Dispute rages over eviction of families from mine hostel

About 150 families who had been temporarily accommodated at a mine hostel in Roodepoort were yesterday evicted after four months of unsuccessful appeals to extend their stay while they arranged alternative accommodation.

The Star was told that Durban-Roodepoort Deep Gold Mine security staff began removing the families' belongings at about 7.30 am yesterday.

A meeting which residents had arranged for 10 am to pray that the eviction would be averted did not take place.

Dumping

Eric Ntshingila, president of Vulindlela United Communities of South Africa (Vucosa), which was created to help the homeless, said yesterday his organisation was arranging alternative accommodation at Poortjie near Lenasia where the TPA was developing a squatter area.

The homeless people alleged that the mine's management was dumping their belongings in open veld near Dobsonville, refusing to give them enough time to arrange alternative accommodation.

A spokesman for the mine said the homeless had been occupying the hostel illegally and did not co-operate when several attempts were made to resolve the problem.

The spokesman said the mine had obtained a court order to evict the illegal occupants in order to proceed with plans to revamp the hostel to accommodate its staff.

Evicted people say:

The mine gave them temporary accommodation in May for an unspecified period, although they were not employees of the mine.

They said a man called Mack Morebudi had arranged the accommodation on their behalf.

However, they did not know the details of the agreement entered between Mr Morebudi and mine management.

Mr Morebudi — who had been charging each family R120 rent a month for two and three-roomed family units — disappeared in August when they first received eviction notices.

Residents have since learnt that he has moved to Botswana.

Mine management says:

About 300 homeless people had been occupying the hostel illegally.

A man called Mack Morebudi approached management about 10 months ago.

He made a proposal to buy the hostel with the aim of establishing a small business centre which would also accommodate families.

Although Mr Morebudi did not obtain permission, the homeless people started occupying the hostel illegally.

Mr Morebudi subsequently disappeared.

Numerous attempts to solve the problem with the homeless had been unsuccessful and no meaningful proposals had been advanced by the homeless.

The mine has received no monies from Mr Morebudi or the homeless.

He ain't heavy ... a frustrated father carries his son as fellow evicted residents plead for more time to arrange alternative accommodation. Picture. George Mashinini
Action on accord

THE Greater Soweto Accord of a month ago kicks off with a programme of action this week involving residents, black and white councils, the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Regional Services Council.

The programme is intended to dismantle apartheid structures at local government level and improve services in greater Soweto.

Pamphlets outlining the December 4 agreement are being delivered to every household in the area.

The accord, brokered by Chamber chairman Frederik van Zyl Slabbert, ended the greater Soweto boycott of rent and service fees.

Actions to improve municipal services—linked to an increased miscellaneous service charge for residential units of R55 from the beginning of this month—have been agreed. Attempts will be made to involve Roodepoort and other white local authorities in the accord.

Negotiations to co-ordinate the budgets of the local authorities and the Regional Services Council will begin in February. — Sapa
Dream comes true for Residents of Rivertown

"The dream of learning to ride a bicycle was not far off. The thought of being able to ride a bicycle in the middle of the road was exciting."

The town of Rivertown was known for its unique and picturesque setting. The residents were excited to see the new bicycles being delivered by the town council. The bicycles were a gift from the city council to the residents as a token of appreciation for their hard work and dedication.

The residents were overjoyed to receive the bicycles. They were eager to ride them and explore the town. The bicycles were designed for both adults and children, making it a perfect gift for everyone.

The town council had arranged for the bicycles to be delivered to the residents' homes. The residents were thrilled to receive the bicycles and were looking forward to spending time outdoors, exploring the town, and having fun with their families.

The delivery of the bicycles was a joyous occasion for the residents of Rivertown. They were grateful to the city council for their gesture and were eager to begin their new adventure on two wheels.
Jo’burg civic association wants action from council

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The Civic Association of Johannesburg (CAJ) says it is impatient to see concrete results from the agreements reached in the closing weeks of 1991 in the multiracial Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

CAJ, which includes civic bodies from Soweto and Ennerdale in the south to Alexandra in the north, intended “mobilising its constituency” to achieve change in the way services were planned and administered at local and metropolitan levels, said general secretary Cas Coovadia.

With the first chamber meeting of the year due to take place tomorrow, Mr Coovadia expressed a sense of achievement about the agreements reached between the civics and various local and provincial bodies in the chamber last year.

CAJ’s expectations of the chamber were that:

● The in-principle agreement to transfer rental and leased housing stock in Soweto to full ownership of the present occupants would be rapidly implemented.

● White local authorities would take crucial strides to alleviate problems in the townships.

“This includes the central involvement of Johannesburg City Council in Soweto. It also includes the incorporation of Ennerdale and Lenasia South within the responsibility of the Johannesburg City Council,” said Mr Coovadia.
Water cut looms
Residents of Heidelberg's Ratanda township face a total water supply cut unless they pay R150 000 by tomorrow. The chief executive officer of the Ratanda Town Committee, DJ van Rensburg, appealed to residents to pay their current accounts monthly to ensure provision of services. (27)
Civic body, Jo'burg council slug it out

At the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber meeting on Tuesday, Emmerdale Civic Association members and the Johannesburg City Council accused each other of lying.

Chamber chairman Dr Van Zyl Slabbert had to intervene during the heated exchange and forbid further discussion of the issue as the chamber was not aware of all the facts.

Emmerdale civic chairman Clifford Smith accused the council of arrogance in not addressing its problems. He said the council had called in police and security officers to evict people on Tuesday.

Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said Mr Smith had not mentioned the true facts to the chamber. He said an agreement had been reached with the civic association in May to try to resolve the housing crisis in the area.

Emmerdale residents owe the city council about R6 million in rent arrears.

An arbitrator was to be appointed to investigate which houses were structurally unsound, but Mr Davidson said the civic, which was supposed to ratify the agreement with its members, had never come back to the council.

Mr Smith said it was very traumatic for families to be evicted from their homes. The council had still not attended to a memorandum handed in a month ago by protesting residents, he added.

Mr Davidson said a meeting with the civic would be held next week. Mr Smith said he had not been informed about the meeting.

Dr Slabbert said that no matter how sympathetic he was to residents' problems, the chamber was not the place for discussion on such issues.
Group denies hand-in squatter poster blitz

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) has denied that it released a derogatory poster urging violence against the Zevenfontein squatters in the Dipekop area.

The posters, depicting a group labelled "Greenbelt" shooting at caricatures of President de Klerk, ANC president Nelson Mandela and the Zevenfontein squatters, were plastered throughout the area on Tuesday.

The poster campaign is the latest in the controversy surrounding the proposed relocation of the squatters.

"The poster, which has the name 'Greenbelt' prominently on it, is an incoherent, semi-literate attempt to raise emotions over the issue of squatting. We condemn it unreservedly," said GAG chairman Anthony Dugan.

GAG is conducting negotiations with the TPA over plans to relocate the squatters in the Greenbelt area north of Johannesburg and Sandton and outside Midrand. — Staff Reporter
Dobsonville objects to rent increases

More than 1 000 Dobsonville residents yesterday rejected the rent increases introduced by the Central Witswatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

Mr Jeff Seitschro, branch secretary of the Azanian People's Organisation, and the meeting addressed what he termed the unreliability of electricity bills, the controversial community fund started by the Dobsonville municipality as well as the role of the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber.

"We resolved to reject the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber-sponsored Greater Soweto Agreement for reaching a binding conclusion without the involvement and knowledge of residents," he said.

He said the meeting also resolved to continue challenging the constitution and the morality of payments to the metropolitan council of the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber.

The residents also demanded that an investigation into the irregularity of electricity bills be launched and that payment of the community fund of R5 a unit a month be stopped, he said.

Seitschro said another meeting will be held on January 26 to call upon the signatures of the Greater Soweto Accord to explain the constitution and the morality of payments to the DRC.

The rate a figure for services charges, instead of R55.

By MZIMASI NGUDLE
Water cuts

WATER supply to some areas in Soweto will be shut down today and Thursday. The areas are Baragwanath Hospital, Diepkloof, Lenosi Centre, Power Park and Orlando East.

City engineer Mr PF Gunn said, water supply pressure in Diepkloof and Orlando East would be low from today to January 18.
Residents get month's reprieve

By MONK NKOMO

New municipal tariffs for Atteridgeville, which were to be implemented next month, will now come into effect on March 1.

Local Administrator Mr. Marius Nel, speaking at a press briefing, said the new tariff hike had been postponed because the Atteridgeville Town Council had not yet started reading meters in the township.

The city councils of Pretoria and Atteridgeville, the TPA, the Pretoria Regional Services Council, the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation, the Interim Committee and the Atteridgeville Chamber of Commerce agreed on December 13 last year, that residents of metered houses would pay an average of R113 and those without meters R103 a month from February 1.

Nel said residents with metered houses would pay for electricity consumed, Council employees would start with meter readings this week.

The chairman of the Regional Services Council, Mr. Piet Delport, announced that the meeting with the participating organisations, scheduled for yesterday to discuss new site service charges for Atteridgeville, had been postponed to February 12.

The parties will also discuss the possibility of installing prepaid meters in the township on February 15.

“Each resident can buy his electricity and monitor the consumption. We encourage residents to accept this system,” he added.

Delport said the RSC would pay for the installation of meters.
Ratepayers favour DP plan for army to patrol suburbs

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A proposal to call in the army to patrol Johannesburg suburbs to curb crime has been strongly supported by ratepayers and businessmen.

In a snap survey conducted by The Star among shopkeepers, residents and city councillors, almost all interviewed were in favour of the proposal mooted by Democratic Party MPs.

There were, however, some reservations about the long-term effect on the community.

MPs Peter Soal and Tony Leon have delivered a memorandum to Prime Minister and Home Affairs Minister, requesting that more police be stationed in the northern suburbs.

In the memorandum, MPs say the plan is only a short-term measure and that a more permanent solution is needed.

A Rosebank chemist said she was in favour of more law enforcement officers, whether in uniform, on foot or horseback.

"We'll even give them a chair to sit outside our shop. Maybe then people will feel safe to come back and shop in Rosebank again," she said.

Eighty-year-old Jose Kennedy says she has fought off muggers in The Mews, Rosebank, shopping centre parking lot several times and is all for the army being called in. "The police are overworked and there are just not enough of them," she said.

Jeweller Dick Malan, of crime-plagued Hillbrow, believes it is a good idea to use national servicemen in the suburbs, but is concerned about the training they would receive.

"It's a first-class idea," says Josh Sevel. "The more protection we get, the safer I will feel. I've been mugged twice already and I'm afraid."

Street vendor Levy Motloutsa said SADF patrols were a good idea as the high crime rate made people afraid at work and at home.

Not in favour of the plan are Colin Petersen and Lotti Gwanda, who believe that using army recruits to do police work could lead to friction and more problems.

Most ratepayers' associations and their residents felt they were in such a desperate situation that any form of increased law enforcement would be acceptable as an interim measure.

Northern Areas Group chairman Tony Challeger, who represents 18 northern associations, said that anything which could be done immediately to address the situation would be welcomed.

Westdene, Auckland Park, Richmond and Melville Ratepayers Association chairman Wendy Potgeiter said she could accept the plan if it were on the basis of national servicemen serving in their areas as a back-up to police.

Kensington ratepayers chairman Jane O'Connor-Bailey said national servicemen should be allowed to serve as police reservists.

Hillbrow councillor Desiree Simpson has for many months called for the army to intervene in her suburb.

She is holding a march on Saturday to protest against the situation in Hillbrow and to call for increased law enforcement.

Conservative Party opposition leader in the Johannesburg City Council, Jacques Theron, said one needed a fully staffed police force that did its job properly in the long term. The army was not the solution.

A Johannesburg City Council subcommittee investigating ways to get more law enforcement officers on the streets is due to report back to the management committee in two weeks' time.
New bid to control greenbelt area

By Shirley Woodgate

Plans by the Transvaal Provincial Administration to establish an arc of "squatter" camps north of Johannesburg have triggered applications for the establishment of a new local authority for the area between Randburg, Midrand and Hartbeesfontein.

Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder, who is chairman of the newly formed Garden Triangle Action Group (the newest applicant), said the land was predominantly under the control of the former Peri-Urban Board for the Development of Rural Areas.

The application, by five "property owner societies", adds yet another claimant to the race for control of the vast agricultural holdings north of the city.

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) has also lodged an application, another is believed to have come from the Muldersdrift area, and it is speculated that Krugersdorp, Randburg and Sandton are planning to expand their northern boundaries.

Motivating the application to the Administrator, Mr van Tonder said the concept of creating squatter camps was unwelcome and outdated.

"Accommodation for workers should be provided near the centre of cities," he added.

"The destruction of nature in the interest of development, the random expansion of towns, and an outright refusal to become a squatter and sewage dumping-ground are among the reasons for the application for a new authority."

"Mr van Tonder said the Garden Triangle Action Group planned to liaise with GAG."

GAG chairman Anthony Duigan said he believed the TPA was looking at the entire region with the aim of expediting the processing of applications for the greater greenbelt area.

"We will liaise with any interested party, including the ANC, the Sevenfontein squatters, the civic associations, and Mr van Tonder's group," Mr Duigan added.
CP threat over squatters

RATEPAYERS in the green belt north of Johannesburg have asked the CP to help fight Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) plans to establish a squatter area in the Diepsloot region.

CP MP Clive Derby-Lewis yesterday vowed to “take action” against the TPA unless the squatters were removed within 24 hours.

The Greenbelt Action Group (Gag) earlier rejected the establishment of the squatter area in North Rand.

Gag chairman Tony Duigan said squatters were pouring into the area despite Transvaal administrator Dane Hough's undertaking to defer a decision on resettling the Zevenfontein squatters at Diepsloot until late this month, The Star reported on Tuesday.

Later Hough said in statement he had given instructions that a further influx of squatters should be prevented.

TPA spokesman Pieter van der Hoven said the issue of the squatters would be discussed at the TPA's executive meeting on Monday.

Derby-Lewis said the CP was waiting to see what the TPA was doing about the squatters. "They must make a decision or we will force them to make it."

Van der Hoven said the TPA had not heard from Derby-Lewis.

Resident Paul Perton said smallholders were concerned about crime in the area.

"There are about 3500 people occupying land illegally and there are no facilities, no sewerage, no water," he said.

The CP had been contacted because local government was not interested in resolving the problem, he added.
By HUBERT MATLOW

Executive Editor

and the battle grows

Erumdale, once a small, quiet town, has become a battleground over the recent decision to expand a housing project. Residents are divided on the issue, with some in favor of the expansion and others against it. The controversy has sparked protests and rallies, with both sides passionately voicing their opinions. The situation continues to escalate, as the town grapples with the challenges of growth and development.

The town of Erumdale is located near the headquarters of the National Association for Community Development. As a result, the organization has taken a strong stance on the expansion, arguing that it will benefit the community. However, many residents are concerned about the impact on their neighborhood.

In the past, Erumdale has been known for its strong community spirit. But the issue of the housing expansion has brought division to the town, with some residents feeling left out. As the debate continues, it remains to be seen how Erumdale will move forward.

The housing project is scheduled to begin construction in the spring. Many are hoping that the controversy will be resolved soon, allowing the town to move forward.

The Erumdale Alliance, a local organization, has promised to work with residents to find a solution. It is hoped that through dialogue and compromise, a resolution can be reached that benefits everyone.
Holy cow!
Clergymen charged with trespassing

By FAY NXUMALO

The state is trying to prove that "the law has no holy cows" by prosecuting 25 church ministers on charges of trespassing, says Anglican Bishop Peter Lee.

Lee was one of three white clergymen who joined a march to the offices of Lekoa town clerk Nicholas Louw to protest an imminent electricity switch-off in the township last winter.

"There was no way we could let them switch off the lights just like that. The situation in the township was volatile and further plunging it into darkness would give the evil powers that prowled in the township free rein," explained the Rev Isaac Koko, who organised the march.

Lee says Louw invited the delegation into his office and "offered tea, armchairs and the use of his telephone to call the state president to intervene in the matter. Nothing really looked amiss."

Lee had to leave on an urgent call after his departure, an official apparently called one of the remaining clergymen and at 4.50pm to inform him that the offices had closed at 4.30pm.

The delegation was busy praying when not police burst into the office and arrested them for trespassing.

Although the local police station is only about 200m away from the town council's offices, the clergymen say they were kept waiting in police vans for more than two hours before they were charged.

In October 1991, four months after the incident, the 25 ministers and six office-bearers of various denominations in the Vaal area were finally charged in court. Their case has since been remanded several times and they will appear in the Sebokeng Magistrate's Court again on Monday.

The Lekoa council's legal advisor would not comment on whether the trespassing charge relates to the delegation having stayed in the offices past closing time.

Says Bishop Lee, pointing out that there is a history of hostility between the Lekoa council and the church, the incident is little more than an act of intimidation and "an exceptionally stupid use of South Africa's legal resources."
Iscor to sell Pretoria houses

ISCOR is to sell 2,000 of its staff houses in Pretoria in a deal which could make the privatised company an estimated R300 million

Mr Alan Robson, manager of the company's Pretoria housing division, confirmed the company had approached about 2,000 employees renting three- and four-bedroom houses in Pretoria and given them the option of buying the houses they were living in.

Complications

He said Iscor had the houses and a further 1,200 flats valued and then offered the houses to employees at about 15 percent below market value.

The flats will not be sold at this stage due to complications in the division of the title deed, he said.

Robson said he could not say "for sure" whether houses not acquired by tenants would be offered to the general public.

The houses are in Wespark and Kwaggasrand.
City surplus may be wiped out by debts

The Pretoria City Council closed the 1990/91 book year with a surplus of R14,8 million, but nearly all of this could be wiped out if debts owed by Atteridgeville and Mamelodi are not paid.

According to the report of the city treasurer tabled before the management committee this week, the council's total income was R1 119 365 641 while the total expenditures were R1 104 476 589, leaving the council with a "profit" of R14,8-million for the book year.

However, nearly all of this - R14,6-million - could be wiped out if debts owed by the two townships were not paid.

The report indicated that the amounts owed by the city councils of Atteridgeville and Mamelodi for electricity, water and sewerage services and diverse items, were R6,2 million and R8,4 million respectively.

Written off

If these amounts could not be collected, and the higher authorities did not stand in for them, then they would have to be written off against the council's income.

However, taking into account the accumulated surplus of R31 222 902 carried over from the previous year, transfers to reserves and settlements made, there was an unapplied surplus of R37 482 928 as on June 30, 1991.

The council's financial statements for the financial year 1990/91 were audited by a firm appointed by the Auditor-General and the management committee recommended that the council take cognizance of the statements.
to the townships

BY BEATTIE BOWER

Eskom employees

Between 2017 and 2019, the cost of electricity doubled.

The cost of electricity, once deemed affordable, became unaffordable. The policy was designed to ensure that everyone had access to electricity. However, the cost of generating electricity has increased significantly, leading to higher electricity bills for consumers.

Eskom has implemented several measures to address this issue. These include:

1. Increasing the demand response program to encourage consumers to reduce their electricity usage.
2. Implementing new tariffs to reflect the cost of generation.
3. Investing in new infrastructure to ensure a stable supply of electricity.
4. Encouraging consumers to use energy-efficient appliances.

Despite these efforts, the cost of electricity remains a concern for many South Africans. Eskom is working to find a solution that ensures access to electricity while also managing the costs.

In conclusion, the rise in electricity costs is a complex issue that requires a balanced approach. Eskom is committed to finding a solution that benefits all consumers.

Reference:

SAP says it will not act to evict greenbelt squatters

POLICE would not move people out of the greenbelt north of Johannesburg, but would maintain a presence, SAP spokesman Col Frans Malherbe said yesterday.

The TPA had earlier assured the Greenbelt Action Group, which is objecting to plans to establish a squatter belt in the area, that further influx of people would be prevented.

The police had been approached to turn would-be squatters away.

The TPA executive committee would discuss the matter at a meeting on Monday, the TPA said.

Malherbe said it was the duty of the TPA to move people out of squatter camps "if there are no charges laid, the police do not act. So we will just maintain a presence in case of any problems, until Monday's meeting," he said.

Police and lawyers of the ratepayers would meet today to discuss the squatter problem, he added.

Smallholders in the area have objected to squatters occupying the land.

The action group's chairman Tony Dugan said the problem was that the TPA treated the problem as an "ad hoc" affair.

"This is a national problem which calls for a national strategy," he said.

The issue was complicated by the fact that there was no local authority to take responsibility for resolving the problem in the area, he added.
Rates clash with Jo'burg council looms

Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg ratepayers, particularly in the northern suburbs, are heading for a major confrontation with the city council management committee over demands that the controversial rates increases be scrapped and a new system brought in.

About 50 ratepayers' associations have given the management committee until the end of February to reply to their "proposition 16" open letter presented to the council in November by independent councillor Sam Moss.

A mass meeting will be convened in the next few weeks to address the crisis.

In the open letter drafted last year, ratepayers - led by former Johannesburg city valuer John McCulloch - declared war on the council, stating that no action would be taken if anything was done about the rates increases by the end of January.

Ratepayers demanded that a new valuation roll be in place by July next year and that a sufficient time be given for objections, that from February 1, residential rates be based on those of the previous financial year, plus 10 percent, profit generated by electricity tariffs be limited to 10 percent, and the drop in income by the reduction in rates be offset by controlling costs more strictly.

Management committee chairman Ian Davidson has already indicated that it is impossible to change the budget at this late stage and that the rates structure will not be changed now.

On receiving the letter in November, he said it would be suicidal to accede to the demands. A formal response to the letter is expected at the next council meeting on January 20.

Mr Davidson said last week he was not surprised at the anger directed at the council by ratepayers.

"Local authorities are under siege from their ratepayers. The reason is that there is a feeling of insecurity in this period of transition in this country.

"People obviously need to express that insecurity and local authorities are the nearest to them and that's where they lash out. Some of their grievances may well be legitimate, but some are not."

Mr Davidson said that crime was quite clearly not the responsibility of city councils.

"We are being forced to react to issues such as this and it is also becoming increasingly evident that the Government wants to devolve more responsibility down to us, without giving us the resources."

He said the management committee would certainly not resign.

"Who do they want us to be replaced with? It is very easy to sit on the sidelines and criticise."

Mr McCulloch said the next step was to arrange a mass meeting of ratepayers in Johannesburg.

"We want to report back to all ratepayers I don't know what action we will take, that is for the ratepayers to decide."

\[\text{'Rates clash with Jo'burg council looms'}\]
ANC warns against troops in suburbs

Staff Reporters

The ANC has rejected the Democratic Party's "troops in the suburbs" proposal, saying that using the SADF to supplement the SAP in the quest to curb escalating crime might lead to a backlash.

The ANC's department of information and publicity said the military should be used only to protect the country's borders. "The responsibility of curbing crime lies squarely on the shoulders of the SAP and not the army," said a statement.

Residents have been up in arms about the soaring crime rate, and the Johannesburg City Council's DP-controlled management committee has requested a meeting with Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel to discuss the troops in the suburbs proposal.

Mr Kriel is to meet the management committee later this month to discuss the proposal.

At a weekend press briefing in Saldanha, Mr Kriel would not give any indication of how he would respond, saying he wished to discuss the matter with the city council first.

However, Lieutenant-General Louw Malan, head of the SAP's visible policing division, said the call-up by the SADF of economically active civilians to perform duties related to crime prevention did not appear to be a viable proposition.

The ANC statement blamed escalating crime on the Government.

"Most crime explosions, not only in Hillbrow but in other residential areas as well, are a result of the Government's disastrous economic mismanage-

The ANC condemned what it called the "scum of our society — the criminal element, both black and white, for continuing to cause untold suffering to our people".

It called on the city council to take note of the campaign being conducted to canvass residents' opinions on various problems, including the growing crime rate and the deployment of the army in their area. A meeting would be held where views could be expressed.

The ANC said the SADF had not been trained in the skills of police science, necessary to combat crime. This could result in the use of excessive force and violence.

"In the past, when the army was deployed into residential areas, such a move resulted in unnecessary deaths of civilians."
By Shirley Woodgate and Sapa

The Transvaal Provincial Administration yesterday deferred a decision on the fate of the Zevenfontein squatters until Thursday when all late objections and recommendations will have been considered.

Deputy director-general of Community Development Len Dekker said last-minute representations had been received from several parties and the matter had not been finalised at the first meeting of the executive committee this year.

Yesterday, the ANC, the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) and the Greenbelt Action Group resolved to consider a joint approach over the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatters.

They discussed the proposed TPA plan to resettle the community in the Diepsloot area.

The resettlement is part of a TPA masterplan which entails the possible settlement of low-cost housing camps north of Johannesburg.

The ANC said there had not been sufficient consultation with the communities and interested parties. The issue would now be discussed more widely and a joint approach would be considered.

The proposals were that the Randburg and Sandton town councils had to take responsibility for municipal services in the area, that they had to identify land within their jurisdiction for settling the communities and that both the ANC and CAST had to support the proposals.

The meeting finally resolved to recommend the need for the establishment of a regional local government and housing forum as a matter of urgency.

Amid reports that the squatter community at Zevenfontein had swelled to 8,000, Mr Dekker appealed to Midrand residents not to take the law into their own hands.

It had been decided to investigate the entire issue of demarcating land.

He said some local authorities, including Randburg and Sandton, wanted to extend their boundaries.

Some groups had indicated they wanted to create new local authorities so that they could control their own affairs. These included the Greenbelt Action Group and Boerezaat Party leader Robert van Tonder's group.

All parties had been given until February 29 to make representations, he said.

But this would not affect plans for the Zevenfontein squatters, who would be relocated as soon as suitable land had been identified.
**Drip technician ‘lackadaisical’**

ANDREW KRUMM

A TECHNICIAN could have contaminated drips which allegedly caused the deaths in 1980 of 13 babies, a Johannesburg inquest heard yesterday.

The court was told that during routine quality control tests conducted by drip manufacturer Sabax, technician Allan Davies regularly failed (40% of the time) to exercise the "skills and procedures" required in terms of international norms.

The skills and procedures required of Davies were integral to the company's quality control process, known as project validation, and necessary to maintain sterile conditions during drip production.

Microbiologist Prof Margaretha Isaacson of the SA Institute of Medical Research, who yesterday offered evidence of her investigation into Sabax facilities, labelled Davies "inexperienced" and "lackadaisical". Isaacson said Davies was a potential source of infection.

In her report, Isaacson said "although it was not shown there was a causal connection between Davies' skill and the contaminated products", he should be transferred to "less sensitive duties".

Reviewing quality control tests, attorney Peter Soller, representing 10 of the families who lost babies, said sterile conditions had been compromised on production equipment during testing.

He said bacteria tests done in the cabinet in which the drips were prepared showed contamination.

During cross-examination by advocate Clive Cohen SC, representing Sabax, Isaacson said technicians' skills and procedures were "most important" in guaranteeing the sterility of the end product.

Isaacson criticised Sabax testing procedures, saying neither drip components certified sterile by suppliers nor the Sabax end product were tested for contamination.

However, a body of opinion regarded these tests as unnecessary.

The inquest continues today.

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**Azayo vows to continue its campaigns**

GAVIN DU VENAGE

THE Azanian Youth Organisation (Azayo) would continue to provide visiting artists with a "hot reception", president Thami Mcorwa said yesterday after his release from detention on Monday.

Mcorwa was detained for more than a week in connection with the grenade attack on the offices of the Paul Simon tour management before Simon's first concert two weeks ago.

Mcorwa said his detention under the Internal Security Act was an attempt to intimidate Azayo.

"We will definitely continue to use any means possible to stop the tour," he said last night. "And any other artists can expect not to get kudgloves treatment from us if they come here to make money."

Mcorwa added, however, that Azayo would leave alone artists who contributed to black culture, such as American director Spike Lee, who arrives tomorrow to begin filming Malcolm.

But US rap group Snap, which is planning a visit in a few months, could expect "a hot reception", he said.

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**Whites patrol squatter camp**

白人居民Chartwell on the North Rand has started 24-hour patrols of entrances to the Zevenfontein squatter camp to prevent more people moving into the area.

Chartwell Action Committee chairman Mike Findlay said the committee had been authorised by the owners of the land to exercise control over numbers.

More than 1000 track and bakkie loads of building material had been prevented from entering the camp over the weekend, he said.

Findlay claimed the committee was in contact with squatter leaders and there had been no incidents between the two groups.

Last night a police spokesman could not confirm that a committee had been formed to patrol the entrance, but said police were patrolling the area and all was quiet.

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**Police fired first shots, says AWB**

白人国民保卫军 AWB

白人国民保卫军 AWB
How to Build the ‘Captive Re-Entry’

By Johnnie D. Tillman

We’ll call it AWB to move squatters out.

The problem is how to get these people into a program that will help them become productive citizens.

The solution is to create a "Captive Re-Entry" program that provides a structured environment for them to learn and grow.

We propose the following:

1. **Community Engagement:** Engage local community leaders and organizations to support the program.
2. **Job Training:** Provide job training and placement services to help participants find employment.
3. **Education:** Offer education programs to improve literacy and numeracy skills.
4. **Counseling and Support:** Provide counseling and support services to help participants overcome addiction and mental health issues.

We believe this approach will help reduce recidivism and improve the quality of life for those affected by incarceration.

Let’s work together to create a better future for all.
In search of solutions to the square problem
They're trickling back to Triomf

History is repeating itself, with a bit of a stutter, in Triomf, Johannesburg, tentatively PETER WELLBURN reports

SLOWLY, and often reluctantly, the whites of Triomf are adding a little more black to their slowly growing history. They are welcoming the arrival of middle-class mixed-race residents who are moving into the suburb, not necessarily as they did in the 1980s.

The influx of blacks is seen as a sign of the changing times, and the suburb is now a mix of different cultures.

In the 1980s, the suburb was predominantly white, but over the years, the number of black residents has increased.

Today, Triomf is a diverse community, with people from all walks of life living together.

For instance, a middle-aged lawyer and mother of two, Ms. Thompson, recently moved into the area with her family.

She says the neighborhood has come a long way since she was a child, and she feels proud to be part of this evolving community.

Time for change: new owner Felicity Adam (right) gets the keys from Genna Goncalves

Mr. Mbatha (33) has a BSc degree and is a director in a packaging technology firm. He and his wife, Ntshila, a marketing manager at a software company, bought a house in Triomf last year.

He says the neighborhood is diverse and inclusive, and he and his family feel comfortable living there.

The Mbathas are not alone in their journey towards a more inclusive community. Many other residents have also chosen to make Triomf their home.

The suburb has become a melting pot of different cultures, and people are coming together to build a better future.

For Mrs. Goncalves, the move to Triomf was a significant one. She says the neighborhood has a sense of community and support.

In the past, she says, people were divided by race, but now, everyone is working together to make the area a better place.

The Goncalveses are not the only ones who have chosen to make Triomf their home. Many other families have also made the move, and the neighborhood is now a mix of different cultures and backgrounds.

For those who grew up in the area, the change has been significant. They say the neighborhood has come a long way since they were children, and they are proud to be part of this evolving community.

In conclusion, Triomf is a neighborhood that is embracing change and diversity. People are coming together to build a better future, and the community is thriving.

The Goncalveses are proud to be part of this inclusive neighborhood, and they look forward to raising their family in a place where everyone is welcome.
The South African black builders in emulation of their white colleagues in the construction of houses for the poor in urban areas are building more and more houses for the poor with the aim of improving the living conditions of the people. This is an important development as it helps to reduce overcrowding in townships. However, the number of houses built is still not enough to meet the demand.

For Orange Farm
Low-cost Houses

By Joshua

Civewehla is developing a township like no other in Orange Farm. The area above the new houses is planned for additional homes. In the lower income bracket, other developments have been

PROPERTY
Hani happy in right-wing town

By Esther Wagh
Political Reporter

CAPE TOWN — South African Communist Party chief Chris Hani has moved into the right-wing town of Boksburg — and is getting on famously with his neighbours.

Mr. Hani confirmed he had bought a three-bedroomed house "with a small swimming pool" last month.

He said he had encountered no hostility and received a welcome card from a neighbour this week.

"My youngest daughter, Lindiwe, plays with other children in the street," he said.

Lindiwe attends a private school in Johannesburg while Nomakhezeni (13) is completing her schooling in Lesotho. His eldest daughter, Neo, is a student at the University of Cape Town.

Mr. Hani said his purchase was a sign of hope for the future of the country. "It is my contribution to reconciliation. I have never accepted that all Afrikaners are right wing," he said.
Randburg seeks housing sites

Randburg plans to appoint consultants to investigate sites for the establishment of informal settlements and low-cost housing schemes inside or outside the town's borders, according to management committee chairman Andre Jacobs.

Commenting on the Zevenfontein squatter issue, Mr Jacobs said: "Since we are not yet ready to talk to the TPA about these people, we believe they must be moved to Diepsloot on two conditions."

"One is that all local authorities in the region must urgently investigate how they can contribute to the solution.

"The other is that the TPA must put together a committee consisting of all town and local area committees in the area to draw up an overall housing strategy for low-cost settlements in the region," he said.

Cosmo City had been earmarked as a likely low-cost housing area for Randburg, Maroulalal, east of Kya Sand. Was another possibility.

Sandton management committee chairman Bruce Stewart said only about 1,000 artisans were employed in the town, half of them housed in a hostel in Alexandra.

Within Sandton's borders, the largely undeveloped Frankenwald area had been identified as suitable for affordable housing, and the Johannesberg Metropolitan Action Group had already identified Limbro Park as being suitable for high-density housing.

"No final decision had been taken on the issue," Mr Stewart stressed.
MP warns of
flare-up over
squatting row

By Shirley Woodgate

North Rand MP-Louis de Waal has appealed for calm in the face of threats by the Chartwell North Action Group to call in the Afrikaner Weerstandsbevordering to remove the 650 "squatter" families living illegally in Zevenfontein.

He warned yesterday that "any hasty action will have far-reaching implications which could spark an incident that would make the Ventersdorp clash between police and the AWB look like a picnic.

"A flare-up in that region could also seriously damage the Codesa talks."

In a reference to the possible development of an east/west arc of 13 low-cost villages between Johannesburg and Pretoria, he said "All parties involved in the squatter row in the north-western PWV must accept the principle that low-cost housing must be provided for people who work and live in the area."

He said the only solution to the problem was a compromise. It was now necessary to put the strongest possible pressure on Randburg and Sandton - neither of which had townships where workers employed in the two towns could live - to take responsibility for developing housing schemes in areas accessible to their industrial regions, he said.

"They would have to act in co-operation with the Government, as the agent for land which fell outside the jurisdiction of local authorities.

Mr de Waal said the TPA should be given every opportunity with Randburg and Sandton, together with interested pressure groups and political parties, to establish a workable short-term solution to the Zevenfontein issue.

This group was not typical of all "squatters" since for the past 10 to 20 years about 500 of the people had illegally paid rent of R30 a head to an individual to live on the land.

"The Red Cross estimated that between 65 and 80 percent of the people were employed in nearby Randburg and Sandton. It was a viable community until it was evicted," he said.

After their eviction three months ago, the Zevenfontein "squatters" have been allowed to live on land belonging to a local farmer, but the deadline to move is at the end of this month and the TPA has promised a decision by today on a move to Dipsloot.

Mr de Waal warned that if the TPA dragged its heels over a long-term strategy for informal housing, the north-western PWV could be over-run by an Orange Farm-type situation.

"They could allow rezoning of the agricultural holdings to allow industrial developments to offset the losses incurred by landowners," he said.

It was vital that an acceptable solution be found by keeping all avenues of debate open, he added.
Phalaborwa showdown looms

A SHOWDOWN is looming between right-wingers and the ANC in Phalaborwa, following Tuesday's confrontation between heavily-armed AWB members and local residents.

Bloodshed was narrowly averted when police and business leaders stepped in to mediate between 2,500 residents and about 20 AWB Wenkommando members with rifles, dogs and knives. The confrontation occurred at a taxi rank that the CP-controlled council had previously closed.

