moosa said the international community viewed the detention of children in South Africa with abhorrence and condemned the imprisonment of children under repressive emergency regulations.

Mrs Edith Vries, a psychiatric social worker and lecturer at the University of the Western Cape, said black children had stood up for their moral rights and their leadership qualities had shown the resilience of youth.

THE suffering of children in South Africa is an issue of international concern, as indicated by the recent Harare conference on Children and Repression.

While the stories told by children who attended the Harare conference shocked newspaper readers and television audiences throughout the world, hundreds, maybe thousands, of similar stories remain untold.

RYLAND FISHER spoke to some of the children who suffered under apartheid but whose stories were not told in Harare.

Kids who never made Harare

Trip to beach ended in detention

WHEN Themba Ivan Nkalashe left home on November 18, 1985, he thought it would be just another day on the beach with his friends.

Little did he know that he would end up at Victor Verster Prison in Paarl under the Emergency regulations.

Themba, then 13, was one of a group of youths arrested near Philippi when they returned from Mnandi Beach.

He was one of the youngest children to be detained under the 1985 State of Emergency.

"I was returning home with some of my friends when we saw some boys throwing stones at the trains near Kapteinsklop Station in Mitchells Plain. We decided to go to the next station."

"We saw some boys stoning a truck. They were all running but we were walking. The police came and arrested us. At the Mitchells Plain Police Station they asked me why the boys attacked shops, cars and trains."

Themba was kept at the police station for three days before he was taken to Victor Verster Prison where he was held for another five days.

"I was not questioned once at Victor Verster even though some of the other boys arrested at the same time were questioned."

"We were about eight or nine in the cell and had to sleep on mats on the floor."

"On the day of my release I was taken to the Adlon police station and told to walk home to Guguletu."

He said his family was not officially informed of his detention.

"Someone who saw me being arrested told them. They tried to visit me at Mitchells Plain but were refused permission."

"I still feel angry at being detained. I did not do anything. Even today I am still scared to go to Mnandi Beach," he said.

He was in Standard Four at Intshinga Higher Primary in 1985. He is now Standard Six at Lufula High School in Khayelitsha.

He was not charged on his release.



Mourners marching at the funeral of Walala Odolo, an ANC activist of the 1950s. Also buried at the same funeral in New Brighton was Velle Sizani, who was allegedly shot by Municipal Police in New Brighton last week.

Mongesi still suffering after 2 years

MONGESI GWABENI is still suffering from the effects of his two weeks in detention in November 1985.

He missed his Standard Three final examination at Leholonolo Combined Primary School in Section 3, Guguletu that year because of his detention.

He is now trying to catch up by attending evening classes at X3 High School in New Crossroads where he is doing Standard Four.

He has also developed chest problems and spent six weeks in hospital. He said he had never had chest problems before his detention.

Mongesi, who was 17 at the time, was one of the boys detained on their way home after a day at Mnandi Beach.

"My friends and I wanted to take a train from Kapteinsklop station to Guguletu but were chased away by the police."

"We decided to walk home. On the way we saw some other boys throwing stones."

"At Philippi station, the police came and we ran away because we had heard that they took children."

"I ran into an auntie's garden and started to water the garden with a hosepipe. Unfortunately, I did not see that a policeman had followed me so I was arrested."

"When we arrived at Mitchells Plain police station, there were about 50 children," he said.

"After three days, they took us to Victor Verster Prison in Paarl. I stayed there for 14 days. I was called

in for questioning everyday. "On the day of my release, I was dropped in Bellville and had to take a taxi home. I was not charged with any offence," he said.

His mother, Mrs Joyce Gwabeni, said she was refused permission to see her son at Mitchells Plain.

"They told me I could not see him because he had thrown stones. I did not see him until he was released."

"He was sick when he came home. He was only home for three days when we took him to Brooklyn Chest Hospital where he spent six weeks," she said.

"Because of my detention and the time I spent in hospital, I was unable to write exams and had to repeat the year," Mongesi said.

He said he had to sleep on thin mats on the floor at Victor Verster.

"We had many complaints, like the food which was not nice. The food was even worse at the Mitchells Plain police station where we received only bread and soup."

Ben can only sleep on the floor

BEN Makhenkwe Sono has not slept on a bed since his detention in December last year.

Ben, 19 at the time of his detention, claimed he has had severe headaches and backache problems.

"I am now unable to sleep on a soft bed because it might damage my back more. I have to sleep on a mat on the floor."

"I never had these kind of problems before."

Ben said he was arrested at KTC at the beginning of December. He did not know of any fighting or unrest in the area at the time.

"I was taken to Manenberg Police Station where the police accused me of being a qabane (comrade). I told them I'm a rastaman and I stand for peace."

Concrete floor

"I was held at Manenberg for two weeks and released shortly before Christmas."

"I was not allowed visitors at the police station. I was given a mat and two blankets and had to sleep on a concrete floor."

"For the two weeks I only drank water because as a rastaman I do not eat bread and meat."

"I had no clean clothes and had to wear the clothes in which I was arrested throughout my period in detention."

Ben said he was arrested again in June.

"The police drove around with me and dropped me at Old Crossroads."

"They again accused me of being a comrade."

He has a certificate from Dr R Thompson, the Medical officer at Conradie Hospital confirming that he had been treated for head injuries on June 26.

'Trojan Horse' nightmare not over

THE small body of Ashraf Abrahams is covered by marks left by birdshot and bullet wounds.

The marks serve as a grim reminder of October 15, 1985 — the day police, hidden in crates on the back of a truck, shot and killed three youths in what has become known as the "Trojan Horse" shootings.

Ashraf, then seven years old, and about 20 of his relatives, mainly children, were at a house in Thornton Road, Belgravia, opposite the scene of the shootings.

One of the boys killed that day, Shaun Magmoet, ran into the house and fell dead on a bed. The other boys killed that day were Michael Miranda and Jonathan Claassen.

Almost all the children in the house had to be treated in hospital after heavily-armed police stormed and kicked down the door of the house.

"It was like Blood River. It still sends shivers down my spine every time I think of what happened," Ashraf's mother, Mrs Amiena Abrahams, said.

An inquest into the "Trojan Horse"

incident will be held in Wynberg in December.

There was an air of expectation and nervousness in the busy house on the eve of the second anniversary of the shootings last week.

As children streamed in and out of the house, the adults seemed visibly concerned that what happened two years ago could be repeated.

"Last year this time, we became very nervous everytime the police drove past. We expected them to come in and harass us," said Abrahams.

Ashraf seemed nervous and hesitant to speak about what happened two years ago, when street battles between youths and the police took place daily.

"My mother had come to fetch me at the madressa. I was sitting on the bed, talking to the other children."

He paused and his mother continued. "I went to look through the kitchen window to see what was going on outside. Suddenly I heard shots."

"There was complete chaos after that as the police stormed into the house. The children were screaming and there was blood everywhere."

"Ashraf had to be rushed to hospital. I could not see how much he was bleeding because he wore a maroon and black jersey. I only realised how serious it was when the doctor told me he was very lucky to be alive."

Ashraf stayed in hospital for a month. He missed his Sub A examinations and had to repeat the year at Heatherdale Primary School, in Belgravia Road.

He is now in Sub B.

"Since that time Ashraf has not been as active. He developed asthma and gets tired very quickly. He is still on medication," his mother said.

Ashraf's cousin, Ismael Rykief, who was 12 at the time of the shootings, said he was the last person "Trojan Horse" victim Shaun Magmoet spoke to before he died.

"He was lying on the bed and tried to mumble something to me. And then he died. I will never forget that day," he said.

"We were watching videos with some friends. They wanted to go home so we went outside."

"We saw this truck going past and

the police jumping out of boxes on the back."

"We ran inside and my aunt locked the door. The police first stood at the windows, and then kicked down the door and came inside."

"Shaun ran into the house with us and fell dead on the bed."

"The police wanted to arrest me, but they left me after the others protested. I had wounds on my one finger on my right hand, my right thigh, and my back."

"I was treated at Groote Schuur Hospital and Red Cross before being discharged that same night."

"It feels like I still have birdshot inside me."

"I used to run for the school, but I can't anymore. I have also given up soccer and cricket," Ismael said.

Ismael was in Standard Three at the time of the shootings. He is now in Standard Five at Sunnyside Primary School.

The parents of the boys who died refused to speak to the press.

22-28/10/87

Visits but boys, aged 14, still held

THE mothers of two 14-year-old Bonteheuvel children detained under State of Emergency regulations were allowed to visit them last weekend.

Fuad Hartzenberg, a Standard Four pupil at Cedar Primary School, and Lorenzo Brown, a shop assistant, have been held at Victor Verster Prison in Paarl for almost three weeks.

Mrs Elizabeth Brown said she was informed last Thursday she could visit her son on Saturday.

"It was the first time I heard he was at Victor Verster. I was under the impression that he was still held at Pollsmoor," she said.

Cried a lot

Brown said her son "looked fine, but he cried a lot when he saw me".

"I was glad to see him but I will not be satisfied until he is back at home."

She said Mrs Shamiela Hartzenberg had visited Fuad on the same day.

At the time of going to press, the Minister of Law and Order had not responded to questions from SOUTH about the boys' detention.

Law and Order spokesperson Brigadier Leon Mellet said he could not comment at this stage.

Last week Mellet said SOUTH's information on the boys ages was incorrect.

Parents then produced a birth certificate and clinic card to prove that their children were 14.

28/10/87

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22-28/10/87

Scuba

White youth join Cayco

TWO groups of white youth have applied to join the Cape Youth Congress, the UDF's largest and most militant affiliate in the Western Cape.

The groups, in Gardens and Mowbray/Observatory, have been accepted in principle by Cayco's general council, but will first have to work together for a period.

The youth in these groups are UDF supporters who have not been able to find a political home in any other affiliate.

The UDF decided at a general council earlier this year that people could join the Front only if they were members of affiliates. They gave members till the end of July to join organisations.

These include the United Women's Congress, the Women's Movement for Peace and the National Union of South African Students in the Observatory and Gardens areas.

For those who are not women or students it has been difficult to join the UDF. The Gardens/Observatory and Claremont area committees investigated ways of accommodating these people.

One of the options investigated was a Western Cape political organisation along the lines of the Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee (Jodac).

The other political option was the End Conscription Campaign (ECC), but they saw it as an issue-orientated organisation, while they wanted to take up broader political issues.

Some of the youth are also believed to feel uncomfortable about the involvement of liberal groups, like the Young Progressives in the ECC.

Three options were considered; becoming the youth wing of a political organisation, becoming a Cayco branch or affiliating directly to Cayco's

mother body, the 700 000-strong South African Youth Congress.

The second option was favoured because it would work towards nonracialism and help in building up a disciplined unit.

The youth argued that the UDF would in time displace the PFP as the dominant political force among middle-class English-speaking youth. White youths had not yet become used to voting as their major form of political expression and found it easier to identify with extra-parliamentary organisations, they said.

The decision to work with, and eventually accept, the white youth groups, also indicates a shift in thinking among Cayco activists.

With the formation of the UDF in 1983, the involvement of Nusas in the Front was a controversial issue which almost caused divisions in Cayco ranks.

A Cayco spokesperson said the new groups would be evaluated on the same basis as other branches. They must have at least ten members, work in the community and abide by the organisation's aims and policies.

"The two groups each have at least 20 active members.

"We may have some problems in implementing Cayco's programme of action in those areas because of the peculiarities of organising white youth.

"Cayco's programme of action revolves around issues like unemployment and the campaign to save people on death row. We are also actively campaigning for the unbanning of the African National Congress and the release of political prisoners, like Nelson Mandela.

"They may need to take up other local issues which will attract a wide range of young people in their areas.

"They will also need to gauge the response of their constituency to the formation of a militant political youth organisation.

Cayco, formed in May 1983, has 40 branches throughout the Western Cape, in areas like Hout Bay, Mitchells Plain, Bonteheuwel, Guguletu and Langa.

Fund drive to aid needy SA children

By Inga Molzen

The South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare launched its annual Child Welfare Week yesterday which will end with a national fund-raising drive.

Each year, 171 child welfare societies spend more than R20 million to improve its work among 250 000 neglected and maltreated children.

"We employ 600 social workers in South Africa but they are simply not enough. The 250 000 children who are presently in the care of Child Welfare only represent a drop in the ocean," said the director of the national council, Mrs Joan Oberholzer.

"There are hundreds of thousands of children in South Africa who desperately need help but we cannot reach them because funds are simply lacking. We don't have enough welfare societies or staff members."

With the publicity of several recent court cases following the death of abused children, the accountability of social workers handling cases of child abuse was being questioned, said Mrs Oberholzer.

Last year, an average of 549 cases of child abuse each month was handled by child welfare societies throughout South Africa.

She said 800 new cases of child abuse were reported last year.

Social workers were often expected to handle unrealistically high case loads and in many cases offices were manned by part-time workers only.

Sexual abuse of children within the family was a growing problem, but "this is something that is kept secret".

Social workers in societies worked with 5 494 families in which child abuse occurred last year and 13 000 children were placed in foster care.

The highlight of Child Welfare Week, which will run for eight days from October 31 and include workshops for social workers, will be the annual Our Children's Day.

It will be held in cities, towns and rural areas on November 7 with street collections approved by local authorities.

● Any company or organisation which would like to offer any special project or donation in aid of Child Welfare can contact the local child welfare society or the national council at (011) 339-5741.

CITY

Loving care for disabled children

Staff Reporter

LIFE was a mixed blessing for little Cynthia Rolom — until the day she got lucky.

Born with club feet to a mother who disappeared soon after her birth 15 months ago, she seemed destined to a lifetime of deprivation.

Then, aged 18 days, she was brought to the Maitland Cottage Home in Kildare Road, Newlands, a home-from-home for a constantly changing family of 80 crippled children.

It transformed her life.

For although Cynthia is destined to spend the rest of her days in the hospital as the only permanent patient, she now has companionship, love, care and the prospect of continued improvement in the quality of her life.

She has had an operation on her feet — known to be traumatic and uncomfortable for one so young — and they have been fitted with splints which help to maintain their proper position.

Cynthia will need several more operations before her feet are completely corrected. But she now has hope where none existed before.

The outlook for the other, temporary, patients in the home is even brighter. Charity Flanagan, an older patient who often keeps Cynthia company, is looking forward to being fitted with an artificial leg and returning to loving parents waiting for her in King William's Town.

And that is the real purpose of the Maitland Cottage Home — to rehabilitate children and discharge them into the mainstream of life.

The hospital has an enviable success rate — records show that almost 100 percent of the patients

admitted during the 58 years of its existence have recovered

More than 6 700 children have been admitted since the home was established in 1929. About 450 children are admitted annually

They are discharged when recovery is complete, usually after eight to 12 months. The majority do not pay. Medical-aid patients pay according to Provincial Administration rates

The hospital, run by the Maitland Cottage Home Society and its own management committee, caters for children between two months and 12 years with tuberculosis of the bones and joints, polio and other orthopaedic disabilities

It receives financial assistance from the Government, but also relies heavily on private aid, contributions and fund-raising.

Urgent need

The society is currently trying to raise R1-million needed for a second fully-equipped operating theatre. It also hopes to raise money for a physiotherapy department and hydro-therapy pool.

There are no X-ray facilities and patients are X-rayed at the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

Patients are admitted through local clinics in the Western Cape, from the Eros Cerebral Palsy School and from places as far afield as Transkei, Ciskei and Venda by way of the Red Cross Children's Hospital.