Residents, who voted at the weekend to end a four-month consumer boycott, have refused to make use of a new council taxi rank they say is inferior.

ANC northern Transvaal deputy secretary Norman Mashabane said yesterday residents would stage a "defiance march" tomorrow to force the council to meet their representatives and discuss their demands.

Mashabane said residents voted last Sunday to end the boycott because "we are willing to talk to the council" but, following Tuesday's events, he said the boycott would be "considered seriously" again.

He said if residents opted for a renewed boycott it would be used selectively and target only CP-owned businesses. But Mashabane said that few such businesses depended heavily on blacks for custom.

He said residents were demanding the opening of all amenities, including schools and libraries, to all races and "the right to free political expression." He said the council had always acted harshly against any black political activity.

Mashabane also said residents wanted a "Koevoet" military unit and a "Renamo training camp" removed from the area.

Chamber of Business president Manie Kriel said he hoped the ANC would not march in the town as it would lead to unnecessary confrontation.

Kriel accused the AWB of calling in the AWB on Tuesday when it became apparent that demonstrations would not leave the taxi rank.

He said he hoped the situation could be resolved peacefully, as a joint forum consisting of business people, the ANC and the NP had been established to discuss common problems.

He added that the ANC had assured him the boycott would not be reinstated.

Local AWB leader Fritz Meyer refused to comment on Tuesday's events, but described news reports of Tuesday's confrontation as "slanderous and insulting."
New
united
civic
body

By GRACE
RAPHOLO

A NEW Civic organisation representing 11 East Rand townships was launched this week.

The East Rand Civic Association has resolved to formulate a common approach to Government negotiations, campaign for the dismantling of Black Local Authorities and establish single and non-racial democratic cities.

The Civic's spokesman, Mr Abat Nyahunga, said as far as curbing violence in the townships was concerned; they intended working with liberation movements (12*).

Expose

They would also expose perpetrators of violence and defend communities in line with Cast's idea of defence units. Nyahunga said they would also lobby for international support to pressure the State to stop the violence.

He said they would also strive to upgrade existing informal settlements and fight for more land for low-cost housing.
The nice people next door to the Peters in Boksburg are the communist party boss and his wife.
It's power to the people - at last!

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

ELECTRICITY is coming at last to "Nyuyadu", officially known as Extension One, in KwaThema, Springs, on the East Rand.

The area was supposed to have been electrified when the houses were built in 1987. The housing project became the centre of controversy between KwaThema Council and residents when electricity was not supplied.

Council spokesman Ronnie Nkabende has assured residents that about 700 homes would soon have electricity supplied to their boundaries.
Zevenfontein: conflict looms

By MARTIN NTSOELENGOE 24/11/92

A TIME-BOMB is ticking away at Zevenfontein between squatters and landowners.

A violent confrontation in that area grows more likely every day as stand owners from surrounding areas are threatening to physically remove the defiant squatters.

The Diepsloot Residents' Association (Dare) and the Chartwell Action Group (Cag) have more than 1,000 men ready to force the squatters out of the area. A leading member of the Conservative Party, MP Clive Derby-Lewis, confirmed he had sent an ultimatum to the TPA.

Writing on behalf of the "afflicted white residents of the area" through the Chartwell North Action Group, he says "I wish to inform you that unless the Zevenfontein squatters are removed by January 30, 1992, to a recognized black residential area, action will be launched with the express purpose of ridding the area of illegal squatters, whose criminal activities appear to be condoned by the government."

AWB leader Eugène Terre'Blanche confirmed that his organisation had been asked for help.

The 700 squatter families at Zevenfontein camp have been at the centre of a row between the TPA, residents in the area and the Greenbelt Action Group (Gag).

The office of TPA Administrator Dame Hough issued a statement saying the squatters should be resettled by the end of the month in a suitable area and the city councils of Randburg and Sandton would be asked to provide a temporary site.

The TPA added that the families would be resettled in a transit area, where water, sewerage and refuse disposal would be provided.

If negotiations are successful, the TPA would approve the purchase of parts of Diepsloot Farm in terms of the Illegal Squatting Act of 1951.

The TPA executive is to appoint a working group comprising representatives of all concerned parties to evaluate urbanisation.
Residents' patrols in for criticism

South African Neighbourhood Watch has drawn a firm line between itself and various block watch systems which undertake armed patrols.

Throughout the six years of its existence, SA Neighbourhood Watch has been "vehemently opposed to any form of residents' patrolling," said President Gaye Neille.

"We are in existence purely to promote peace and harmony between the peoples of South Africa and to reduce crime in a peace-loving, law-abiding manner," she said.

She added that the organisation enjoyed the co-operation and support of the police.

Mrs Neille condemned members of block watches who took the law into their own hands and urged that such action should be firmly checked by the police.

She expressed particular distress about the fatal assault on a 50-year-old Lawaal Lebela after an altercation about a dog involving some members of a "watch" group at Elandsfontein, south of Johannesburg, about a month ago.

Several members of the Elandsfontein group have also distanced themselves from the fatal confrontation.

Mrs Neille says she and her associates have "an ongoing battle to keep the neighbourhood watches and the block watch separate entities in the public perception".

SA Neighbourhood Watch will hold its annual general meeting at St John's College, Houghton on the afternoon of Saturday, February 29. Minister of Law and Order Hernus Kriel will be the featured speaker and is expected to express his views on block watches, vigilante groups and private armies.
Township service payments still poor

By Helen Grange
Pretoria Bureau

Although service payment boycotts have been lifted in most black townships in the Transvaal, monthly water and electricity payment in scores of townships remains unacceptably poor.

According to the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the situation is constantly in flux, in October last year, only two townships were paying below 80 percent in service tariffs. Yet, in November, 72 townships were paying less than 80 percent.

Negotiations are continuing daily between townships and white local authorities over service grievances, but few concrete resolutions have emerged.

According to Dan Mofokeng of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal, a number of townships are still boycotting service payments. These included the East Rand townships of Katlehong, Tembisa, Etwatwa near Daveyton and KwaThema in Springs.

There was also some boycotting townships in the Western Transvaal.

Negotiations were focused on getting electricity supplied directly from Eskom to the townships – “so that white town councils do not exploit electricity tariffs”, Mr Mofokeng said.

An Eskom spokesman said large Johannesburg townships like Soweto and Alexandra got electricity directly from Eskom – but that there were many still receiving it through white town councils.

Mr Mofokeng said white councils were using switching as a ‘dangling carrot’ to force township communities to pay "astronomical rates.”

The other, more important issue, was that of non-racial local authorities – which had not been properly addressed because the National Party was dealing only with "unrepresentative black town councillors.

"Ultimately, we want the supply of services to be administered jointly by non-racial town councils. The problem of local government should be addressed on a national level, by something like a Code of Working Group," he added.

STAR 27/11/92
Violence feared over Hani's new home

Municipal Reporter 27/11/92

Mr du Toit, who is councillor for Dawn Park, said Mr Hani was not welcome in the suburb and Mr du Toit was worried that his move could lead to violence.

"We are asking him to get out. Tensions are rising here. Many people have telephoned me. I don't want violence in my ward."

"There might be something drastically done to show him (Mr Hani) that we don't want him here."

The HNP acting chairman of Boksburg Town Council management committee, Stephanie Greyling, said she was not against Mr Hani wanting a 'nice house'. "But, I think he should find one in his own community."

Mr Hani bought a three-bedroom house in Dawn Park, a suburb of the town which gained notoriety worldwide for reintroducing petty apartheid.

Mr Hani told The Star earlier that his neighbours had made him very welcome.

CP chief whip in the town council, Andries du Toit, said that, as far as he was concerned, Mr Hani was 'the leader of a terrorist organisation'.

Boksburg town councillors say they fear violence after SA Communist Party general secretary Chris Hani moved into the Conservative Party-controlled town.

Mr Hani told The Star earlier that his neighbours had made him very welcome.
ESkom lights up rural towns

ESKOM has taken over the electrification of two towns previously under the jurisdiction of the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The electrification of Etsazeleni near Wakkenroomb started on January 15 while the Erasmus project (near Amersfoort) is scheduled to start on April 15.

ESkom spokesman Mr Robin Larsen said, “Most of the consumers will receive electricity in terms of S1 tariffs, which require no deposit,” he said.

While a minimum connection fee is charged, there are no reconnection fees and customers will not pay fixed monthly charges. The S1 tariff provides electricity in the home by using a dispensing unit for R30. Customers can convert to the new system at no extra cost - Sowetan Reporter.
A number of the residents were upset from hearing the sound of the engine. Several people gathered around the smokestack, wondering what was happening. A few even brought fire extinguishers, thinking it might be a fire. The smoke was thick and hard to see, making it difficult to determine the source. Some residents called the fire department, while others tried to find a way to turn off the smokestack. The situation was becoming more complicated, and the nearby residents were growing more worried."
No secret merger plan' with Alex

By Jacqueline Myburgh

In an attempt to quell concern among some Sandton residents that councillors were negotiating a secret merger with Alexandra township, the town's management committee chairman, Bruce Stewart, last night announced the formation of an investigation committee into constitutional matters to advise the management committee.

Mr Stewart announced the formation of the committee prior to responding to questions from Councillor Jo Marais concerning rumours of a secret merger between Alexandra, Sandton and Randburg.

Mr Stewart said no meetings to discuss a merger had taken place, adding that the council, public and officials of Sandton would be involved in discussions regarding a future local government dispensation in the region.

He said Sandton and Randburg had discussed the idea of a joint administration and the majority of members agreed the matter should be examined in which new systems of local government could be debated.

In discussions with Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs, it had been agreed to issue a statement.

The statement proposes:

- Informal discussions between Randburg, Sandton and Marlboro Gardens with regard to a joint administration should take place and the benefits be noted.
- Urgent investigation be made by the three management committees into the joint administration of the three towns.
- The management committees be mandated to report back to council on the principle of interim joint administration.
- A consultant be appointed to facilitate the investigation.
Irate Ennerdale residents threaten power workers

By Thabo Leslobo and Monica Oosterbroek

Workmen repairing an underground electricity cable in Ennerdale last night were forced to call for police protection after a group of residents threatened them.

This followed a day of turmoil in the township when more than 30 people were injured after police fired rubber bullets and teargas to disperse a large crowd gathered at the local stadium to attend a meeting on rent and service tariffs.

Ennerdale has been hit by power and water cut-offs for more than a week because of a boycott of rent and service payments by some residents who allege they are being overcharged.

A spokesman for the Ennerdale Local Development Corporation said today that the main power cable had been cut in two areas of the township since early last month.

Tensions remain high in Ennerdale after yesterday's clashes.

One of the victims of yesterday's shooting, 63-year-old Barnard Beuke, suffered a heart attack after being taken into the Ennerdale police station. Paramedics were called and he was taken to hospital, wearing an oxygen mask.

PAC Secretary-General Benny Alexander and 10 others appeared in the Vereeniging Magistrate's Court after the clashes. They were not charged and were released after paying R50 bail each. Charges against another person were dropped.

Warning

Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said Mr Alexander was arrested for "in interfering with the equipment or uniform of a member of the SAP" after trying to disarm police.

Police said they had opened fire with rubber bullets and teargas after residents had failed to heed a warning to disperse an illegal gathering.

A nine-year-old boy was allegedly shot by police when they chased a crowd into the nearby Odine Primary School. Schoolchildren ran out of the classrooms, gagging for air, when police teargassed sections of the school.

A parent, Nels Borman, said the policemen responsible for the incident were travelling in a white minibus, registration SBR108R.

Other residents, including an 86-year-old man, were shot after they had gathered outside the police station demanding that the arrested people be released.

According to Ennerdale and Surrounding Areas Civic Association official Roger McCullough, permission for the meeting was granted by the Ennerdale Local Development Corporation.

However, Captain Opperman said permission to use the local stadium had been refused by the development corporation on Friday and that police were asked to maintain law and order.

ANC leader Ronnie Kasr-

Ennerdale power-line workers threatened

From Page 1

...told the crowd gathered outside the police station that the conduct of the policemen would be brought before the National Police Secretariat.

He urged residents to lay charges against the SAP in accordance with the National Peace Accord.

Yesterday, hundreds of residents stayed away from work to attend a meeting to discuss the rent and services problem.

Angry residents then put up road blocks and tried to frighten commuters away in protest at the police's action.

Ennerdale residents told The Star they did not understand why the police had become involved in a dispute between the community and the local development corporation.

Eileen Daniels, who paid a fifth of her salary every month for lights and water, accused the police of interfering in community affairs and turning a peaceful protest into a violent confrontation.

Henrik Petrus has battled to pay his R250 light and water bill every month from his small tradesman's wage, but said he hadn't fallen into arrears. While at the meeting, in solidarity with the community, he was wounded in the head when police fired rubber bullets into the crowd.

"I tried to run away but so many people were panicking and getting in my way. Next thing, I felt a mighty blow on the back of my head. Then everything went black," Mr Petrus said.

Rommund Motse and Martha Modikoe were hit by bullet shots when they couldn't get out of the firing line fast enough...
Pay us first or go to plazes.
Threat of action over proposal on forums

By Michael Sparks

Civic associations yesterday called for a meeting with President de Klerk to discuss the Government's proposal to suspend national negotiating forums.

The Government proposed the suspension of the negotiating forums last week in the belief that they should come under the auspices of the Convention for a Democratic South Africa.

The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal (CAST) resolved at the weekend to consider mass action to convince the Government to reopen the negotiating forums.

At a press conference in Johannesburg, CAST said it was opposed to the forums being linked to Codesa, where they would have no representation.

A Government spokesman asked for "a full picture of the press conference" in order to give an appropriate response.

CAST general-secretary Dan Mofokeng said that if Codesa would have to deal with issues such as water and electricity — some of the most crucial aspects handled by civics — services could be further delayed.

"If we have to wait for sufficient, consensus on these issues, they will have to wait a long time for services. This is holding people to ransom," CAST chairman Moses Maledi said. "Codesa will not negotiate economic issues, the bread and butter issues."

He added that CAST had instructed affiliated organisations to consider whether to take mass action and, if so, what form it should take.
Cast rejects the scrapping of talks

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal yesterday rejected the Government's scrapping of all national negotiation forums in preference to the Convention for a Democratic South Africa.

Addressing a news conference in Johannesburg, Cast president Mr Moses Mayekiso said they were opposed to housing, health, education, electricity and socio-economic negotiations being made a sub-committee of Codesa. This was because civic organisations, trade unions and other social organisations were not represented at Codesa.

"Codesa has nothing to do with socio-economic issues and must only focus on constitutional negotiations."

Mayekiso said Cast's general council over the weekend had resolved to embark on a mass action campaign to force the Government to reverse its decision on national negotiation forums.

A document which Cast claimed was circulated at a National Housing Forum meeting stated: "In terms of preference, the Government will first put its proposal on transitional government before the Codesa working committee dealing with transitional measures and in the light of this, the Government does not see fit to negotiate forums at this stage."

"The Government's standpoint is that Codesa is the negotiating structure in South Africa for the new constitution and transitional arrangements."

The document proposed that the working committee of the National Housing Forum suspend its work until Codesa took a decision on transitional government.

"It should be stressed though that this approach in no ways affects the Government's participation regarding the hostel initiative," the document states.

The document also referred to an apparent statement by the Minister of Local Government, Natural Resources and Public Works, Mr Leon Wessels, in November 1991, to the effect that the Government would not allow an interim government by stealth.
Chris Hani now a Boksburger

Louise Burgers

Johannesburg — Tensions are rising in Boksburg and town councilors fear violence after SA Communist Party general-secretary Chris Hani moved into the Conservative Party-controlled town.

Mr Hani recently bought a three-bedroomed house in Dawn Park, a suburb of the town which gained notoriety worldwide for reintroducing petty apartheid.

Mr Hani told the Weekend Argus sister-newspaper, The Star, that his neighbors had made him very welcome. The police chief in the town council, Mr Andre du Toit, said that as far as he was concerned, Mr Hani was the leader of a terrorist organization.

Mr Du Toit, who is councillor for Dawn Park, said Mr Hani was not welcome in the suburb and he was worried that this move could lead to violence.

"We are asking him to get out. Tensions are rising here. Many people have telephoned me; I don't want violence in my ward."

"The whole attitude of the right wing will change this year from waiting for elections to a much more aggressive attitude."

"There might be something drastically done to show him (Mr Hani) we don't want him here," warned Mr Du Toit.

The Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) acting chairman of the Boksburg Town Council management committee, Mrs Stephanie Greyling, said she was not against Mr Hani wanting a nice house, "but I think he should find one in his own community."

Mrs Greyling is afraid of violence in the suburb and of the community taking over. "I hope the government will come to its senses before something breaks down," she said.

"The former controversial CP Mayor of Boksburg, Mr Festus de Klerk, said Mr Hani obviously had realized a house in Boksburg was a safe investment as it was conservative and safe, not "in chaos" like Hillbrow and Johannesburg.

Councillor "Klein-Kop", van der Merwe said he was too busy preparing for the revolution to worry about Mr Hani's "childish" actions.

"We are preparing for a revolution, to take back everything and we are only concerned about getting our own white homeland."

"(Mr Hani is a puppet on a string of the ANC and the Communist Party.) He's just another terrorist and if it makes him happy to stay there and he can pay the bill, let him. Dawn Park is almost black anyway. I just feel sorry for the whites living there."
Squatters move to go-ahead

THE Zevenfonteins squatters will almost certainly be moved to the Diepsloot farm at the end of this week — the TPA’s deadline for the move.

The last resort open to the TPA to avoid a potentially confrontational situation has failed as both Sandton and Randburg councils said yesterday they would be unable to accommodate squatters this week.

Residents near Diepsloot said yesterday they all had jobs and the fears of the local residents were unfounded.

A TPA spokesman confirmed yesterday that the squatters would be moved to Diepsloot as a suitable site had not been found for them elsewhere. Diepsloot residents insist it is the prerogative of Randburg and Sandton councils to find houses for the squatters, as many are employed there.

The spokesman emphasised the move was temporary and said the squatters would stay at Diepsloot until the end of March, by which time a working group comprising representatives from the TPA, local councils, the Metropolitan Chamber, residents’ associations and the squatters have identified sites in the North Rand area suitable for “permanent urbanisation”.

Sandton Council spokesman Darius van Wyk said yesterday the council would not come up with any alternative sites for the squatters before the end of the week. And a spokesman for Randburg council said it was unlikely that space would be provided for the squatters by the end of the week, although the council was investigating possible locations for housing sites.

GAG is having a meeting tomorrow night to decide what to do about the issue. Meanwhile, local residents have been saying in private that they want barricades to be set up against the TPA trucks moving the squatters in on Friday, and that they will try to convince GAG to support this action.
**Ladysmith tension defused**

By Bronwyn Wilkinson

Police and community leaders in Ladysmith held a crisis meeting yesterday to try to defuse the tension that has gripped the town since last Monday's massacre in which nine people died and 19 were injured.

The tension and hostility were aggravated last Friday by an axe attack on two white boys, believed to have been in retaliation for the massacre.

Town Clerk Pieter Hurter described the meeting as a success.

He said delegates — who included police and unionists as well as religious and political leaders — had cleared up their misunderstandings about the two attacks and about the alleged VIP treatment given to mass killer Kallie Delport (34) while in police custody.

"The police told the meeting that Mr Delport had eaten the same food as the other prisoners, that he was held under an armed guard and that he had showered at the only shower, which is in the single quarters," Mr Hurter explained.

He said the belief that the weekend axe attack was in retaliation for the massacre on Monday had also been dispelled.

"The police assured the meeting that, according to their investigations, there was no connection between the two events," he said.

Once the misunderstandings had been cleared up, he said, the tense atmosphere had visibly cleared.

Cosatu and political organisations are due to hold meetings today.

Mayor Ruston Muller said delegates had appealed to the community to refrain from any action which could aggravate the situation.
Uneasy calm as Ennerdale discredits Boycott

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As Ennerdale discredits Boycott
Ennerdale is tense but calm

By Isaac Moleli

Ennerdale was tense but calm yesterday after bitter confrontation between police and residents on Monday which left many people injured.

More than 30 people were injured, six of them seriously, after police fired rubber bullets and teargas to disperse about 3,000 residents who were protesting against electricity and water cuts.

Police allegedly blocked residents from entering Ennerdale Stadium to hold a protest meeting despite having been granted permission to do so last December.

The meeting was organised by the Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association.

The area has been experiencing electricity and water cuts since last week because a joint technical committee (negotiating forum) consisting of a development committee, priests and Esca could not agree on tariffs.

Esca chairman Mr Clifford Smith accused the development corporation of charging residents high rental and tariffs even though meters in some areas were tested and found to be faulty.
New march planned on Phalaborwa

By MATHATHA TSEDI

TENSION has eased in Phalaborwa following the Saturday incidents in which 109 people were arrested for attempting a march on the town.

And with the old taxi rank that had unsuitable toilets still barred, local black leaders said yesterday a march was being planned for next week Saturday after which a decision on renewing the boycott will be taken.

One of the boycott committee members, Mr Eric Ngobeni, said a meeting at Lulekani township on Sunday had decided that the leadership look at ways of forcing the "conservative boers in the town to toe the line."

Barbed wire

Matters came to a head last week when the town council unilaterally closed a taxi rank and told people to use a new one that had no toilets. This angered the residents, who decided on a march in the town and the forceful use of the closed rank with barbed wire.

It was during the attempted march that police rounded up 109 people, 25 of whom were arrested and charged for disturbing the peace. They were fined R30 each.

Ngobeni said options open to the community included a stayaway and renewing the boycott which was lifted last week after running for four months. Ngobeni however disputed reports in a newspaper yesterday saying the boycott had been reimposed.

"We have applied for a permit to march in the town to protest against several things. The outcome of the march and whether it takes place at all, will determine the next course of action. But for now, we are waiting for the magistrate to indicate whether the permit is granted," Ngobeni said.

The town is controlled by the Conservative Party and the local AWB members have been infuriated not only by the boycott, but also by the move into formerly white areas of several blacks employed by the Phalaborwa Mining Company.

Two of the people who have moved into town have been attacked and their properties damaged.
Peace talks

TWO western Cape taxi organisations, the Lagunya taxi association and the Western Cape Black Taxi Association, yesterday began negotiations to end an 18-month feud.

Crisis meeting

ENNERDALE civic leaders and House of Representatives officials will meet today to resolve the crisis affecting the township south of Johannesburg. The meeting had been due to take place yesterday.

REPORTS SUNDAY 3/1/12
Cast junks housing study

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal yesterday demanded a freeze on any action to implement the recommendations of the De Loor Commission that was appointed to seek solutions to the housing crisis.

The demand followed confirmation by Dr. Joop de Loor, former director-general of the Department of Finance, who headed the commission, that a final report would be completed and handed in to the Cabinet next month.

Cast announced it was planning a special conference to discuss the issue and called on building societies, banks and developers "not to co-operate with the Government in its unilateral and disastrous decision to dictate housing policies."

Cast president Mr. Moses Mayekiso said "The De Loor Commission has had no substantial input from any major organisations with a constituency in the black community, nor has it been discussed with them. It therefore has minimal validity. The report is therefore rejected."

He claimed the Government had earlier given an undertaking that it would delay action on the report until it had been considered by the National Housing Forum, which was formed in November with the support of CAST, the ANC, Cosatu and other organisations.

However, a senior Government official on January 24 had announced the withdrawal of the Government from the forum and all other forums dealing with socio-economic matters and had insisted all such issues must be discussed at Codesa.

Mayekiso added "None of the major organisations of civil society - the civils, trade unions, business, the churches, medical associations, teachers, students and so on - are present at Codesa."

Sowetan Correspondent
Housing policies say Mayekiso

Reject govt decision to dictate

The Cape Association of

Civil Society - the circles

BY Michael Chester
Civic leaders and students stage sit-in.

EIGHTEEN civic and student leaders began an indefinite sit-in at the Bekkersdal Town Council offices in the West Rand yesterday morning.

Bekkersdal Civic Association publicity officer Mr Molokelwa Lethake said the sit-in would continue until the council decided to meet them to discuss several local grievances.

At midday police armed with shotguns and teargas canisters were negotiating with the protesters to leave the offices.

Lethake accused the council of dragging its feet for over a year on the issue of repairs to several council houses which were damaged during political violence last year.

"Presently, there are nearly 90 people who do not have homes to live in," he said.

Lethake said the council's planned meeting on February 11 to discuss bursaries for 82 tertiary students was too late as many institutions would have opened by then.

Bekkersdal residents were also angry at the council's decision to sell the local hostel to businesses.

Lethake said no residents were consulted and only a short verbal notice was given for occupants to leave the hostel.

Administrative staff at the council offices said most of the occupants left when the sit-in began, adding that the protest was peaceful and had not disrupted the functioning of the office.

The assistant town clerk refused to comment on the sit-in and referred inquiries to the town clerk, Mr Dirk Vermeulen, who could not be reached for comment.

Police comment was also not immediately available.

-SAPA
MR Henri (Han) Eybers has been appointed administrator for Tembisa.

The MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations, Mr Olaus van Zyl, said the appointment followed a decision by the Executive Committee of the Transvaal to dismiss the councillors of the Tembisa City Council on January 21.

The appointment of Eybers is valid until October 31 or until the Administrator of the Transvaal repeals the authorisation.

"The administrator will manage and control the affairs of the city council of Tembisa and will exercise all rights and powers and will carry out all functions, duties and obligations of the council," Van Zyl said.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration said on Tuesday last week the Tembisa councillors had been relieved of their posts.

On Wednesday, the Tembisa Residents Association welcomed the TPA's decision, but rejected the unilateral decision to appoint an administrator for the township.

The all-white Kempton Park Town Council should take over control of the township until democratic elections were held for non-racial municipalities, the TRA said.

"It is our belief that if the TPA had heeded our call and dissolved Tembisa town council four years ago, the six-year-old rent boycott currently in place could have been resolved long ago and the unstable situation normalised," the TRA said. - SA Press Association.
Ennerdale will fight for affordable rates

By Brian Sekukunelo

Ennerdale Tender - victims of Monday's police shooting - last night vowed to continue the struggle for affordable water and electricity rates.

Police kept a low profile as people packed the Ennerdale Civic Centre to hear civic leaders report back on a meeting with the Ennerdale Local Development Committee, the Ennerdale Management Committee, the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Regional Services Council and police representatives.

Divided on Codesa participation, ANC and PAC national leaders, also present at the meeting, pledged solidarity with the residents, who suffered yet another blow yesterday when the Ennerdale Development Committee cut water to the area from 11 am.

In his address, Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association chairman, Clifford Smith, said local government officials had agreed not to suspend electricity because of non-payment.

Mr Smith, however, reminded the cheering crowd: "The struggle continues, not all our demands have been met."

Included in the demands was a call for the resignation of the township's management committee members, he said.

"We also told them we want to pay a flat rate for water and electricity, and we want cables fixed."
Task group seeks out sites for homeless

Pretoria Bureau 3/1/92

An urbanisation task group has been appointed to identify sites where thousands of homeless people can be settled in Midrand, Verwoerdburg and north of Randburg and Sandton, Transvaal Administrator Dane Hough said yesterday.

The urbanisation strategy for the whole PWV region would also be taken into account. Permanent, suitable sites would have to be identified for low-cost housing directed at the huge influx of homeless people.

The task group consists of 15 members, including representatives from Randburg, Roodepoort, Sandton, Verwoerdburg and Midrand town councils, the West Rand and Witwatersrand.

Central regional services councils, the Metropolitan Chamber for the Central Witwatersrand, the Greenbelt Action Group, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless and the local area committees of Chartwell, Muldersdrift and Ranteshig.

Mr Hough said similar task groups would be appointed to evaluate other PWV sites.
New rent accord for Soweto

By Daniel Maine

The Soweto rent boycott has finally come to an end following the signing of a new accord which came into effect on January 1 1992, a Soweto Council official said yesterday.

Council spokesman Mr Molefe Moseli said residents will pay R55 every month for service charges in Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepkloof.

Moseli said the interim charges are part of the Greater Soweto Accord signed by the Soweto Civic Association, Soweto People's Delegation, the three councils of Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepkloof and the Transvaal Provincial Administration on September 24 1990.

He said the service charges will increase to R65 at the end of March 1992 up to June 30 when they will be further increased to R75 until September.

At the end of September they will go up to R85.

He said, "The service charges do not include electricity tariffs, which will be administered by the Regional Services Council. These tariffs are still being negotiated by parties which signed the accord."

The three councils undertook to improve administration, upgrade electricity and water supplies and ensure proper sewerage maintenance and refuse removal in order to keep the townships clean."
Tembisa meeting on rent boycott

A MEETING to resolve the six-year-old rent boycott in Tembisa will be held in the township tomorrow a week after the dissolution of the local town council.

Tembisa Residents Association has set the meeting for 9am at Mahlaren Stadium to map out new ways of "totally phasing out" the rent boycott.

TRA president Mr Ali Tleane said following the dissolution of the TCC last week, there were new hopes that TPA would soften up and thereby pave the way for serious negotiations to take place.

He said "when the initial round of talks broke down last year, a declaration of intent was already drawn up. And all that was left for the negotiating parties was to agree on a flat rate figures and time-frame for the execution of both short-term and long term commitments as indicated in the declaration of intent."
New row brews over Randburg squatter plan

A NEW row was brewing last night over the Zevenfonteins squatters as the Transvaal Provincial Administration said the 750 families would be moved to Randburg and Randburg residents condemned the move as "ridiculous and sneaking".

Transvaal Administrator Dame Hough told a news conference yesterday that a "breakthrough" had been made because the Randburg Town Council had found an area where the squatters could be housed.

A council spokesman said the decision to house the squatters at Bloubosrand, near Fourways, had been taken at a meeting the previous evening, with the full approval of all residents' associations concerned.

But angry Bloubosrand residents—who said they were unaware of a residents' association in the area—said last night they had not been informed.

An unsigned circular delivered to them within an hour of the TPA announcement urged them to "stand together and ward off the threatening problems".

"We are generally a young, liberal group of people," said one resident, "but we know our house values will go down and crime will go up if the squatters are moved here."

Other residents claimed the TPA and Randburg council were "sneaking" the squatters into their area because right-wingers would not have them elsewhere.

Hough denied that the decision to move the squatters to Randburg and not Diepsloot, as originally planned, was because of pressure from the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) and right-wing residents in the Diepsloot area, who include Boerastaat Party leader Robert van Tonder.

The squatters would be moved within the next 14 days, after the land at Bloubosrand had been prepared, he said.

The Randburg council spokesman said full facilities, including water, electricity and sewage pipes, would be provided on the site, which would subsequently be developed as a low-cost housing area, with the former squatters becoming homeowners and ratepayers.

Squatters said yesterday they would be happy to move to Bloubosrand if this meant they would be allowed to stay there.
This is the end of our lifestyle, plot owner complains

IT IS far too soon for the residents of Diepsloot — or anyone else living in the northern "greenbelt" — to heave a sigh of relief over the announcement that the squatters of Zevenfontein are to be moved to Bloombosrand.

Earlier this week Angus MacBride and Willie Harris were living under the threat of having their land expropriated by the TPA in terms of section 6 of the Prevention of Illegal Squatting Act (Act 52 of 1951).

In terms of section 6, a local authority may expropriate land for use as a temporary transit camp for squatters. The plots of Mr MacBride and Mr Harris were two of the plots earmarked for expropriation to relocate the squatters.

Mr MacBride said "On Tuesday I was approached by the TPA, who said they needed my land to accommodate some of the squatters.

"They said they had the power to expropriate my land within 24 hours, and made no reference to financial remuneration."

Mr MacBride said he felt helpless as he had nowhere else to go.

"The TPA said if I didn't co-operate they would simply dump the squatters next door to me. It's a total crap situation, but what can I do?"

The laws in this country apply only to the people, not the State. This is the end of our lifestyle."

Mr Harris heard his plot had also been earmarked for relocation.

"I've had this plot for 35 years. We run a big ceiling company from here. If we had to move now, we'd go bankrupt."

"Our family graveyard is here. I won't give up my land without a fight."

Philip Sithole is a businessman who bought property in Diepsloot last year to escape the squatter situation in Soweto.

"I'm a black man, but this situation has nothing to do with colour. The fact is I ran away from Soweto, where I had built a home for over R300 000, because a squatter camp was being set up 500 metres down the road."

"Living out in the country is the kind of lifestyle I always wanted. I thought my dreams had come true when I found a plot here in May. Less than a year has passed and I find myself in exactly the same situation," said Mr Sithole.

TPA deputy director-general for community development Len Dekker said it was quite possible the TPA might still have to expropriate land in the Diepsloot area.

"I doubt it will happen in the short term. But in the medium and long term, there will again be pressure in the Diepsloot area for urbanisation."
Squatters: residents dig in

People's power arrives in the northern suburbs

MALCOLM POTIERGILL and CAROLINE HURRY

ANGRY residents of Bloubosrand, north of Johannesburg, yesterday shouted a deafening "no way" to Government bureaucratic bungling — and underlined their refusal to be ignored by putting up barricades, digging trenches and arming themselves with baseball bats and clubs.

People's power and mass action had arrived in the northern suburbs.

The aim of Bloubosrand's residents was to prevent the dumping of 170 Zevendaum family members on their front doorstep and they have it. They have done it. Their message was clear: "We have taken over and you cannot evict us."

However, their action was again closed last night when the TPA denied putting off the relocation of the squatters.

Jan van der Walt, chief administrator of the Pretoria Reclamation Board, said there was no way the process had been put off. The action was not to be allowed.

Our contractors are busy preparing the land for the squatters. On Monday, the TPA, the Randburg Town Council and the company's passport will be moving the squatters to their new homes.

The action was taken to prevent the squatters from occupying the land.

When the TPA was asked whether the action was legal, he said: "We are not in a position to comment on this matter."

Andre Jacob, chairman of the Randburg Town Council's management committee, said the TPA had expressed the area's views.

The TPA had to buy the land for the squatters, he said.

Sensation as 'House of Hendrickse' is topped

CAPE TOWN — The eight-year reign of the House of Hendrickse as the Labour Party's central of the House of Representatives came to an end last night.

Michael Morris and Shaun Johnson

The move was a shock to the House of Hendrickse, a central of the House of Representatives, which had been in the building since its construction.

After more than three hours of bitter and sometimes heated debate, the move was approved by the House of Representatives.

Chaos as violence, boycotts hit black schools on Reef

BLACK schooling on the Reef which started less than a month ago was thrown into chaos this week as students and parents boycotted classes and attacked educators.

While teachers and lecturers appear to be the scourge street and the residents, the police have beenさまざまな phenomena in the area.

Jo'burg gets new unit to curb crime

POLICE would implement a 24-hour anti-mugging force and a special crime prevention unit immediately in Johannesburg's central business district, Law and Order Minister Herman Kriel said yesterday.

A joint statement with Johannesburg city council and business owners who met him in Cape Town on the unacceptable crime rate in the city was issued after their meeting.

Commissioner of Police General Johan van der Merwe said the police would use recently acquired advanced technology equipment to combat crime and improve response times.

The new unit would operate in the CBD particularly in secret areas and nearby hotels.

The special crime prevention unit would also target a baby-mugging unit that has operated in the area.
ANGRY residents of Bloubosrand, north of Johannesburg, yesterday shouted a deafening "no way" to Government bureaucratic bungling — and underlined their refusal to be ignored by putting up barricades, digging trenches and arming themselves with baseball bats and clubs.

Peoples' power and mass action had arrived in the northern suburbs.

The aim of Bloubosrand's residents was to prevent the dumping of 750 Zevvenfontein squatting families on their front doorsteps — and they may have succeeded when it was reported yesterday that the resettlement plan had been "put on hold".

However, the situation was again clouded last night when the TPA denied putting off the relocation of the squatters.

Jan van der Walt, chief director of community development for the Witwatersrand, said there was "no way the plans have been put off. We are simply taking two weeks to prepare the site."

"Our contractors are busy preparing the land for the squatters. On Monday, the TPA, the Randburg Town Council and the newly formed residents' committee will be meeting the squatters to discuss ways of reconciliation," he said.