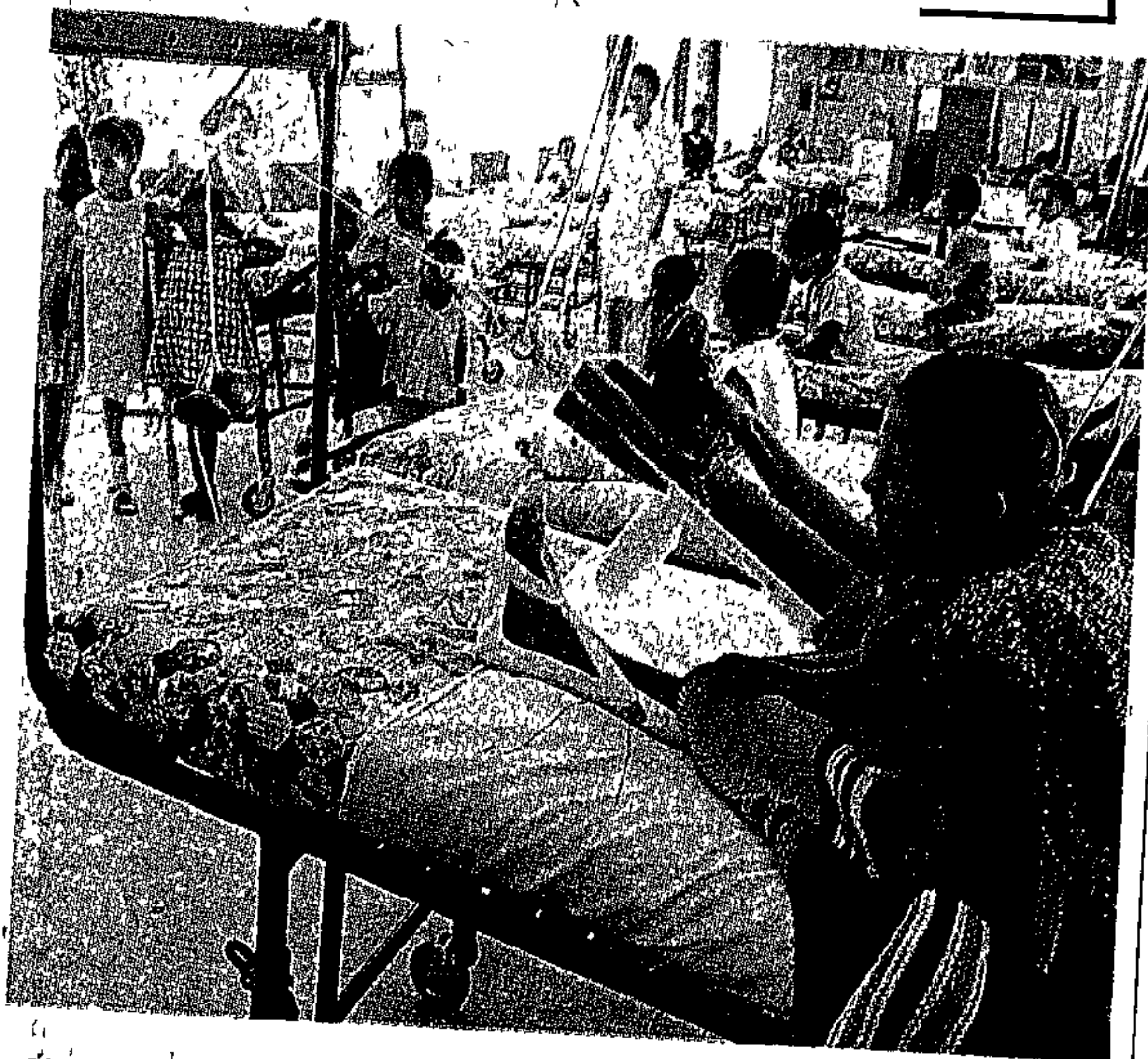
Children received their schooling from three full-time teachers employed at the hospital.



Pictures HANNES THIAI and LEON MULLER, The Argus

PLAYTIME: Babies and toddlers play on the lawn in the quad with one of the nurses. The 80 children in the Maitland Cottage Home are cared for by a professional staff which includes doctors, nurses, three full-time teachers and a physiotherapist.

Abandoned by her mother only days after her birth, little Cynthia, who was born with clubbed feet, faced a troubled future. Then appeared a collection of fairy godmothers in the shape of the loving staff of the Maitland Cottage Home. Now Cynthia is happy, secure, and on her way to normality.



WARD LIFE: A busy ward at the Maitland Cottage Home. Children stay in the hospital an average of eight to 12 months, and are not discharged until they are fully recovered.



Vlok's claims anger Bonteheuwel mums

THE Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adrian Vlok, has confirmed that there are 14-year-old children in detention.

This follows an earlier denial by his office which accused SOUTH of having "incorrect information". However, parents of Bonteheuwel youths Fuad Hartzenberg and Lorenzo Brown, both held for four

weeks, produced written proof on the boys' ages.

At a meeting last weekend, Vlok said a "gang of youths known as the Bonteheuwel Military Wing" had been arrested. Their ages ranged from 14 to 18.

He claimed the "gang" which operated under direct control of the African National Congress, were "responsible for more than 300 serious crimes".

SOUTH asked Vlok's press secretary, Brigadier Leon Mellet, how many people were in this "gang" and when they would appear in court.

We asked if Hartzenberg, a Std Four pupil, and Brown, a shop assistant, were part of the "military wing" referred to by Vlok.

Mellet said he was "not prepared to answer your individual questions".

award



Riyadh Najaar
ote: Page 24

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From page 1

Parents angry at Vlok's remarks

He referred SOUTH to the speech made by Vlok, to the Internal Security Act and Emergency regulations.

Meanwhile, parents of youths detained in Bonteheuwel have reacted with shock at Vlok's statements.

Mrs Kathleen de Kock, of Firethorn Road, Bonteheuwel said of her daughter Felicity, detained on October 2: "They want to blame everything on our children. They should pick up gangsters who cause trouble."

Mrs Elizabeth Brown, mother of Lorenzo Brown, said: "My son is trustworthy. He is not rude. He has been held for too long."

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South



Lorenzo Brown, 14, with his mother Elizabeth

14-year-old boys freed

Story and picture by RYLAND FISHER

TWO 14-year-old Bonteheuwel children have been released from almost a month in detention without being charged.

This follows Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok's claim that youths aged 14 to 18 formed a "Bonteheuwel Military Wing" responsible for 300 serious crimes.

As far as SOUTH could ascertain, the only 14-year-olds in detention were Fuad Hartzenberg, a Std 4 pupil at Cedar Primary in Bonteheuwel, and Lorenzo Brown, a shop assistant — the two were released last Thursday.

The boys' release made a mockery of the Minister's statements, said Mr Jan van Eck, the Independent MP for Claremont.

"It reinforces one's belief that the Government merely uses detention without trial to intimidate its political opponents — even 14-year-old children."

Maulana Faried Esack, national co-ordinator of the Call of Islam,

Turn to page 3

Child detainee fears re-arrest

From page 1

said Vlok had "announced the capture of so-called terrorists, including 14-year-olds, with much fanfare and his noises were triumphantly echoed by the MP for Bonteheuwel.

"These very same 14-year-olds have now been released without being charged. Vlok either lied to the nation or he was fed false information by his security police."

The Minister's press secretary Brigadier Leon Mellet said: "I confirm that both persons have been released pending further police investigation."

SOUTH had asked Mellet why the boys had not been charged, if charges had been referred to the Attorney-General, and if charges were still being investigated against other youths in detention.

Short-lived

For Mrs Shamiela Hartzenberg and her husband Armien, the joy of their son's release was short-lived.

"He was at home for only one night. He has now decided to sleep elsewhere because he fears being redetained.

"Fuad saw another boy being detained after he was released. I think that affected him."

Mrs Elizabeth Brown, mother of Lorenzo Brown, said in her excitement about her son's release, she had spoiled her family's supper.

"I was so happy, I cried. They held him for nothing. We must pray for the souls of these people who keep our children in jail like this."

Lorenzo, a tall, skinny boy, said he was "OK".

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Act 'offers no protection for children in detention'

By Inga Molzen

The new Child Care Act was "hopelessly inadequate" for the protection of children who fell foul of the law, a senior paediatrician at Coronation Hospital said this week.

Dr Oliver Ransome was discussing a code for the handling of children in detention prepared under the auspices of the SA Paediatric Association at a workshop organised by the SA National Council for Child and Family Welfare.

The workshop was part of Child Welfare Week, and was attended by social and community workers; paediatricians, lawyers and day mother association

members.

The workshop was told that the national council had more than 250 000 children — battered, abandoned, sexually abused or simply neglected — in its care.

PROTECTION FROM ABUSE

The main thrust of the relatively new Child Care Act, Dr Ransome said, was to protect children from abuse and neglect, but with no references to children in detention, it afforded them no protection.

Examining the Prisons Act, Dr Ransome said it prohibited the detention of children without trial unless justified by prevailing circumstances.

The Prisons Act allowed the commissioner, he said, to issue, amend or rescind prison service orders, provided this remained consistent with the Act, but these "orders are not made public so people are unaware of their rights".

While the Criminal Procedure Act allowed for alternatives to pre-trial detention, Dr Ransome said these were often not used.

While children may behave in such a way that society must act to protect itself, he said detention as a "retributive punishment can never be justified".

The Internal Security Act "offers no protection whatsoever to children. Under this Act, offenders are not defined according to age.

"Although 90 percent of the recommended code for the handling of children in detention was found to be perfectly acceptable, it has still not been written into our legislation."

Dr Ransome, who is also vice-chairman of the national council's professional health committee, said the State assumed "an awesome responsibility" when it removed a child from its home to any institution under the control of either the Department of Police or of Prisons.

● See Page 11.

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● See Page 11.

November 14 1987

October 1987

Experts' views on sex abuse slated

SARA MARTIN

Some of South Africa's top child psychologists and psychiatrists have slated the views of two British psychiatrists who claim that sexual abuse does not necessarily damage youngsters. In fact, one of the British psychiatrists claims it can even be an enriching experience.

The psychiatrist's assertions were revealed in evidence during a child sex abuse case being heard in Middlesbrough, England.

Their South African counterparts have described their views as "false, abhorrent and dangerous" and "reflective of an authoritarianism not dissimilar to Nazism and Fascism".

"Numerous studies have shown the devastating psychological effects of sexual abuse of children. Adult depression, phobias, sexual dysfunction and violence are just some of the symptoms," a prominent South African psychologist and lecturer said.

He warned that such statements gave the parents the green light to commit crimes and helped create a future society of emotionally disturbed and violent people.