Andre Jacobs, chairman of the Randburg Town Council management committee, said the TPA had expropriated the area of Bloubosrand. It now owned the land and would be relocating the squatters as soon as the necessary arrangements had been made.

He said the TPA had agreed to the following conditions laid down by the Randburg Town Council:

- The TPA had to buy the land from the developers, re-plan it and provide an infrastructure for it at its own cost.
- To ensure the squatter community was settled in an orderly manner, families would have to purchase building sites and develop them within a certain time or face eviction.
- The TPA would have to exercise general control over the Zevvenfontein area before, during and after the transfer to prevent a further influx.

Said Mr Jacobs: "We were faced with a sticky situation on Tuesday evening when Transvaal Administrator Dame Hough called us over to his house in Pretoria, where the proposal was put to us."

"There was no way I could have first consulted the residents, but called an urgent council meeting the following morning to lay down the conditions the TPA had agreed to."

"The situation blew up when the residents got to hear of it and I was called on the telephone to come and speak to hundreds of angry people. I would have spoken to them, but my wife threatened to walk out on me if I did. Instead I sent a message asking the people to please calm down."

"I did manage to buy time with the TPA — 14 days to prepare the site — although I'm not sure if that

TO PAGE 2.
EXPLOITED ... Some of the 63 people who share a seven-room house in Bertrams, paying between R200 and R800 a month. The landlord is alleged to be making a cool R6395 a month.

By SOPHIE TEMBA

LANDLORDS in some Johannesburg suburbs are exploiting black families in desperate need of housing, often taking in outrageous rent payments.

A typical example is 24 Ascot Road, Bertrams, where 63 people share a seven-roomed house, paying rent of between R200 and R800 each month.

A spokesman for Actstop said families in Bertrams and other adjacent suburbs are grossly overcharged by private home owners and are deprived of all privacy and proper facilities like electricity.

Those who cannot be accommodated inside the house live in makeshift rooms in the backyard. The rooms have no windows.

63 squash into house in suburban slum scam

A cellar on the property has also been converted into a room and is occupied by a family whose rent is R249 a month.

Muriel Stengel, a herbalist, is one of the occupants of the house. She shares a room with her sister and they each pay R360 a month.

When City Press visited the house this week we noticed that every one of the seven inside rooms has been subdivided and is shared by two or three families.

The electrical plugs in the walls have been removed to prevent the residents from using any electrical appliances.

The families have been provided with four toilets on the premises — one inside the house and three in the backyard. Two of these are blocked and cannot be used.
Residents seek court order on squatters

Bloubosrand residents will seek an urgent Supreme Court interdict against Transvaal Administrator Dan Hough to halt the relocation of squatters from Zwanenburg to an area next to their Randburg suburb.

The announcement, made at an emotion-charged public meeting yesterday, called by the Bloubosrand Action Committee (BAC), was the latest salvo in the tussle over the TPA's planned resettlement of the squatters.

On Friday, residents armed with clubs set up barricades at the suburb's entrances.

The BAC, which claims to represent 500 home-owners and 150 black squatters, said its "bombshell" announcement was timed for the eviction notice for the Zwanenburg squatters.

The meeting, attended by about 150 people, BAC chairman Peter Hennessy, also called for the immediate resignation of the entire Randburg Town Council and the holding of an immediate informal referendum on the controversy.

Manning the barricade, police riot squad members keep an eye on Bloubosrand residents standing guard at a roadblock yesterday.

Picture: Karen Fletcher
Talks to end rent boycott

The Tembisa Residents' Association has resolved to negotiate with the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the township's new administrator to end a six-year-old rent boycott. TRA publicity secretary George Bula said in a statement yesterday that about 10,000 residents met at Meraleng Stadium on Saturday to find the shortest route to a settlement in Tembisa. It was decided to mandate the TRA to negotiate with the TPA.
Most of the Ennerdale victims shot in back – MP

By Esther Waugh
Political Reporter

CAPE TOWN – Virtually all 44 people injured by the police at Ennerdale were shot in the back while dispersing and running away, according to Democratic Party MP Jan van Eck.

On Friday in Parliament he gave details of police action following clashes with Ennerdale residents last week.

Speaking in the no-confidence debate, Mr van Eck called for an inquiry into the shootings.

He said the demonstrators from the Ennerdale Civic Association were prevented by police from using the stadium because they had not obtained permission. A delegation was then sent to the local authority to obtain permission with the full knowledge of the police.

"The police, contrary to this agreement, told the 500 peaceful people, waiting for their delegation to return, to disperse and then started shooting."

Before discussing the Ennerdale incident, Mr van Eck placed on record a slow but noticeable improvement in the way police operated The shootings were, however, reminiscent of the PW Botha era.
THIRTEEN areas to the north and north-west of Sandton, Randburg and Roodepoort have been provisionally identified for possible township development, a spokesman for the Transvaal Provincial Administration confirmed yesterday.

Nothing had, however, been finalised and all relevant and interested parties would be consulted before development took place, said TPA spokesman Mr Peet Wilken.

"That doesn’t mean that they will be developed," he stressed, anxious to allay outcomes similar to those that followed the Randburg City Council’s decision to approve the resettlement of the Zevenfontein squatters to Bloxbosrand.

Permanent suitable sites for township development in the areas north of Sandton and Randburg, and west of Midrand and Verwoerdburg, are to be identified by a task group appointed by Transvaal Administrator Mr Danie Hough on January 23.

The 15-member task group is to report back to the Executive Committee of the Transvaal by March 31, and must provide a complete evaluation of the existing urbanisation strategy for the areas.
THECREASED INNER CITY PROBLEMS

The inner city people who hope they're just passing through

The survey area - from the overcrowded flattrada to trendy Yeoville

Thirteen Johannesburg inner city is ugly, crowded, crime-ridden and filthy. Not surprisingly, most of the people who live there cling to the belief that they're just passing through.

Results of an inner city survey released today by the Johannesburg City Council describe a chronic inner-city population by the elderly or the young, mostly women, with very few school-aged children running up and down the streets in the high-rise flat blocks. But although inner-city areas in other countries attract people who think they're there to stay, in Johannesburg residents of the central business district, Hillbrow, Berea and Jabulani Park want to move onward and upward.

"It's an area where people come to settle into the urban environment, orientate themselves to the city, find a job, a place where they'd like to stay before bringing their families," says Bonne Roosen, spokesperson for the city Planning Department's Urban Strategies Division, which commissioned the study from the Human Sciences Research Council's Group for Human Resources.

The past decade has wrought stunning changes to the area. Hillbrow used to be the entertainment centre for adults," says Roosen. In that, "It was more commercial inner-city area than it is at the moment."

Ten years ago, most residents of the inner city flattrada, including Hillbrow, were white. Today the proportion of black residents is about 80 percent, 46 percent African, according to the HSRC's study. 21 percent are coloured, 14 percent Indian.

Sixty percent of the population is under the age of 30. Most residents — white or black — are now arrivals, one-third of the households moved into their present flats last year, although nearly all residents previously lived in urban areas. People moved on, and the study, because they wanted a place of their own, or their jobs changed. Almost every household has at least one person earning.

Blacks and whites work as clerks and salespeople, but there are also a great many blacks employed in "fairly secure but unskilled and low-paid jobs" — messengers, cleaners, porters. There are waiters, chefs, pool pump attendants, drivers, boxers.

Residents of high-rise districts complained to the researchers of overcrowding, which points to an anomaly the survey shows a noticeable density of two to three people a flat. Researchers tell horror stories — one flat housed 16 people, a researcher was chased out of another by 20 men wielding traditional weapons — and admit it is "difficult to get 100 percent accurate information" as people "will tend to under-report." Still, they stick to their figures, as an average.

More than 90 percent of the residents rent, mostly bachelor or one-bedroom flats.

Yeoville consisted of only a small part of the

Johannesburg inner city, which also included areas on the periphery — Yeoville/Westlake/Highlands, for example. Yeoville/Troyeville/Park/Bertrams, Yeoville and Bramshon.

Not surprisingly, results differed seemingly as one moved away from the city centre. Bertrams/Troyeville, an area well "with its low-rise apartment buildings but a majority of family houses," is in an area that "with 42 percent of the households have dependents children, and there are many college students living with parents." This is an area where police managers live."

The study notes, "the white residents who are not in middle-management positions such as clerks, semi-professionals, artisans and semi-skilled operatives" and blacks in similar positions or employed at factories or clerical work. One has the impression that this is not a poor but medium-income group. Among residents there appears to be a considerable degree of racial mixing between people of different races."

Yeoville/Bertrams/Troyeville/Highlands is described as "a largely residential, suburban of tree-shaded streets, attracting young, middle-class professionals, 80 percent of the population is white and only 12 percent African, most blacks having moved to the area last but not first. Hillbrow or other parts of the city. Although 91 percent of the residents believe they are living in overcrowded, insanitary conditions, the newcomers, mostly blacks in low-paying jobs, say they live in places as indeed overcrowded, largely because they must take in lodgers to help pay the rent or they stay in servants' quarters."

For the people in Bertrams is painted with vacant

lents and incomplete buildings occupied by the homeless — "these factors all contribute to the impression of an area in decline," the study notes. The population is relatively poor and not highly educated, equal in education, employment and income, the races above a high degree of social mixing.

There are very few land transactions left in Fordsburg — although numbers are increasing as people from Lebowan return to the neighbourhood from which they were removed. It's grouped in the study with the white working-class areas of Yeoville. The white population of this area is "relatively poor and less educated," the study notes, while the Indians and coloured are better off and follow occupations requiring more education.

The old buildings in Fordsburg/Burgersdorp were never renovated because their Indian residents lived under the threat of removal, but the area back then is not as a staid district, more than half the Indian residents were born there or moved in years ago."

Bramshon, on the other hand, attracts a highly mobile population. Wits University students (42 percent) and office workers (42 percent) move to and from the area. Residents are mostly young, mostly single and moved to their current flats within a year or two. The study notes, "it is difficult to tell that the social character of the area has changed. The social mix in the residential area is not a measure of class differences in the population," the study notes.

The purpose of the Johannesburg inner city Survey was to find out how the city council could improve the inner city. Pensively, we are told by the researcher, there is "a great deal of over-optimism in the city council," which believes that they can solve the problems of housing, the study notes. "It is difficult to see how one can work with the police, who are not aware of the increasing dysfunction of the police department." The study notes, "the underlying reasons for the widespread lack of police protection and the resulting frustration among residents is due to the city council's lack of understanding of the underlying problems."
Bloubosrand home sales ‘collapse’

**Squatter row leads to freeze in new bonds**

FINANCIAL institutions were refusing to grant new bonds for properties in Bloubosrand in Randburg since the Transvaal Provincial Administration’s (TPA) moves to relocate squatters to the area, estate agents said yesterday.

United Bank GM Kerin Gibb said until the situation in the area became clearer, “we will not be appointing any new bonds”. The proposed squatter settlement could have a major impact on house values.

Other banks were reluctant to comment on their policies and said they would consider each application on merit.

But estate agents operating in Bloubosrand said they had contacted a range of banks and had been told categorically that no further bonds would be granted until the situation was resolved. The agents said some institutions had withdrawn financing that had been previously approved.

The TPA’s plans permanently to relocate 700 squatter families from nearby Zevenfonteinsla to 44ha of Bloubosrand Extension I have been put on hold for a week while the provincial authorities consider a scheme to change the status of the site from a shack settlement to that of a formal low-cost housing development.

The TPA says it wants to consult all parties involved following the furore in the wake of its announcement that it was expelling the land to house squatters.

Residents in the area, who believe their properties would be devalued and crime would increase, have threatened to take legal action against the TPA and to refuse to pay rates. They have demanded the resignation of the Randburg Town Council, which agreed to the move.

KATHRYN STRACHAN

Angry home-owners are maintaining 24-hour vigils and manning barricades to prevent squatters moving into the area.

The squatters’ move to Bloubosrand followed mounting opposition to their temporary removal to Dipsloot.

United Bank’s Gibb said the situation was very unusual. United would be assessing the low-cost housing proposal and its effects on nearby homes.

He said a person who had bought a house in the area with United financing had already dumped the house keys on his desk and abandoned the property in disgust. Other home-owners had threatened to do the same, he said.

Mike Schefermann of Realty Estates said three of his sales had collapsed since Thursday and he had told aspirant sellers there was no sense in trying to market their houses in the current climate. He said financial institutions believed that if the upgrading of the disputed area from squatter settlement to low-cost housing was allowed to proceed, the value of Bloubosrand properties would still be substantially reduced.

Another estate agent in the area, Dee Montlerie, said business had been good before the TPA’s announcement, but not one potential buyer had arrived for a house showing on Sunday. In the past four days she had had four deals worth R600 000 cancelled after banks rejected bond applications.

She said banks were holding back until they had heard the TPA’s final decision, which is expected on Monday.

Bloubosrand Action Committee chairman Peter Bantock said a meeting between residents and squatter representatives planned for last night at the Randburg Town Council had been cancelled by the council with no explanation.

Meanwhile, industries in the Kya Sands area, adjacent to the proposed relocation site, have added their voice to the protest.

Bloubosrand Action Committee business liaison officer Gary Noble said yesterday it had received about 50 letters from industries saying they intended to boycott rates and taxes in a protest against the move.

At a meeting with the committee yesterday, industry representatives said they were unable to provide employment for people already living in the area and could not absorb more people.

Sapa reports that Louis de Waal (DP North Rand) said compromise was the only way forward in the highly emotive Zevenfontein squatter issue.

“That means acceptance that North Rand will have low-cost housing but that time has to be bought, at all costs, to plan and implement this sensibly,” he said.

De Waal said the impact on property owners’ investments could not be ignored if that’s to be done, the state has to budget, at central government level, to make good the losses.”
Launched in Bradford and Rates and Taxes Boycott

NEW 6/2972

Compilation

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Launched in Bradford and Rates and Taxes Boycott
Jo'burg may face water curbs

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

Johannesburg could face water restrictions if the crippling heatwave continues and summer rains stay away.

Residents of two southern suburbs, without water for more than a day because a reservoir has run dry, have begun collecting water in buckets from emergency water points.

The Johannesburg City Council yesterday said residents of the higher-lying parts of Meredith, Naturena and Maureen need to collect water from two points — open fire hydrants and the other a tap — until the Eagles Nest reservoir has been filled.

These are at Meredith Primary School, corner Maureen and Murray streets; and in Naturena at the intersection of Jan de Necker and Malia streets.

Further south, residents in Walkerville, Orange Farm and Emmerdale are also without water. Extra pumps have been brought into operation to increase the supply.

Reservoirs in Linksfield, Parktown, Hurst Hill and Brixton were on the danger list, the council warned it urged residents to save water. "If the public do not respond to our appeal, we will have to consider water restrictions," said Johannesburg acting director of water, Wally Papendorf.

On Wednesday, the Rand Water Board recorded its highest demand for water —
hierdie artikiel, en die persoon wat enige sodanige advertense vertoon het of dit laat vertoon het of toege- laat of geduld het dat dit vertoon word, is verplig om aan die Raad die koste van genoemde verwydering en vernietiging wat deur die Raad bepaal en van die gestorte deposito afgetrek moet word, te vergoed, en is boosop skuldig aan 'n misdryf.

P. J. SMITH,
Stadsklerk.
Burgersentrum
Privaatseak X8,
ORKNEY
2620.

DEPARTEMENT VAN PLAASLIKE BESTUUR,
BEHUISING EN WERKE

No. R. 396 7 Februarie 1992

MUNISIPALITEIT VAN ORKNEY
VERORDENINGE BETREFFENDE
VASTE AFVAL EN SANITEIT

Die Stadsklerk van Orkney publiek herby, inge-
volge artikel 101 van die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike
Bestuur, 1939 (Ordonnansie No. 17 van 1939), die
Verordeninge hierna uiteengestel.

HOOFSTUK I
Woordomskrywings

1. In hierdie Verordeninge, tansy uit die samehang
anders blyk, beteken—
“aanstootlike afval” afval wat toksies, gevaarlik,
nadelig of skadelik is of wat die omgewing kan
besoeck of wat ontstaan as gevolg van 'n vervaardig-
gingsproses of die voorafbehandeling van wydgoen-
doeleindes van myn- of bedryfsvloëval, wat inge-
volge die Raad se Riolsingsverordeninge nie in 'n
persoenseel of straatnoot gestort mag word nie;
“besigtelingsafval” afval wat op enige perseel
ontstaan wat met gemak en sonder beskadiging van
die houer daarin verwys kan word, met inbegrip
t van tumaafval maar uitgesonderd bouersafval, lywige
afval, huisafval of aanstootlike afval,
“bouersafval” afval wat slags weens slopings-, ut-
grawings- of boubedrywgewde op 'n perseel
ontstaan,
“eenaar” 'n eenaar soos omskryf in die Ordonnansie
op Plaaslike Bestuur, 1939* Met dien verstande dat
die "eenaar" van 'n perseel wat gehou word inge-
volge die Deeltitelregister wat ingevolge artikel 5 van
die Wet op Deeltitels, 1971, geopen is, die regspe-
son is wat by die Wet omskryf word;
“gelde” die tarief van gelde soos van tyd tot tyd by
die Raad, by spesiale besluit met ingevolge artikel 80B
die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur, 1939,
vastgestel,
“houer” 'n vuiltjieshoer soos deur die Raad bepaal en
goedgekeur en wat deur die Raad grate of teen 'n
vastgestelde tarief of teen heersende pryse of 'n
huurtarief, voorsien kan word,
“huisafval” afval wat normaalweg op die persele van
private woonhuse wat uitsluitlik vir woedoeleindes
gebruik word, ontstaan en wat met gemak en sonder
de beskadiging van die houer, daarin verwys kan
word, en wat tumaafval insluit;

respect a contravention of the provisions of this sec-
tion, and the person who displayed any such advertise-
ment or caused, permitted or suffered it to be displayed
shall be liable to refund to the Council the cost to be
assessed and deducted by the council from the deposit
made, of the said removal and destruction, and in addi-
tion shall be guilty of an offence.

P. J. SMITH,
Town Clerk.
Civic Centre
Private Bag X8
ORKNEY
2620.

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND WORKS

No. R. 396 7 February 1992

MUNICIPALITY OF ORKNEY
BY-LAWS RELATING TO SOLID
WASTE AND SANITARY

The Town Clerk of Orkney hereby, in terms of sec-
tion 101 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939
(Ordinance No. 17 of 1939), publishes the By-laws set
forth hereafter.

CHAPTER I
Definitions

1. In these By-laws, unless the context otherwise
indicates—
“builders refuse" means refuse generated only by
demolition, excavation or building activities on
premises;
“bulky refuse" means refuse generated on any
premises but which cannot by virtue of its mass,
shape, size or quantity readily be removed by means
of and without damaging the container, excluding
objectionable refuse,
“business refuse" means refuse generated on any
premises and which can readily be removed by
means of and without damaging containers, includ-
ing garden refuse but excluding builders refuse,
bunky refuse, domestic refuse or objectionable
refuse;
“charges" means the tariff of charges as determined
from time to time by the Council by special resolu-
tion, in terms of section 80B of the Local Govern-
ment Ordinance, 1939,
“container" means a refuse container as prescribed
and approved by the Council and which may be sup-
plied by the Council free of charge, or at a prescribed
tariff or at ruling prices or at a hiring charge,
“Council" means the Town Council of Orkney, the
Council’s Management Committee acting under the
powers delegated to it in terms of section 58 of the
Local Government (Administrations and Elections)
Ordinance, 1960, and any officer to whom that
Committee has been empowered by the Council in
terms of subsection (3) of the said section to dele-
gate and has in fact delegated, the powers, functions
and duties vested in the Council in relation to these
By-laws,
"lywige afval" afval wat op enge perseel ontstaan maar wat vanwee die massa, vorm, grootte of hoe-
veelheid daarvan nie met gemak en sonder beska-
diging van die houer daarin verwyder kan word nie,
uitgesonderd aanstootlike afval.

"okkupant" 'n bewoner soos omskryf in die Ordon-
nanse op Plaaslike Bestuur, 1939. Met dien ver-
stande dat die "bewoner" in die geval van 'n per-
seel wat gehou word ingevolge die Deelitregiste-
rat wat ingevolge artikel 5 van die Wet op Deelit-
ties, 1971, geopen is, die regspersoon is wat by die Wet
omskryf word.

"openbare plek" 'n publieke plek soos omskryf in die
Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur, 1939.

"Raad" die Stadsraad van Orkney, die Raad se
Bestuurskomitee wat handel kragtens die bevoeg-
hede wat ingevolge die bepalings van artikel 58 van
die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur (Admini-
strasie- en Verkeersings), 1960, aan hom gedelegeer
is, en enige beampede aan wie die Komitee ingevolge
die bepalings van subartiikels (3) van genoemde arti-
kel op gesag van die Raad, die bevoegdheid, funk-
sies en pligte wat ten opsigte van hierdie Verorde-
ninge by die Raad berus, kan delegeer, en dit onder-
daad gedelegeer het.

"tunaafval" afval wat ontstaan deur normale tuinbe-
drywighede soos gesnyde gras, blare, blomme,
blomme en ander klein en ligte afval wat met gemak
en sonder beskadiging van die houer daarin ver-
wyder kan word.

HOOFSTUK II

VERWYDERING VAN AFVAL

Die Raad se diens

2. (1) Die Raad lever 'n diens vir die afval en ver-
wydering van afval teen die tarief van gelde soos van
tyd tot tyd deur die Raad vasgestel. Met dien ver-
stande dat die lewenperk van 'n bepaalde diens onderworpe is
aan die goedkeuring van die Raad.

(2) Die eienaars van elke okkupant van 'n perseel waar-
op afval ontstaan moet onderworpe aan die bepalings van
artikel 2 (1) en 4 (1) van die Raad se diens vir die
afhaal en verwydering van sodanige afval gebruik
maak.

(3) Die eienaars van of bewoners van 'n perseel waarop die
afval ontstaan is aanspreeklik vir die betaling van die
geldige vir enige diens wat die Raad vir die afhaal en ver-
wydering van sodanige afval lever.

Kennisgewing aan die Raad

3. (1) Die okkupant van 'n perseel, of as daar meer
as een okkupant is, die eienaars van 'n perseel, moet
binne sewe dae vanaf die dag waarop afval op suda-
nge perseel begin ontstaan, die Raad skriftelik in kennis
stel:

(a) dat die perseel geokkupeer word,
(b) dat daar of bouers- of lywige- of huis- of aanstoot-
tlike afval op die perseel ontstaan,
(c) van die beraamde hoeveelheid van sodanige
afval wat ontstaan.

Domestic refuse" means refuse which is normally
generated on the premises of private dwelling-
houses which are used solely for residential pur-
poses, and which can readily be removed by means of
and without damaging the contents, including
garden refuse.

"garden refuse" means refuse which is generated as
a result of normal gardening activities such as grass
cuttings, leaves, plants, flowers and other similar
small and light matter that can readily be removed by
means of and without damaging the container.

"objectionable refuse" means refuse which is toxic,
dangerous, injurious or harmful or which may pollute
the environment or which results from a manufac-
turing process of the pre-treatment for disposal pur-
poses of any industrial or mining liquid waste which
in terms of the Council's Drainage By-laws may not
be discarded into a drain or sewer.

"occupier" has the same meaning as defined in the
Local Government Ordinance, 1939. Provided that
"occupier" in respect of premises held on the
Sectional Title Register opened in terms of section 5
of the Sectional Titles Act, 1971, means the body
corporate, as defined in that Act, in relation to such
premises;

"owner" has the same meaning defined in the Local
Government Ordinance, 1939. Provided that
"owner" in respect of premises on the Sectional Title
Register opened in terms of section 5 of the
Sectional Titles Act, 1971, means the body corpo-
rate, as defined in that Act, in relation to such
premises.

"public place" has the same meaning as defined in
the Local Government Ordinance, 1939.
(d) van die voorgestelde wyse van verwydering en hoe diewels dit moet geskied.

(2) Die eienaar of okкупант van ‘n perseel waarop afval ontstaan, moet op ‘n wyse soos deur die Raad bepaal, al die besonderhede wat die Raad betreffende die samestelling van die afval vereis, aan die Raad verstreke.

(3) Indien die eienaar van ‘n perseel of die bewoner daarvan versuur on ‘n skriflike kennisgeving, soos in subartikel (1) beoog, in te dien, word sodanige eienaar of bewoner gesamentlik of afsonderlik vanaf die datum van betaling van die water- en ligtedeposit oeposigde van die perseel vir betaling van die geld vir ‘n afval-
verwyderingsdiens aanspreeklik gehou.

(4) Die eienaar van ‘n perseel bly aanspreeklik vir die betaling van die gelde vir die afvalverwyderings-
diens totdat—

(a) hy tot tevredeheid van die Raad bewys lever dat hy nie meer coreenkomstig hierdie Verordeninge vir die betaling van sodanige geldes aanspreeklik is nie;

(b) registrasie van transport van die betrokke perseel op naam van ‘n nuwe eienaar plaasvind;

(c) die afvalverwyderingsdiens behoudens die bepala-
lings van artikel 2 (1), skriflik deur hom by die Raad gekansellieer is.

Verskaffing van houers

4. (1) Die Raad bepaal die soort en aantal houers wat by ‘n perseel benodig word.

(2) Die eienaar van ‘n perseel is verantwoordelik vir die verskaffing van die vooraf bepaalde soort en aantal houers, indien deur die Raad vereis.

(3) Indien die Raad ‘n houer verskaf, word sodanige houer gratis of teen heersende pryse, of ‘n huur tarief, na gelang die Raad bepaal, verskaf.

(4) Waar ‘n houer gratis of teen ‘n huur tarief deur die Raad verskaf word, bly sodanige houer die eiendom van die Raad en is die eienaar van die perseel teenoor die Raad aanspreeklik vir die verlies van of skade aan sodanige houer.

Plasing van houers

5. (1) Die eienaar of okкупант van ‘n perseel moet op ‘n plek op die perseel, soos deur die Raad goedgekeur, voorsoening maak vir genoeg ruimte om die houers daarop te berg.

(2) Die plek waarvoor daar ingevolge subartikel (1) op die perseel voorsoening gemaak word, moet so ge-
lee wees dat die houers wat daarop geberg word, nie van ‘n straat of openbare plek af sitbaar is nie, tenys die Raad anders bepaal.

(3) Die eienaar van ‘n perseel of die bewoner daar-
van moet houers met huis- of besighedeasfalt daarin sonder belemmings van voetganger- of motorverkeer, behoorlik toegemeka, voor 07:00 op die dag van die verwying, buite die perseelgrens, op die naaste straatgrens of op ‘n ander plek soos deur die Raad bepaal, plaas of toesien dat dit gedoen word.

(4) As die Raad dit vereis, moet die plek van afhaal so gelee wees dat daar genoeglike in- en uitgange vir die Raad se afvalverwyderingsvoertue by so ‘n plek is.

(d) regarding the proposed method and frequency of removal.

(2) The owner or occupier of premises on which refuse is generated shall, in a manner as determined by the Council, furnish the Council with all the particulars required by the Council in regard to the composition of the refuse.

(3) Should the owner of premises or the occupier thereof fail to submit a written notification, as contemplated in subsection (1), such owner or occupier shall jointly or separately from the date of payment of the water and electricity deposit in respect of the premises, be held liable for payment of the charges for a refuse removal service.

(4) The owner of the premises shall remain liable for payment of the charges for the refuse removal service until—

(a) he shall have submitted proof to the satisfaction of the Council that he is no longer in accordance with these By-laws liable for payment of such charges;

(b) registration of transfer of the premises concerned in the name of a new owner takes place;

(c) the refuse removal service shall, subject to the provisions of section 2 (1) have been cancelled by him in writing with the Council.

Provision of containers

4. (1) The Council shall determine the type and number of containers required on a premises.

(2) The owner of a premises shall be responsible for the supply of the pre-determined number and type of containers, if required by the Council.

(3) If a container is supplied by the Council, such container shall be supplied free of charge or at ruling prices or at a hiring tariff, as the Council may determine.

(4) Where a container is supplied free of charge or at a hiring tariff by the Council, such container shall remain the property of the Council and the owner of the premises shall be liable to the Council for the loss of or damage to such container.

Placing of containers

5. (1) The owner or occupier of premises shall provide sufficient space for the storage of the containers on a place on the premises as approved by the Council.

(2) The space provided in terms of subsection (1) shall be in such a position on the premises as will allow the storage of containers without their being visible from a street or public place, unless otherwise determined by the Council.

(3) Containers containing domestic or business refuse shall, without hindrance to pedestrian or motor traffic, properly closed, be placed by the owner of the premises or the occupier thereof before 07:00 on the day of removal, outside the boundary of the premises, on the nearest street boundary or in some other place as determined by the Council or shall be caused by the owner of the premises or the occupier thereof to be so placed.

(4) If required by the Council, the place of collection shall be so located as to permit convenient access to and egress from such place for the Council’s refuse collection vehicles.
(5) "n Groot genoeg ruimte moet voorsien word dat 'n speciale houer vir die opberg van afval soos beskryf in artikel 6 (1) (a) (i) daar gehou kan word, benewens die ruimte benodig vir die opberging van afval wat nie in 'n speciale houer geberg kan word nie.

(6) Die Raad kan ook na goeddunkie 'n plek aanwys vanwaar afval met meer gemin verwyder kan word.

(7) Ondanks enige andersluidende bepaling kan die Raad—

(a) in die geval van geboue wat opgerig is, of geboue waarvan bouplanns goedgekeur is voordat hierdie verordening van krag geword het; en

(b) as die Raad na sy mening nie afval van die plek af, waarvoor daar ingevolge subartikel (1) voorstelling gemaak is, kan afhaal en verwyder nie, ten einde 'n oorloos te voorkom of die afhaal van afval te vergemaklik, 'n plek op of buitekant die perseel aanwys waar die houer(s) vir die versameling en verwydering van sodoorge afval geplaas moet word en die houer(s) moet op daardie plek geplaas word op die tye en vir die tydperk wat die Raad voorskrif.

**Gebruik en versorging van houers**

6. (1) Die okkupant van die perseel of in die geval van persele waar daar meer as een okkupant is, moet die eenaar van so 'n perseel sorg dat—

(a) alle huis- of besighedeis afval wat op die perseel ontstaan, in houers geplaas en gehou word, sodat die Raad dit kan verwyder. Met dien verstande dat die bepaling van hierdie subartikel nie verhoed dat 'n okkupant of eenaar, na gelang van die geval—

(i) wat vooraf die Raad se skriftelike vergunning verkry het, vir die verkoop of op enige wyse weg te doen met draf, rifkels, papiere, glas of ander afvalmateriaal, verkoop of vervreem sodat dit hierdie word word in die geval van afval, verbruikersdoelendes gebruik kan word,

(ii) van die huissafaf wat vir komposdoelendes geskikk is, gebruik maak nie, mits die afval op die perseel bly en geen oorloos tot gevolg het nie;

(b) geen warm as, glaskerke of ander besighedeis- of huisafval wat die houers kan beskadig of die Raad se werknemers kan besear terwyl hulle pik te ingevolge hierdie Verordeninge, in die houers geplaas word voordat hy die nodige voorsoor getred het om sodanige skade of besenings te voorkom nie;

(c) geen matenaal, insluitende vloeistof, wat weens die massa of ander eenskappe daarvan, dit waarskynlik vir die Raad se werknemers te moeilik kan maak om die houer te hanteer in sodanige houer geplaas word nie;

(d) elke houer op di perseel wat met 'n deksel voor- sen is, toe is, behalwe wanneer afval daarin geplaas of daaruit verwyder word en dat elke houer skoon en hygienies gehou word.

(2) Geen houer mag vir 'n ander doel waarvoor dit voorsien is, gebruik word nie en geen vuur mag daarin gemaak word nie.

(3) Die Raad verwyder houers met afval slegs indien dit op die voorgestrewe plekke, soos in artikel 5 bepaal, geplaas is met sodanige tussenposes as wat hy nodig ag.

(4) Die Raad aanvaar geen aanspreeklikheid vir die verlies of skade aan 'n houer nie.

(5) A sufficient area shall be provided to keep a special container for the storage of refuse as described in section 6 (1) (a) (i), apart from the space necessary for the storage of refuse not kept in a special container.

(6) The Council may at its discretion indicate a position from where the refuse may be removed more conveniently.

(7) Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, the Council may—

(a) in the case of buildings erected, or buildings of which the building plans have been approved prior to the coming into operation of these By-laws, and

(b) in the event of the Council, in its opinion, being unable to collect and remove refuse from the space provided in terms of subsection (1), having regard to the avoidance of nuisance or the convenience of collection of refuse, indicate a place within or outside the premises where the container(s) shall then be placed in such position at such times and for such periods as the Council may prescribe.

**Use and care of containers**

6. (1) Every occupier of the premises or in the case of premises being occupied by more than one occupant, the owner of such premises, shall ensure that—

(a) all the domestic or business refuse generated on the premises is placed and kept in containers for removal by the Council; Provided that the provisions of this subsection shall not prevent any occupier or owner, as the case may be—

(i) who has obtained the Council's prior written consent, from selling or otherwise disposing of any swill, corrugated cardboards, paper, glass or other waste material for recycling or, in the case of swill, for reconsumption;

(ii) from utilising such domestic refuse as may be suitable for making compost, provided that the refuse remains on the premises and does not cause a nuisance;

(b) no hot ash, glass fragments or other business or domestic refuse which may cause damage to the containers or injury to the Council’s employees while carrying out their duties in terms of these By-laws, is placed in containers before he has taken the necessary precautions to avoid such damage or injury;

(c) no material, including any liquid which, by reason of its mass or other characteristics is likely to render such container too difficult for the Council's employees to handle is placed in such container;

(d) every container on the premises which is provided with a lid, is covered except when refuse is being deposited thereon or discharged therefrom and that every container is kept in a clean and hygienic condition.

(2) No container may be used for a purpose other than that for which it is supplied and no fire shall be lit therein.

(3) The containers containing refuse shall be removed by the Council only if such containers have been placed at the prescribed places as provided for in section 5, and at such intervals as the Council may deem necessary.

(4) The Council shall not be liable for the loss of or for any damage to a container.
HOOFSTUK III
TUINAFWAL EN LYWIGE AFVAL
Verwydering en wegdoen van tuinafwal en lywige afval

7. (1) Die okkupant of as daar meer as een okkupant is, die einenaar van 'n perseel waarop tuinafwal of lywige afval ontstaan moet toesien dat sodanige afval, binne 'n redelike tydperk nadat dit ontstaan het, mee weggedoeno word: Met dien verstande dat tuinafwal op die perseel vir die maak van kompos gehou kan word indien dit nie 'n oorlos sal veroorsaak nie
(2) Behoudens die bepalings van artikel 2 (2) kan enigiemand tuinafwal of lywige afval verwyder en daar-mee wegdoeno.

HOOFSTUK IV
BOUERSAFVAL
Aanspreeklikheid vir bouersafval

8. (1) Die einenaar van die perseel waarop bouersafval ontstaan, moet sorg dat die afval binne 'n redelike tydperk nadat dit ontstaan het, ingevolge die bepalings van artikel 10 mee weggedoeno word
(2) Behoudens die bepalings van artikel 2 (2), kan enigiemand 'n diens vir die verwyding van bouersafval lever.

Wegdoening van bouersafval

9. (1) Alle bouersafval moet, onderworpe aan die bepalings van subartikel (2) op die terrein wat deur die Raad aangewys is, gestort word
(2) Bouersafval kan vir grondherwinningsoeleidings met skriflike toestemming van die Raad op 'n ander plek as die Raad se afvalstorrenee gestort word.
(3) Die toestemming wat ingevolge subartikel (2) verleen word, is onderworpe aan die voorwaardes wat die Raad nodig mag ag. Met dien verstande dat wanneer die Raad toestemming verleen of dit wees of voorwaardes stel, die volgende in ag geneem moet word
(a) Openbare veiligheid
(b) Die omgewing van die beoogde stort terrein.
(c) Die geskiktheid van die gebied met inbegrip van die drenings daarvan.
(d) Die verwagte ope en wyse waarop afval op die terrein gestort word
(e) Die gelykmaking van die terrein.
(f) Stofbeheer.
(g) Ander relevante faktore.