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S Times

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15/11/87

A 'nightmare' two years — mum

By HENRY LUDSKI

THE DAY after 18-year-old city matric pupil Bradley van Niekerk writes his last subject, the gates of Pollsmoor Prison will clang shut behind him.

In just over a week's time, as matriculants all over the country celebrate the end of their school career, the teenager from Kensington in Cape Town will be at home preparing for 12 months behind bars.

This week, Bradley and his family learned that he had lost his appeal against a 12-month prison sentence for public violence.

Said his distressed mother, Mrs. Cathy van Niekerk: "It's a nightmare... I can't believe that my son is going to jail."

Sobbing, she cried out: "I want my boy at home, not in prison."

In spite of the sentence hanging over him, Bradley has decided to press ahead with his remaining exams.

He is due to write his last subject on November 23 and must report to prison the following day.

Said his mother: "It's been

a nightmare, and I'm glad that it has ended because I waited for two years for this case to finish, and now I have another year to wait before my son will be free again.

"When Bradley heard the news I could see the tears coming into his eyes... but he is not one to express his feelings.

"My husband and I took it very badly."

In the meantime, said Mrs. Van Niekerk, her son was working "very hard" on his exams.

"We want to know that when he goes to jail he will at least have passed his exams, because it is very difficult to study in jail," she said.

The unsuccessful appeal marked the end of a bitter two-year-old battle by the Van Niekerk family to keep Bradley out of jail.

Bradley, a pupil at the South Peninsula High School in Diep River, was one of the first pupils in the Western Cape to be convicted of public violence in during the school boycotts and unrest of 1985.

His application for leave

to appeal was refused by the Cape Supreme Court in April this year, and on Tuesday a petition to the Chief Justice for leave to appeal was turned down.

Bradley was given until November 24 to report to Pollsmoor Prison to start his sentence.

His conviction for public violence in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court in November 1985 was followed by a major campaign to "save" him from prison.

The Save Bradley From Prison Committee, which had the support of Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu, collected 25 000 signatures on a petition which was presented to the Chief Justice with his application for leave to appeal. It didn't help.

Bradley's plight has focused renewed attention on other pupils who are serving sentences at Pollsmoor Prison, where many have written school and college exams.

Said lawyer Mr. Eshaam Palmer: "There are many pupils in jail who are going ahead with their studies and receiving tuition from their teachers."

P 50

OPTIONS

Children's Home to start a new service

By Marika Sboros

Prevention is better than cure may be an old saying, but it is the driving force behind a new community service centre the Johannesburg Children's Home is implementing. "We want to prevent the breakdown of families and the abuse of children," says the home's director, Mrs Joan Rubinstein. "We also want to give back to the community the wonderful support we have been given all these

years.

The services are mostly free and will include:

- A self-help group for abusing parents to be run jointly by an abusing mother and a psychologist. Mrs Rubinstein stresses that parents should not feel that they will be punished in any way if they have abused their children. "We will not be trying to take them away. We will not set ourselves up as judges. We just want to give parents who feel they are on the brink of

abusing their children, or who have done so, the opportunity to seek help."

- Weekly coffee mornings for mothers with small children. The aim is to provide support for isolated mothers to assist in the handling of their

children. The group will be a gathering for mothers with a structured activity each week, and will be run by professionals and volunteers.

- Drop-in centre for parents having difficulties of any sort with their children, from toddlers to teenagers. The drop-in centre was started five months ago and operates on the last Thursday of every month.

- Single-parent group. This group will deal with issues affecting single parents either divorced, widowed or unmarried. The problems of the load of being mother and father, the isolation and lack of support will be discussed.

- Step programme — how to be an effective parent — involves discipline and communication skills in dealing with children. There is also a programme aimed specifically at helping parents cope with the turmoil of teenage years. The programmes cost R50.

- Volunteer training. The recruitment and training of 10 volunteers to act as "lay therapists" was such a successful exercise in positive intervention earlier this year, that the home has decided to repeat it, Mrs Rubinstein says. The volunteers were able to allay the suspicions of many families about welfare offi-

HELPING HAND: Mrs Joan Rubinstein, director of the Johannesburg Children's Home, with one of the home's children, says: "We want to prevent the breakdown of families and the abuse of children."

Picture.

RUPHIN COUDYER.

cers, and were also able to gain access to usually hostile homes. Their function will be to act as a support to these families. The training programme runs for nine weeks and will cover basic counselling skills. The course costs R50.

- Home/foster care workshops. The home desperately needs "friends for our children", Mrs Rubinstein says. "We need to give our children the experience of community living. The workshops will look at why children come into care, the phases of a relationship with a child, the difficulties encountered, as well as the legalities involved."

- Home-aid programme. This is a new idea for the recruitment and training of volunteers who would intervene with families in need on a practical basis, and assist with the day-to-day problems of living. Anyone interested in helping the home, should contact Mrs Rubinstein at (011) 648-1120.



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by Lynn Johnston

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AAM urges release of detained children

LONDON — The Anti-Apartheid Movement is urging Britain, the United Nations, the European Community and the Commonwealth to press South Africa to release all children in detention before Christmas.

"The torture and destruction of children in South Africa is something the world cannot ig-

nore," said Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, president of the movement.

At the launch of the AAM campaign, he added: "In just over five weeks we will be celebrating Christ's birth. It will be intolerable if any child is still in detention then." — The Star Bureau.

SA government 'lying'

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v/day
18/11/82
GLENYS KINNOCK, wife of British Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock, has accused the South African government of lying about the detention of children. Kinnock, launching a campaign this week seeking the release by Christmas of all children under detention without trial, said statements made by Minister of Law and Order Adriaan Vlok last September were untrue when he claimed that no children under the age of 15 were being detained in SA.

Kinnock told a Press conference that within four days opponents of child detention had found that two 14-year-old boys were being held and had been denied access to their parents.

Kinnock said the international conference in Harare in September on repression and the law in SA had produced horrific and undeniable evi-

IAN HOBBS in London

dence that children were being held without charge and suffered both physical and psychological torture.

She said it was the duty of all decent people to do whatever they could to work to secure the release by Christmas of all children still being detained.

Labour MP Joan Lester said she would seek the backing of all woman MPs, including Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, for the campaign when she tabled an all-party motion in the House of Commons.

"We must unite in condemning the abuse of children. I cannot believe that any MP of any party will refuse to join us," said Lester.

Talk on disabled kids 298

A TALK on how children's disabilities can be treated, will be held next Wednesday in Soweto.

The talk will be held at Funda Centre, Diepkloof. It is organised by the Soweto Co-ordinating Committee for the Disabled and will be held between 9am and 1pm.

The chairman of the organisation, Mr Eddie Tenza, yesterday said that experts on treatment of disabled people will address the gathering. Some of the speakers are

Miss Maggie Tshule, a speech therapist, Mrs M

Noel, a physiotherapist and a psychologist.

Tears, salutes as 15 appear

By AYESHA ALLIE

THERE were emotional scenes in the Cape Town Magistrate's Court at the appearance of 15 people who had spent between 10 weeks and six months in detention.

Relatives and friends, some of whom had not seen the trialists since their detention, packed the court for their brief appearance on Monday.

Detainees' parents held keys symbolising the unlocking of the doors of their childrens' cells.

The atmosphere was tense and emotional as they waited for the trialists to appear.

The 15 who appeared on terrorism charges are: Ashley Forbes, 22, of Wynberg; Peter Jacobs, 23, of Athlone; Leon Scott, 29, a Bonteheuwel teacher; Yasmina Pandey, 20, of Wynberg; Nicolo Pedro, 20, of Mossel Bay; Anwar Dramat, 19, of Bonteheuwel; Nazeem Lowe, 24, of Diep River; Walter Rhoohe, 23, of Elsies River; Clement Baadjies, 19, of Bonteheuwel; Jeremy Veary, 22, of Cravenby Estate; David Fortuin, 22, of Elsies River; Ashraf Karriem, 20, of Elsies River; Wayne Malgas, 22, of Ravensmead; Colin Cairncross, 22, of the UWC hostel; and Colin Petersen, 23, of Grassy Park.

Shouts of 'Viva'

Shortly before they appeared in court, laughter overwhelmed the crowd who could no longer control their feelings. Shouts of "Viva!" were heard as they hugged each other while some broke down and cried.

The 15 were saluted as they came into court from the cells below. Relatives scrambled to get a better view. Some commented on how well and strong the trialists looked

Standing on benches to get a better view of those in the public gallery, the trialists raised their fists.

A court orderly sent them back to the cells until the crowd was controlled. Those who did not have seats stood quietly at the back of the public gallery.

But when the trialists came into court for the second time, the crowd stood up again. They were told to leave the court but refused and sat on the floor to avoid being thrown out.