HOOFSTUK V
AANSTOOTLIKE AFVAL

Kennisgewing van die ontstaan van aanstootlike afval

10. (1) Die einenaar of okkupant van 'n perseel waar-op aanstootlike afval ontstaan, moet die Raad verwittig waaruit dit bestaan, hoeveel daarvan ontstaan, hoe dit opgebeg word en hoe en wanneer dit verwys of sal word.
(2) Die kennisgewing waarna daar in subartikel (1) verwys word, moet as die Raad dit vereis, gestaaf word deur 'n ontleiding wat deur 'n behoorlik gekwaliseerde bedryfsoekundige of 'n persoon deur die Raad aange- wys, gewaarmerk word.

CHAPTER III
GARDEN AND BULKY REFUSE
Removal and disposal of garden and bulky refuse

7. (1) The occupier or in the case of premises occupied by more than one occupant, the owner of premises, on which garden or bulky refuse is generated, shall ensure that such refuse be disposed of within a reasonable time after the generation thereof. Provided that garden refuse may be retained on the premises for the mending of compost if it will not cause a nuisance.
(2) Subject to the provisions of section 2 (2), any person may remove and dispose of garden or bulky refuse.

CHAPTER IV
BUILDER'S REFUSE

Responsibility for builders refuse

8. (1) The owner of premises on which builders refuse is generated shall ensure that such refuse be disposed of in terms of section 10 within a reasonable time after the generation thereof.
(2) Subject to the provisions of section 2 (2) any person may operate a builders refuse removal service.

Disposal of builders refuse

9. (1) Subject to the provisions of subsection (2), all builders refuse shall be deposited at the sites as pointed out by the Council.
(2) For the purpose of reclamation of land, builders refuse may with the written consent of the Council be deposited at a place other than the Council's refuse disposal sites.
(3) Any consent given in terms of subsection (2) shall be subject to such conditions as the Council may deem necessary. Provided that in giving or refusing its consent or in laying down conditions, the Council shall have regard to the following.
(a) Public safety.
(b) The environment of the proposed disposal site.
(c) The suitability of the area including the drainage thereof.
(d) The expected manner and time of depositing of refuse at the site.
(e) The levelling of the site.
(f) Dust control.
(g) Other relevant factors.

CHAPTER V
OBJECTIONAL REFUSE

Notification of generation of objectionable refuse

10. (1) The owner or occupier of premises on which objectionable refuse is generated, shall inform the Council of the composition thereof, the quantity generated, how it is stored and how and when it will be removed.
(2) If so required by the Council, the notification referred to in subsection (1) shall be substantiated by an analysis certified by a duly qualified industrial chemist or a person nominated by the Council.
Opberging van aanstootlike afval

11. (1) Die persoon waarnaar in artikel 10 (1) verwys word, moet sorg dat die aanstootlike afval wat op die perseel ontstaan, inbegrip van deel van die perseel gehou en opgeberg word totdat dit ingevolge artikel 12 van die perseel af verwyder word.

(2) Aanstootlike afval wat op 'n perseel opgeberg word, moet op so 'n wyse opgeberg word dat dit nie oorlaas veroorsaak of de omgewing besoedel nie.

(3) Indien aanstootlike afval nie ingevolge van artikel 12 van die perseel af verwyder word nie, kan die Raad die ienaar of okupant van die perseel het om sodanige afval binne 'n redelike tydperk te verwyder en de perseel af verwyder of in die geval van die Raad dit self of deur middel van 'n kontraktor op koste van die ienaar of okupant verwyder.

Verwydering van aanstootlike afval

12. (1) Niemand mag, sonder die skriftelike toestemming van die Raad of op 'n wyse anders as deur die Raad bepaal, aanstootlike afval van die perseel waarop dit ontstaan het, verwyder of weggooi nie.

(2) Die Raad kan ingevolge van artikel 12 van die perseel af verwyder of in die geval van die Raad dit self of deur middel van 'n kontraktor op koste van die ienaar of okupant verwyder.

Removal of objectionable refuse

12. (1) No person shall remove or dispose of objectionable refuse from the premises on which it was generated without or otherwise than in terms of the written consent of the Council.

(2) The council may give its consent in terms of subsection (1) subject to such conditions as it may deem fit: Provided that in laying down conditions the council shall have regard to the following:

(a) The composition of the objectionable refuse.
(b) The suitability of the vehicle and container to be used.
(c) The place where the refuse shall be deposited.
(d) Proof to the Council of such depositing.

(3) Unless it is satisfied that the person applying for consent is competent and has the equipment to remove the objectionable refuse and to comply with the conditions laid down by the Council, the Council shall not give its consent in terms of subsection (1)

(4) The person referred to in section 10 (1) shall inform the Council, at such intervals as the Council may determine, having regard to the information to be given to the Council in terms of section 10 (1) of the removal of objectionable refuse, the identity of the remover the date of such removal, the quantity and the composition of the objectionable refuse removed.

(5) Any person who contravenes the provisions of this section is guilty of an offence in terms of section 24.
HOOFSTUK VI
STORTERREINE
Procedure by storterreine

13. (1) Iemand wat 'n storterrein waaroor die Raad beheer uitoefen, met die doel om afval te stort, betree, moet—

(a) die storterrein slegs by die gemagtigde ingangsplek binnegaan;
(b) al die besonderhede wat die Raad betreffende die samestelling van die afval vereis, verstrekk;
(c) alle opdragte van die Raad in verband met toegang tot die werklike stortplek, die plek waar en die manier waarop die afval gestort moet word, nakom.

(2) Niemand mag bedwelmende drank na 'n storterrein wat onder toezig van die Raad staan, bring nie

(3) Niemand mag 'n storterrein waaroor die Raad beheer uitoefen, binnegaan nie, behalwe met die doel om afval ingevolge hierdie Verordeninge te stort en dan slegs op die tye wat die Raad van tyd tot tyd bepaal.

(4) Niemand wat aanstootlike afval, besighedsaivalent, bouerafsval, hussaivalent, lywgs afval of tuinaivalent vir enge gewin vervoer of vir gewin 'n diens vir die verwydering van sodanige afval lever nie sodanige afval op 'n storterrein wat deur die Raad beheer word, stort sonder die skriftelike toestemming van die Raad nie.

(5) Niemand mag enge afval, anders as afval soos van tyd tot tyd deur die Raad bepaal, op 'n storterrein waaroor die Raad beheer uitoefen, stort nie.

Eiedomsreg op afval

14. (1) Alle afval en plastiese voeings wat die Raad verwyder en alle afval op afvalstorterreine waaroor die Raad beheer uitoefen, is die eiedoms van die Raad en niemand wat nie behoorlik deur die Raad daartoe gemagtig is nie, mag dit verwyder of hom daarmee bemoei nie.

(2) Slegs afval afkomstig van persone wat binne die regsuide van die Raad geleë is, mag op die Raad se storterreine gestort word.

HOOFSTUK VII
ROMMELSTROEIERY, STORTEING EN VERWANTE AANGELYNTHEDE

Rommelstroeiery

15. (1) Niemand mag—

(a) afval in of op 'n openbare plek, lee standplas, lee erf, stroom of waterloop gooi, laat val, stort of mors nie,
(b) afval in 'n straatvoer of op 'n openbare plek inwee nie;
(c) iemand oor wie hy beheer uitoefen, toelaat om ongiets waarna daar in paragraaf (a) en (b) verwys word, te doen nie

(2) Vir die toepassing van hierdie artikel word dit geag dat iemand die daad waarna daar in subartikel (1) verwys word, deur diegene waaraan hy beheer uitoefen, toegelaat het, tensy die teendeel bewys word.

Storting

16. (1) Behoudens enge andersluidende bepalings van hierdie Verordeninge mag niemand ongiets op 'n plek laat, of toelaat dat ongiets waaroor hy beheer voer, gelaat word op 'n plek waarheen dit gebreg is met die doel om dit daar te laat nie.

CHAPTER VI
DISPOSAL SITES
Procedure at disposal sites

13. (1) Any person who, for the purpose of disposing of refuse, enters a refuse disposal site controlled by the Council, shall—

(a) enter the disposal site at an authorised access point only;
(b) give the Council all the particulars required in regard to the refuse;
(c) follow all instructions given to him by the Council with regard to access to the actual disposal point, the place where and the manner in which the refuse should be deposited

(2) No person shall bring any intoxicating liquor onto a disposal site controlled by the Council.

(3) No person shall enter a disposal site controlled by the Council for any purpose other than the depositing of refuse in terms of these By-laws and then only at such times as the Council may determine from time to time.

(4) No person transporting for gain or rendering a service for the removal of builders refuse, bulky refuse, business refuse, domestic refuse, garden refuse or objectionable refuse or gain shall dispose of such refuse in any refuse disposal site controlled by the Council without the written permission of the Council

(5) No person shall dispose of any refuse other than as required by the Council from time to time on a refuse disposal site controlled by the Council.

Ownership of refuse

14. (1) All refuse and containers removed by the Council and all refuse on disposal sites controlled by the Council shall be the property of the Council and no person who is not duly authorized by the Council to do so, shall remove or interfere therewith.

(2) Only refuse generated on premises situated within the area of jurisdiction of the Council, may be deposited on the Council's disposal sites.

CHAPTER VII
LITTERING, DUMPING AND ANCILLARY MATTERS

Littering

15. (1) No person shall—

(a) throw, let fall, deposit or spill any refuse into or onto any public place, vacant stand, vacant erf, street or watercourse,
(b) sweep any refuse into a gutter on a public place;
(c) allow any person under his control to do any of the acts referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b),

(2) For the purposes of this section, a person shall be deemed to have allowed the acts referred to in subsection (1) of persons under his control, unless the contrary is proved

Dumping

16. (1) Subject to any provisions to the contrary contained in these By-laws, no person shall abandon anything or allow anything under his control to be abandoned at a place to which it has been brought with the intention of abandoning it there.
(2) As daar bewys is dat so iemand iets gelaat het, of toegelaat het dat dit gelaat word op 'n plek waarvan hy nie die eienaars of okkupant is nie, word dit geag dat hy die bepalings van subartikel (1) oortree het, tensy on totdat die teendeel bewys is

Goed wat laat vaar is

17. Engiets, behalwe 'n voertuig wat ingevolge artikel 131 van die Ordonnansie op Padverkeer, 1966, as laat vaar beskou word, wat met iragnerning van faktore soos die plek waar dit gevind is, die tydperk wat dit op so 'n plek gelaat is en die aard en toestand daarvan, redelikerswys deur die Raad as laat vaar beskou word, kan na goed dunke van die Raad verwyder en weggedoen word.

Aanspreeklikheid van verantwoordelike persoon

18. (1) As die Raad engiets ingevolge artikel 17 verwyder en weggedoen het, is die verantwoordelike persoon teenoor die Raad aanspreeklik vir die betaling van gelde ten opsigte van sondange verwydering en wegdoening.

(2) Vir die toepassing van subartikel (1) is die verantwoordelike persoon—

(a) die eienaars van die goed en dit sluit iemand in wat daarop geregtig is om dit kragtens 'n huurkuoopoor- koms of 'n huurkontrak in sy best te hê toe dit laat vaar is of op die plek geplaas is waarvaardan dit verwyder is, tensy hy kan bewys dat hy nie geweet het dat dit laat vaar of daar geplaas is nie;

(b) iemand wat dit op die plek waarvan dit verwyder is, gelaat het, of

(c) iemand wat wetend toegelaat het dat dit op die plek waarvan dit verwyder is, gelaat is

Hoofstuk VIII

Algemene bepalings

Toegang tot 'n perseel

19. (1) WAAR die Raad 'n afvalverwyderdingsdiens lever, moet die eienaars of okkupant van 'n perseel aan die Raad toegang verleen en sorg dat niks die Raad in die betrekking van sondange diens dwarsboom, fruik of hinder nie.

(2) WAAR NA die mening van die Raad, die lewening van 'n afvalverwyderdingsdiens aan 'n perseel skade aan enige eiendom of besien van enige persoon kan veroorsaak, kan die Raad as 'n voorwaarde vir die lewening van sondange diens, vereis dat die eienaars of okkupant van sondange perseel die Raad skriflik vry- waar ten opsigte van sondange skade of besien of enige eis wat daaruit mag voortspruit

Hoe dikwels verwydering geskied en aard van afval

20. Ondanks enige andersluidende bepaling, bepaal die Raad hoe dikwels verwydering moet geskied en wat die aard van enige afval is

Ophoping van afval

21. WAAR ENIGE afval op 'n perseel ophoop, sodat dit, na die mening van die Raad, verwyder moet word, kan die Raad sondange afval verwyder en is die eienaars of okkupant van sondange perseel teenoor die Raad aanspreeklik vir die betaling van die gelde vir sondange verwydering en wegdoening.

(2) Once it has been proved that such person left a thing or allowed a thing to be left at a place of which he is not the owner or occupier, he shall be deemed to have contravened the provisions of subsection (1), unless and until the contrary is proved.

Abandoned things

17. Anything other than a vehicle deemed to have been abandoned in terms of section 131 of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1966, which is, having regard to such factors as the place where it is found, the period it has been left at such place and nature and condition thereof, reasonably regarded by the Council as having been abandoned, may be removed and disposed of by the Council as it may deem fit

Liability of responsible person

18. (1) Where anything has been removed and disposed of by the Council in terms of section 17, the responsible person shall be liable to the Council for the payment of the tariff charge in respect of such removal and disposal

(2) For the purposes of subsection (1), the responsible person shall be—

(a) the owner of the thing and shall include any person who is entitled to be in possession thereof by virtue of a hire purchase agreement or an agreement of lease at the time when it was abandoned or left in the place from which it was removed unless he can prove that he was not concerned in and did not known of it being abandoned or left in such place,

(b) any person by whom it was left in place from which it was removed; or

(c) any person who knowingly permitted that the thing be left in the place from which it was removed

Chapter VIII

General provisions

Access to premises

19. (1) Where the Council provides a refuse removal service, the owner or occupier of premises shall grant the Council access to the premises and shall ensure that nothing obstructs, frustrates or hinders the Council in the rendering of such service

(2) Where in the opinion of the Council the rendering of a refuse collection service to a premises may cause damage to any property or injury to any person, the Council, may as a condition of rendering such service require the owner or occupier of such premises to indemnify the Council in writing in respect of any such damage or injury or any claim which may arise in respect thereof

Frequency of removal and nature of refuse

20. Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary the Council shall determine the frequency of the removal and the nature of any refuse

Accumulation of refuse

21. Where any refuse accumulates on any premises so that, in the opinion of the Council, it must be removed, the Council may remove such refuse and the owner or occupier of such premises shall be liable to the Council for the payment of the tariff charge for such removal and disposal
Aanzoek om die staking van 'n diens

22. (1) 'n Aanzoek om die staking van 'n diens wat ingevolge hierdie Verordeninge gelever word, moet deur die eienaar of okkupant van 'n perseel of hul gevolmachtigde skriflik of op enige ander wyse soco deur die Raad bepaal, gedaan word.

(2) Ondanks die bepalings van subartikel (1) word 'n diens ten opsigte van die verwydering van huis- of besigheidsafval nie gestaak nie, alvorens 'n skriflike kennisgewing van die eienaar van 'n perseel deur die Raad ontvang is dat sodanige afval nie meer op die perseel ontstaan nie, of indien dit vir die Raad blyk dat sodanige afval nie meer op die perseel ontstaan nie.

Gelde

23. (1) Die persoon aan wie die Raad 'n diens ingevoeg van die Verordeninge gelever het, is behoudens andersluidende bepalings van hierdie Verordeninge, teenoor die Raad aanspreeklik vir die betaling van die gelde vir sodanige diens

(2) Die maandelike gelde is betaalbaar totdat die Raad die kennisgewing wat in artikel 22 genoem word, ontvang of dit vir die Raad duidelik blyk dat daar nie meer huis- of besigheidsafval op die perseel ontstaan nie

(3) Vir die doeleindes van die berekening van die maandelike gelde betaalbaar ingevolge hierdie Verordeninge, beteken "maand" 'n kalendermaand. Met dien verstande dat 'n gedeelte van 'n maand as 'n volle maand beskou word

(4) Die Raad het die reghede om gelde ten opsigte van 'n diens wat ingevolge hierdie Verordeninge aan enige persoon gelever word, te hef, alhoewel daar geen aansoek vir die eienaar of okkupant van sodanige perseel vir die levering van diens, deur die Raad ontvang is nie

(5) Elke persoon wat die gelde wat gehef is ten opsigte van dienste deur die Raad gelever, later as die datum soco op die Raad se amptelike rekening aangedu, betaal, is skuldig aan 'n misdlyf

Strafbepaling

24. (1) Enige persoon wat enige bepaling van hierdie Verordeninge oortree of versuum om daaraan te voldoen, is skuldig aan 'n misdlyf en by skuldigbevinding strafligbaar met 'n boete van hoogstens R500 of gevangenstraf vir 'n tydperk van hoogstens ses maande of met beide sodanige boete en sodanige gevangenstraf

(2) Enige persoon wat voortgaan om 'n bepaling van hierdie Verordeninge te oortree of te versuum om daaraan te voldoen, begaan ten aansien van elke tydperk van 24 uur of gedeelde daarvan, wat die oortreding voortduur, 'n afsonderlike misdlyf, strafligbaar soco omskryf in subartikel (1) ten opsigte van elke sodanige oortreding

Herroeping van Verordeninge

25. Die Verordeninge betreffende Vaste Afval en Saniteit van die Munisipaliteit van Orkney, afgekondig by Administratiewskennisgewing No 1407 van 20 September 1978, soco gewysig, word hierby herroep

P. J. SMITH,
Stadsklerk
Burgersentrum
Patmoreweg
Privaatweg X8
Orkney
2620

Application for the discontinuing of a service

22. (1) An application for the discontinuing of a service rendered in terms of these By-laws shall be made in writing or in any other manner as determined by the Council, by the owner or occupier or their authorized agent

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), a service for the removal of domestic or business refuse shall not be discontinued unless the Council has received a written notification from the owner of a premises that no such refuse is generated on the premises or unless it is obvious to the Council that no such refuse is generated on the premises.

Charges

23. (1) The person to whom a service mentioned in these By-laws has been rendered by the Council shall, save where otherwise provided in these By-laws be liable to the Council for the payment of the tariff charge in respect of such service.

(2) The monthly tariff charges shall be payable until receipt by the Council of the notice mentioned in section 22 or when it has become obvious to the Council that the generation of domestic or business refuse on the premises has ceased.

(3) For the purpose of calculating the monthly tariff charges payable in terms of these By-laws, "month" means a calendar month. Provided that a portion of a month shall be regarded as a full month

(4) The Council shall have the right at any time to levy tariff charges in respect of a service rendered to any premises in terms of these By-laws, although the Council has not received an application to render such service from the owner or occupier of such premises

(5) Any person who pays the charges levied in respect of services rendered by the Council later than the date reflected on the Council's official account, shall be guilty of an offence.

Penalty clause

24. (1) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any provision of these By-laws shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding R300 or imprisonment for a period not exceeding six months or to both such fine and such imprisonment.

(2) Any person continuing to contravene or fails to comply with any provision of these By-laws, shall be deemed to be guilty of a separate offence for every 24 hours or part of such period during which the offence continues and shall be liable as set out in subsection (1) in respect of each such separate offence

Repeal of By-laws

25. The By-laws relating to Solid Waste and Sanitary of the Orkney Municipality, promulgated under Administrator's Notice No 1407 dated 20 September 1978, as amended, are hereby repealed

P. J. SMITH,
Town Clerk
Civic Centre
Patmore Road
Private Bag X8
Orkney
2620
DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND WORKS

No. R. 397
7 February 1992

MUNICIPALITY OF KOSMOS
REGULATIONS RELATING TO SLUMS

The Town Clerk of Kosmos hereby, in terms of section 101 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939 (Ordinance No. 17 of 1939), publishes the Regulations set forth hereinafter.

Definitions

1. In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise indicates a word or expression to which a meaning has been assigned by the Slums Act, No. 76 of 1979, shall have that meaning and—

"accommodation establishment" means, premises on which accommodation or accommodation and one or more meals per person per day is provided for payment to more than four persons;

"Council" means, the Village Council of Kosmos;

"family" means, an adult male or female living either alone or together as man and wife, with or without any dependant children or the parents of either of them;

"National Building Regulations" means the regulations promulgated in the Government Gazette 9613 dated 1 March 1985, as amended;

"occupier" in relation to any premises means—

(a) any person in actual occupation of those premises;

(b) any person legally entitled to occupy those premises;

(c) any person having the charge or management of those premises and includes the agent of any such person when he is absent from the Republic of South Africa or his whereabouts are unknown.

Letting and occupation of premises

2. No person shall let or assist in letting or allow to be occupied any premises or part thereof so as to bring into existence or permit to continue conditions which will constitute a contravention of the following:

(1) No room wholly or partly used by persons for sleeping shall be occupied by a greater number of persons than will allow 11.3 m² of free air space and 3.7 m² of floor space for each person aged 10 years or more and 5.7 m² of free air space and 1.9 m² of floor space for each person less than 10 years of age; and

(2) no person shall use a latrine, passage, staircase, landing, bathroom, cupboard, outbuilding, garage, stable, tent, storeroom, shed, cellar or loft for sleeping in or cause or allow it to be so used unless its use for that purpose has been approved by the Medical Officer of Health and in accordance with regulation A25 (1) of the National Building Regulations.

3. No person shall let any premises or allow any premises to be so occupied by more than one family as to bring into existence conditions which will constitute a contravention of the following:

(1) No premises or part thereof shall be occupied by such a number of persons that the sleeping accommodation is insufficient to allow for persons of the opposite
jaar, met uitsondering van persone wat as man en vrou saamleef, in afsonderlike vertrekke geakkommodeer word wat deur baksteenmure of afskortings geskei word en waarvan die konstruksie na die mening van die Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte stewig en toereikend is nie

(2) Alle persele moet voorsien word van akkommodasie vir die voorbereiding en gaamkaap van voedsel wat voldoende is vir die gebruik van en geredelik toeganklik is vir 'n bewoner wat enige vertrek of vertrekke daarin afsonderlik bewoon. Met dié verstande dat afsonderlike akkommodasie ten opsigte van elke bewoner voorsien moet word vir die voorbereiding en gaamkaap van voedsel indien die Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte dit vereis.

Ablusiegeriewe

4. (1) Die eenaar van enge perseel moet toesien dat sodanige perseel voorsien is van een of meer stortbaddens, elk geskik geleë in 'n afsonderlike kompartiment wat geredelik toeganklik is vir alle bewoners van die perseel en wat toegang toe met vuilwatertappe in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Bouregulasies, in sodanige getalle wat ingevolge regulasie P2 (1) (a) van die Nasionale Bouregulasies vereis word. Met dié verstande dat elke stort vervang kan word deur 'n bad wat toegang toe met vuilwatertappe in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Bouregulasies.

(2) Die eenaar van enge perseel moet toesien dat sodanige perseel oor 'n behoorlike en voldoende voorraad warm en koue water beskikbaar is vir die bewoners daarvan.

Basiese lewensvereistes

5. Geen eenaar van 'n perseel mag—

(1) toelaat dat twee aanliggende vertrekke met tussenvrystehingspynige soos deur, vensters of bolgde deur meer as een gesin bewoon word nie, teny elke vertrek onafhanklik van enige ander vertrek voor- liggend, met ligtskyf en ventilasie in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Bouregulasies.

(2) versuum om te laat dat openbeyn soos deur, vensters of bolgde met planke toegelaan, toegobu of op enige wyse versper word sodat dit op die verligting, kruisventilasie of toegang inbreek maak nie, soos vereis deur hierdie Regulasies of die Nasionale Bouregulasies.

(3) versuum om te sien dat wanneer enge vertrek deur meer as twee persone vir slaapdoelendes bewoon word, sodanig vertrek nie vir die opbergen, voorbereiding of gaamkaap van voedsel gebruik word nie. Met dié verstande egter dat vir die toepassing van hierdie regulasies—

(a) twee kinders van 10 jaar oud of jonger, of
(b) twee persone wat as man en vrou saamwoon as een persoon beskou word,

(4) versuum om te sien dat in alle geboue waar meganiiese ventilasie voorsien word die doeltreffende en konstante funksionering van die aanleg in stand gehou word nie, soos wat ingevolge regulasie A15 van die Nasionale Bouregulasies vereis word.

sex over 10 years of age other than person living together as husband and wife, being accommodated in separate rooms, separated from one another by brick walls or partitions, the construction of which are substantial and adequate in the opinion of the Medical Officer of Health.

(2) All premises shall be provided with accommodation for the preparation and cooking of food, adequate for the use of and readily accessible to an occupant by whom any room or rooms therein is or are occupied separately. Provided that separate accommodation shall in respect of each occupier be provided for the preparation and cooking of food if required by the Medical Officer of Health.

Ablution facilities

4. (1) The owner of any premises shall ensure that such premises shall be provided with one or more shower baths, each suitable placed in a separate compartment readily accessible to all occupiers of the premises and fitted with waste pipes in accordance with the National Building Regulations, in such numbers as are required by regulation P2 (1) (a) of the National Building Regulations: Provided that a bath fitted with a waste pipe in accordance with the National Building Regulations, may be substituted for each shower.

(2) The owner of any premises shall ensure that such premises shall have sufficient hot and cold water supply reasonably available for the occupiers thereof.

Basic living requirements

5. No owner of any premises shall—

(1) permit two adjoining rooms with intercommunicating openings such as doors, windows or fanlights, to be occupied by more than one family, unless each room is provided separately with any other room, with light and ventilation in accordance with the National Building Regulations,

(2) fail to ensure that at all times openings such as doors, windows or fanlights shall not be boarded-up, build-up or obstructed in any way so as to interfere with the lighting, cross ventilation or access, as required by these Regulations or the National Building Regulations,

(3) fail to ensure that when any room is occupied by more than two persons for sleeping purposes, such room shall not be used for the storage, preparation or cooking of food. Provided however, that for the purposes of these regulations—

(a) two children of 10 years or under, or
(b) two persons living together as man and wife, shall be deemed to be one person,

(4) fail to ensure that in all buildings where mechanical ventilation has been provided the efficient and constant functioning of the plant is maintained as is required by regulation A15 of the National Building Regulations.
6. (1) Wanneer die Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte ook al van mening is dat enige grond of perseel of gedeelte daarvan ongeond, onhygiënies of ongeskik vir menslike bewoning is, of nie in 'n skoon toestand is of nie goed in stand gehou word nie of dat daar skynlik nadelig vir die gesondheid van die persone wat dit bewoon sal wees, mag die Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte 'n kennisgewing op die eenenaar of bewoner van sodanige grond of perseel beteken waann die verreg van hom vereis word om binne 'n tydperk wat in sodanige kennisgewing gespesifieer word —
(a) die gebruik van sodanige grond of perseel vir menslike bewoning te staak; en/of
(b) sodanige stappe te doen as wat die Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte in die kennisgewing speiseiseer.

(2) Enge persoon wat versui om aan die bepaling van 'n kennisgewing ingevolge subregulasie (1) (a) te voldoen, begaan 'n misdryf.

(3) Wanneer die eenenaar of bewoner tot voldoening van die Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte die stappe gedoen het wat in subregulasie (1) (b) gespesifieer word, moet die Mediese Gesondheidsbeampte 'n serifikaat uitreik waarby sodanige kennisgewing herroep en die gebruik van sodanige grond of perseel toegelaat word.

Verblyfondernings

7. (1) Die eenenaar van 'n verblyfonderneming moet toesien dat so 'n onderneming oor afsonderlike ablusgerewer eie geslag beskik en moet toegerus wees met —
(a) een bad of stort; en
(b) een handwaskom.

oorenkomslik regulasie P2 van die Nasionale Bouregulasies: Met dies verstande dat minstens een bad vir die gebruik van elke geslag moet word.

(2) Elke badkamer, stortkompartment of spoelkloset moet duidelik aangeduid word vir die geslag waarvoor dit bedoel is: Met dies verstande dat daar 'n reeks van twee of meer badkamers, stortkompartmente of spoelklosette op die perseel genoestalleer is, sodanige aanduiding by die ingang na elke reeks aangebreng moet wees.

algemene vereistes

8. Die eenenaar van enige perseel of die bewoner ten opsigte van daardie deel van die perseel wat onder sy beheer is, moet —
(a) alle sanitasiebehoebe, ketels, ligte en brandblusstoestande in 'n behoorlike werkklike toestand hou,
(b) sodanige perseel vry van afval, puin en rommel hou,
(c) doeltreende maatregels tref om te voorkom dat knaagdiere, vlieke of insekte daar uitbroei of skuilhou;
(d) toesien dat elke muur, oppervlak en plafon, tensy dit van matenaal gebou is wat nie bedoel is om geverf te word nie, met sodanige tussencoer se geverf word wat sol seker dat sodanige geverfde gebied skoon bly en goed in stand gehou word.

9. (1) Waar enige elektriese verbinding aan enige perseel beskikbaar is, mag niemand sodanige perseel bewoon nie, tensy —
(a) elke kamer 'n werkende elektrisiteitstoever vir verligting en krag het, en

6. (1) Whenever the Medical Officer of Health is of the opinion that any land or premises or part thereof is unhealthy, unhygienic, unfit for human habitation not in a clean state or in good repair, or likely to be injurious to the health of the person occupying it, the Medical Officer of Health may serve a notice on the owner or occupier of such land or premises requiring him to—
(a) cease to use such land or premises for human habitation; and/or
(b) take such measures as the Medical Officer of Health may specify in the notice within a time specified in such notice.

(2) Any person who fails to comply with the terms of a notice in terms of subregulation (1) (a) shall be guilty of an offence.

(3) When the owner or occupier has taken the measures specified in subregulation (1) (b) to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer of Health, the Medical Officer of Health shall issue a certificate rescinding such notice and permitting the use of such land or premises.

Accommodation establishment

7. (1) The owner of any accommodation establishment shall ensure that such establishment shall have ablution facilities separate for each sex and equipped with—
(a) one bath or shower; and
(b) one wash hand basin,
in accordance with regulation P2 of the National Building Regulations: Provided that at least one bath shall be provided for the use of each sex.

(2) Every bathroom, shower compartment and water closet shall be clearly designated for the sex for which it is intended: Provided that where a series of two or more bathrooms, shower compartments, or water closets have been installed on the premises the entrance to each series shall bear such designation.

General requirements

8. The owner of any premises or the occupier in respect of that part of the premises under his control, shall—
(a) keep all sanitary fittings, boilers, lighting and fire extinguishing equipment at all times in proper working order;
(b) keep such premises free from refuse, rubbish and litter;
(c) take adequate measures to prevent the breeding or harbouring of rodents, flies or vermin;
(d) ensure that every wall, surface and ceiling, unless constructed of materials not intended to be painted, shall be kept painted at such intervals as will ensure that the painted area remains clean and in a good state of repair.

9. (1) Where an electrical connection is available to a premises, then no person may occupy such premises unless—
(a) each room has a functioning supply of electricity of lighting and power, and
(b) every passageway, entrance, stairway and lift has adequate lighting.

(2) Where a lift has been installed on the premises, the owner shall ensure—
(a) its continuous safe functioning; and
(b) its availability to occupiers of the premises, in accordance with regulation A15 of the National Building Regulations.

Penalties

10. (1) Any person who contravenes or fails to comply with any provisions of these Regulations or who is in default complying therewith shall be guilty of an offence and shall on conviction be liable to a fine not exceeding R200.

(2) Whenever any person has been convicted of an offence under subregulation (1), any continuation of the contravention after such conviction shall constitute a new offence.

Scope of Regulations

11. The provisions of these Regulations are applicable in the whole of the zone comprising the municipal area of Kosmos.

A. S. DU PREEZ,
Town Clerk.
P.O. Box 1
KOSMOS
0261.
ononderbrokke vir langer as ses maande vertoon word nie "

P. G. PRETORIUS,
Stadsklerk.
Munisipale Kantoor
Maraisstraat
Schoemansville
Posbus 976
HARTBEESPOORT
0216

DEPARTEMENT VAN PLAASLIKE BESTUUR,
BEHUISING EN WERKE

No. R. 394
7 Februarie 1992

STADSRAAD VAN HARTBEESPOORT
AANNAME VAN STANDAARDVERORDENINGE
BETREFFENDE OPENBARE GERIEWE

Die Stadsklerk van Hartbeespoort publiseer hierby, ingevolge artikel 101 van die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur, 1939 (Ordonnansie No 17 van 1939), dat die Stadsraad van Hartbeespoort die Standaardverordeninge betreffende Openbare Genewie afgekondig by Offisiele Kennisgewing No 60 gedateer 14 September 1990, ingevolge artikel 96bis (2) van genoemde Ordonnansie, sonder wysgang aangeneem het as Verordeninge wat deur genoemde Stadsraad opgestel is.

J. A. SCHEEPERS,
Waarnemende Stadsklerk.
Munisipale Kantoor
Posbus 976
HARTBEESPOORT
0216.

DEPARTEMENT VAN PLAASLIKE BESTUUR,
BEHUISING EN WERKE

No. R. 395
7 Februarie 1992

STADSRAAD VAN ORKNEY
AANNAME VAN VERORDENINGE
BETREFFENDE PLAKKATE

Die Stadsklerk van Orkney publiseer hierby, ingevolge artikel 101 van die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur, 1939 (Ordonnansie No 17 van 1939), die Verordeninge hierna uiteengestel.

Woordomskrywings

1. In hierdie Verordeninge, tenys uit die samehang anders blyk, beteken—

"gelde" die tarief van gelde soos van tyd tot tyd deur die Raad by spesiale besluit, ingevolge artikel 80B van die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike Bestuur, 1939, bepaal,

"plakkat" enige kennisgewing, advertensie, aankondiging, toestel of ander materiaal of voorwerp waarop skrif, letters, syfers of illustrasies aangewing is met die doel om direk of indirek reklame te maak vir, inligting te verskaf oor of die publiek aan te lok na enige plek, openbare vertoning, vergadering of ander gebeurtenis wat op 'n bepaalde tyd en plek sal plaasvind, en sluit 'n baner in,

these signs shall not be displayed for longer than six months at a time "

P. G. PRETORIUS,
Town Clerk.
Municipal Offices
Marais Street
Schoemansville
P.O. Box 976
HARTBEESPOORT
0216

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND WORKS

No. R. 394
7 February 1992

TOWN COUNCIL OF HARTBEESPOORT
ADOPTION OF STANDARD PUBLIC
AMENITIES BY-LAWS

The Town Clerk of Hartbeespoort hereby, in terms of section 101 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939 (Ordinance No 17 of 1939), publishes that the Town Council of Hartbeespoort has adopted without amendment in terms of section 96bis (2) of the said Ordinance the Standard Public Amenities By-laws, promulgated under Official Notice No 60 dated 14 September 1990, as By-laws made by the said Town Council.

J. A. SCHEEPERS,
Acting Town Clerk.
Municipal Offices
P.O. Box 976
HARTBEESPOORT
0216.

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND WORKS

No. R. 395
7 February 1992

TOWN COUNCIL OF ORKNEY
ADOPTION OF BY-LAWS
RELATING TO POSTERS

The Town Clerk of Orkney hereby, in terms of section 101 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939 (Ordinance No 17 of 1939), publishes the By-laws set forth hereinafter.