Leon Scott's sister held up a bright yellow banner which read: "Happy Birthday Leon". He looked at the banner, raised a clenched fist and laughed.

Refused bail

When the magistrate Mr P M A Louw entered the room, some people in the public gallery had to be reminded to stand as a measure of respect.

When Wayne Malgas, a third year UWC law student was told he had been granted bail, he refused and said "What about my comrades, your Honour? If the other do not get bail, then I do not want bail either."

The crowd applauded and shouted: "We are united."

The case was postponed to November 30.

As the trialists left the dock they raised their fists and shouted "Amandla". The crowd then sang Nkosi Sike iAfrika before they left court.

Outside they waited for the trialists to leave for Pollsmoor Prison.

They gathered on the corners of Parade and Albertu streets despite police threats to remove them.

After about 15 minutes a van transporting the trialist passed the crowd who shouted messages of support and tried to touch outstretched hands. The singing supporters then marched to St Georges Cathedral to discuss the appearance and future visits to the trialists.

In good health

Mrs Fawzia Lowe, Nazeem's mother said she was very happy to have seen for herself that her son, who was detained on August 17, was in good health.

"My main fear was that he and the others were not well. I am just very happy that I have seen him," she said.

She pointed to her clothing in black, green and yellow and said: "I dressed like this for him to see me and he did."

Leon Scott's sister, Mrs Maria Hlati, said she was happy to see him but felt sad that he had to spend his 29th birthday in prison.

"But, at least we saw each other. I am glad to know that he is happy and strong. I feared he would be weak. But after five months he is strong," she said.

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South NEWS (298)

Freed youths restricted

RESTRICTIONS were imposed on eight Bonteheuvel youths who appeared in the Goodwood Magistrate's Court in connection with public violence charges after their release from Emergency detention this week.

They are confined to their homes between 6pm and 6am and their parents must escort

them to the Bishop Lavis Police Station every Sunday between 8am and 4pm.

Four of the youths, including a 16-year-old girl, are juveniles. They were released into their parents' custody

John De Vos, 18, Stanley Williams, 18, Donovan Fer-

helst, 18, and Nelson Warries, 20, were released on R200 bail.

Exemptions from any of the conditions were subject to permission from Bishop Lavis policemen, a Captain van Braachel and a Sergeant Baard. The case was postponed to December 11 for further investigation.

Euro-parliament debates detentions

THE European parliament in Strasbourg is to debate a resolution calling for the release of children detained in South Africa and urging joint European Community action to press for their release by Christmas.

The resolution, initiated by British representative Janey Buchan, who was at the Harare conference two months ago on children in detention, was submitted by a number of women from different countries.

The issue of children in detention in South Africa is also likely to come under the spotlight in Britain this week. Labour Party MP Joan Lester has put forward a motion in the House of Commons calling on UK Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to seek collective EC action to secure the release of child detainees.

"I am hoping women on the other

By MOIRA LEVY, London

side of the house will join me," Lester said.

The Harare Working Group, a committee made up of the British participants at the Harare conference, has launched an appeal for the release of all children by Christmas.

Father Trevor Huddleston, president of the Anti-Apartheid Movement, announced this week he would be seeking meetings with international political and church leaders to present the evidence of torture and ill-treatment in detention he collected at Harare.

He has asked that the issue be placed on the agenda of next month's European Community summit.

He has also sought a meeting with the Commonwealth secretary general.



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A ray of sunshine for little toddlers

By HAPPY ZONDI

FOR the little Othandweni children it was a dream come true when South Africa's BMW Women's Club presented them with boxes full of toys at their Soweto-based care centre recently.

Othandweni Care Centre is run and funded by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

The centre caters for abandoned children from birth up to the age of 10, especially those who are neglected, ill-treated, abused and abandoned by parents who cannot look after them.

The Othandweni Home social worker, Christine Mosala, said the centre did not only accommodate children, but it also catered for battered mothers and their children.

At the centre they are housed until they are in a position to return home again.

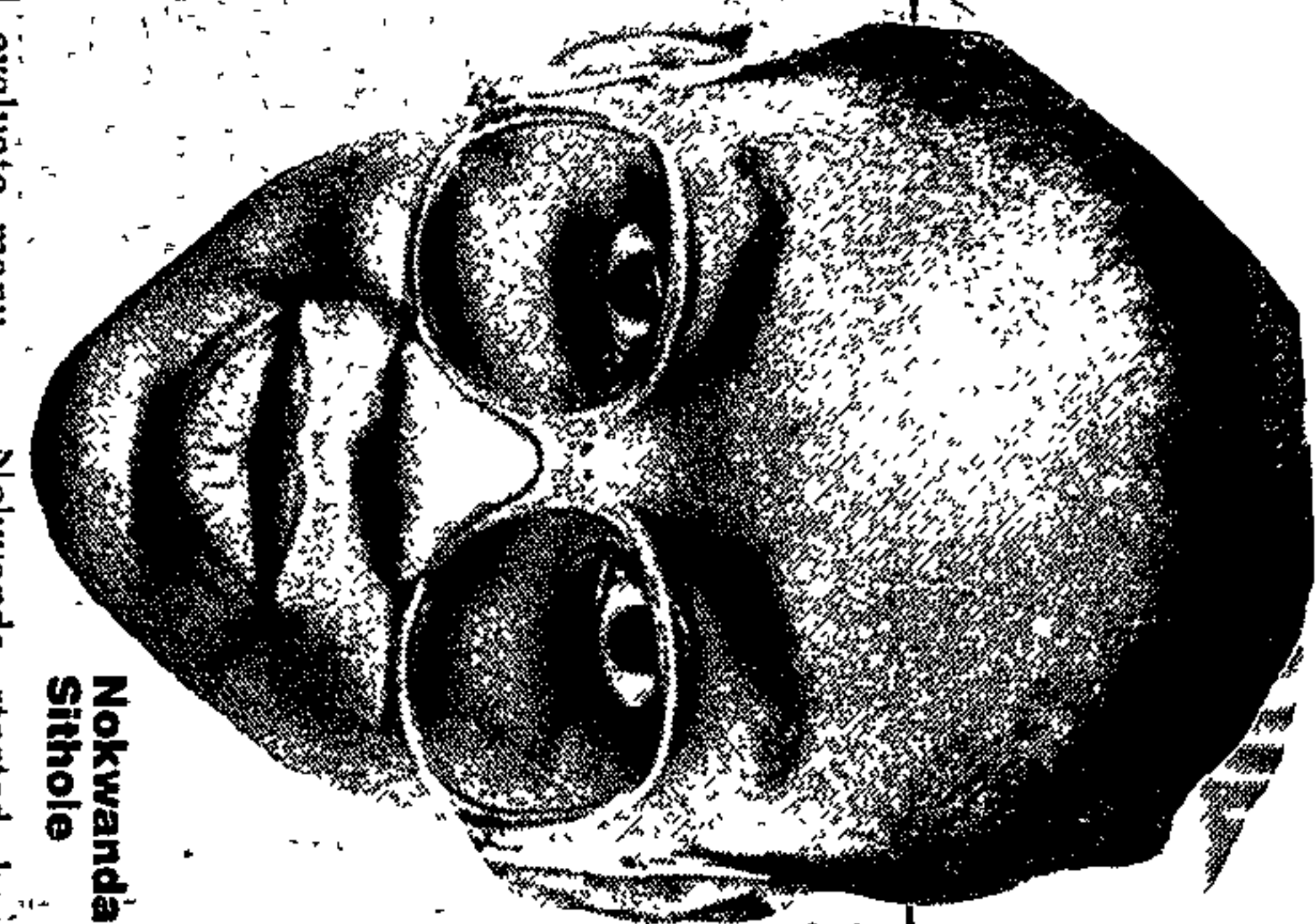
BMW Women's Club secretary and editor, Janette Ferreira, said it was the first time that they got involved in a social and cultural activity of this kind.

Ferreira also said that the BMW Club intended to render more services to the community in future.

Social worker Christine Mosala (right) and BMW Women's Club secretary Janette Ferreira with toys for the children at the Othandweni Care Centre.



A RISING STAR WITH THE WOMAN'S TOUCH



Nokwanda Sithole

By HAPPY ZONDI

THE dominantly male publishing world was taken aback recently when diminutive 23-year-old Nokwanda Sithole was appointed assistant editor of one of South Africa's first black publishing houses, Skotaville.

After barely five years in the communications field, she has made astounding progress. She explained that when Skotaville decided to create a new editorial post, editor Jaki Serke telephoned her to ask if she could recommend anyone

for the position. At the time Nokwanda was already doing freelance work for her new employers. In a shy but rather confident manner she recalled: "Jaki sounded taken aback when I told him I wanted the position."

"He thought I was joking, but promised to call back so we could discuss the matter seriously." He has since been detained. Nokwanda believes she would not have managed her rapid advancement without the support of her family and colleagues.