Definitions

1. In these By-laws, unless the context otherwise indicates—

"charges" means, the tariff of charges as determined from time to time by the Council by special resolution, in terms of section 80B of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939,

"Council" means, the Town Council of Orkney this Council's management Committee acting under the powers delegated to it in terms of section 58 of the Local Government Ordinance (Administration and Elections), 1960 (Ordinance 40 of 1960), and any officer of the Council to whom the Committee has been empowered by the Council in terms of subsection (3) of the said section to delegate, and has in fact delegated the powers, functions and duties vesting in the Council in relation to these by-laws,
“Raad” is de Stadsraad van Orkney die Raad se Bestuurskomitee wat handel kragtens die bevoegdheid wat ingevolge die bepalingen van artikel 58 van die Ordonnansie op Plaaklike Bestuur (Administrasie en Verkeerings), 1960 (Ordonnansie No. 40 van 1960), aan hom gedelegerde is, en enige bepaamte aan wie die Komitee ingevolge die bepaling van subartikel (3) van genoemde artikel, op gesag van die Raad, die bevoegdheid, funksies en pligte wat ten opsigte van hierdie verordeninge by die Raad berus, kan deleger, en dit inderdaad gedeleger het.

“straat” is enige openbare straat, laan, sypaadjie, publieke op ruimte of park binne die Munisipaliteit van Orkney.

2. Niemand mag in of in sig van ‘n straat of ander openbare plek binne die gebied wat deur die Raad van tyd tot tyd omskryf word en binne die munisipaliteit ‘n plakkaat of ander advertensie (die uitdrukking omvat in hierdie artikel enige advertensie-toestel) vertoon, laat vertoon, toelaat of duld dat dit vertoon word nie met die doel om ‘n vergadering, byeenkoms of geleentheid vir sport-, opvoedkundige, liefdadigheids-, politieke of ander doeleindes, of om iemand se kandidaatskarp in nominasie vir of ander belang by, ’n Parlements-, Transvaal Provincesale Raads- of ’n Raadsverkiezing te adverter nie.

3. Niemand mag in of in sig van ‘n straat of ‘n ander openbare plek buite die gebied soos deur die Raad van tyd tot tyd omskryf word en binne die munisipaliteit ‘n plakkaat of ander advertensie, soos dit in artikel 2 beskryf word, vertoon of laat vertoon, toelaat of duld dat dit vertoon word nie, tenby hy eers die skriftelike toestemming van die Raad, wat deur die ingeneur oordietek moet word, verkry het. Met die verstande dat geen toestemming verleen word om ‘n plakkaat of ander soortgelyke advertensie te vertoon wat betrekking het op ‘n handelsonderneming of -bedrywighed of op enige bedrywighd wat na die mening van die ingeneur allereers of hoofsaaklik van ‘n kommersiële aard is nie.

4. Enige persoon wat uit hoofde van ‘n toestemming wat ingevolge artikel 3 verleen is, in ‘n straat of ander openbare plek ‘n plakkaat of ‘n ander advertensie vertoon, laat vertoon of duld dat dit vertoon word, moet aan die volgende vereistes voldoen of sorg dat dit nagekoom word:

(a) Die plakkaat of ander advertensie moet, op so ‘n wyse aan ‘n neetige en sterk bord van hout of ‘n ander geskikte materiaal wat deur die ingeneur goedgekeur moet word, bevestig word, dat dit nie vanwee wind of reen heetemal of gedeeltelik los sal raak nie, en nóg die bord of ander materiaal, nóg die plakkaat of advertensie self mag groter as 900 mm by 600 mm wees.

(b) ‘n Bord of materiaal soos ingevolge subartikel (a) voorgeskryf, mag nie geplaas word op of teen of bevestig word aan, of andersom gestut word deur, enige transformator, gelei- of telegraafpaal, verkeerstig of -teken of ander bouwerk of voorwerp wat deur die Raad, die Provincesale Raad of die Regering van die Republiek openg is nie, tenby dit met ‘n toring of ‘n sterk lyn gesek, aan ‘n boom wat in ‘n straat, park of ander openbare plek staan, bevestig word nie.

(c) Behoudens enige bepaling wat in subartikel (b) vervat is, moet ‘n bord of materiaal soos voorgeskryf ingevolge subartikel (a), met draad van uiterst 4 mm en ten minste 3 mm in deursnee styf aan ‘n sterk en stuwige stut vasgeheg word.

“poster” means, any notice, advertisement, announcement, device or other material or object on which writing, print, figures of illustrations have been affixed with the purpose to promote directly or to give information to the public or to attract or invite the public to any place, public display, meeting or other event which will take place on a certain date, place and time and includes a banner.

“street” means any public street, lane, sidewalk, public open space or park within the Municipality of Orkney.

2. No person shall in or in view of any street or other public place within the area defined by the Council from time to time, display or cause, permit or suffer to be displayed any poster or other advertisement (which expression in this section includes any advertising device) with a view to advertise any meeting, function or event of a sporting, educational, charitable, political or any other character or the candidature or nomination of any person for, or other interest of any person in, an election to Parliament, the Transvaal Provincial Council or the Council.

3. No person shall in or in view of any street or other public place outside the area as defined by the Council from time to time and within the municipality, display or cause, permit or suffer to be displayed any poster or other advertisement as described in section 2 unless he has first obtained the permission of the Council, to be given in writing under the hand of the engineer. Provided that no permission shall be given for the display of any poster or other similar advertisement having reference to any commercial undertaking or activity or to any activity which in the opinion of the engineer is primarily or mainly of a commercial character.

4. Any person who, in the exercise of a permission granted in terms of section 3, displays or causes or suffers to be displayed in a street or other public place a poster or other advertisement, shall comply with or cause to be complied with the following requirements:

(a) The poster or other advertisement shall be attached, in such a manner that it will not become wholly or partially dislodged by wind or rain, to a neat and strong board made of wood or other suitable material which must be approved by the engineer, and neither such board or such material nor the poster or the advertisement itself shall measure more than 900 mm by 600 mm.

(b) A board or material as prescribed in terms of subsection (a) shall not be placed on or against or attached to or otherwise supported by any transformer box, electricity or telegraph pole, traffic light or sign or other structure or object erected by the Council, the Provincial Council of the Government of the Republic or, save by means of cord or strong string, be attached to any tree growing in a street, park or other public place.

(c) Without prejudice to any provision contained in subsection (b), a board or material as prescribed in terms of subsection (a), shall be firmly fastened to a strong and stable support by means of wire not exceeding 4 mm and not less than 3 mm in diameter.
(d) No board or material shall be placed on such a place or in such a manner as is likely, in the opinion of the Council, to constitute a danger to vehicular traffic or pedestrians in any street or other public place.

(e) No poster or other advertisement relating to a meeting, function or event, other than an election, shall be displayed for longer than 14 days before the day on which it begins and longer than three days after the day on which it ends.

(f) Any person who displays or causes, permits or suffers to be displayed any poster or other advertisement, shall first furnish the Council with a statement, in writing, mentioning the street in or in view of which and the intersection nearest to which every such poster or other advertisement will be displayed.

5. (a) The requirements as prescribed in the succeeding subsections of this section shall be complied with in respect of posters or other advertisements relating to a Parliamentary, Provincial or municipal election. Provided that nothing in this section contained shall apply to a poster or other advertisement relating to such an election which—

(i) is located entirely inside fixed premises, that is to say, displayed elsewhere on such premises than on an exterior wall or on the outside of any fence forming the apparent boundary of the premises;

(ii) is displayed in or on a private motor vehicle parked or being driven in a street or other public place in the course of the normal use of such vehicle;

(iii) is displayed at the committee rooms, clearly marked as such, of a candidate in an election; or

(iv) is affixed to a hoarding licensed for the display of advertisements.

(b) In respect of each candidate not more than 100 posters or other advertisements shall be exhibited at any one time in any municipal ward and not more than 200 shall be exhibited in any parliamentary constituency.

(c) No poster or other advertisement shall be displayed for longer than the period extending from the beginning of the day of nomination to the end of the fourth day after midnight of the day of the election.

(d) Advertisements may be displayed in the form of banners not exceeding 1 m by 4 m in size or three in number of such banners in each municipal ward and five in each parliamentary constituency.

6. Not more than 40 posters or other advertisements shall be displayed at any one time in relation to any meeting, function or event, other than an election.

7. Except, whether or not by virtue of permission given in terms of section 3, no poster or other advertisement shall be placed in a street or other public place, unless the appropriate sum as prescribed in Schedule 2 hereto has been paid to the Council by way of deposit.
8. Elke deposito wat ingevolge artikel 7 betaal is, word, behoedens die bepaling van artikel 9, terugbetaal wanneer al die plakkate of ander advertensies waarop die deposito betrekking het, tot bevrediging van die Raad verwyser is, en nie voor dié tyd nie.

9. Enige persoon wat, nadat hy 'n advertensie vertoon of laat vertoon het, versuin om dit te verwys of te laat verwys binne die tydperke wat ingevolge artikel 4 (e) of artikel 5 (c) voorgeskryf is, begaan 'n msdryf en benewens enige boete wat hy ingevolge artikel 10 (a) moet betaal, verbeur hy ook die deposito met betrekking tot die advertensies wat ingevolge artikel 7 betaal is of 'n deel van dié deposito wat die Raad in verhouding tot die getal plakkate of advertensies wat nie verwyser is nie, kan bepaal.

10. (a) Enige persoon wat in of in sig van 'n straat of 'n ander openbare plek 'n plakkaat of ander advertensie vertoon of laat vertoon of duld dat dit vertoon word sonder dat hy ingevolge artikel 3 vergunning daartoe verkry het, en iemand wat, nadat hy die betrokke vergunning verkry het, teragt van ongepaste ingeverklaar van 'n plakkaat of advertensie vertoon om aan die bepaling van hierdie artikel of wat andersins enige bepaling daarvan oortrede, begaan 'n msdryf en is by skuldigbovindingsstraflaag met 'n boete van hoogstens R100.

(b) Indien iemand ingevolge hierdie artikel aangeklag word van 'n msdryf met betrekking tot 'n plakkaat of ander advertensie, rus die bewysyks op hom en moet hy bewys dat hy nie die plakkaat of advertensie vertoon of laat vertoon of toegelaat of geduld het dat dit vertoon word nie.

(c) Enige persoon wat 'n plakkaat of ander advertensie in of in sig van 'n straat of ander openbare plek vertoon, laat vertoon of toelaat of duld dat dit daar vertoon word en enigiemand anders, uitgesonderd 'n poliseibeampte of enige ander persoon wie se plig dit is om hierdie verordening toe te pas, wat deur die persoon wat vir die vertoning van die plakkaat of ander advertensie verantwoordelik is, gemagtig is om dit te verwys, word as die vertooner daarvan beskou terwyl dit soos hierbo uiteengevat, vertoon word.

(d) Enige persoon wat, hetsy alleen of saam met iemand anders verantwoordelik is vir die reëling van, of wat in beheer staan van, 'n vergadering, byeenkom of geleentheid waarop 'n plakkaat of ander advertensie betrekking het, word tot tyd en wyl die teendeel bewys is, beskou as die persoon wat elke plakkaat wat vertoon word en wat op daardie vergadering, byeenkom of geleentheid betrekking het, vertoon of laat vertoon, of toegelaat of geduld het dat dit vertoon word.

(e) Dit word geag dat die eenaar en die okkupant van die grond of 'n perseel waarop 'n plakkaat of ander advertensie streidig met hierdie artikel vertoon word, 'n msdryf begaan het tensy hy in engeeen van dié gevalle bewys dat hy nie van die vertoning van die plakkaat of ander advertensie geweet het nie, of dat hy nie deur 'n redelike mate van waaksaamheid aan die dag te lê, daarvan kon geweet het of dit kon verhinder het nie.

(f) Die Raad kan, sonder om enigiemand daarvan kennis te gee, self enige advertensie verwys of verwet het wat sonder sy vergunning ingevolge artikel 3 of wat in stryd met enige bepaling van hierdie artikel vertoon word, of wat nie verwys is binne die tydperk wat ingevolge artikel 4 (e) of artikel 5 (c) voorgeskryf is nie, of wat in enige opsig streidig is met die bepaling van artikel 8. Every deposit paid in terms of section 7 shall, subject to the provisions of section 9, be refunded when and not before all the posters or other advertisements to which the deposit relates, have been removed to the satisfaction of the Council.

9. Any person who, having displayed or caused to be displayed any advertisement, fails to remove it or cause it to be removed within the periods prescribed in terms of section 4 (e) or section 5 (c) shall be guilty of an offence and shall, in addition to any penalty imposed upon him in terms of section 10 (a), forfeit the deposit relating to it made in terms of section 7 or such proportionate part of that deposit as that the Council shall assess having regard to the number of posters or advertisements not removed.

10. (a) Any person who displays or causes or suffers to be displayed any poster or other advertisement in or in view of any street or other public place without having obtained permission to do so in terms of section 3 and any person who, having obtained permission as aforesaid, fails in respect of a poster or advertisement to comply with any provision of this section or who otherwise contravenes any provision thereof, shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on conviction, to a fine not exceeding R100.

(b) If any person is charged with an offence under this section relating to any poster or advertisement, the onus shall rest on him of proving that he neither displayed the poster or other advertisement nor caused, permitted or suffered it to be displayed.

(c) Any person who displays or causes, permits or suffers to be displayed in or in view of any street or other public place any poster or other advertisement and any person other than a police officer or other person charged with the enforcement of these by-laws, who is authorized by the person responsible for the display of the poster or other advertisement to remove it, shall be deemed to be the destroyer thereof so long as it is displayed as aforesaid.

(d) Any person who is either alone or jointly with any other person responsible for organizing, or in control of, any meeting, function or event to which a poster or other advertisement relates shall, until the contrary be proved, be deemed to have displayed or to have caused, permitted or suffered to be displayed every poster which is displayed relating to that meeting, function or event.

(e) The owner and the occupier of land or premises on which any poster or other advertisement is displayed in contravention of this section, shall be deemed to be guilty of an offence unless in either case he proves that he did not know of or could not by the exercise of reasonable diligence have known of or prevented such display.

(f) The Council shall be entitled without giving notice to anyone, itself to remove and destroy any advertisement displayed without its permission having been obtained in terms of section 3 or in contravention of any provision of this section or which has not been removed within the period specified in terms of section 4 (e) or section 5 (c), or which constitutes in any
hierdie artikel, en die persoon wat enige sodanige advertentie vertoon het of dit laat vertoon het of toege-laat of geduld het dat dit vertoon word, is verplig om aan die Raad die koste van genoemde verwydering en vernietiging wat deur die Raad bepaal en van die gestorte deposito afgetrek moet word, te vergoed, en is boonop skuldig aan 'n misdryf.

P. J. SMITH,
Stadsklerk.
Burgersentrum
Praatzaak X6
ORKNEY
2620.

DEPARTEMENT VAN PLAASLIKE BESTUUR,
BHEUISING EN WERKE

No. R. 396 7 Februarie 1992

MUNISIPALITEIT VAN ORKNEY
VERORDENINGE BETREFFENDE
VASTE AFVAL EN SANITEIT

Die Stadsklerk van Orkney publieke hierby, ingevolge artikel 101 van die Ordonnansie opplaaslike Bestuur, 1939 (Ordonnansie No. 17 van 1939), die Verordeninge hierna uiteengesit.

HOOFSTUK I
Woordomsksrywinge

1. In hierdie Verordeninge, tensy uit die samehang anders blyk, beteken—

"aanstootlike afval" afval wat toksies, gevaarlik, nadelig of skadelik is of wat die omgewing kan besoekeel of wat ontstaan as gevolg van 'n verraardingproses of die voorafbehandeling vir weggewoon-doeelenges van myn- of bedryfsvloeeafla, wat ingevolge die Raad se Rioleringseverordeninge nie in 'n perseerincol of straatrool gestort mag word nie;

"besigheidsafval" afval wat op enige perseel ontstaan wat met gemak en sonder beskadiging van die houer daarin verwyder kan word, met inbegrila van tuinafla maar uitgesonder bouersafval, lywige afval, huisafval of aanstootlike afval,

"bouersafval" afval wat slegs weens slopings-, uit-grawings- of boubedrywighede op 'n perseel ontstaan;

"eienaars" 'n eienaars soos omskryf in die Ordonnansie opplaaslike Bestuur, 1939: Met dien verstande dat die "eienaar" van 'n perseel wat gehou word ingevolge die Deelteiregister wat ingevolge artikel 5 van die Wet op Deeltei, 1971, geopen is, die regpersoon is wat by die Wet omskryf word;

"gelde" die tanen van gelde soos van tyd tot tyd deur di Raad, by spesiale beskat, ingevolge artikel 80B van die Ordonnansie opplaaslike Bestuur, 1939, vasgestel;

"hoer" 'n vullishouer soos deur die Raad bepaal en goedgekeur en wat deur di Raad gratis of teen 'n vasgestelde tarief of teen hoersende prysie of 'n huurtarief, voorsien kan word;

"huisafval" afval wat normaalweg op die persele van private woninghuse wat uitsluitlik vir woondoeelenges gebruik word, ontstaan en wat met gemak en sonder die beskadiging van die houer, daarin verwyder kan word, en wat tuinafla insluit,

respect a contravention of the provisions of this section, and the person who displayed any such advertisement or caused, permitted or suffered it to be displayed shall be liable to refund to the Council the cost to be assessed and deducted by the council from the deposit made, of the said removal and destruction, and in addition shall be guilty of an offence.

P. J. SMITH,
Town Clerk.
Civic Centre
Private Bag X8
ORKNEY
2620.

DEPARTMENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT,
HOUSING AND WORKS

No. R. 396 7 February 1992

MUNICIPALITY OF ORKNEY
BY-LAWS RELATING TO SOLID
WASTE AND SANITARY

The Town Clerk of Orkney hereby, in terms of section 101 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939 (Ordinance No. 17 of 1939), publishes the By-laws set forth hereinafter.

CHAPTER I
Definitions

1. In these By-laws, unless the context otherwise indicates—

"builders refuse" means refuse generated only by demolition, excavation or building activities on premises;

"bulky refuse" means refuse generated on any premises but which cannot by virtue of its mass, shape, size or quantity readily be removed by means of and without damaging the container, excluding objectionable refuse;

"business refuse" means refuse generated on any premises and which can readily be removed by means of and without damaging containers, including garden refuse but excluding builders refuse, bulky refuse, domestic refuse or objectionable refuse;

"charges" means the tariff of charges as determined from time to time by the Council by special resolution, in terms of section 80B of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939.

"container" means a refuse container as prescribed and approved by the Council and which may be supplied by the Council free of charge, or at a prescribed tariff or at ruling prices or at a hiring charge.

"Council" means the "Town Council of Orkney, the Council's Management Committee acting under the powers delegated to it in terms of section 58 of the Local Government (Administrations and Elections) Ordinance, 1960, and any officer to whom that Committee has been empowered by the Council in terms of subsection (3) of the said section to delegate and has in fact delegated, the powers, functions and duties vesting in the Council in relation to these By-laws,
The Quaker family of Boston... went to return to the good old days before...
Two Sides of the Squatter Story

SYDNEY WOODWARD and ALF MUSHINE spoke to physical families on both sides of the fence.

The squatter families who own the old dry sands of the Hawkesbury have been occupying their properties for generations. They have been farming the land for generations and have a strong sense of community and tradition.

On the other hand, the squatter families who rent the land from the landlord have been living in conditions of poverty and exploitation. The landlord has been exploiting the tenants for generations and has made it difficult for them to improve their lives.

The squatter families who own the land have been living in conditions of luxury and comfort. They have been farming the land for generations and have a strong sense of community and tradition.

On the other hand, the squatter families who rent the land from the landlord have been living in conditions of poverty and exploitation. The landlord has been exploiting the tenants for generations and has made it difficult for them to improve their lives.

The squatter families who own the land have been living in conditions of luxury and comfort. They have been farming the land for generations and have a strong sense of community and tradition.
Bloubosrand group plans protest march

By Michael Sparks and Shirley Woodgate

The Bloubosrand Action Committee yesterday called on Randburg and Sandton residents to join a mass march this afternoon to the Randburg Town Council where they would demand the resignation of the councillors.

The demand stems from dissatisfaction with the manner in which the relocation of the Zevenfontein squatters to Extension 1 has been dealt with by the Randburg council, who recently admitted to knowing of the relocation plans two years ago.

Chairman of the Bloubosrand Action Committee Peter Bantock addressing yesterday's open-air meeting called on people not to pay municipal rates, but said they should continue to pay for utilities which he described as consumables.

"In our area we pay assessment rates. In the past week our property has been devalued to about zero. Since there is no longer any value to our property, there is no longer any reason to pay rates," Mr Bantock said to cheers from the crowd.

Many of the about 450-strong crowd signed the petition calling for the resignation of the councillors.

Mr Bantock emphasised that the BAC was not fighting the squatter's relocation socio-economic and not racist reasons.

"People should be able to gravitate towards an area of their own socio-economic standing, they should not force people of vastly different classes together. Otherwise it is a catalyst for conflict," he said.

Mr Bantock said the BAC had received permission for the protest march which will start at 3pm today from the Pick 'n Pay parking area behind Randburg's Sanlam Centre.

Mr Bantock pointed out that BAC had agreed that money collected from residents that was left over once the situation had been resolved would be donated to the upgrading of the Zevenfontein community.

Yesterday Randburg Town Council management committee chairman Andre Jacobs said it had been made clear that the council was developing low-cost housing at Bloubosrand and that only squatters who could afford to pay for it would be accepted.

At that stage, the squatters had indicated that 20 percent were unable to pay as they were unemployed.

At a separate press conference, Operation Masakhane for the Homeless (Ohmle) said the condition of payment was unacceptable.

Outlining proposed house models costing as little as R7 200, Ohmle national organiser Eric Ngeleza claimed that 90 percent of the 1 005 families living in Zevenfontein were employed and eligible to be transferred to Bloubosrand.

"The Independent Development Trust offers a subsidy for first-time home buyers, which means everyone can be permanently housed in that area.

"But," he added, "it will not be acceptable if Randburg accepts only those who can pay."
Bloubosrand residents to march on council

ANGRY Bloubosrand residents are to hold a mass march to the Randburg Civic Centre today, following the Randburg Town Council's announcement yesterday that it would stand by its agreement to allow the Zevenfontein squatters to move to a 46ha site at Bloubosrand.

Bloubosrand Action Committee spokesman Paul Burrows said yesterday he believed about 4000 people would be demonstrating their opposition to the move. He believed many Randburg residents would attend as the whole community would be affected by the relocations.

Transvaal Administrator Dame Hourgh is considering a proposal to develop a low-cost housing site at Bloubosrand to accommodate the Zevenfontein squatters and is expected to make a decision on the matter before Monday.

At a news conference yesterday, Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs accused the Bloubosrand homeowners of reacting irresponsibly and said the council still believed it had identified the most suitable site for relocation.

He said the council was proposing this site — sandwiched between an affluent area and a middle-class area — because it was not prepared to develop apartheid-style "locations" far removed from the town and its employment opportunities and facilities.

Sapa reported yesterday that "no amount of coercion or intimidation will stop us from settling and living in harmony at Bloubosrand."

The Zevenfontein squatters stated yesterday that "no amount of coercion or intimidation will stop us from settling and living in harmony at Bloubosrand."

Operation Masakhane for the Homeless national organiser Eric Ngeleza told a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday the squatters were eager to pay rent and service charges and wanted to improve their living standards.

He said about 90% of the homeless people were employed...
ZEVENFONTEIN squatters near Randburg have become power in a non-collective power struggle involving provincial authorities and property owners.

"Residents have completely lost hope," said Zevenfontein Executive Committee chairman, Daniel Sondors. This week, as the squatters awaited final confirmation of their eviction by the Randburg City Council, their proposed low-cost housing scheme, Blybersdorp Ext 1, eight kilometres away, was cancelled.

Residents of the middle-class suburb of Blybersdorp, just metres away from the proposed low-cost housing site, have emphatically stated they will not accept the council's proposal. That stand, they say, is "non-negotiable".

"Difficulties of the past" concern have been locked in discussions the whole week in an attempt to solve the situation - which several of the parties involved say is mainly due to the incompetence of the Transvaal Provincial Administration. The next meeting is on Monday.

Chatties residents and the residents of the squatters' formal area who still have their squatters' occupancy being accommodated in the housing scheme are moving out.

"For the squatters, the situation has become intolerable. There are no facilities - no water, no sewerage removal, no school for the children. And there is criminal activity, they complain," said Chatties residents Sondors and others.

"We cannot be allowed through the weekend and we have to take a pregnant woman by wheelchair to the checkblocks to drive her to hospital.

And when they would be moving in, a group of squatters on Tuesday said they had been told by the TPA they would be moving to Blybersdorp Ext 1. And told the Blybersdorp homeowners didn't want them there, they shrugged and said they wouldn't know if they were coming or not.

Since news of the squatters being moved to Ext 1, Sondors said the Blybersdorp residents have been burning roadblocks in the roadblocks - or "checkpoints" - and the clock was ticking: no movement was seen and the residents were moving.

Residents said they set up the checkpoints because while the TPA and other parties had undertaken not to move the squatters, the TPA could not be trusted to keep up its end of the bargain.

"The city's management committee chairman, Andre Jacobs, said "It is not clear for them to have roadblocks on public roads but we have decided to turn a blind eye because the squatters are not aware of the moment. Just as long as they don't usually block the roads, that's fine,"

Police were present at the roadblocks last week, but only driver warrants were required for the roadblocks, said Jacobs. Police were just "doing their routine policing.

The Blybersdorp residents are first-time home buyers who have expressed fears about losing their homes because of the drop in property values that has occurred since the controversy started.

"It's not a rational issue - it's a question of economics," they answered, quoting a growing number of blacks, coloureds and Indians were buying plots and houses in the area and they were always welcome.

"It's not that we don't want them here," said Andre Kruis, an accountant in Johannesburg. "If only they could give them proper housing. I bought my place in October and the doctor I am going to affect the rest of my life."

Kruis said he had bought a house at a price of R150,000. Paying R2,000 a month for his bond, he said the value of his house had already dropped by 40-50 percent.

"My wife and I are planning on having children - but how can you plan on something that isn't going to happen in the future?"

Deadlock as squatters struggle continues

The battle for the squatters of Zevenfontein continues and lack of planning has left the Zevenfontein squatters with no homes and no hope.

By LINDA RULASHE
Mock funeral to mark end of local authority

THE tottering Emmerdale local authority faces yet another challenge from residents who plan a mock funeral this weekend to mark its demise.

"At an emotion-charged civic meeting in the township on Wednesday night, residents resolved to march to the offices of the Emmerdale Local Development Organisation on Sunday with a coffin and hold a mock funeral," an arrested resident, including PAC publicity secretary Benny Alexander, during a meeting to protest against increased payments in water and electricity in the township.

"After a report-back on a meeting held on Tuesday with local authority officials, residents voted for the rejection of the local authority's electricity flat rate offer of R100. "The flat rate should be affordable even to the poorest residents and pensioners do not have to pay anything," a resident told the meeting amid loud cheers.

Echung a call made earlier by Emmerdale and Surrounding Civic Association chairman Mr Clifford Smith for the resignation of councillors and the incorporation of Emmerdale into Johannesburg, Alexander told the meeting: "We want Emmerdale to be incorporated into Johannesburg and later we must control Johannesburg." - Sowetan 'Correspondent'
Total boycott in tariffs fight

A mass meeting of residents will be held on Sunday to endorse the decision, which has heightened within the community over the past few months, a Press conference was told.

VCA spokesman Mr Keith Montsitsi claimed the council had broken an agreement signed by it on March 7 1991 by failing to negotiate acceptable new tariffs for metered and service charges after May last year, as stipulated.

While more than 80 percent of residents had continued to pay monthly fees of R60 - agreed on as payments for April and May 1991 only the council had from mid-November last year started selective cut-offs to individual households.

Complainants were told to pay half of the amounts on their current consumption statements and to sign documents promising to pay the balance in instalments.

Amounts of R600 were then added to their accounts for the reconnection of power, Montsitsi claimed.

In addition, Vosloorus residents were currently paying an average of 5.5c more per kilowatt hour of electricity than their neighbours in Boksburg.

A possible joint-venture company between Eskom and residents, proposed by the company, enjoyed wide support from the community as a solution to the current crisis, he said.

Closest alternative

Power supply would go directly to residents, instead of through the council as at present. Eskom would decide on the tariffs which residents would pay directly to the company.

Montsitsi said the company would give residents a direct say in their own affairs.

It would be the closest alternative to an amalgamated Vosloorus/Boksburg town council, which due to the conservative nature of the white council, was a much desired, but far-off ideal, he added.

-Sapa
Marching in the northeastern suburbs streets
Councilman may resign over threats, outcry.

DISTRICTED BOYSTOWN AND CONNOLLY

BRENDAN TEMPLETON

Councilman may resign over threats, outcry.

DISTRICTED BOYSTOWN AND CONNOLLY
MINING land and land being held for speculative purposes should be used for low-cost housing, the ANC said in a statement yesterday.

Urging the creation of a forum to establish a housing policy and to identify suitable land, the ANC said these steps were vital to prevent conflicts such as that involving the Zevenfontein squatters.

The ANC, the statement said, believed that planning should be a public process enabling parties such as civics, local authorities, ratepayers, the private sector and the general public to take part in decisions that affected them.

“All this should be underpinned by the principle that the needs of the urban homeless must be affordably met.”

The State, it said, was obliged to seek out land suitable for residential sites and encourage the use of vacant land being held for speculative purposes.

“Furthermore, the assumption that mining land is untouchable should be challenged, as such vacant land is often well suited for residential purposes.” — Sapa
Bloubosrand's brothers in arms

MIDDLECLASS sensibilities flew out of the window in Bloubosrand this week.

Within a week the outlying Randburg suburb was transformed into a battleground for territorial rights.

Young married men from Soweto began hoarding the guns they kept hidden in their sock and handkerchief drawers. Some, like Stuart Smith, sent their toddlers to relatives “just in case.”

They took leave from work, mounted a control centre, hired a batch of two-way radios and are keeping an eagle eye on the 440ha open patch earmarked for Zevenfontein’s squatters — land that is only metres away from their pristine new houses.

Neighbours who were strangers are suddenly brothers and buddies in arms in an around-the-clock military-style operation aimed at defending their castles.

Bridge

They communicate vigorously by two-way radio. They urgently summon not John, Joe or Bert, but Echo One, Two or Three.

They have dug trenches across the roads, and it is rumoured, mined a low-level bridge leading into the suburb.

The women, including the wives of black Bloubosrand homeowners, are up in arms preparing food for them on patrol.

Yeppie accountants with clipped English accents and Paul Simon T-shirts have thrown up roadblocks to keep out squatters who might creep in at night with corrugated iron and cardboard.

Any night of the week Carole Vogel’s husband, Ewoud, 34, can be found taking his turn manning one of the eight roadblocks blocking the suburb.

If the truth be told, Mr Vogel, a high school teacher and father of three, is somewhat bemused by the events of the last 10 days — by the council decision to ram thousands of squatters into a narrow strip of land literally around his corner and also by the transformation within his suburb.

“Look we don’t have a Venterdorp-type mentality here, but we have a lot of young chaps who have done military service and are putting their training into practice,” he said.

“We discourage people from displaying weapons. The AWB offered 300 men and we declined.”

“But if the authorities bring the squatters in, there is no telling what residents will do. One little mistake could turn this thing into a bloodbath.”

Said Mrs Vogel, 26: “When we came here three years ago, it was for good. We built our dream house and made what we thought was a good investment.”

“My parents bought the plot next door to build their retirement house. We were not thinking about Australia or Canada. We sank everything into this house.

“Before this happened the house was worth about R140,000. Now I doubt we could get enough to cover the bond.

“I feel sorry for the squatters, but I am 25 times sorrier for myself — I have much more to lose.”

Mr Vogel added: “We’re trapped. We’ll have to upgrade our security and change our lifestyle. Our other option is to leave the house to the bank.”

The thought is not far from the minds of many residents — the majority of whom are first-time home owners.

“If those squatters come we’ll leave. Then the bank can take the house. I will not stay in hell,” mordantly said a black resident of Bloubosrand who wished to remain anonymous.

“I came here from the towns. I know about gangs and crime. It is better here for the quiet People welcomed me even though I am black. My husband and I don’t want squatters on our doorstep,” she said.

Cancelled

Said Bloubosrand Action Committee spokesman Peter Bancroft, “Two weeks ago property values were soaring faster than most places in South Africa. Last Sunday not a single person turned up to see our show homes. The banks won’t give loans for this area. Newcomers have cancelled their contracts.

“Our houses were worth between R130,000 and R170,000 on average. Now they’re not worth 10c. People are not insensitive to the fact that squatters are people with emotions, but we will not negotiate sub-economic houses for this area. We don’t want health problems or a speculated increase in crime. We don’t want a crippled property market.”
‘Funeral’ held to protest high rates

By Michael Sparks

Residents of Ennerdale yesterday conducted a mock funeral march to the offices of the development committee where they performed a “cremation” to protest against what they believe to be high rates for water and electricity after recent increases.

The procession of approximately 500 grew to about 800 as they marched about 7 km through the streets of the township to the Ennerdale local development committee, known by its Afrikaans acronym EPOK.

Two police vehicles monitored the procession. The marchers sang and toyed past the police station, but without incident.

A coffin, symbolising residents’ belief that EPOK is defunct, and a grieving widow and father — sat atop a bakkie representing a hearse.

Cries of "Viva" changed to "Water!" as the procession wound its way through the streets in the scorching heat.

Any political differences between the ANC and the PAC seemed academic as the same people responded with similar enthusiasm to slogans shouted for the two organisations.

On reaching the EPOK offices residents listened to a "dominee". "Today we come to bury EPOK, not to praise him. Because EPOK was not an honourable organisation," he said to laughs.

Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association chairman Clifford Smith called on residents to pay no more than R30 for electricity and water and not the R100 flat rate proposed by the committee at a recent meeting.

That money was only to be paid when the civic executive gave residents the go-ahead, he added.

Calls for petrol brought forward a cannister which was liberally thrown over the "coffin" before being set alight.

Residents expressed satisfaction that police had not become involved.

Resident Stanley Louw echoed the feelings of many: "When the police came, things get blown out of context. But if they are not here then it is peaceful. "Nothing else will happen," he said as residents turned to leave for home.
Vosloorus embarks on boycott

Vosloorus residents yesterday decided on an immediate rent and services payment boycott to force an end to a two-year-old dispute with their council.

A large crowd, estimated at 46 000 by the Vosloorus Civic Association, filled the Vosloorus Stadium near Boksburg on the East Rand yesterday and agreed unanimously to suspend payments.

The meeting the council's "dilly-dallying" had brought the dispute to a head.

He said the Vosloorus Civic Association would in future deal directly with the TPA. He claimed that the council had shown itself to be powerless.

He said the dispute began in 1990 when Vosloorus's 110 000 residents embarked on a rents and services payments "go-slow" because of charges they believed were excessive.

— Sapa

Association secretary Keith Montata said after the meeting.
Water supply normal again

Most of the areas south of Johannesburg which experienced a water shortage towards the end of last week, appeared to have received a normal water supply over the weekend according to a spokesman for the Rand Water Board.

The man, who did not want to be identified, said he thought the Enderdale, Walkerville and Orange Farm water supplies were back to normal, but Mondeor — which is supplied by the Johannesburg City Council’s Eagle Nest reservoir — had experienced some problems. — Staff, Reporter.
Forum to ease Alberton-Tokoza relations

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

A negotiating forum to "normalize" relations between the Alberton municipality and Tokoza residents has been proposed by the Alberton Town Council following Tokoza's payment of an outstanding electricity bill of R2.2 million.

Relations between the neighbouring municipalities have been strained because of regular electricity cuts as a result of a protracted rent boycott.

The Alberton Council has announced that it will now assist Tokoza with administration and the provision of services following the settling of the outstanding payment.

Alberton management committee chairman Johan van der Merwe said his council was prepared to help with the administration of Tokoza by providing services and functions to the township "on an urgency basis".

He said the Alberton Council was still awaiting the Tokoza community's reaction to the forum proposal.
Huge housing windfall likely for Sowetans

NEARLY 60 000 houses in Soweto are likely to be handed over free of charge to the occupants.

The Cabinet is expected to make a final decision soon on the transfer of the homes, which are owned by the local authorities in Soweto, Diepmeadow and Dobsonville.

The proposal was submitted to Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels in December last year after consideration by the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

The proposal suggests the immediate free transfer of the ownership of houses built before 1982 in the Greater Soweto area.

"We are anticipating and preparing for the decision," said Metro Chamber CEO Vic Milne at the weekend.

"The people occupying these old houses in Soweto can expect ownership regardless of outstanding loans and irrespective of tenure," Milne said.

Outstanding loans owed to the Soweto Council on pre-1962 houses amount to R2m. The deficit will be covered by the current programme of rate increases as well as through the elimination of maintenance costs.

The free transfer proposal could have significant implications for national housing policy if it is deemed to be successful.

The idea was a result of the Greater Soweto Accord signed by local civic and government authorities in September 1990.

The proposal was presented by the Metro Chamber to the TPA and then to Wessels and the Cabinet.

"The proposal will most definitely have repercussions and implications for the whole country," said Transvaal MEC of Housing, Mike van Zyl. "The Cabinet will have to decide whether to make the free transfers applicable only in Soweto or in the rest of SA too."

Plans for the remaining 58 000 houses on the Metro Chamber's agenda, all either built after 1982 or subject to investigations concerning non-local authority loans and funding, were being discussed, he said.
Hostel dwellers wanted in peace talks

THE ANC has called for the active involvement of hostel residents in regional peace initiatives in the wake of violence at Soweto's Meadowlands township at the weekend.

Speaking at the inauguration of the Witwatersrand-Vaal regional peace committee on Friday, ANC representative Floyd Mashele said "Most incidents of violence have been planned or orchestrated from hostels. Something has to be done."

One of the new committee's main objectives should be to investigate restructing of the hostel system, he said.

Violent clashes in Meadowlands over the weekend, allegedly between hostel dwellers and residents, left nine dead and 21 injured. It was reported that handgrenades and AK-47 rifles were used.

A statement issued by the National Peace Committee said the regional committee was established to "coordinate efforts to combat violence, establish local dispute resolution committees in the area and develop, with the National Peace Committee and local peace committees, strategies for socio-economic reconstruction."

Mashele said it was most important that hostel dwellers as well as political parties, regional services councils and civic organisations were involved in the peace process.

Sapa reports a top-level meeting aimed at speeding up implementation of the peace accord in Natal townships and to address violence there has been called in Durban tomorrow.

Deputy Minister of Justice Danie Schutte is expected to attend.

In Umlazi, scene of a week of fighting — with at least eight deaths — between Unit 17 hostel dwellers and residents of the Ekhuleni shack settlement, violence and tension continued yesterday.

At least three buildings were petrol bombed and 30 others damaged in an attack on Unit 17 early yesterday with police intervening to prevent retaliatory attacks by hostel dwellers later.

Hundreds of policemen and soldiers, on foot and in armoured vehicles, patrolled the volatile area.
Vosloorus warned of services suspension

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

Vosloorus residents, who on Sunday embarked on a rent and services boycott, were warned yesterday that their services would be suspended.

The township's town clerk, George Prinsloo, said the council's policy was that people who paid rent and services would receive services.

Claims

Vosloorus Civic Association (VCA) secretary Keith Montsatsi said the council's "dilly-dallying" had brought a two-year-old dispute to a head.

But Mr Prinsloo labelled as untrue claims by the VCA that the council was charging residents 5,5c more than their Boksburg neighbours for electricity.

He said the tariffs in Boksburg were 13,5c a unit compared to Vosloorus's 11,26c.

Mr Prinsloo said the council's tariffs were below cost, adding that the council had not increased electricity tariffs for the past three years despite increases by Eskom.

He said the VCA's approach was negative and the council was not aware of any dispute with the VCA, because it was a civic body which had pulled out of negotiations in July.

Resolved

Mr Prinsloo said the council's doors were open and the VCA could resume negotiations.

Vosloorus mayor Morris Siswukiela said the rent dispute had been resolved in the Vosloorus agreement signed in Germiston in March last year.

He said that VCA president Ali Maziya had signed the agreement.
TPA drops plan to move squatters

The Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) announced yesterday it had dropped plans to relocate the Zevenfontein squatters at Bloubosrand in Randburg.

Bloubosrand Action Group chairman Peter Bantock hailed the TPA's decision as a victory for the group and for Randburg residents who had opposed the move.

The TPA said 19 days ago that the more than 750 squatter families at Zevenfontein, north of Fourways, would be moved to Bloubosrand, 30km away after an agreement was reached with Randburg Town Council.

The squatters have been at the centre of controversy since the TPA announced last year it was to move them to Diepsloot, provoking anger from local residents and the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG).

Zevenfontein landowners, represented by the Chartwell North Action Group, threatened to evict the squatters, leading to the TPA's decision to move them to Bloubosrand.

The TPA said yesterday squatters would be allowed to stay at Zevenfontein, where rudimentary services would be provided until July. A decision would then be made about where to house them.

The decision to allow them to stay was made with the approval of the Chartwell group.

Transvaal administrator Danie Hough did not deny yesterday that the TPA had made an about-turn on the issue, but did deny that the change of heart was a result of pressure from the Bloubosrand residents.

At a joint news conference after consultations between the TPA, Randburg Town Council and the Bloubosrand Action Group, it was also announced that the Bloubosrand site originally earmarked for the squatters would be developed into "affordable housing", with the addition of full service facilities, tarred roads, primary and secondary education facilities and a police station.

Neither Bantock nor Randburg council management committee chairman André Jacobs would define what "affordable housing" meant, nor were they able to give an estimated price for housing units, but they confirmed that "affordable housing" was more expensive than the "low-cost housing" option mooted by the council for the area last week.

The Zevenfontein squatters would be able to buy houses in Bloubosrand if they could afford them, although they would not get first priority in the selection process, Hough said.
Opposition to housing for immigrants in Irene

PRETORIA — The Irene Vigilance Association has opposed a development project that will apparently house 550 families, mainly from Hong Kong, at Verwoerdburg near Pretoria Association chairman Rowan Haarthoff confirmed yesterday the association had notified the Verwoerdburg council that it opposed the development on town planning principles.

The stands in Irene were large single stands and luxury townhouses on Irene's borders would not constitute suitable town planning, Haarthoff said...

A municipal townships advisory committee overruled the association's objections. However, a further hearing before the Transvaal Provincial Administration's townships board would be held soon, Haarthoff said...

On the other hand, he believed the immigrants would be businessmen who would bring capital and skills into the country — Sapa
Little change in rentals

Business Day Reporter (127)

THERE has been little change in rental or land values since the previous Russell Marriot and Boyd Trust (RMBT) Industrial Review was published in November.

VAT has had little influence on the market as most tenants and landlords are registered vendors, says RMBT industrial manager Simon Noyes-Lewns in the February review.

"Demand for new space is relatively low, and the stock levels in most industrial townships remain similar to those of last year," he says.

RMBT is nevertheless working on several large industrial developments. Although there is a lot of industrial space on the market, it often happens that a site is not suitable for a particular client. While the cost of a new building may be higher, it may well offer "the only solution".

Savings may also be made by having a more efficient layout, and more control over goods. A property which is closer to a source of labour, or to a market, may also have advantages.

Noyes-Lewns says locations such as Eastgate, Kyamani, Midrand, Crown Mines and Isando are all seeing new developments for owner-occupiers or tenants.

Financial packages can be structured to suit the client's cash flow needs, with interest rates as low as 15% being offered, says Noyes-Lewns.
Call to use water sparingly as record amount used up

By Shirley Woodgate

The Rand Water Board sold a record amount of water last Thursday, following 10 days of peak demand during the hottest period in 30 years in the PWV region.

General manager of operations James Gardiner appealed to consumers to use water sparingly so that levels could be restored in reservoirs.

"The board supplied 3,236 Ml of water on Thursday, the highest volume on a single day since the inception of the RWB in 1998," said Mr Gardiner.

"Although the demand remains exceptionally high, the RWB is in a good position to maintain supplies to all consumers," he said.

"We supply water to about 8.2 million people and 60 percent of SA's industrial concerns fall within our region.

"This extends from Bethal in the east to Carletonville in the west and from Soshanguve in the south to Rustenburg in the northern region."

He said the RWB had the capacity to purify and pump 1.170 Ml a day, and was at the moment using up to 74 percent of that capacity.

Last week hundreds of southern suburbs residents were left without water when some reservoirs ran dry.

"Recent increased demand would naturally deplete the capacity of the reservoirs, but it was uneconomical to design infrastructure to cater for peak demands of short duration."

""
The elephant in the living room
Planners divided on how to house 3-m

“CONSULTATION” may be the buzzword on the lips of urban planners in the Johannesburg area, but when it comes down to brass tacks, it is clear they are still talking past each other.

Last week’s furor over Bloomsbrand highlighted the pressing need to identify suitable land for low-income housing to accommodate the PWV’s 3 million homeless.

The criterion for this — whether it should be market-related or based on need — is becoming a source of conflict between authorities and other bodies.

And no one is willing to say which land has been earmarked for future housing development.

Each has its own idea of how the chronic housing shortage should be addressed, but finding common ground is a problem.

**Workable solution**

While the Transvaal Provincial Administration is looking at the outskirts of Johannesburg for land, civic associations are increasingly turning their eyes inland, particularly to prime mining land just south of the city.

The Bloomsbrand furore also illustrated the need for established residents, as well as the homeless, to have their say if a workable solution is to be found.

After the announcement that the low-income housing project planned for the area would not go ahead, suggestions for a solution flew thick and fast.

The Urban Foundation claimed that land identification could no longer be trusted to officials and called for a task group of all interested parties to identify suitable land.

This was followed by a Metropolitan Chamber — the “Coessa of the central Rand” — announcement that such a task group had already been established.

A chamber spokesman told Saturday Star the Urban Foundation’s announcement was “naive, ill-considered and an attempt to capture the limelight”.

Despite all criticism, the TPA believes it is doing a great job addressing the huge housing shortage.

It had been talking to everybody and would be providing about 43,000 new sites south of Johannesburg this year, liaison officer Magda du Toit said this week.

Around the Johannesburg area, the TPA had settled 90,000 people in the last book year and made almost 100,000 stands available in recent years, she said.

But detractors say this is not fast enough and that, although the TPA may be talking to everyone, it is not necessarily listening to everyone.

Mayor partners in the Metropolitan Chamber, the Civic Association of Johannesburg (CAJ), believe land identification should not be based on the market value of the land, but rather on the suitability and need for housing.

The TPA is buying up land for housing in areas which lie outside Johannesburg’s 20 km radius because it is cheaper.

But, according to CAJ general-secretary Cas Coovadia, this will prove more expensive in the long run in terms of transport costs.

He believes the starting point for any planning should be based on people’s need for housing. His movement believes that any land identified as suitable should be used and that legislation needs to be enacted to make this possible.

If the mining companies are not willing to make their land — which is largely unused — available for housing, then some way should be found to force them to do so.

“Either the mining houses put their social responsibility priorities higher up, or we bring in agents to ensure it becomes affordable for the people,” Mr Coovadia said.

One way would be to drastically raise the rates on unused land, he added.

Another chamber member, Mark Swilling, said present legislation did not make it possible for creative alternatives. Of particular hindrance were municipal by-laws.

“We are talking about economic survival here. Johannesburg is the goose that lays the golden egg. If we do not get our planning for the future right now, we could be messing up the development of the whole subcontinent’s economy,” Mr Swilling said.

“I don’t think the market should be allowed to stand in the way of economic growth. Over-regulation is preventing the city from breathing and moving where it wants to go.”

**Holistic**

Mr Swilling said he believed the TPA was trying to do its job within constraints “and those are formidable”.

But, he said, the framework provided by the Metropolitan Chamber would be the solution to the TPA’s headache.

Ann Bernstein, executive director of the Urban Foundation, said the TPA’s approach was still working on an ad hoc basis — housing needed to be looked at holistically if the problems were to be solved.

“What we are saying is that you cannot be in a situation of rapid urbanisation where you have a large demand for land and an enormous backlog, survive without an overall plan.

“What we are facing is the failure of past policies and the failure of present policies too,” Ms Bernstein said.

Mr Coovadia said it was still too early to say if the TPA’s chamber task group would be successful or not.

“Its terms of reference have still not been worked out, but we definitely do not want to become a rubber stamp for the TPA,” he added.
R21 000 bill
— for water!

By THEMBA KHUMALO

RESIDENTS of eMzinoni in Bethal are up in arms after receiving outrageous electricity, rent and water bills last month.

Local PAC activist Sputnik van der Merwe said he was "shocked pale" when eMzinoni Town Council billed him R21 912.66 for water.

He said some residents who did not have electricity received bills of up to R600 a household. Several of them paid this month after the town council threatened them with court action.

In a stormy meeting between the town council administrator, his staff, an attorney and the United Community Committee (UCC), the authorities conceded that some of the bills were wrong and would be nullified.

When the meeting reached deadlock on several contentious issues, UCC recommended that both parties appoint members to conduct a joint investigation into:

- Reducing sewerage charges from R13.75 to R5;
- Reducing electricity charges from 22c to 10c a unit;
- Reducing water fees from R1.91 a kilolitre to a flat rate of R11 a month; and
- Cutting the municipality levy from R12.50 to R10 monthly.

Van der Merwe added that Bethal was not an industrial town, and the average resident earned less than R300 a month.
Revenge might be motive for arson

By DAN DHLANINI

STILFONTEIN'S Khuma Council offices were gutted this week in what is suspected to be an act of retaliation.

The blaze, which engulfed the treasury section of the municipal offices, follows the water and electricity cuts in the trouble-torn township.

Damage, estimated at R300,000, was caused at the office block, which is covered with a high security fence and is about 50 metres from the local police station. The offices contained valuable records and equipment.

Police said the arsonists apparently cut a hole in the security fence and may have doused the office with a flammable liquid.

A Western Transvaal police spokesman said police were investigating arson. No arrest has been made.

Khuma administrator Dennis Archer told City Press various electricity cuts and water rationing had been in force for some time now as a result of huge arrears. He declined to say how much was owed to his council.

Khuma People's Delegation spokesman, France Masike, said he suspected that the burning down of the office could be the work of the agents of the "stren" in retaliation against the residents' successful boycotts.

Masike said the sole aim of the gutting of the council office was to discredit the rent and consumer boycott organizers in the eyes of outsiders.

He said the boycotts would continue until the demands of residents were met.

Masike said the real trouble in this poor gold mining dorps started when Archer displayed arrogance and disregarded his previous agreements with residents that a flat rate should be paid while negotiations for a solution continued.
Scam sites won't be grabbed

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration will not confiscate any of the unoccupied 'sites at its Doornkop site-and-service scheme which belong to victims of the Laduma Construction scam.

City Press reported last month that Laduma Construction had gone bankrupt, leaving dozens of people at Doornkop and other housing schemes without the homes they had paid for.

Since then, several readers have complained they are receiving letters from the TPA's Doornkop administration demanding that they occupy the sites they have been allocated.

City Press contacted the TPA, which agreed not to take any action against people who could not occupy sites because they had been defrauded by contractors.

"How can we occupy our sites when we have no more money to build?" asked Idah Mthatha, who paid a R1 300 deposit to Laduma manager Gerrie van der Merwe.

Mthatha said she and several friends had believed Laduma was a reputable contractor because it was allowed by the TPA to market homes from TPA sites.

"How can the TPA give us land, then allow criminals to steal the money we struggled to save for our houses?" she asked.

Several months ago, when Laduma and other contractors with similar schemes were still operating from Doornkop, City Press put the same question to the TPA, pointing out that the schemes Laduma and other contractors were marketing were unworkable.

"A TPA spokesman said at the time that the free market system must be allowed to operate, and that the TPA was not interfering with contractors who were given show sites to build on.

The TPA said it was up to individuals to decide whether to do business with any particular contractor.

Maria Mofokeng put down R1 000 in the hope of providing a decent home for her severely disabled and retarded daughter.

"I hoped that having a new house would be the start of a better life for us," Maria told City Press.

"Now Van Der Merwe has stolen the R1 000 I worked so hard to save for a house! I don't know how I will be able to save that money again," she said.

Grandmother Ruth Meladitse, paid down R2 400, and now has no home and has lost her money."

If you have paid money to Laduma or any other contractor and have not got a house, come to City Press Hotline at Mondays or Tuesdays on telephone (011) 402-1636 and we will try to help you.

Readers' Hotline

RENDERS' HOTLINE

Helping you with your problems

PO Box 548

Kengray 2100

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□ 232

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□ 135
Land for 5 000

low-cost homes

CAPE TOWN — Five projects, for the development of an estimated 5 000 low-income house stands, have been approved for the Reef and Vaal area, according to the Independent Development Trust. The stands would be developed in terms of the IDT's capital subsidy scheme. This provides R7,500 towards the cost of each stand for people earning less than R1 000 a month.

The approved projects are in Katlehong, KwaThema, Tambokkesfontein and Tsakane on the East Rand and in Zamdela near Sasolburg.

In KwaThema near Springs, 157 of the planned 940 stands have been completed and are ready for allocation to qualifying families. — Sapa

Township a no-no

THE town council of Louis Trichardt has objected to the re-establishment of Tshukota township.

In a resolution taken on January 28 the council said Tshukota would be an informal town which would affect the standards of the neighbouring suburb. Tshukota, less than 1km from the town's suburbs, was demolished more than 10 years ago.

This angered the residents who vowed to return.

Campaigns were started two years ago to re-establish the township, and following a massive boycott of the town in 1990, the Administrator of the Transvaal agreed to upgrade the area for reoccupation.
Townhouses set to appeal

Business Day Reporter

With the completion of the Village Walk shopping and office complex and the upgrading of the Bask Ange Hotel, Sandton has shown a dramatic increase in property values.

This, combined with a rise in the number of office complexes, has created a demand for affordable yet upmarket housing.

Now Callegari Construction is set to launch a townhouse development in Linden Road, Strathaven, on Saturday, February 29.

Developer Costantino Callegari's recently completed development in Rivonia, La Piazza, quickly sold out.

"If developers are not careful, townhouse developments can be dull. Our secret is the architectural design. People must be excited by the concept, and immediately want to live there," he says.

La Scala is situated in a wooded area and will comprise eight single-bedroom townhouses and 20 with two bedrooms. Prices will start at R180,000.

The architect is Pieter Swart, who worked on the Sun City project. He has aimed for a development that is visually exciting, comfortable and secure, and calls the style Cape Caribbean Terraces.
RESIDENTS of Palm Springs, near Evaton in the Vaal Triangle, would not pay service charges until schools were built for the 4,400 children and its infrastructure upgraded, the Palm Springs Civic Association said yesterday.

In a statement released ahead of a February 27 meeting with the Transvaal Provincial Administration, association chairman Mr Mlungisi Hlongwane said residents were ready to step up their boycott and were unmoved by TPA threats to cut services.

He said residents were expected to pay a flat rate of R60 a month for services, excluding electricity and water.

"Palm Springs is regarded as a low-cost area, yet monthly bond repayments are about R400, electricity and water about R190 and the service charge R60 for a total of R650 a month."

"The area does not have a single school but there are more than 4,400 children of school-going age."

"There are no health facilities except for a private doctor who is available for two hours a day mid-week, no recreational facilities, no post office or telephones and the standard of the infrastructure is so low there are blockages in the sewerage system every day."

"On top of it all, the TPA is planning to incorporate Palm Springs into Evaton, whose councillors have been rejected by their own people," said Hlongwane.

The decision to boycott service charges was made when the TPA failed to react to the association's demands in June last year, he said, and discussions since then had achieved nothing.

"The next meeting is on February 27," he said.
Swanieville owner to be compensated

SWANIEVILLE landowner Llew Swaepoel would receive compensation for some of the land expropriated by the Transvaal Provincial Administration. TPA chief director of physical planning and development P.J. van den Heever said yesterday.

A refund would be provided by the TPA, subject to approval, for the land to be developed as a permanent urban settlement, currently known as Swanieville 4 B.

The TPA started a potential crisis yesterday with the announcement that it would expropriate 200ha in Swanieville 2, outside Krugersdorp and would declare another 1ha, Swanieville 1, a temporary transit area.

Swaepoel had threatened this week to have the AWB remove 20,000 squatters who had been living on a rent boycott since December 1990.

The four Swanieville residents who were arrested on Wednesday and charged with assault and abduction appeared in the Krugersdorp magistrate's court yesterday. They were remanded pending legal representation.
RELATIONS between Stilfontein and the neighboring Khuma township have always been tempestuous. It is alleged that a notice circulated last week by the Conservative Party-controlled council in the western Transvaal town pushed the temperature past boiling point.

The notice warns that "any domestic servant/employee who resides in Khuma has no water for sanitary services available. You could therefore be contaminated with the following by them — cholera, dysentery, shigellosis, etc." It warned householders "to ensure that the domestic worker does not prepare foodstuffs or handle utensils unless she has washed them properly.

"What the notice did not say was who had cut the water, and why Services have been stopped by the Winters Thirst Water Board and the council. The water board said in a resolution that a services boycott and the town council because of a consumer boycott.

Khuma has endured an uncertain state in the wake of widespread allegations of systematic overcharging, the community decided through an civic association to pay only a flat rate of R50 a month per household to cover all costs and services.

The community believed that the black township was being overcharged on services to subsidise the smaller white town. Stilfontein's white population numbers around 13,000 and Khuma's between 30,000 and 40,000.

A call for a commission of inquiry and an appeal for independent auditors to have access to the township's bookkeeping records revealed chaos — a situation which seems to persist.

Meanwhile the civic association that had recommended the flat R30 service payment was caustic and replaced by a new one. What followed, said residents, was a series of inconclusive meetings, always handed by one white official — Khuma township administrator Dennis Archer — whose removal the community demanded.

Residents believe Archer merely carried out decisions made in Stilfontein, and the township was being run by remote control.

Therefore the consumer boycott was initiated on February 3. White businesses suffered so badly that on Monday last week, the council relented — in concert with the water board — and cut all the services.

The day after the notice appeared last week, domestic workers reporting shortage the new mother had to be discharged. She was scheduled to come for an email for the following day. "We were surprised to see her on Wednesday, and she looked fine," said the resident at the clinic.

Still suffering the stress of labour, she had to wait until for water. Another new mother had to deliver her babies because they were heavily sedated, according to the same.

By Friday, when the services were resumed, five babies had been delivered at Takalani — without running water, no electricity and no refuse removal. The little water that the mother managed to get was kept in drums.

Residents and new mothers struggled to fill water cans from far away. The services were stopped due to the threat of black out. The water board's Cwengwa confirmed that "it was my decision to cut the water supply.

"He said if people did not pay their accounts, services would be cut.

When asked if it mattered to him that his action might have resulted in distress — and even death — he said that was not his concern. "I don't know why you look at us as if we don't care..." The residents who all people not to pay.

Dr Cleo Mhlungo is one of two doctors who lived in Khuma. He said there had been a 20 percent increase in gastro-enteritis during the cut-off period. He said he had witnessed the residents' water containers slashed at random.

Mhlungo had to refer several cases to Tshwane hospital, near Pretoria, for antiemetic infusion.

Even schools in the area suffered, many children were severely dehydrated and some fainted.

By Friday, everyone had had enough. The township was dying of thirst and the town was hungry for black buying power. When the consumer boycott was called off, the town returned to normal and the water was restored.

Meanwhile, Khuma has a tracking of water and a tally of complaints, but an agreement has yet to be reached on payment of rates and services.

A town where the taps ran dry

Residents of Khuma township began a rent and services boycott to protest maladministration. The nearby white town promptly cut water and electricity supplies. By RAY NXUMALO and PAT SIDLEY.

Photograph: GUY ADAMS.
'We'll pay you R10'

By THEMBA KHUMALO

NOORDGESIG residents near Soweto have started an indefinite rent and electricity boycott this week until the authorities have reduced their electricity bills to R10 a month.

A spokesman for Noordgesig Civic Association (NCA) and local PAC branch chairman Basil Douglas said trouble started last month when the Johannesburg City Council sent residents electricity and rent bills of up to R600 a month.

"No one pays less than R300 for rent and electricity in our township. It's outrageous," Douglas said.

Thousands of residents staged a dramatic but peaceful demonstration outside the rent offices on Friday to demand the release of six men who were held by the police during a march in Noordgesig.

Subsequently three of them - Given Leo, David Oliver and Leon Smith - were released from the rent offices while Irvin Smith, Johnny Smith and an unknown man walked free at Orlando Police Station.

Although they were not charged, Colonel Tiene Halgryn, spokesman for the Soweto police who was at the scene, said his men were investigating charges of malicious damage to property and attending an illegal gathering.

"We took down the names of the six men and we told them they might be charged. Their demonstration was not legal and the windscreen of a police vehicle was damaged during a scuffle," Halgryn said.

Stella Theunis of the NCA said the decision to boycott was taken on Thursday at a mass meeting addressed by PAC general secretary Benny Alexander.

Theunis said residents decided not to pay rent because they had been doing so since they moved in during the early 1940s. They felt the authorities should treat them the same way they did Sowetans, who would soon own their rented houses.

Local resident Maria Gordons said pensioners in the area paid about R50 monthly rent while ordinary residents paid up to R91. This was too much for them because they were underpaid, Gordons said.

Douglas said the PAC had arranged free legal defence for the residents who had been summoned to appear in court for failing to pay electricity bills.
Ikageng votes to boycott rent

Ikageng residents near Potchefstroom this week embarked on a rent boycott to protest rent and service increases of up to 200 percent.

Residents made the decision after negotiations between the administrator Johan Oosthuizen and the Ikageng Civic Association ended in deadlock.

Oosthuizen said Ikageng paid lower rent and services than any other township.

Meanwhile Stilfontein's Khuma township's month-old white business boycott ended on Friday after the administrator, Dennis Atcher, resigned.
Row over Jo’burg tariffs for Ennerdale residents

By Brian Sokutu

The Ennerdale Local Development Committee (ELDC), in its response to protest actions by residents over the past three weeks, has indicated its preparedness to introduce Johannesburg City Council tariffs in Ennerdale.

But the move has been rejected by the Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association (Esca).

In its newsletter, the local development committee, claiming to have been “requested by some members of the community” to introduce Johannesburg tariffs for rates and taxes in Ennerdale, however, warned residents of “considerably higher Johannesburg tariffs than those of Ennerdale”.

“The Local Development Committee would have no objection if the Commission of Inquiry finds that Ennerdale residents prefer to adopt the tariff structure of Johannesburg or any other town. The implications of higher tariffs for rates and taxes would then have to be explained to residents carefully,” according to the newsletter.

Esca, which last week reaffirmed its call for the dissolution of ELDC, and for Ennerdale to be incorporated into Johannesburg, said the introduction of Johannesburg tariffs in Ennerdale was “contrary” to residents’ demands.

“It is correct that we want to be part of Johannesburg, but we want to pay affordable rates,” said Esca chairman Farouk Jadine.

We reject the ELDC’s offer to introduce Johannesburg tariffs in Ennerdale,” said Esca chairman Farouk Jadine.
Survey of Jo'burg's inner city completed

A MAJOR Survey of the inner city areas of Johannesburg, with significant implications for the framing of urban policy, was completed by the Human Sciences Research Council this week.

The findings of the survey, in which 1 400 respondents were questioned on household income, family size and residents' opinions about high-density living conditions, will be passed on to the Johannesburg City Council's committee on urbanisation for consideration next week.

All council directorates concerned with housing and urbanisation would be using the results of the survey to set short-, medium- and long-term priorities, said a statement issued by the council's urban strategies division.

The areas covered by the survey include Yeoville, Berea, Newtown, Belgravia, Bertrams and nine other sectors of Johannesburg's inner city region.

"The inner city areas of any major metropolitan area are renowned for displaying a wide range of physical, social and economic problems," said the statement.

However, the same areas "also offer the greatest potential in terms of access to jobs, affordable housing, social and welfare amenities", it said.

Urban strategies division spokesman Bonnie Rosen said the information on community organisations gathered in the survey would be used to set up forums for discussion and negotiation.

The involvement of the community in the planning process, from the identification of problems to the formulation of policy proposals, was considered fundamental to decision making, she said.

Plans to upgrade parts of Joubert Park, subject to council approval, were announced by the inner city working group this week.

The plans cover provision of extra parking for businesses and residents, play areas and equipment for children, as well as a road and pavement resurfacing programme.
Police shoot at rent protesters

POLICE used teargas on Saturday morning to disperse a crowd of people who had gathered at the Noordgesig municipal offices to protest against rent payments, a police spokesman said.

A Noordgesig resident claimed several people were injured in the shooting in which he said police used rubber bullets, teargas and birdshot.

One man was arrested after police fired a round of teargas to disperse a crowd of about 150 placard-carrying demonstrators outside the offices, police liaison officer Captain G Manemuthoo said.

According to initial indications were that no-one was injured in the incident. The arrested man would be charged with public violence, he said.

The crowd had gathered at the offices to protest the payment of rent accounts and to prevent people from paying their accounts, Manemuthoo said.

The police gave the crowd a warning to disperse which was ignored, he said.

Chairman of the Noordgesig Civic Association, Mr Ivan Arends, claimed several people were injured in the shooting.

"Four people, including a child hit by a rubber bullet, were taken to hospital by ambulance.

"Some elderly people were also injured when a teargas canister was fired into a house," he said.

"Police just started shooting without warning and people were lying all over the place," he said in a telephone interview.

The arrested man had tried to plead with policemen not to shoot, Arends said.

Manemuthoo said the crowd had regrouped in a park in the area after the incident and police were monitoring them.

A more detailed report of the incident would be issued as soon as he had received it, he said. - Sapa
Pay up, Enmoredale Residents urged

The Star Tuesday February 25, 1992
Boycott continues,
say angry residents

Residents of the township south of Johannesburg began a boycott last week, protesting against alleged high rents, a shortage of housing and the poor quality of existing housing.

Clifford Smith of the Noordgesig Civic Association said some residents had lived in badly built houses for more than 50 years and still had to pay rent.

"You knock a nail into the wall and a brick falls out the other side," Mr. Smith said.

The city council's housing director Ian Taiz said the council had received a request to talk some time ago.

"We were told they would get back to us with a date and an agenda, but we have not heard from them since," Mr. Taiz said.

Noordgesig residents, who are protesting against rent payments, have reacted angrily to police action on Saturday and vowed to continue their boycott.

Police used teargas, rubber bullets and birdshot to disperse about 150 people outside the rent offices and arrested a man who is expected to be charged with public violence.

According to civic executive member Inex Solomon, he was freed on R500 bail yesterday.

Mrs. Solomon said she had delivered a letter on Friday to Ian Davidson, Johannesburg's management committee chairman, requesting a meeting and was awaiting a reply.
Spruitview is a slum - residents

By JOE MDHLELA

THE Spruitview Ratepayers Association this week accused the Kalkheong Council of collecting rates but not providing efficient services.

"SRA chairman Mr John Njomane accused the council of merely collecting the rates to "inflate" their coffers in order to pay salaries.

He said the unmarket suburb was degenerating into a slum.

"He also said the association was opposed to the election of a councillor to represent the area at council meetings.

"Kalkheong town clerk Mr Fame Mare said an agreement had been reached with the SRA more than a year ago that, if 80 percent of Spruitview residents paid their rates, full municipality services would be provided."
ELECTRONICS company Spencor has poised to market overseas its encoded number® system of metering electricity payments, spokesman Ian Alport said yesterday.

Alport said a number of municipalities in SA had already shown interest in the pre-paid electricity meters, or Cash Power 2 000.

About 14 000 prepaid meters had already been installed in several townships.

Alport said Zambia, Angola, Zimbabwe and Brazil had also shown interest.

Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) spokesman Richard Mdakane said many township residents were confused about how the meters worked. He said since Eskom had already installed 4 000 metres in the township and was installing 7 000 more, the ACO would soon embark on an education campaign.
Blueprint to lift inner city

A WIDE range of measures aimed at reinventing Johannesburg’s CBD were recommended by the Human Sciences Research Council this week following the release of its substantive survey into inner city areas.

The results of the survey, which was based on 1,600 questionnaires taken from 14 inner city regions, are likely to guide the Johannesburg City Council’s future urban policies.

Among the recommendations are the creation of a non-profit-making housing trust aimed at lowering rents in areas spurned by financial institutions, the establishment of a municipal police force controlled by the community and increased fines for landlords who overcharge rents and let their buildings deteriorate.

Greater powers of inspection for the council and higher fines were suggested to combat overcrowding, exorbitant rents and unfair evictions.

It was reported that residents in regions such as Hillbrow, Joubert Park, the CBD, Doornfontein and Berea were having great difficulty securing mortgages and loans from lending institutions. The report recommended a first-time buyer’s housing subsidy as well as the possible provision of loan collateral to encourage the “return of normal financial institutions to the area.”

Further recommendations included the provision of shelters for homeless adults, street children and abused women and the provision of legitimacy and support to organisations catering to the needs of gay people and street children.

All council directorates concerned with housing and urbanisation would be using the results of the survey to set short, medium and long-term priorities, the council’s urban strategies division said in a statement this week.

Meat industry plan ‘ineffective’

THE Meat Board’s announcement this week that it plans to deregulate the red meat industry has drawn sharp reactions from the Organisation of Livestock Producers (OLP).

Speaking at a news conference yesterday OLP chairman Nils Dittmer said the board’s announcement was a smokescreen as it did not address the cause of the meat industry’s main problem.

The concern was the heavily controlled meat scheme, he said, which controlled the flow of meat to the market and resulted in a lower income for producers, raised consumer prices and reduced consumption.

The board announced on Tuesday that a new meat scheme would soon be introduced — which meant in practice that the distinction between controlled and uncontrolled areas would fall away and that the SA Abattoir Corporation would be privatised.

Dittmer said producers objected to being legally forced into the meat scheme and said the cost of intervention had been great.

Farmers also opposed the board’s practice of raising compulsory levies on each animal slaughtered in order to fund services which did not necessarily benefit producers or consumers.

Coupled with this, the board was not accountable to those it was meant to serve and the producers had not been able to get access to the board’s audited financial statement for the past three years, he said.

Dittmer said the deregulation should be supported by farmers having the option to choose to operate within the meat scheme or to function independently according to market forces.

The OLP believed farmers should have the choice of opting out of the scheme if they wished and negotiating their own prices, but that the scheme should still be there for those who needed the comfort of the minimum price protection.

The compulsory levies payable by the producers to the board would then become fees payable for services provided.

Dittmer said true deregulation meant that meat traders and butchers would be able to buy livestock directly from farmers, have the animals slaughtered at abattoirs of their choice and be able to sell their produce on consumer-based demand rather than according to centralised regulations.

Fundamental restructuring of the current meat scheme was the only way to stop consumers paying three times more for meat than what the producers received and allow farmers to negotiate their own prices according to market forces, he said.

Red meat prices rose 38% during 1991.

The OLP has taken two years to research the estimated 1,000 regulations governing the industry and concluded the restrictions constrained efficient production and distribution of red meat. As a result, consumers paid far more for meat than necessary while producers’ profit margins shrank, he said.

The OLP has presented its recommendations to the Meat Board and to the Department of Agriculture.

Council acts
KEEPING GREEN IN SANDTON

The greater Johannesburg residential property market may be depressed — there were 1 400 deals in December, half of the number in December 1990 — but demand for townhouses, sectional title and cluster homes remains strong, especially if they are secure and in Sandton.

Downsizing, though not necessarily related to price, appears to be of secondary concern. Thus, there has reportedly been exceptional response to the launch of a 45-unit development this month in Morningside Hills by Time Property Developments and Seeff-Slot Projects.

Priced at R180 000-R240 000 for two- and three-bedroom units covering 95 m² to 115 m², La Camargue appears to have hit the right spot with buyers wanting more than simply a Sandton address, says Seeff-Slot Projects MD Mark Slot. Within days of the launch 10 units were sold.

Agents in the area say the units are small — 135 m² or larger is comfortable — but, in this price range, depending on security and design, response should be good.