Her father, an attorney, was very pleased, while her mother, a nursing sister, felt that she was job-hopping too much. She has two sisters — one is a 16-year-old Std 8 pupil and the other a 24-year-old Wits University student. Nokwanda's job is to read and evaluate manuscripts sent in by authors seeking publication. A manuscript is either immediately accepted or rejected or sent for further evaluation. If the manuscript is accepted, it is then corrected before being published.

Nokwanda started her career in the publishing industry as a sub-editor at *City Press* — itself a big step, especially for a beginner. She explained that getting the job was not easy, especially as she had only completed theoretical jour-

nalistic training and had no practical experience.

"I had a list of all newspapers and magazines in Southern Africa and I applied to each of them. Those who bothered to reply, did so with letters of regret," said Nokwanda.

Eventually she got the job through the head of the department of journalism at Natal Technikon, Clive Emdon.

"He told me there was a vacancy for a sub-editor at *City Press*."

"It took me two days to pick up the courage to phone the newspaper. All of a sudden I had to face reality," she chuckled.

She stayed with *City Press* for two years. She described this as a good foundation for her future.

Last year she joined *New Nation*, also as a sub-editor. She then joined Skotaville early this year.

At the moment Nokwanda does not have any immediate plans of furthering her studies. She believes that in her work she gets a lot of input from different angles and this broadens her knowledge.

we are still in... D/D 29/11/87 (298) (ADH)

Gold Shield winners urged to stay in SA

GRAHAMSTOWN — The Gold Shield Award Scheme prepared South African youth for the problems facing the country, a television producer, Miss Patience Stevens, said during the scheme's awards ceremony here.

In addition to facing the fundamental question of "Who am I?", young people were faced with the challenge of working towards a stable, peaceful, positively integrated society where all South Africans are allowed equal opportunities to participate and to achieve," Mrs Stevens said.

"The reward of every young person for defining and realising their individual talents is the achievement of personal goals and aspirations, and the satisfaction of making a constructive contribution to the community. The reward for South Africa's younger generation will be to be making history, and hopefully history with a happy ending," she said.

Addressing the award winners in the scheme, Miss Stevens said it was "very sad and depressing when qualified,

talented achievers leave this country. If you had not participated in the Gold Shield Award Scheme, you could not have won an award. If we do not stay in this country, we will not be able to help to build the future — and any personal achievements will be away from our own country and from our roots," she said.

A total of 64 young people from nine schools in the Eastern Cape and Border areas received gold, silver and bronze awards.

Now in its fifth year, the scheme was introduced to South Africa by the 1820 Foundation.

To be eligible for an award, young people must satisfy stringent requirements in four categories — service, skills, expeditions and physical recreation.

The regional representative of the International Secretariat of the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, Mr Sammy Adjai, was a guest at the awards ceremony.

The South African scheme is based on the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme, which operates in 45 countries

throughout the world and involves about five million young people.

Mr Adjai, a Ghanaian, is based in Lesotho and is responsible for administering the award scheme in central, eastern and southern Africa.

Mr Adjai said young people who participated in the award scheme tended to know more about themselves, the communities they lived in and were able to cope with whatever situations they found themselves in.

"It has something to do with self-actualization, but they also make good citizens of their countries," he said.

He said the scheme allowed young people to undertake service projects which suited the local community. There was no rule within the scheme which dictated what service should be undertaken.

Similarly, South African youths were encouraged to complete service projects which were helpful to this country.

"I think it is a very good programme — it offers a future for the kids of this country."

D/D 25/11/87

Find out why children act the way they do — social worker

Daily Dispatch Reporter
MDANTSANE — The community here should rid itself "negative attitudes" about children's homes, and instead of labelling children in the homes as delinquents, people should find out why they behaved the way they did.

— That was the message from the only social



MRS NGUMBELA

worker at Khayalethemba Children's Home here, Mrs P. P. Ngumbela, when she addressed the home's combined 20th anniversary celebrations and Christmas party yesterday.

Mrs Ngumbela said the home was overcrowded. It housed 161 children though it was equipped for only 145.

"Since our work involves human beings, we are sometimes forced to overlook regulations as in cases where we can't release children who are over the allowed age out into the streets", she said.

Most of the children in

the home had been abandoned and others could not obtain proper care from their alcoholic or sometimes bushdwelling parents.

A representative from the Ciskei Department of Social Welfare and Pensions, Mrs N. Mabheka, said that children's homes did not separate brothers and sisters as foster homes did.

"No foster mother wants more than two children, but here if they are five from one family, we'll take the whole lot", she said.

She said the department was closing its eyes as far as the regulations were concerned with Khayalethemba, "because we would like to see the child growing up in a home atmosphere, rather than out in the streets".

Mrs Mabheka said the department had decided to increase its monthly subsidy from R73 per child to R145 from next year.

The open day was organised with the aim of allowing the community to come to the home and know more about it, its problems and potential. A member of the staff, Mr M. Yokwana, said: "One thing that greatly disturbs me is that Khayalethemba is deteriorating yearly — and the community's attitude that this is a government home is even more disturbing".

All the presents were donated by members of the Dutch Reformed Church, represented by Mrs A. Coetzee, and the Women's Auxilliary Association.

Children's road safety project launched

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Daily Dispatch Reporter MDANTSANE — The number of accidents involving children and the fact that 60 per cent of accidents are caused by people who do not know the rules of the road properly, have resulted in a children's road safety project being launched here.

The public relations officer of the Ciskei Road Safety Council (CRSC), Mrs N Mdingi, said at a children's road safety day at the civic hall here yesterday that the CRSC had in the past directed most of its talks and warnings to motorists but it now wanted to instill the rules of the road into children's minds before the Christmas holidays.

A member of the CRSC, Mr S. Kashe, said that Mdantsane was fortunate to have scholar patrols which allowed pupils to cross busy roads safely.

"There is a lot of excessive speeding here. The main road, Qumza Highway, has a speed limit of 60 km/h but we often see cars travelling at 120 km/h", he said.

Mr Kashe said the CRSC had decided to make the children's

road safety day an annual event.

A senior traffic officer, Mr N. Sityana, who was the guest speaker, stressed the importance of parents setting the correct example for their children to follow.

"Imitation is an important method of learning, especially in the pre-school age and the parent is the model that will be imitated by the child."

Mr Sityana said that children under eight years were unable to transform instructions given to them at home into actions in the traffic situation, so it was important to provide them with opportunities to gain experience in traffic by taking them along on every possible occasion.

The children's day was attended by pre-school and lower primary school pupils.



MRS MDINGI

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Detention 'retards the ability to learn'

Education Reporter

26/11/82. The recently elected executive of the Southern African Association for Learning and Educational Disabilities (Saaled) has expressed concern about the effects of the state of emergency on children in South Africa.

The committee took its lead from the Saaled annual general meeting held in September this year when 300 members present supported a resolution which addressed the adverse effects of detention and political turmoil on children's learning ability.

In the resolution, Saaled said that under the state of emergency, it saw the protective measures of the Child Care Act, overridden and the continued detention of children.

"Where the State believes it has reason for the detention of children, it should then make ample provision for children being kept in the best possible conditions for their emotional, physical and education well-being. In addition, such children should be tried without delay," read the resolution.

"The climate of fear and uncertainty and the political turmoil in which many children live, profoundly damages their capacity for any learning opportunity that is offered. The psychological effects of detention have been demonstrated to retard educational growth significantly."

Saaled president and head of Specialised Education at Wits University, Professor Mervyn Skuy, said the resolution marked a new departure for Saaled, which has tended to focus on individual learning disabilities.



FLASHBACK: Bill Cosby holding symbolic keys.

'Many thanks, Bill'

PARENTS of young South African detainees are sending a metre-long wooden key to US comedian Bill Cosby as a token of thanks to Americans who are campaigning against this country's apartheid laws.

Church leader the Rev Allan Boesak told a Press conference this week that he hoped to deliver the key next month to Cosby, who has urged the US administration to put more pressure on South Africa.

"We're taking the key as a symbol of

the gratitude to people like him who continue to fight in spite of the administration of President Ronald Reagan," said Boesak.

The key, inscribed, "Unlock the doors of apartheid jails, from the family and friends of detainees, Cape Town", would be taken on anti-detention demonstrations around the United States, Boesak said, adding. "We hope this key will travel."

Civil rights groups monitoring detentions say that up to 25 000 people, a third of them under 18, have been held without trial at some stage since the government imposed emergency rule to quell black protest in June 1986.

South African Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok said that fewer than 100 children, none younger than 15, were still being held because they had committed serious crimes.

Boesak said: "Those are very serious allegations but the Minister hasn't produced any evidence."

"It's not a question of having not 4 000 but 1 000 detainees, we're saying that one child in jail is one child too many." — Sapa.

WELFARE DISPARITY UNDER FIRE

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THE disparity in Government grants to foster parents of different race groups was the main issue at a Press conference called by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society yesterday.

Black parents are given R79, Coloured R123 and White parents R153 monthly.

"What these figures ultimately say is that children of different race groups require different care, and we all know that it costs the same to feed, clothe and educate any child," Dr Adele Thomas, executive director of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society, said.

Added to the disparity are bureaucratic problems in the State machine, whereby black foster parents may have to cope with a delay of up to two years before a grant is received.

These problems have intensified alarmingly since Black Social Services were devolved to the Provincial Administration level earlier this year.

The conference further revealed that the grant to black foster parents is stopped when the child is

By ALI MPHAKI

16 years old instead of 18 years as is the case with children of other race groups.

"If he is an infant, he may lie in an institution suffering serious emotional damage because no-one can afford to foster him," said Miss Jackie Loffell, managing residential care of the Society.

South Africa has between 30 and 40 thousand children in official foster care.

Each foster child is placed in a substitute family by order of the Children's Court, after reports concerning his situation have been processed by the State department concerned with his particular racial group.

The majority of the children brought to welfare organisations are as a result of abandonment, neglect or abuse.

Alternate care given to a child can take one of three forms.

- Adoption;
- Residential Care, and
- Foster Care.

Social workers believe that foster care is the

most ideal form of alternative placement as this ensures adjustment into a family setting where the child learns to perceive this unit as a secure and loving environment, enabling the child to develop as a responsible mature adult, said Mrs. Keneloe Mohafa, manager of adoptions and foster care of the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society.

She said that however, the high rate of unemployment, increased poverty, forced removals and various other situations have caused these networks to break down to a large extent.

"We have a number of willing and caring families especially in the black community who would be prepared to foster children. However these families need to be paid for essentially carrying out the State's duty.

"Given the increased politicisation of our society and all its ramifications the need to support and provide children with responsible, loving environments is becoming ever more urgent," Mrs Mohafa said.

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A SPECIAL UNIT TO FIGHT CHILD ABUSE

Increase in cases reported

SOUTH Africa's first full time specialist police unit to investigate crimes against children was formed in Cape Town yesterday.

The seven-member unit will handle cases involving all forms of child abuse, including rape, battery, incest, sodomy, indecent assault, other sex crimes, pornography and child care act contraventions.

Brigadier Nick Acker, divisional criminal investigations chief for the Western Cape, said the unit would start its duties today.

It is the first unit of its kind in South Africa although similar investigations

have been conducted on a smaller scale in Durban.

Brigadier Acker said the work load of the unit would be studied regularly and, if necessary, the unit would be expanded.

He said the decision to start the unit came after a long-term study of the child abuse problem in the Western Cape.

The squad will be known as the Anti-Child Abuse Unit.

The unit was formed after it was established that there had been an increasing number of child abuse cases reported to the police.

Many SA children sexually abused

Post Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Despite the growing awareness of the sexual molesting of children, one of every four girls and one of every nine boys will be sexually molested before reaching maturity, according to a researcher for the Human Sciences Research Council, Mrs Evanthe Schurink.

She said in Pretoria that although sexual molestation of children was regarded world-wide as a grave social problem, the actual extent of such molestation was not known.

This was because the victim rarely reported the crime, resulting in sexual assault being regarded by social scientists as the "perfect crime".

The child, she said, was generally seen as defenceless, could be bribed easily and was often too shy to report the incident. Most molested children tended to "suffer in silence."

But there were long and short-term effects of such abuse which gave cause for major concern.

These ranged from disturbed eating and sleeping patterns, depression and feelings of guilt and shame, anger and frustration, suicidal tendencies and juvenile delinquency.

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Unit for child abuse busy

CAPE TOWN — Cape Town's new specialist police unit investigating crimes against children has had distress calls from all parts of the country since its launch two weeks ago.

One of the unit's six investigating officers, Sergeant Ina Murison, said that on the day it opened, calls were received from as far afield as Johannesburg, Germiston, Bloemfontein and Port Elizabeth.

Callers were referred to local police and welfare organisations.

The unit has investigated about 63 calls in the Western Cape.

Dockets have been opened on two cases of incest, two rapes and one assault with intent to do grievous bodily harm.

Police are investigating eight other "very big cases", including a child prostitution ring involving parents, sodomy rackets involving gangs of young boys and abuse of mentally retarded children. — Sapa.

'Unacceptable disparity' in grants for foster care

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The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — There is a lack of understanding at government level of the urgent need of funds by child welfare societies, a spokesman for the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society said.

"Addressing a press conference on the serious problems facing the society, the spokesman said: "If we value the children of our country, then we must provide for them now".

The press conference was called to address the foster care and adoption situation in the greater Johannesburg region which has reached critical proportions.

"The problems experienced by the Johannesburg Child Welfare Society need to be urgently addressed as we find ourselves facing situations that are increasingly unacceptable," the society said in a statement.

These problems include a real shortage of foster parents and disparities in State grants, policies and practices.

The state foster care grants provide R79 per child per month to a black foster family whereas coloured parents will receive R123 per child per month and white foster parents R153 per child per month.

In Johannesburg there are 2 118 children in foster care and between 30 000 and 40 000 throughout the country.

"Given these numbers it is evident that the need for a revaluation of the foster care situation is critical," Dr Adele Thomas, the executive director of the society said.

"The disparity in state grants to foster parents is totally unacceptable. What these figures ultimately say is that children of different race groups require different care and we all know that it costs the same to feed, clothe and educate any child.

"The disparity in policy and practice, an example of which is the stopping of foster grants to black foster children at the age of 16 years, are also crucial issues which we cannot ignore," Dr Thomas said.

Dr Thomas said the situation where babies lay in institutions while state departments speculated on their race was reprehensible given the fact that there were parents who were prepared to foster irrespective of the child's race or colour.

"State legislation, policy and practice should ideally be designed to facilitate the rendition of effective services," Dr Thomas said.

'Privatisation: State ends up paying'

Welfare chiefs slam govt plans

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GOVERNMENT plans for the privatisation of child welfare services came under attack from top welfare experts yesterday.

At a conference highlighting the plight of foster children, Johannesburg Child Welfare executive director Adele Thomas said privatisation would further fragment a service already divided along racial lines.

"Privatisation is a means for government to shed its responsibility, but the State will ultimately pay through the prison services, alcoholism rehabilitation services and unemployment."

Referring to government's new welfare policy, details of which are expected later this month, Thomas was sharply critical of the disparity in allowances between different race groups.

"Black foster parents are provided with a State grant of R79, coloureds R123 and whites R153 a month."

Commenting on the State's expressed

HELEN WISHART

intention to narrow the gap in grants for different race groups, residential care manager Jackie Loffell said: "All that can be said for the black-white gap is that it has ceased to increase in the past two years."

She said Budget and Welfare Minister Dawie de Villiers had convened a commission of inquiry into foster care, but his terms of reference included only white children.

"The average work load for a social worker among white families is 54 families, whereas loads for other race groups are commonly 100-200 families."

Child Welfare field work manager Miriam Mazibuko said the financial problem was aggravated because most foster parents were old age pensioners.

"Grants for black children are stopped at 16 years, but only at 18 years for whites."

PRETORIA — About
78.2% of road acci-

UDF member Ngoyi is no stranger to prison cells

Mr Edgar Ngoyi (62), of Port Elizabeth, is one of the "18-monthers" among the thousands detained during the present state of emergency.

President of the Eastern Cape region of the United Democratic Front and a member of the front's national executive, Mr Ngoyi was detained on June 12 1986 when police moved into action in pre-dawn swoops before the nation was even aware emergency rule had been imposed again.

At the time he was taken he had already been charged with the murder of a member of the Azanian People's Organisation and was on bail of R50 000.

Early this year Mr Ngoyi was acquitted. Evidence was that he was not at his house when the young man was killed.

But his acquittal did not mean he could go free. His detention under the emergency continued. Some months later the State attempted to challenge Mr Ngoyi's acquittal but failed.

JOINED ANC

Mr Ngoyi joined the African National Congress more than a decade before it was banned and eventually became chairman of the Port Elizabeth branch.

When the ANC was outlawed, Mr Ngoyi was one of those who decided to associate himself with its underground military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe. He was detained in 1961 and sentenced to 17 years on Robben Island.

Having served his sentence, he returned to his home town and became a central figure in the Port Elizabeth Black Civic Organisation (Pebo) — the first of the civic associations that were to become the backbone of adult participation in community struggles countrywide.

Mr Ngoyi has suffered physical injury and threat during his involvement in Pebo and the UDF. His house was petrol bombed and he was injured during the violence between UDF and alleged Azapo supporters in 1985.