Slot believes his development stands out in Sandton’s townhouse belt for a number of reasons, including distinctive architecture, a well-wooded site, good security, above-average quality finishes and an attractive bond package. This includes a three-month repayment holiday and a loan through Allied at rates between 0.5% and 1% below the current interest rate for people who qualify.

"The units are bigger on average than others on offer in a similar price range in the area — which is important to buyers who increasingly want better value for money in residential property," Slot says. "Sandton is a high-demand area. There was a time when there was virtually no affordable housing around here. Small units priced at around R140 000 eventually started coming on to the market — but they weren’t quite what people wanted. We believe we’ve found the right niche.”

Time’s Andrew Cairns says there has been strong interest from investors because of the location and high quality of units. Capital appreciation on townhouses in the same area has been 30% plus over the past year or two. He adds that rentals for the two-bedroom units at La Camargue should be R1 600-R1 900 a month while the larger units should fetch R2 200-R2 500.

La Camargue is marketed by Seeff Residential Properties.
be published soon, could result in restrictions on developing such land being eased considerably. In this way, more land could be made available for building and development on the Witwatersrand.

The owners of the land — set above mining activities of the past or present — include Rand Mines Properties, Sage Properties, Johannesburg and other councils as well as private individuals.

Over the past 15 years, Steffen, Robertson & Kirsten Consulting Engineers (SRK) has been involved in more than 70 undermining projects. The firm worked on the Standard Bank head office in Simmonds Street, Johannesburg — the first major development to take place across mine workings.

SRK says, judging from its experience and from an analysis of the behaviour of undermined land, relaxing the guidelines restricting development is justified if a thorough, responsible approach is adopted.

SRK partner Dick Stacey says, “Relaxation could help to ease the severe shortage of land for development close to the CBDs of Johannesburg, Krugersdorp, Roodepoort, Germiston, Springs and other centres.”

He adds: “The land in question lies over the main gold-bearing reefs of the Witwatersrand, which traverse the full length of the area in an east-west direction. Mining began in the late 19th Century and has resulted in extensive areas of undermined land from Randfontein to Springs.

“Because of the possibility of ground movements from mining operations, the erection of buildings on this ground is strictly controlled by the Government Mining Engineer. For example, no buildings, roads, railways or any structure whatever may be built without written permission when the depth of the mine workings is less than 90 m.”

When SRK investigated the Standard Bank site — which lies over the Main Reef Leader and South Reef — it designed remedial measures to allow development. These centred on constructing in-stope concrete pillars to create a rigid “arch” near the surface to safeguard against collapse or instability in the mine workings at greater depth. At other sites only nominal, low-cost stabilising measures have been necessary.

Stacey believes some of the land could be used for formal and informal housing but “property owners and developers may not be keen on informal housing as it may not be as lucrative to develop as industrial and commercial property. However, balanced development is desirable.”

SRK believes “where the requirement for stabilising measures is negligible, and the cost would be correspondingly small.”
Trials and tribulations of a township landlord

By CHARLENE SMITH

THREE years ago, when Ethel Moloi bought the township house in which she has lived for 40 years, she inherited five tenants whom she cannot evict.

One tenant has not paid rent for months and once attempted to break down a wall around Mrs Moloi’s house, claiming it obstructed her access to facilities.

The tenant recently went to court and the tenant won.

The incident is only one in a growing tangle between the rights of landowners and the demands of tenants in the overcrowded Johannesburg township of Alexandra, where the lack of a clear housing policy exacerbates tensions.

Mrs Moloi’s parents built her house in the 20s but it was expropriated in terms of apartheid laws in the 70s. When she bought it back, she acquired the five tenants who live in the outbuildings her parents had erected on the property. Some, like Sophie Mahlomakana, have lived there for more than 20 years.

Neat

When Mrs Moloi bought the house, she signed an agreement with the council undertaking not to evict any inherited tenants for five years.

Mrs Moloi had no qualms about the agreement and set about renovating and enlarging the run-down outbuildings the council failed to maintain.

But the agreement held the seeds of a conflict she did not foresee.

In many instances, similar council agreements can also signal difficulties for tenants. Some tenants allege that property owners do not allow them access to water or sewage facilities, the Alexandra Civic Organisation claims.

The situation is bedevilling negotiations for property rights and new land in the overcrowded township, which has an estimated 100,000 people living in shacks or rooms.

But Mrs Moloi is an exemplary landlord. The large property she bought from the council for R9,000 is flanked by shops she runs with her brother. The shops were also owned by their mother and they bought them back for R16,000.

Amid the chaos and filth that typifies much of Alexandra, her property is neat and clean. Washing lines are strung down the sides of homes with neat flush toilets for tenants in the backyard.

Mrs Moloi and her late husband demolished her parent’s old house and built a smart, larger dwelling on the property.

Mrs Moloi charges her tenants R25 a month for a room in the outbuildings.

In February, 1990 a tenant who had lived on the property since 1986, Mrs Hilda Khunou, stopped paying rent, claiming the Alexandra Civic Organisation “said the property did not belong to us.”

The ACO fudges the issue. The organisation’s Richard Mdkhane says there should be consensus among all residents on a specific property owner who buys it. But he says, “we are not against the legitimate claims of former property owners.” He adds that it is his “personal view that the sale of properties should be stopped in old Alexandra until we have all sat down and worked out ways of getting property back to the original owners.”

Mr Mdkhane says he cannot comment on the Khunou/Moloi issue without personal knowledge of all details.

But the dispute involves more than non-payment of rent.

Mrs Moloi explains, “Last year my husband was shot dead when his taxi was hijacked. I feared for my safety and that of my four children and built a wall around my yard and that of my tenants.”

She said Mrs Mahlomakana and the other tenants claimed they were pleased with the safety and privacy the wall afforded them.

However, Mrs Khunou began breaking down part of the wall, saying she wanted her own gate to the street. The case went to court. Mrs Khunou said the wall blocked her access to washing lines and the toilet and made it difficult to clean her back windows.

In fact, there is a washing line outside Mrs Khunou’s front door and the outside toilets flank her small house. Nevertheless, the court discharged her.

Slow

Mrs Moloi says she wants Mrs Khunou to leave but her hands are tied by the council agreement.

Mrs Khunou was not available for comment when the Sunday Times visited the premises.

Alternative housing developments are proceeding slowly in the township.

It has taken 18 months to develop the Far East Bank of Alexandra (on the opposite side of the Jukskei river from old Alexandra) which will accommodate 6,000 site and service plots for low-income residents — families earning less than R1,000 a month.

Work will begin on the first 1,750 sites in March and they will be ready for habitation in July.

The Joint Negotiating Forum will run a support programme which will provide access to site plans, loans and building materials. It is also considering a lottery for the allocation of sites.
THREE Soeto councillors have been disqualified from serving on the council for failing to pay their service charges for a period exceeding three months.

The three councillors owed a total of about R5 000.

The disqualification of former Soeto mayor Sam Mkwanazi, councillor Simon Tsatsi and Isaac Galela came into effect from February 19.

This week the three councillors did not attend the council's monthly meeting after having held a meeting with Witwatersrand Chief Director of the TPA, J van der Walt.

The three councillors were among several others who were served with 14 days' notice to pay the full amount owing on February 4, 1992.

The three councillors failed to comply with the notice and were therefore automatically disqualified.

The Soeto City Council is presently discussing procedures for collecting service-charge arrears with the Soeto Civic Association and members of the Metropolitan Chamber.
Randburg, Sandton get praise for Alex upgrade

By Jacqueline Myburgh

Constitutional negotiations between the members of the Northern Joint Negotiating Forum — comprising Sandton, Randburg and Alexandra — should start by the end of this month, Sandton management committee deputy chairman Willem Hefer said on Friday.

At a press conference on the progress of the forum, Mr Hefer said the constitution of the NJNP had not yet been approved by all parties. Alexandra Civic Organisation chairman Moses Mayekiso said Alexandra was proud that Sandton and Randburg had "accepted the challenge" to help the township and he hoped the three municipalities would merge.

"Today when you get to Alex, it is a different place — it is not like the Alex of 1966 or the early 1990s. This is the Alex of 1992 because of the work of this forum," Mr Mayekiso said.

Steve Burger of the Transvaal Provincial Administration announced that development of the far east bank of Alexandra would start in mid-March at a cost of R17.5 million.

The development involves installing civil and electrical services for 1,700 stands.

NJNP chairman Peter Gardiner said no constitutional negotiations had taken place between the three towns and that the function of the NJNP had been to assist the township to normalise community life.

Mr Gardiner said achievements of the NJNP included:
- A dramatic increase in payment levels for services which were expected, by June this year, to reach 80 percent of the amount due.
- By the end of last year, electricity payments had improved to 55 percent of the total due.
- Nearly 100 prepaid electricity meters were installed by Eskom each day.
- Upgrading and improvements to hostels at a cost of R900,000 to the TPA would be completed by the end of March.
- The construction of a new clinic on the east bank would start this month.

- Health services were being rationalised and the possibility of re-establishing the Edenvale Hospital as a community hospital was being investigated.
- The rendering of services such as refuse removal, and the repair and maintenance of water and sewerage systems and roads, had improved with the assistance of Randburg and Sandton.
- New sewer lines were currently being installed.
- Shack areas had been improved, with relocation in some instances and the introduction of temporary facilities such as water connections and toilets.
Councillors to pay more for water

By Michael Spark

The Rand Water Board yesterday announced a 9.5 percent increase in the cost of the water it supplied to municipalities effective from April 1. It is estimated that this increase will result in a monthly increase of about R1.20 for an average household using 30,000 litres a month.

However, municipalities will not be passing the increased rate on to the consumer immediately. In the case of Johannesburg, a spokesman said the water tariff was considered along with the budget in June, so there would be no increase before then.

Sandton treasurer Ken Roodt said the municipality had just received notification of the increase and could not comment on it. However, he said, for the past three years the municipality had absorbed such increases until July.

Relevant information and recommendations would go to the management committee and the council by the last week in April, when a decision would be made.

The same was true in Pretoria, Randfontein and Vereeniging.

A spokesman for the Rustenburg municipality said the previous budget would be studied, and if more money came in from the sale of water than budgeted, then the increase would not be passed on to the consumer. But, he added, there was normally an increase, although he did not know when it would be.

While the tariff increase affecting households would depend on individual municipalities, if only the water board increase was passed on, an average household using 30,000 litres a month would pay an additional R1.20.

Last year the tariff increase for water supplied by the board was 11.5 percent.

From April, bulk consumers will pay 78.1c per 1,000 litres, up from the present 71.3c.

A levy of 10c per litre to help finance the construction of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project is included in the increase.

For small consumers outside of municipal areas, water will increase from 118.32c to 129.36c per 1,000 litres.

Water board chief Vincent Bath said that since the increase in the cost of raw water and electricity had been moderate, the board was able to keep the increase six points below the inflation rate.
Water tariffs go up 9.5%

WATER tariffs in the Witwatersrand, Vaal Triangle and southeastern Transvaal would increase by 9.5% from the beginning of April, the Rand Water Board announced yesterday.

The increase was lower than last year's 11.5% hike and was below the 16.2% rate of inflation, the board said.

Bulk consumers will pay 78.10c a kilolitre, representing a 6.7% increase. To the average household using 260l a month, the tariff translates to about an extra R2 a month.

Tariffs for small consumers outside municipal areas will increase by 11.3¢/kl. This will raise their tariffs to 133.56c/kl.

Rand Water Board CE Vincent Bath said the increase was below the inflation rate because hikes in the costs of raw water and electricity had been moderate this year at 5% and 8.9% respectively. Loan charges to finance capital expenditure had increased by less than 3%.

Greater efficiency had also contributed to keeping the costs low, he said.

However, costs for cold chemical treatment, transport and other sundry items were higher and in line with overall inflation.

The drought would result in a 4% increase in water sales, which was higher than expected. There was sufficient water in the Vaal and Sterkfontein dams - the major storage dams - for at least another two to three years.

In February the Vaal and Sterkfontein dams were 48.9% and 97.7% full respectively. The Bloemhof dam was 38% full and the Woodstock dam 64.2% full. Total rainfall for February was 68mm, more than 100mm less than February 1991.

Bath warned that water restrictions could be introduced if the drought continued into the next rain season. These would be implemented to conserve supplies until water from the Lesotho Highlands scheme was received in 1997.

Since 1989 a 10¢/kl levy had been imposed by the state to finance a portion of the Lesotho Highlands Water Project, for which SA was responsible. This will be increased on October 1 of each year until 1998.

A further 1.5¢/kl Water Research Fund levy was implemented on January 1.
No tax relief on school fees

DURBAN — Tax relief will not be given to parents for the compulsory fees they pay for their children at the approximately 2 500 House of Assembly schools which become semi-private from next month, Natal Receiver of Revenue Geoff Grant warned yesterday.

Commenting on answers by Education Minister Piet Marais to queries about "Model C" schools, he said fees were considered domestic or private expenses which were "specifically prohibited as a deduction in terms of section 23(0) of the Income Tax Act.”

Schools will not be required to collect VAT on fees.

Another concern of parents and teachers was that Model C schools' earnings and trust funds would be taxed, but Grant said these would exempt.

Cast slams chamber for planning to meet Codesa

THE Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber was jumping the gun by meeting Codesa, Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Dan Mofokeng said in Johannesburg yesterday.

Reacting to reports that the chamber would meet Codesa this week to discuss a possible basis of contact, Mofokeng said the chamber, being a local forum, should have left that task to national or more regional bodies.

Sapa had quoted chamber CEO Vic Milne as saying: "We feel that the Witwatersrand is such an important area strategically and economically that it might be worthwhile for us and Codesa that we both know what the other is doing."

Mofokeng said: "It is incorrect and immature for the chamber to put views to Codesa; it is not fit to represent all the interests of SA on a local level. It should leave that to regional or national bodies."

The national body, which possibly would be called the Civics Association of SA, would meet in Johannesburg this weekend, he said.

Sapa reports the chamber will meet tomorrow to hear reports of all committees, including one on the forthcoming visit of the World Bank reconnaissance mission.

The chamber is seeking a compromise arrangement on the World Bank after certain members demanded they should have direct contact with the mission, Milne said.

Creditors sue Wolinit

THE directors of Wolinit, a liquidated subsidiary of Rentmeester, are being sued in the Pretoria Supreme Court for almost R2m for allegedly recklessly carrying on
Eleven families, many with young babies and toddlers, were left in the dark last night after Germiston estate agents Mawer and Delport ordered their lights put "on instruction from the owner".

"Action committee spokesman Renaud Little said a rent dispute between tenants at Gosforth Court, opposite Gosforth Park Racecourse, and the estate agents had been going on since early last month.

She said occupants of all 27 flats signed a petition opposing a 37% percent increase in rental in the past six months.

Mrs Little said she phoned estate agent Anthony Mawer later yesterday and asked him why the electricity had been cut off when everybody had paid their rent (including the increase) and their electricity bills.

"He laughed and said he was acting on instructions from the owner."

"When I explained to him that some families had young babies he said he was not interested," said Mrs Little.

Resident David Roets told The Star that he had paid his rent and electricity bill in full on March 7 but came home to find that his electricity had been cut off.

"I went to Mawer and Delport's office but it was closed."

"We are very unhappy about the way they have treated us," said Mr Roets.

A mother of a two-week-old baby was in tears.

Jockey Alan Gorgon, who has a two-year-old toddler and whose wife is pregnant, said he is also opposed to the "astronomical rent increase".

Mr Mawer, who was questioned about the rent increase recently, said if people didn't like the price they should go elsewhere.
Noordgesicht in stayaway action

RESIDENTS of Noordgesig near Soweto yesterday staged a stayaway in protest against letters of eviction from the Johannesburg City Council.

According to Noordgesig Civic Association spokesman Mr Mike Fetane, the residents embarked on a rent and electricity boycott two weeks ago because of inadequate infrastructure, services and electricity in the area which has 1 300 houses. He said about 800 members of the community delivered a letter to the local councillor, Miss Cathy Seefort, demanding her resignation.

A letter of demand has also been sent to the chairman of the Johannesburg Management Committee, Mr Ian Davidson. “The crowd will not disperse until we have had a reply,” said Fetane.

Only teachers had been allowed to ignore the stayaway so that schooling would not be affected. “If Seefort does not resign we will seek a court order. A vote of no confidence was passed at a mass meeting recently and it was decided she should vacate her post. She has not done so yet.”

Seefort said there were many defects in the houses. Services were implemented and infrastructure improved and then the work had been stopped.

People were receiving electricity accounts in excess of R1 000 a month, he said.

Because of the rent boycott, certain residents had been warned they would be evicted yesterday.

Seefort was not available for comment early yesterday but her mother, Mrs Cathy Seefort, confirmed that about 600 people had delivered a letter to her daughter yesterday morning. - Sapa.
VETERAN trade unionist and Southern Transvaal Civics Association (Casa) president Moses Mayekiso is most likely to head the new national federation of civic organisations to be launched this weekend.

Sources close to the civic movement say 14 regions will nominate the same number of candidates for positions in the executive committee of the new federation, to be called the Civics Association of SA (Casa).

However, Mayekiso is high in the popularity stakes and most likely to be elected president of Casa, the sources say.

At a news conference in Johannesburg yesterday, National Interim Civics Committee (NICC) general secretary Sihembiso Radobe said organisations, including the ANC, PAC, SACP, Cosatu and Nactu, had been invited to Casa's launch at Uitenhage, in the Eastern Cape.

“We are also expecting 450 delegates from our regions and invitations to the launch have been issued to homeland leaders,” Radobe said.

Transkei leader Bantu Holomusa will deliver the keynote address.

This week Radobe said Casa would throw its weight behind Cosatu’s four-month programme of action. Cosatu announced at the weekend that its programme of action, which centred on a variety of political and economic demands, included a “people’s referendum” on March 18 — Budget day.

On that day, the union federation planned nationwide marches and pickets, as well as a march on Parliament.

Radobe said Cosatu’s demand for a speedy establishment of an interim government was supported by the civic organisations. “But unlike Cosatu, we are not setting a deadline yet, as the matter will be on the agenda at this weekend’s launch of the national civic federation,” he said.

Also to be discussed at the launch was the role of township civic organisations in Codesa, the independence of civic organisations from political organisations, and the escalation of violence in the townships.

“It should be made clear, however, that the focus of the federation will be on bread-and-butter issues, such as development, housing, education and electricity.”
A ROW is brewing between residents of Vosloorus and the local council following the municipality's threat to cut off electricity to the East Rand township.

The residents have accused the council of reneging on an agreed flat rate of R60 a month.

"We thought that matter was put to rest when the agreement was reached, but the council is going back on its word," said a resident, who would not be named for fear of breaking protocol.

"We were under the impression that a flat rate was all we had to pay. Some people have been turned away from the council offices when they tried to pay the R60," he said.

The town clerk, Mr George Prinsloo, denied the council had gone back on its word or that residents were turned away.

"We do not turn away anybody who wants to pay, even if they have R10. The fact that they are offering something means they are willing to pay," said Prinsloo.

"After the agreement of March 1991, the residents were to pay the flat rate for three months and thereafter pay the normal rates."

"Before we sent out the notices we invited the civic association to a meeting, but they did not turn up."

The Vosloorus Civic Association could not be reached for comment.
Municipal officers shoot 14 in rent, electricity protest

The Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — At least 14 people were shot and wounded in a confrontation between about 500 Noordgesig residents and municipal security officers outside the Noordgesig municipal offices near Soweto.

Residents protesting against rent and electricity rates claimed municipal security officers had fired at the crowd yesterday for no reason.

Security officers denied this, saying they had fired at the ground when residents threw stones at them and guards on a passing private security company truck had opened fire on the crowd.

Mr. Mike Petane of the Noordgesig Civic Association said residents had stayed away from work and had protested against high rent and municipal rates.

"We had delivered a letter here this morning asking to meet with (Johannesburg City Council management committee chairman Mr. Ian Davidson) They told us to come back for a reply at noon," he said.

"When we came back, their reply was to shoot at us. I know of at least 14 people who were wounded in the gunfire," he said.

A spokesman for the JG Strijdom Hospital confirmed "numerous people with gunshot wounds" had been treated in casualty.

At least another three people with gunshot wounds were treated at Coronation Hospital, a spokesman for the hospital's casualty section confirmed.

Soweto police liaison officer Captain Joseph Nqobeni said police had arrived at the scene at about noon. "It was pandemonium, the crowd was trying to hijack a passing car and police used teargas to disperse them," he said.

He confirmed reports from the crowd that police had used only teargas on the stone-throwing crowd.

Speaking behind a locked gate, with the crowd shouting and lobbing the occasional stone at them, council security officers said they had fired at the ground and guards on a passing Sprungbok Security van had shot at the people.

When a man from the crowd showed the officers a green spent rifle cartridge supposedly found in the road, they pointed out that all their ammunition was casued in red plastic.

A Sprungbok Patrols spokesman said the firm had not patrolled the area yesterday.

Security spokesmen for the Johannesburg City Council could not be reached for comment.

Sapa reports seven people were killed and another seven injured in separate train attacks on the Witwatersrand yesterday.
THE REAL MEANING OF SECURITY

The launch last week of Sandhurst Estates — a super-luxury cluster development in the heart of Sandton — brings home the fact that security remains a top priority for the SA homebuyer And at what a cost! The units are priced from R1m apace, but developer Bakos Brothers has already sold four, all at over the R1.7m mark.

Some doubt has been expressed in recent months about whether there is, in fact, a market for the R1m-plus cluster home. The Waldorf, a similarly-priced development off Rivonia Road in Sandton, has just been rescued from going under. The builder has taken a share in the development and prices have dropped from around R1.6m to about R1.1m. In fact, only one unit has been completed despite the usual PR launch fanfares.

So in reality, the soundness of many of the developers should be of even greater concern to potential luxury-cluster purchasers than physical security.

Sources close to the developer of the Waldorf (Strathbourne) say the bulk of the project has been financed by an NBS bond. By way of contrast, Sandhurst Estates has the backing of the Bakos Brothers Group — a multimillion rand furniture chain that purchased the 5 ha site up-front for R5m.

Bakos has also mooted a “parachute” mechanism which is intended to reduce the overall financial risk to potential buyers. Each unit in the complex is registered independently as a close corporation and is also an independent site within the municipality of Sandton.
Stop watering gardens, city engineer warns

WATER restrictions could soon be in force in parts of Johannesburg as the city's 20 reservoirs were suffering from excessive drain-off, chief water engineer Kurt Rohner said yesterday.

The culprits, said Rohner, were people who watered their gardens 24 hours a day, thereby draining off excessive quantities.

The city council yesterday "urgently requested" residents of Parktown and surrounding areas not to water their gardens as this "could result in other areas being without water." The Parktown reservoir is only 20% full.

"We supply water in bulk to local authorities and it is their responsibility to cope with overall demand at present. But water could not be pumped in fast enough to some of Johannesburg's reservoirs."

A spokesman from the Rand Water Board said the Vaal water system could cope with overall demand at present.

The Vaal Dam has dropped to about 45% of its capacity, but more than adequate reserves are available from the deeper Sterkfontein Dam should the city's immediate supply drop to less than 36 hours.

Water reserves in the Vaal system are estimated to be able to last for up to two years in the event of total drought.
Electricity bills inflame a once quiet township.

People have been shot, a city councillor’s house set alight and petrol bombs hurled at police—all because of accounts that a previously passive community says it can’t afford.

BEATHUR BAKER reports

A CITY councillor’s house was set alight and petrol bombs were hurled at policemen on Wednesday night in the violent culmination of tension between the Johannesburg City Council and residents of Noordgesig, a colourless township west of Johannesburg.

Hours earlier, 14 people had been injured—four of them critically—when municipal police opened fire, allegedly with rubber bullets, on a 250 to 300-strong crowd protesting outside the local rent offices.

The Noordgesig Civic Association (NCA) had called a stayaway on Wednesday in protest against 300 eviction notices served on residents by the city council for unpaid rent and electricity bills.

Last month, as residents were receiving electricity accounts of more than R1,200, the NCA asked the Emeraldvale Civic Association to address two mass meetings. The two townships have much in common: both are politically inactive until they become politicised by unrealistically high electricity rates. A similar protest in Emeraldvale in February was broken up violently by police.

A South African Police spokesman said the police had not been involved in the Noordgesig shootings but had been deployed only for crowd control.

The municipal police have been guarding the rent offices in Noordgesig 24-hours a day for the past fortnight. A municipal police spokesman yesterday refused to comment on the shootings, saying the incident was being investigated.

Two ambulances transported the injured to the Baragwanath and JG Strijdom hospitals. They included two senior citizens, one a woman of 65 and the other a man of 70, who were both seriously injured.

Assistant publicity secretary of the NCA Mike Felane said: "This was definitely not a warning shot for control.

"Pettane, who transported NCA chairman Kaplan Smith to hospital after he was shot five times at close range, said live ammunition was used: "There was too much blood all over the back of my car."

Events built up slowly from early in the morning as crowds barricaded all exits from the township and marched to the house of local city councillor, Cathy Seefort, demanding that she resign.

The growing procession of placard-carrying residents then handed a memorandum to David Ali, superintendent of the rent offices.

In his account of the events after this, NCA secretary Keith Blandford, his arm swathed with blood, said: "At 9am, three civic association members approached Ali, handed over a copy of our demands, requesting him to send them to the head of the management committee, Ian Davidson, for a reply.

"Ali promised he would present Davidson with the list and give the people a reasonable reply by 1pm."

The crowd waited outside the offices until 1pm. Many were uncertain whether they would be evicted during the course of the day.

The memorandum contained the following demands:

1. That the city council stop all legal proceedings against residents who have not paid rent or electricity bills until the council has met with the NCA.

2. That until this time it also refrain from cutting off residents’ electricity.

Chaos followed, according to Sergeant Oosthuizen, a policeman in one of the police vans on the scene, and police fired two teargas canisters into the crowd "to maintain order because people started throwing stones." After being given a warming to disperse, he said, the crowd stood firmly on both sides of the road.

That evening, residents held a meeting to discuss the day’s events. At about 9pm, an angry crowd gathered around Seefort’s house and set it alight. Considerable damage was caused, but no one was injured. Petrol bombs were also thrown at policemen still patrolling the area.

Photo: GUY ADAMS
Staff Reporters

Failure to upgrade Johannesburg's water reticulation system after the 1982 to 1987 drought has landed the city on the brink of another water crisis.

Rainfall on the Witwatersrand this year is down to 406 mm — less than the 410 mm recorded in the 1982-3 drought year — and unless it rains on the Reef this month, water tankers may have to be rushed in to supply emergency rations to householders and hospitals in the Houghton area.

Only 2 mm of rain has been recorded over the Witwatersrand this month. The long-term average for March is 99 mm.

Officials on the West and East Rand and in Vaal Triangle towns are satisfied with the water situation in their areas and do not foresee restrictions.

But the Johannesburg crisis means there is an increasing threat of curbs, with high-lying houses in the north-eastern suburbs temporarily without supplies if the council is forced to take emergency action when reservoirs run dry.

Suburbs in the danger zone are those served by the Parktown/Linksfield reservoirs on the north-eastern side of Johannesburg, including Houghton, Orange Grove, Waverley, Highlands North, Saxonwold, Sandringham, Craighall, Duneld, Melrose and Sydenham, said council director George Key.

**Threatened**

Problems are also being experienced in the Fairland and Brixton areas.

First hit if the reservoirs dry up would be houses on city ridges, Mr Key said.

Hospitals that could be threatened by the looming water crisis include the Johannesburg and Kenridge hospitals and the Park Lane Clinic, which would have to be fed directly from the Parktown reservoir. Less critical supplies to consumers would be cut off.

Consumers have been urged to stop watering their gardens, and businesses to relieve pressure on the reservoirs.

There has been no rainfall in the Vaal Triangle since the beginning of March but on the West and East Rand, and in Vaal Triangle towns, council officials said they did not expect water rationing this winter. They would, however, abide with any decision from the Rand Water Board (RWB).

The RWB blames the city council for the current crisis in Johannesburg.

"We are well-stocked with water, despite the 47 percent level of the Vaal Dam, the Vaal River system is 67 percent full and the Sterkfontein feeder dam, which can supply the Vaal when it drops to about 20 percent, is bulging on the 96 percent full mark," said a board spokesman.

Mr Key said demand for water, which had decreased dramatically after the drought years, had now returned to pre-1983 levels.

Though it was uneconomical to plan for once-in-40-year droughts, he said the system had not been upgraded to handle demand once it returned to normal after the five-year drop.
The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

(1) No
(a), (b) and (c) Fall away

(2) Yes

Mrs Nair, the former principal of St Anthony’s Primary School retired on 1991/12/31

On the recommendation of the Board controlling St Anthony’s School the Department appointed Mr A B Augustine as nominated principal of the school He took up his post on 16 January 1992

According to Mr Augustine, Mrs Nair on her own initiative spent a few days at the school, assisting with the organisation and also finalising the handing over to her successor.

Investigation of sale of Havenside shopping complex

*3 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether a committee has been appointed to investigate the sale of the Havenside shopping complex, if so,

(2) whether this committee has made any recommendations, if not, when is it expected to do so, if so, what are these recommendations,

(3) whether his Department has implemented any of these recommendations, if not, why not, if so, which recommendations?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) A Committee, which was appointed during August 1991, furnished its final report on 27 September 1991

(2) That Committee recommended that

(i) The Minister of Housing should formulate a fixed policy regarding the sale of shopping complexes that are owned by the Housing Development Board and that in the formulation of such a policy due consideration be given to the policy adopted by the former Department of Community Development in the determination of sales prices.

(ii) The Minister should, once such a policy has been formulated, make it public by informing all interested parties.

(iii) If future sales of complexes, the period of the option granted to tenants should be a reasonable one given the circumstances of the particular sale.

(iv) The Department of Housing should inform all tenants of their rights before any sale is concluded.

(v) The Department of Housing should keep all interested parties fully informed of all developments regarding the sale of any shopping complex.

(vi) Insofar as the sale of the Havenside shopping complex is concerned, the Department of Housing should investigate urgently the question of affordability on the part of the flat occupiers, and should it deem it necessary, the Department in amelioration of the situation, should consider the following possibilities:

(a) The first time home owners subsidy

(b) The once-off payment of R7 500

(c) The provision of suitable alternative accommodation for tenants after proper consultation with them.

(vii) The Department of Housing must take the necessary steps to ensure that no person who has already been accommodated by the Department must in any way benefit from and/or participate in any other allocation by the Department.

(3) Recommendations (i), (ii), (iv), (v), (v) and (vii) have been implemented whilst recommendation (vi) is under consideration.

Repossession of houses obtained fraudulently

*4 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether his Department has repossessed or is in the process of repossessing any houses that are alleged to have been obtained fraudulently, if not, why not, if so, what are the relevant details.

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

Mr P NAI DOO Mr Chairperson, answering from the hon the Minister’s reply, I should like to know the cost implication this dispensation holds for the Department.

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) Yes

It has come to the notice of the Department that in the Lotus Gardens project in Pretoria certain individuals have been allocated houses based on false information supplied by these applicants and that certain individuals to whom houses were allocated are subletting without the Housing Development Board’s permission. The Department is in a process of taking steps against these individuals in terms of the agreement signed by them.

(2) Yes Where applicants choose not to mention the fact that they are property owners on their applications for housing and are then allocated housing on the strength of such incorrect information, it is not easy to trace and establish beyond any doubt their ownership of property The Department is however investigating ways and means whereby this essential screening process can be simplified and expedited.

Question standing over from Wednesday, 11 March 1992

Admission age of pupils: Indian schools

*1 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Education and Culture

Whether the admission age of pupils to Indian schools is the same as is the case in other education departments in the Republic, if not, (a) why not and (b) how does it differ from the others?

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Yes, as in the case of schools under the control of the House of Assembly

(a) Falls away

(b) My Department has relaxed the minimum age requirement for admission into classes one, bringing us in line with the policy of obtaining at schools under the control of the House of Assembly The relevant regulations governing the admission age of pupils of other race groups obtains.

Mr P NAI DOO Mr Chairperson, among the hon the Minister’s reply, I should like to know the cost implication this dispensation holds for the Department.

The MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE Mr Chairperson, I do not have the specific figures I shall have to get them from my Department If the hon member puts his question in writing, I shall answer him.

If we take the extra children using the date of 30 September 1992, we shall be taking 3 955 extra students. If the date was 31 July, it would have been 1 336 We are therefore taking 2 619 extra students for 1992.

New questions

Overcrowding, Unit 3B, Westcliff

*1 Mr K CHETTY asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether any overcrowding is being experienced in respect of the flats in Unit 3B, Westcliff, if so, to what extent,

(2) whether any steps are being taken to alleviate this problem, if not, why not, if so, what steps,

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

The MINISTER OF HOUSING

(1) This is a local authority project. Although it can be accepted that overcrowding may exist due to the natural growth in family sizes over the years, the Durban City Council is not aware of any large scale overcrowding

(2) Thus far, representations in this regard by individual lessees have been considered by the relative City Council

(3) Yes The Munster has asked his Administration to investigate two areas in Chatsworth, with a view to identifying suitable land for the construction of low cost -

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
Pretoria threatens to cut electricity

The Pretoria City Council this week started installing prepaid electricity meters to interested householders amid threats of bulk electricity supply cuts in the township soon.

And in another development, Atteridgeville town clerk Mr Daan Mouton confirmed that he had resigned from his post and would start his new job—which he had not disclosed—on April 1.

The Pretoria City Council said in a statement yesterday that it may terminate electricity supplies because of arrears by the end of the month.

"The Pretoria City Council is seriously considering cutting the bulk electricity supply to Atteridgeville. A final decision will be taken soon," the statement said.

"We believe that the issue should be determined by individual residents," said Ramatsui.

About 700 meters have already been installed—free of charge.
Bid to end rent deadlock

THE Tembisa Civic Association says it has organised a mass meeting for Sunday to try to break the East Rand township's long standing deadlock on rents. TCA chairman Mr Goba Ndhlovu said a statement said Tembisa was "almost in ruins" and the quality of life was at "all time low". The aim of the meeting was to settle the rent issue and residents would be welcome to put forward suggestions and questions.

Ndhlovu said the township had no roads to speak of and "heaps upon heaps of refuse have rendered Tembisa a health hazard".

He believed the local community was "strong and powerful enough to stop the rot".

The meeting is due to start at 9am at the Jan Lubbe Stadium on Sunday. The civic can be contacted on (011) 920-3208 - Sapa
Getting in on the act

By LINDA RULASHE

ACTSTOP, Johannesburg’s inner-city civic organisation, might join the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber (CWMC). This would enable it to give direct input into the negotiating forum where issues relevant to its constituency could be placed on the agenda.

The chamber was set up last April by the Transvaal Provincial Administration, seven town councils and several members of the Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal to investigate and formulate non-racial, democratic local government structures.

However, Actstop was unable to discuss the possibilities of joining the chamber because of organisational problems.

Actstop publicity secretary Cas Coovadia said the question of whether his organisation should join the CWMC was one of a number of issues raised during the annual general meeting a fortnight ago.

Other matters which Actstop would raise should it decide to participate in the CWMC are:

- Continuing exploitation by unscrupulous landlords and their ongoing maltreatment of tenants.
- The biased role of the police in landlord-tenant dynamics.
- The congestion caused outside some residential buildings as a result of inadequate facilities for mini-bus taxis.
- The lack of recreational facilities in the area.
- Inadequate educational and health facilities.
- The unrepresentative nature of the Johannesburg City Council.
- The question of security of tenure and tenant ownership of buildings.

"However, whether we (Actstop) decide to join the chamber or not, we will continue to engage the authorities to make some progress towards alleviating some of the problems faced by our constituency," Coovadia said.

The constitution and resolutions raised at the meeting will be finalised at an extension of the AGM this weekend.

Alexandra Civics Association — another one of the outstanding signatories to the CWMC agreement — has decided to participate in the forum but hopes to solve a few outstanding issues before the end of this month.
Hostel of harmony

By NOMVULA KHALO

MZIMHLIPHILE Women's Hostel in Soweto is different from other single-sex dwellings in the area - it is the only huge hostel complex that has not been affected by the townships' violence.