He was also injured in police shooting in the area during the same year. In the 1985/86 state of emergency he spent four months behind bars.

By Jo-Anne Collinge

At least 210 children in the Transvaal and Free State have spent some time in detention cells since the renewal of the state of emergency on June 11 this year, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee estimates.

The number of detainees under the age of 18 years is based on the records of its Johannesburg advice office and mainly reflects what is happening in the PWV area, although a small number of cases from the rural areas is also recorded, according to a spokesman for the organisation.

She stressed that DPSC file

Emergency detainees are political prisoners, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee continues to assert, despite the claim to the contrary by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

If these detainees were common criminals who had committed demonstrable offences they would surely be charged forthwith under the Criminal Procedure Act, which guarantees the right to a prompt court appearance to the rest of society, the organisation argues.

The fact that some detainees are ultimately charged — perhaps after six or 10 months in the cells — does not change the political nature of the initial incarceration, the DPSC argues.

Promptness of appearance in court is of the essence — and even where detainees are ultimately convicted of common law or security offences this does not detract from the political nature of the initial detention.

In those cases where the delayed charges are simply dropped after several preliminary appearances in court or where the former detainee is acquitted, they serve merely to put a gloss of criminality on a fundamentally political arrest, the committee argues.

The position is underscored where people are detained even after acquittal on criminal charges by a court. Perhaps the most celebrated of these

210 children held since June 11, claims DPSC

information was based on information obtained from lawyers, detainees and from families and friends of detainees.

"In the nature of things it cannot be 100 percent accurate — we are not always informed of releases. But our figures reflect the overall pattern and we believe they are as accurate as any organisation outside of the Government can record."

She stressed that many cases where there was insufficient information had been excluded

from the analysis and that the number might well be higher than 210.

By the last week in November, 44 percent of children who were detained during the third state of emergency were still in the cells, the DPSC estimated. In plain figures this means 96 children, mainly from the PWV area.

The latest figures released by Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok put the national total at 69 children in the cells

as at the first week in October. This figure was given shortly after the release of 41 children.

The fact that the DPSC figure is considerably higher than statistics provided by Mr Vlok is partly explained by the fact that the DPSC records ages at the time of detention and does not adjust them as birthdays are spent in the cells.

One in four children known to the DPSC has been charged on release from detention. A larger

proportion — about one in three — is released without being charged. Among this last group are three 13-year-olds, seven 14-year-olds and 13 who were aged 15 when detained.

Most of the trials relating to children charged at the end of detention were still in progress at the time the DPSC report was compiled — late November. Although no clear ratio of acquittals to convictions has yet emerged, there were already 12 cases featuring acquittals or

withdrawal of charges. Only one conviction had been registered. Arson and public violence were the most frequently noted charges. Three children were known to be accused of attempted murder and two of murder.

● The DPSC Johannesburg office did a separate analysis of the length of detention of young people still in the cells during the third state of emergency. This count included 18-year-olds and is not quite a report on "children". It was found that not less than 57 percent of the 132 young people surveyed had spent more than a year in detention.

At 34 — a quarter of his life spent behind bars

Amos Masondo, just 34 years old, has spent almost a quarter of his life behind bars — and 16 months of this has been accounted for by detention under the 1986/87 emergency.

Mr Masondo, who has been detained six times in all, currently holds the position of publicity secretary of the Soweto Civic Association.

His full-time occupation is that of a trade union organiser. He was associated with the General and Allied Workers' Union, rising to the position of general secretary of Gawn before it disbanded in accordance with the Cosatu's policy of consolidating industrial unions.

He was taken into custody about six weeks into the second state of emergency. He had only had four months' respite after spending the whole of the seven-month 1985/86 emergency behind bars.

INCITEMENT

The reasons given by the Ministry of Law and Order for his detention relate to his role as Soweto Civic Association publicity secretary.

"This is a group of radical blacks responsible for organising and implementing alternative structures in Soweto to undermine and replace the official State and community structures."

"Mr Masondo also addressed several meetings and incited those present to resist State authority and to inaugurate 'street committees'. These committees are unofficial structures intent on undermining and replacing official State and community structures."

Mr Masondo's political career started in the student movement of Soweto in the mid-70s as a founder member of the South African Students' Movement (SASM), which was banned in 1977.

Mr Masondo was national organiser of SASM at the time of his first detention in 1975. Conviction for African National Congress activities followed and he served a five-year sentence on Robben Island.

Mr Masondo played a key role in the formation of the Transvaal region of the United Democratic Front.

'Detainees are political prisoners'

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Emergency detainees are political prisoners, the Detainees' Parents Support Committee continues to assert, despite the claim to the contrary by the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok.

If these detainees were common criminals who had committed demonstrable offences they would surely be charged forthwith under the Criminal Procedure Act, which guarantees the right to a prompt court appearance to the rest of society, the organisation argues.

The fact that some detainees are ultimately charged — perhaps after six or 10 months in the cells — does not change the political nature of the initial incarceration, the DPSC argues.

Promptness of appearance in court is of the essence — and even where detainees are ultimately convicted of common law or security offences this does not detract from the political nature of the initial detention.

In those cases where the delayed charges are simply dropped after several preliminary appearances in court or where the former detainee is acquitted, they serve merely to put a gloss of criminality on a fundamentally political arrest, the committee argues.

The position is underscored where people are detained even after acquittal on criminal charges by a court. Perhaps the most celebrated of these

Vlok thinks not, but won't charge them

— DPSC

cases is that of Edgar Ngoyi (62), United Democratic Front Eastern Cape president, who was cleared of murder early this year and but who is still behind bars under the emergency.

The DPSC says the reasons given for detentions are not a reliable indication of the fate of a detainee. There are children alleged to have committed most serious crimes who are released without charge.

And there are those who appear to be detained purely on the grounds of their association with particular organisations, who may remain in detention long after alleged killers walk free.

The following is a selection of reasons given by

tion officer for the Transvaal region of the United Democratic Front at the time of his detention.

He was apprehended at Jan Smuts Airport on day one of the 1986 emergency as he was about to fly to Harare to deliver two lectures at the University of Zimbabwe.

Mr Suttner is the co-author of the book "30 Years of the Freedom Charter" — which the Publications Appeal Board found did not justify banning. He has also written many articles for publication in local and international journals.

After completing his law degree

at Cape Town (where he served on the SRC) and doing further research in London, he returned to Natal and operated as an underground member of the African National Congress for four years and was sentenced in 1975 to more than seven years' jail for this.

It was after he had served his sentence that he was appointed a researcher at the University of the Witwatersrand in 1983. He became involved in overt political activity through the UDF in the same year.

Mr Suttner is held in high regard by both his political associates and

professional colleagues.

His supervisor for his PhD thesis is Professor Marinus Wiechers of the University of South Africa, who is on record as saying: "He avoids cheap controversy in order to get to the core of the matter. During my experience of post-graduate students, I have met few who have brought as much dedication and integrity to bear on their studies."

The UDF-affiliated Johannesburg Democratic Action Committee says Mr Suttner has "untiringly encouraged a style of work where discipline, democracy and accountability are of utmost importance."

tures with alternative ones." Mr N was not charged.

● In relation to a 17-year-old, alleged to be a member of the Azanian Students' Movement (Azasmo), the Ministry stated quite definitely in September this year that he had stolen a car. He had been in detention more than a year by that stage, but had not yet been charged. The Ministry also claimed that Azasmo aimed to "undermine and eventually replace existing State and community structures" and that the youth in question had participated in bus and consumer boycotts.

● Another Munsterville 16-year-old is alleged to have committed a whole string of criminal acts, according to the Ministry's reasons for detaining him. He participated in the "People's Court" by taking minutes and stambooking people in fulfilment of "sentences" passed on them, the letter says. He enforced the consumer boycott by destroying goods purchased at white stores, it adds.

He is also alleged to have helped set a bus and a minibus lorry alight. Although the boy, said to be a member of the Munsterville Youth Congress, was detained for 14 months he was released without charge.

'INVOLVEMENT' IS REASON ENOUGH

There are cases where the reasons given are followed through by charges consonant with this information. For instance, where detainees are said to have been involved in "necklacing" or burning people, there have been murder prosecutions. The granting of bail varies from case to case — sometimes it is set as low as R300 and in other instances the Attorney-General may issue certificates preventing the court from even considering granting bail.

There are also people, against whom there is no allegation of violence, but where involvement with certain organisations or community campaigns is reason enough for sustained detention without trial. Mr MKV is one such person. He was "actively involved in the founding of the Parents, Teachers and Students' Association. This is an organisation intent on implementing 'People's Education', reads the list of reasons for his detention.

"He also propagated stay-away action. He was furthermore actively involved in the Detainees' Support Committee with the purpose of politicising the youth. By his actions he undermined the maintenance of public order and the termination of the state of emergency."