While scores of residents are being killed in the nearby men's hostel, the only women's complex in Soweto remains an oasis of relative tranquility for its inhabitants.

Built 24 years ago for workers who came from the rural areas to work as domestic workers in Johannesburg, the hostel is now bustling with scores of women - both young and old.

Initially tenants were not allowed to bring in their spouses and children. But now the restrictions have been relaxed and children are allowed to stay with their mothers.

However, to avoid unnecessary squabbles, the tenants have decided not to allow any men to sleep at the hostel.

One resident, Nonhlanhla Ntshane, said: "I have been here since 1982 and I like the place."

Her only complaint was hostel overcrowding.

"Sometimes you want to take a bath and your colleague wants to use the toilet, then you encounter problems."

While they are not caught in the violence that is sweeping other hostels, they experience minor fights over washing dishes, cleaning the kitchen and bathroom.

Before the 1976 riots the complex used to be surrounded by a high fence and had a 24-hour security patrol.

Place of peace where men aren't allowed to sleep

Entry to the hostel by men was restricted to a lounge area situated near a hall in the middle of the hostel.

Today there is no fence around the hostel and the stern-faced "blackjack" who used to man the entrance is now a thing of the past.

However, there are problems. The place is crowded. Each of the four-roomed houses - which house six women - has three bedrooms, a bathroom and a communal kitchen.

Once a woman has been accepted as a resident, she brings her bed, pots and blankets. If she does not have a bed, the Soweto City Council provides a sleeping bag.

The women pay R12 rent a month, do their own cleaning and paint the walls of the rooms.

Their post arrives at the matron's office.

What is it like to live in a hostel?

Most residents interviewed agreed that the hostel was no longer a safe place to live in.

Getrude Mtshembu, who has been a resident at the hostel since 1972 said: "Now that everybody is free to enter the premises we are afraid of opening a door in the evening, because you never know if the caller is a thief or not."

Mtshembu said: "I like staying here, it's not like staying in the yard of somebody who can tell you to leave at anytime."

For the past 20 years Mzimhliphile hostel residents have urged authorities to incorporate the hostel into the township or turn it into family units.

For the moment, the women all have one complaint - the need for privacy.
CIVICS organisation CIVIC will establish community development trusts to foster a community-driven development process in townships, it said last week.

"...said the challenge was to empower local communities to make them the central force in contractual partnerships with the state, parastatals, banks and housing developers. The trusts would be flexible legal entities established for the holding and management of assets. Sub-structures could be created, such as land trusts, development corporations and utility companies. Personnel to handle development would come from the communities."
drop tradition

No excuse to
Sowetans refuse to pay new tariffs for services

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The latest Soweto agreement providing for improved services and higher service tariffs has run aground within three months of the start of the year-long upgrading plan.

Effectively, this means residents are refusing to pay any more for services than they did during 1981 when the Soweto Council’s income levels were so low that essential services teetered on the brink of collapse.

Speaking at a meeting of the newly launched Phomelong branch of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) yesterday, civic president Isaac Mogase said his organisation had made it clear to other parties that it would not agree to service tariffs rising to R65 a month from next month.

The authorities had not fulfilled the conditions for this increase, he said.

The SCA is being criticised by residents throughout Soweto for having agreed to the phased increase in service tariffs.

The queries and complaints raised by Phomelong residents were cropping up at branch after branch, civic officials confirmed.

In terms of the pact signed by the SCA with the Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepmeadow councils and the Transvaal Provincial Administration last year, residents were to have paid R55 for water, refuse removal and sewerage services from January.

In April, this was due to rise again to R65, in July to R75; and in October to R85.

Each increase was conditional upon local authorities meeting specific standards of service.

Inspection

Services delivery and administration were to be jointly monitored by all parties.

"What people are saying to us is that they are being asked to pay before the authorities deliver. And after three months they are saying it is not worth it. There has been no improvement this year," said SCA secretary Pat Lephunya.

He added that a joint inspection of Soweto by all the relevant parties would take place today.

The service agreement was part of a package of reforms for the central Witwatersrand metropolitan region, announced in the Metropolitan Chamber.

Other components were:
- An agreement to move towards a jointierarchical interim administration, with an eye to improving services and infrastructure in the townships and giving residents a share of the tax revenue realised by the central business district.
- An appeal to the Government to approve a plan for the transfer of the bulk of Soweto's rented and leased housing stock to tenants/lessees.
- In the case of older houses, this would be free of charge. In newer homes, the price would be reduced to cost.
- The transfer of Soweto's electricity supply from the Soweto Council to Eskom.
Tensions run high in Ennerdale

TENSIONS ran high in Ennerdale yesterday as residents erected barricades and intermittently stoned local authority vehicles involved in cutting cables supplying houses with electricity.

Up to six police vans with local police and riot police from Vereeniging were on hand to protect the Ennerdale and Local Development Committee workers as they went about their job.

The vice chairman of the Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association, Mr Roger McCullough, said he could not understand why electricity supply was being cut.

"We had a meeting with Epeok on Thursday last week which was chaired by the National Peace Committee, where it was agreed that no further action would be taken before the next meeting in early April," McCullough
Sandton and Alex face future together

ADRIAN HADLAND

public at large have had an opportunity to comment on every meaningful policy document which has been approved by this council since it took over in October 1988.

At present Sandton has not committed itself to a merger or amalgamation with Alexandra, Marlboro Gardens or Randburg. The town is providing Alexandra with administrative assistance and training on a contractual basis, funded by the regional services council.

But before long, as a final model for a new system of local government is mulled over by the metropolitan chamber, the RSC will more than likely disappear. So, too, will the non-elected Transvaal Provincial Administration. The Black Local Authorities Act of 1983, which created the Alexandra Town Council, would be revoked, said Hefer.

The critical question is the nature of the structures to replace traditional pillars of apartheid. "It is absolutely unacceptable that we go on with a system whereby someone in Pretoria has got the final say about regional micro-planning matters."

As the structures of local government in SA are thrown into the melting pot, Hefer believes it is vital that local authorities participate fully in the relevant negotiation forums, such as the metropolitan chamber, which will have a critical effect on Sandton's ratepayers and residents.

"In this whole game of the new SA negotiations, the time comes when people must deal with certain things. You have to be equipped and ready to move otherwise other guys are going to make all the decisions," he said.

Among the immediate objectives of Sandton's management committee are the extension of public parks and open spaces, the anti-crime drive and the cleaning up of the town's streets.

Education and primary health care are two other areas which will become increasingly dependent upon local authorities as central government devolves responsibility to a regional level.

"The management committee wants the Sandton council to be so close to grassroots that a resident's phone call will result in any problem being dealt with immediately," he said.
Township wants to join Pretoria

Soshanguve residents have called for immediate incorporation into Pretoria after the Government's decision to abolish the Department of Development Aid at the end of the month.

Soshanguve Residents Association (Sora) chairman Father Sanganise Mkhathwa said yesterday residents wanted the township to be administrated as part of Pretoria City Council.

Residents did not want to fall under either the Department of Local Government and Housing or the Transvaal Provincial Administration, as suggested in a letter.

About a year ago the township successfully protested against a Government decision to transfer control of the township to the TPA.

"Nothing less than full incorporation into Pretoria will be acceptable to the people of Soshanguve," Mr Mkhathwa said. — Pretoria Bureau.
Tyres burnt, stones hurled as power cut

By Michael Sparks

Tensions ran high in Ennerdale yesterday as residents erected barricades and stoned local-authority vehicles involved in cutting cables supplying houses with electricity.

Up to six police vans with local and riot police from Vereeniging were on hand to protect the Ennerdale and Local Development Committee workers (known by the Afrikaans acronym Epok) as they went about their job.

Epok worker Mark Arendse said cables were being cut to 18 houses where electricity supplies had been illegally reconnected after being cut off because of non-payment.

Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association vice-chairman Roger McCullough said he could not understand why electricity supplies were being cut off.

"We had a meeting with Epok on Thursday last week, which was chaired by the National Peace Committee, where it was agreed that no further action would be taken before the next meeting in early April."

At the next meeting the civic association was to decide how to implement its offer of a flat rate of R50 a month for electricity which would end the three-year electricity boycott.

Angry residents left petrol-soaked tyres in the roads and threw stones when vehicles belonging to Epok approached.

Mr McCullough said the civic had tried, without success, to get hold of the Peace Secretariat to mediate in the dispute.

"We depended on the Peace Secretariat to play a strong mediating role, but it does not look like the negotiations are working. Epok is going around the back of the negotiating table."

"No one at Epok was available for comment."
Interference is making task difficult, says SAP

CAPE TOWN — The SAP's task in combating the taxi war had been made difficult by the interference of the Joint Forum on Policing, the Maitland Stability Unit's Lt-Col Philip Nel told the Goldstone Commission yesterday.

The commission is investigating the nature and causes of, and possible solutions for, the violence stemming from the taxi war. The parties to the conflict — the taxi associations Webta and Lagunya — committed themselves to a peaceful settlement at the weekend.

The forum was established by a range of organisations including the DP, Black Sash, Unrest Monitoring Group and the ANC to monitor the role of the security forces in violence in the Cape.

Nel claimed the forum had openly sided with one of the groups involved in the conflict. "Members of this organisation, who in all probability have not undergone any training in the prevention and combating of unrest, have been appointed as monitors by the parties to the conflict. But their only role should be to behave as monitors. If the members do not behave to their full satisfaction, the members are even threatened that their actions would be brought to the attention of the Goldstone Commission."

But forum spokesman Rachel Brown yesterday denied these allegations as "absolute nonsense." She said the forum had been responsible for the SAP appointing a special team to investigate allegations made against the police and that it had worked closely with the team at one stage.

Nel said the deployment of the Stability Unit to search taxis for weapons from mid-November 1993 had been enormously successful and violence had waned. The unit was withdrawn from December and no further violence occurred until February when it was again deployed in Nyanga and Khayelitsha.

He said the taxi conflict had led to many deaths, widespread damage to taxis and other property and the use of unlicensed and stolen firearms by the warring groups.

He attributed the conflict to the unflow of taxis from the Transkei and Ciskei which had led to staff competition. Thus was exacerbated by a lack of proper facilities at taxi ranks, unwillingness of members of the different organisations to reach agreement, or when agreement was reached to get it endorsed at ground level and the permit system.

Nel said proper facilities should be established in each local authority area. A uniform permit system must be applied, the two taxi associations should amalgamate and there should be stronger law enforcement by local authorities. There was a lack of cooperation from the two associations which were not prepared to negotiate with the SAP at scenes of violence or potential violence.

Electricity cuts set off stonings

Burning barricades were erected and vehicles stoned in troubled Emderdale township south of Johannesburg yesterday as council workers, protected by police, cut residents' electricity cables.

A local development committee spokesman said three committee vehicles were stoned by angry residents while "illegal electricity supply wires" were being severed.

He said the committee, which is part of the House of Delegates Development Board, would begin disconnecting the supplies of residents who had outstanding account arrears within the next few days.

Civic association chairman Farouk Jardine said a meeting last week between his association and the committee had resolved to take no action until further talks.

The committee had agreed to write off electricity arrears and were in the process of seeking funding for the proposal, Jardine said.

The arrears total about R10m.

Jardine said the association had suggested an interim flat rate be paid while problems were sorted out, but this had been rejected by the committee. "There is widespread dissatisfaction because the people are not happy with why the rates are so high for the services provided," he said.

Meanwhile, the Johannesburg City Council will meet the Noordgesig Civic Association today in an attempt to resolve the recent rent and service payments crisis...
Township residents ignore service bills

ONLY about 30% of Greater Soweto residents are paying their monthly municipal bills, and two of the three city councils have indicated they will not introduce increases due in April.

Spokesmen for the councils said poor payments could be blamed in part on the fact that new procedures to act against defaulters had not been fully implemented.

Soweto Civic Association president Isaac Mogase said many residents felt services were not up to standard and it was difficult to persuade them to pay the new tariff of R15 a month.

He emphasised his association would adhere to the agreement negotiated in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber last year to normalise services in Greater Soweto.

In terms of the agreement, tariffs would be increased by R10 every three months until October 1. Each increase would depend upon the satisfactory performance by the relevant parties and would be monitored by the Metropolitan Chamber.

Our political staff reports Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels said yesterday black local authorities were owed R1,4bn in arrear housing rentals and service charges.

Most of this debt, R1,23bn, was owed to local authorities in the Transvaal, he said in reply to a question tabled in Parliament by Peter Soil (DP, Johannesburg North).

A further R73m was owed in Natal, R65m in the Free State and R134m in the Cape.

Eighteen townships in the Transvaal owed more than R10m, including Soweto (R471m), De Deurmooi (R119m), Sebokeng in Vanderbijlpark (R98m), Katlehong in Germiston (R776m), Tembisa in Kempten Park (R61m), Vosloorus in Roosburg (R55m), Mamelodi in Pretoria (R36m), Sharpeville (R25m), Daveyton in Benoni (R37m) and Thokoza in Alberton (R27m).
Soweto residents not paying rates

ONLY 30 percent of residents in Greater Soweto are paying monthly tariffs, according to officials of the three councils.

Spokesmen for the councils—Soweto, Deepmeadow and Dobsonville, said poor payments could partly be blamed on the fact that new procedures to act against defaulters had not been fully implemented.

The president of the Soweto Civic Association, Mr Isaac Mogase, said many residents felt that services were not up to standard.

He said his association would adhere to the agreement negotiated in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber last year to normalise services in Greater Soweto.

In terms of the agreement, tariffs would be increased by R10 every three months until October 1.

The increases would depend on the satisfactory performance by the relevant parties and would be monitored by the Metropolitan Chamber—**Sapa**
Funds approved for
Alex housing, services

By Shirley Woodgate

A massive injection of funds for the development of strife-torn Alexandra's 233 ha far East Bank has been approved by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC).

Last night the CWRSC voted R3 million for the provision of bulk and link services, assisted by an additional loan of R5.6 million from the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

The bridging finance amounting to R7.5 million has already been approved and a further R5 million will be advanced free of interest to the Transvaal Provincial Administration to assist with the development of the area, according to a report tabled at the council's meeting.

A recent survey of squatter shacks and informal housing units in the township adjoining Sandton found there were about 10,000 family units in Alexandra.

It is necessary to provide about 7,000 stands for low-income people on the far East Bank to relieve the over-crowding, the report said.

The first phase of the upgrading project will comprise 1,714 stands and Phase 2, involving the development of 2139 stands at an estimated cost of R33 million, will get under way early next month with the help of the Independent Development Trust, the report stated.

Budget

- The CWRSC voted R50,000 to assist the Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville councils to probe issues involved in the transfer of rented houses to the lessees.

Two single quarter hostels in Davidsonville are to be upgraded and converted into 50 sq m and 64 sq m two and three-bedroomed family flats with the help of the CWRSC.

- Melody McDougall of The Star's Vereeniging Bureau reports that the Vaal Triangle Regional Services Council (VRSC) last night approved a budget of just over R28.5 million, excluding bulk services, for the coming year.

The VRSC's 1992/1993 budget — the VRSC's annual budget — is slightly less than last year.

In his budget speech, VRSC chairman Gustav du Toit said: "The current economic situation has also had its effect on the income of the Regional Services Council.

"He said this was reflected in the fact that the council was budgeting for about the same amount as last year.

He added that of the estimated revenue of R23,519,582 for the 1992/1993 year, the sum of R26 million was in respect of levy income.

Almost no increase in revenue from levies was expected during the coming year, he said.

An increase in levy income of only R739,000 or 2.3 percent, was being budgeted for.

This was due to a decline in the number of levy payers, the decrease in the leviable amount from Eskom and the decline in the economy.

The total estimated expenditure for the year is expected to amount to just over R28 million."
Noordgesig set for major clash

By Shirley Woodgate

Noordgesig Civic Association is heading for outright confrontation with the Johannesburg City Council, despite assurances by management committee chairman Ian Davidson at a meeting yesterday that residents' grievances would be investigated.

Two conflicting versions of the meeting have emerged.

NCA secretary Keith Blandford claimed Mr. Davidson acted aggressively, intimidated the delegation and walked out of the 1½ hour meeting, telling the NCA to deal with their own councillor, Cathy Seefort.

The NCA wanted to negotiate over a handover of council houses to long-term tenants, the fact that certain owners could not alter their houses because the area had not been proclaimed, and alleged sharing of electricity accounts which had led to evictions.

But Mr. Davidson denied he had walked out. He denied blocking debate and said discussions had been "frank and open."

"We will bend over backwards to help these people, but we need an equivalent act of good faith from them."
Massive funds to improve Alex

Sowetan Correspondent

A MASSIVE injection of funds for the development of strife-torn Alexandra's 238ha far East Bank has been approved by the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

The CWRSC voted R3 million on Tuesday night for the provision of bulk and link services, assisted by an additional loan of R5.8 million from the Development Bank of Southern Africa.

Report tabled

Bringing finance amounting to R7.5 million was approved and a further R5 million will be advanced free of interest to the Transvaal Provincial Administration to assist with the development of the areas, according to a report tabled at the monthly meeting.

A recent survey of squatter shacks and informal housing units in the township found there were about 19,000 family units in Alexandra.

It is necessary to provide about 7,000 stands for low-income people on the far East Bank to relieve the overcrowding, the report said.
Eskom plans to light up 700,000 homes

By Derek Tomney

Eskom has set its sights on providing electricity to 700,000 households in the next five years and will encourage local authorities to provide electricity to a further 2.3 million.

This was announced last night by Eskom managing director Dr Ian McRae who also reported a marked improvement in the payment of electricity bills by the residents of Alexandra.

He said that between January and September last year, sufficient revenue had been received to cover only 6 percent of the bulk electricity bill. But in the five months ended February this year, 77 percent of the bulk bill had been paid.

Dr McRae said this followed an agreement between Eskom and the regional services council in September which provided for one-third of the bulk bill being paid by the RSC and two-thirds coming from pre-paid meters, with Eskom receiving a 14 percent agency fee.

Until pre-paid meters were installed, users would pay a flat rate of R50 a month.

Dr McRae said non-payment of electricity bills by certain local authorities remained a problem.

He said Eskom was working on 280 electrification projects. It had provided 38,051 households with electricity in 1990 but had a target of 164,000 households this year.

Eskom chairman John Maree said the demand for electrical appliances arising from the electrification programme could create work for more than a million people.

Eskom pledges to keep costs down — Page 23
Ennerdale residents freed

The five Ennerdale residents arrested during Monday's protest against cutting of electricity in the area were yesterday released without charge, according to the chairman of the local civic association, Farouk Jardine.

Clifford Smith, Brian Williams, Dean van Rheeder, Colm Kaasbert and Joyce Boysen — were detained under unrest regulations, Witwatersrand police spokesman Captain Eugene Opperman said.

The crisis stems from a three-year electricity and water boycott —

Staff Reporter
RSC may scrap projects to pay for switch-off

By Mokheth Koffolo
Pretoria Bureau

The Pretoria Regional Services Council has threatened to cancel all its projects in Atteridgeville, and instead to use the money to finance the switching off of electricity in the township, unless the township's residents allow contractors to install the budget energy control (BEC) meters.

The RSC said in a statement yesterday that it was considering cancelling not only the total electricity upgrading project (costing R32 million) but all other RSC projects in the township.

It would then use the money to keep the local municipal administration going.

A spokesman for the RSC said only about 58 percent of residents paid their monthly service charges and the Atteridgeville City Council did not have the manpower to cut electricity supplies to individual households of defaulters.

She said that, to avoid the bulk electricity switch-off by the Pretoria City Council, the money from the RSC could assist the council to contract an outside company to switch off power to non-payers.

At the same time it would protect those who were up to date with their payments as well as those residents with BEC meters.

Contractors are expected to install 50 meters a day, but far fewer meters were installed as a result of the obstruction by the majority of residents.

The spokesman said that most of the residents did not know the advantages of having the meters installed and, in some cases, contractors were allegedly intimidated by the residents.

A spokesman for the local civic body, the Atteridgeville-Saulsville Residents Organisation (Asro), said that it had encouraged residents to have the BEC meters installed because it was to their advantage.

Earlier reports said eight of the nine committee members of Asro had had the meters installed in their own homes.
Callers give civic leaders flak

CIVIC associations came under fire during the Soweto/Radio Metro Talkback Show last night.

Several callers denounced leaders of associations as autocratic and political "hopefuls" who used civics as a springboard to further their political ambitions.

Other callers defended the civics and praised their efforts to tackle problems and deal with town councils.

Dave from Katlehong said in his township residents elected leaders and then sat back and not give them the necessary support.

Alex from Sebokeng said civics did not serve the interests of the people.

"They have given dismal performances and they do not consult," he said.

Johnny of Ratanda said most civic leaders were courageous people who had opposed the authorities when everyone was afraid of state repression.

"They happen to come from a certain political organisation which has always been active and that is how they are elected to these positions," he said.

Kate from Kagiso said civics had no concept of democracy, did not consult and many of their leaders appointed themselves to positions.

Frans from Mamelodi said "When you elect people to be your leaders you entrust them to make decisions on issues.

"You can't expect them to run to the residents on each and every issue. They are doing a great job and have resolved many matters amicably."

Tshepo from Orlando said civics were in the wrong by not consulting residents after they had already reached agreement with the authorities.
Atteridgeville defaulters to have electricity cut off

Pretoria Bureau

The Pretoria Regional Services Council (RSC) has withdrawn its R1 million electricity payment guarantee from Atteridgeville and the local council will today begin cutting electricity supplies to non-paying households.

This drastic step comes in the wake of resistance by township residents to the installation of Budget Energy Control (BEC) meters.

In a statement yesterday, Nigel Mandy, the chairman of the current discussions between authorities and the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents Organisation on solving the electricity payment boycott, said the council would also have to reconsider its position as a bulk supplier of electricity to the township if Atteridgeville council failed to pay its account in full each month.

Mr Mandy said the RSC was abandoning the installation of BEC meters because persistent delays were "wasting millions of rands of levy revenue".

He further said that from today the local council would "start disconnecting the electricity supply of individual defaulters".

According to Mr Mandy, the BEC meters were selected as part of the upgrading project because it allowed people to control their own electricity bills.

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Noordgesig residents refuse to pay rent, power bills

By Montshiwa Mokge

Residents of Noordgesig, near Soweto, resolved on Thursday not to pay rent and electricity bills until their demands had been met, Noordgesig Civic Association (NCA) secretary Keith Blandford said yesterday.

The decision was reached at a meeting on Thursday night to address an ongoing conflict between the civic association and the Johannesburg management committee (JMC).

The meeting was a report-back on a meeting on Tuesday between the NCA and the JMC.

Two conflicting versions of Tuesday's meeting emerged afterwards.

Mr Blandford claimed JMC chairman Ian Davidson had acted aggressively, intimidated the NCA delegation and walked out of the meeting, telling the NCA to deal with their own councillor, Cathy Seofor.

Mr Davidson denied he had walked out, denied blocking debate and said discussions had been frank and open.

Mr Blandford said residents had agreed unanimously on Thursday to withhold their rent until the transfer of ownership of houses to their occupiers had been effected.

Residents would resume electricity payments after all the previously high electricity accounts had been scrapped and court orders against defaulters withdrawn.

During a stayaway on March 11 about 15 people were wounded in a confrontation between residents and municipal security officers outside the Noordgesig municipal offices.

Mr Davidson declined to comment last night.
Zimbabwe trade delegation to visit

HARARE — In the first initiative of its kind since independence in 1980, Zimbabwe is dispatching a 30-member trade promotion delegation to Johannesburg next week.

"Now that SA is firmly moving on the road to becoming part of the international community, it is essential it does not see the southern African region only as a market for its products," said Zimtrade's director of export development, Mike Humphrey, who is organising the visit.

"If South Africans are to trade with the region, they (should not) make the mistake Zimbabwe made in 1980 with its neighbouring countries.

"We managed successfully to antagonise almost all our trading partners in the region by running up sustained trade imbalances in our favour.

"SA really has to learn from that," he said.

Humphrey said Zimtrade, which had recently taken over the trade promotion functions in the trade and commerce ministry, believed the Zimbabwean economy was well placed to supply the middle income group who were generating more wealth as a result of recent changes in the country.

The delegation arriving in Johannesburg next week would contain representatives from 26 companies in the clothing and textiles sector, the footwear and leather sector, the furniture and wood products sector, and the processed food sector.

"We have proved to be competitive in these SA markets with these products," Humphrey said.

He noted SA remained Zimbabwe's largest trading partner. In 1996, the volume of visible imports and exports exceeded R1,2bn.

Zimbabwe's trade deficit in that year was more than R500m in SA's favour.

Observers here note the state-run Zimbabwe Broadcasting Corporation is for the first time sending a camera crew to Johannesburg to accompany the delegation. It is believed this has cabinet approval.

While in Johannesburg, the Zimbabweans will be meeting their counterparts in Safco and JCCI.

Negotiations on Zimbabwe's proposed new trade agreement with SA have been continuing in Pretoria.

At independence in 1980, President Robert Mugabe inherited Rhodesia's 1964 vintage pact with SA, which now needs urgent updating in view of changes in the two economies in the intervening years.

Although Mugabe has given no hint of relaxing his longstanding ban on contact at ministerial level with the SA government, dispatch of the delegation raises relations to a new level.

Finance minister Bernard Chidzero has acknowledged that expanding Zimbabwe's trade links with SA is essential for the success of Zimbabwe's R2bn economic structural adjustment programme, supported by the World Bank.
Govt probes councils’ debts

GOVERNMENT is investigating the more than R1,15bn black local authorities are owed, the Local Government and National Housing Department has said.

A spokesman confirmed yesterday that a task group under the chairmanship of Finance director-general Gerard Croeser, which started investigations in the middle of last year, would advise government on the matter.

The spokesman could not say how much local authorities owed, but the latest Race Relations Review said the amount residents owed to black local authorities as a result of rent and service charges boycotts had increased from R1.64bn in 1993 to R1.15bn in 1999.

Local Government and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels said: “The debt involves, among others, debt of local residents to black local authorities, debt of black local authorities to financial authorities and debt to bulk suppliers.”

Wessels said claims that government intended to burden white local authorities with the insolvent estates of black councils were and oversimplification.

The task group would advise government, which would – in consultation with organised local government and other interested parties – handle the question of debt “in a manner which will promote the establishment of viable local authorities”.

SAPA reports that the Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday both welcomed and criticised the appointment of the task group.

Cast general secretary Dan Mofokeng said although the association welcomed the appointment of the task group, it took “strong exception to the idea that individuals and coloured management committees are immune from the investigation.”

Cast also criticised the exclusion from the task group of members of “the disadvantaged communities who have been subjected to mismanagement and his rent and service bills.”

“We believe that the perpetrators of financial mismanagement cannot investigate themselves. A neutral body can deal effectively with that investigation,” Mofokeng said.

“We demand that all black local authorities and Indian/coloured management committees should disembark,” he said.

Much hinges on tourism

The long-awaited White Paper on tourism would be available for publica-

tion in two weeks’ time, a spokesman for Administration and Tourism Minister Org Marsa said yesterday.

Tourism industry spokes-

men said yesterday the future of the industry depended on the recommenda-

tions. They would either stimulate the industry or leave it to stagnate.

Fedhasa CEO Peter Hear-

field said: “We hope once and for all that government will acknowledge the vital importance of the hotel and tourism industry and its vast potential for foreign earnings. Until now government had paid little attention to developing this potential.”

Hearfield said government needed to enable Sataur to fund marketing campaigns properly and competitively in other parts of the world.

Hopefully Maras would take note of the recommendations dealing with a more relaxed tourism environment, controls on trading hours in shops, cinema theatres and liquor outlets had to be lifted, he said.

The industry expected government would at least recognise that the hotel and tourism sector was an export industry.

“It is of primary importance that assistance be given through the gener-

al export incentive scheme which currently applies only to the manu-

facturing industry.”

Hearfield added that all SA industries, the hotel and tourism industry had the biggest foreign exchange earning capacity, but the conditions un-

der which it operated had to undergo drastic changes.

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Yorkcor

The York Timber Organisation Limited

Reg NO 01/048006

Directors: S Tucker, L D Tucker, D P Ackerman, M Mahanyele,
De I J C van Vuuren, R S Wilkinson, J R Watson

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Announcement

The offer of bonus shares made to shareholders registered on Friday, 21 February 1992 closed on Friday, 27 March 1992. Elections to take up bonus shares were made in respect of 7,897,200 shares out of a total of 9,447,266. Accordingly, 554,493 new ordinary shares in the company were issued and will be listed on the Johannesburg Stock Exchange with effect from the commencement of business on Monday, 1 April 1992.

On 29 January 1992, ordinary dividend No. 27 of 14 cents per share was declared and is payable on those shares in respect of which no elections were made to receive bonus shares. Share certificates in respect of the new bonus shares and dividend warrants in respect of the dividend No. 27 will be dispatched to shareholders on or about Wednesday, 1 April 1992.

By order of the board

J G Buhrer CA (SA), Secretary

31 March 1992

Registered office: 5th Floor Yorkcor Park, 86 Watermeyer Street, Val de Grace, Pretoria 0184

PO Box 380, Pretoria 0001

Transfer secretaries: Consolidated Share Registrars Limited, 1st Floor, Edura House, 40 Commissioner Street, Johannesburg 2001

PO Box 61051, Marshalltown 2107
CAST queries debt probe's make-up

The Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal has called for Indian and coloured management committees to be included in a Government investigation probing the debt crisis in black councils.

CAST general-secretary Dan Mofokeng said it welcomed the appointment of a task group to investigate financial irregularities and mismanagement in black local authorities, but took strong exception to the idea that the management committees were "immune" from investigation.

"We also criticise the composition of the task group. The disadvantaged communities who have been subjected to mismanagement and high rent and service bills are not represented," he said.

"For some time the Government has been closing its ears to the cries and complaints of the people," Mr Mofokeng said.

He said the perpetrators of financial mismanagement could not investigate themselves, so a neutral body was needed.

"We demand that all black local authorities and Indian and coloured management committees should disband," Mr Mofokeng said.
Bid to Jack
up CBD of Jo'burg
By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A company known as the Central Johannesburg Partnership (Pty) Ltd, aimed at promoting the city centre and address its problems, is to be formed by a partnership of the city council, the private sector and the community.

The agreement establishing the company, to be tabled at the council's monthly meeting today, stems from a major central business district conference last year.

The partnership between the council, the community (residents and organisations representing them) and the business sector in the city centre will be organised as a private company.

A board of six members from each group will run the company, supported by a full-time secretariat. Each board member will have one vote. The elected chairman will not have a casting vote.

The company is committed to involving all stakeholders in central Johannesburg in a co-operative effort to rejuvinate the city centre, thereby promoting a sound economy, an attractive, safe and vibrant city, affordable residential accommodation and a focus for the community.

The objectives are to:
● Promote the central area, encouraging people and organisations to support projects for its improvement.
● Establish a forum for discussion and action between the council, the community and the private sector.
● Work through consensus, decision-making and committed action.
● Promote activities and development as well as the competitive marketing of the city centre.
● Formulate a vision and strategy
● Assist as a facilitator and catalyst for development.
● Facilitate finance for specific projects.
● Serve as a forum for conflict resolution
● Minimise red tape, serve as an information and resources centre, and monitor issues affecting the central area.
THE appointment of a task group to investigate financial irregularities and mismanagement in Black Local Authorities has been both welcomed and criticised by the Coloured Association of South Africa.

Cast general secretary Mr Dan Mofokeng said in a statement that, although the association welcomed the appointment of the task group, it took "strong exception to the idea that Indian and coloured management committees are immune from the investigation."

Cast also criticised the exclusion from the task group of members of "the disadvantaged communities who have been subjected to mismanagement and high rent and service bills."

"We believe that the perpetrators of financial mismanagement cannot investigate themselves. A neutral body can effectively deal with that investigation," Mofokeng said.

"We demand that all BLAs and Indian/coloured management committees should disband," he said.
Hostel inmates to get better homes

A portion of Power Park in Soweto will be developed by the Johannesburg City Council as a pilot project to provide family housing for hostel dwellers.

A survey by the Human Sciences Research Council last year revealed that it would be too costly to develop all existing hostels into family units.

Between 50 and 65 percent of respondents preferred any other accommodation to living in a hostel. The most important reasons for staying in the hostels were that families stayed elsewhere and that hostels were closer to work.

The council has reserved a portion of land in Power Park for township purposes. The planning directorate is busy designing a layout to enable family units to be constructed.

It will cost the council R2 million to service the about 130 sites available.

Preliminary studies have been undertaken to determine the feasibility and cost estimates of converting accommodation at the Nancefield Hostel.

The council concluded that it would not be financially viable to convert existing hostels into family units. Only 20 percent of the hostel dwellers could be accommodated in the converted dwellings.
Cluster homes cling to ridge

TEN cluster homes are being developed on the north face of Johannesburg's Linksfield Ridge by Daycor Developments, and the Tomato's Group of 8/10 July 1992.

While prices are as steep as the mountainside — between R3m and R5m — the developers feel they are justified by the exclusive location, limited number of units and nature of the development. They are also confident the project will not run into the kind of difficulties experienced recently by some upmarket developments.

"While the Sandton market could be oversupplied at the top-end, all the developments there are on flat sites and offer similar facilities. Our Montalla development offers a unique site, panoramic views and limited development," says Costa Tomato's.

Each of the 10 units will be different. Floor areas vary from 600m² to 850m² on between two and five levels; sometimes cantilevered from the hillside.

The concept is to merge high-tech architecture with the ridge's natural features. Marketing begins this month and will target foreign businessmen, retired diplomatic staff and other high earners.

Features such as underfloor heating and a heated pool with waterfall are standard. Terraces include a plunge pool, pizza oven and braai area (127).

The project is expected to be complete by the end of 1993 and is situated on 101ha. The first unit will be completed this month, with others following in phases.

Security, an important aspect of any development, will include a gatehouse, closed-circuit television, intercoms and an infra-red burglar alarm system.

In another development, 16 units grouped together in a "mews" arrangement — eight units on either side of a central street — are to be built in Melrose. Developed by Meridien Projects and situated on the corner of Tottenham Avenue and Baker Street, Melrose Mews will offer three-bedroomed units of 330m². The units will be priced from R605 000 to R1 800 000, says Stauch Vorster architect Alfio Torrisi.

"Building rights allowed for a six-storey block, but it was decided to opt for a lower-rise, high density design that reflects the local trend towards smaller, more compact and easily maintainable homes."
'Whites' suburbs are still for whites'

By Montshibwa Moreke

Even though the Group Areas Act had been repealed some time ago, the nature of white suburbs had not changed, the secretary of the Civic Associations of Johannesburg, Cas Coovadia, said last night.

Mr Coovadia, who is also a leading member of Acstop, was speaking at the annual meeting of the Emmarentia Residents' Association, which was attended by about 50 people.

His subject was "The future of white suburbs in the new South Africa."

Mr Coovadia said with the kinds of changes taking place today, the country was faced with massive challenges, and its people were sitting with the legacy of apartheid.

As these changes were taking place, the country was faced with a crisis in education, housing, massive unemployment and an ailing economy.

Figures released in 1989 already showed there was a shortage of 1.26 million houses and 7 million people were living in informal settlements.

The Urban Foundation had indicated that 174,000 houses a year were needed between now and 1995 if the backlog were to be addressed.

"Zevenfontein and Bloemfontein should not have happened. All of us will have to make sacrifices. We are going to have to grapple with these kinds of situations across the colour line."

"The Group Areas Act was changed a while ago, but the nature of the white suburbs has not changed. Not that we should be proud of it, but because of the realities of this country there will continue to be a Soweto and a Lenasia," said Mr Coovadia.

He said transition would not be easy and it required a change from within people. There had been a tremendous amount of mistrust but that would have to change.

South Africans had been patient all along and now was the time that they should begin to learn to live together.
Electricity reprieve for Atteridgeville

The Pretoria City Council (PCC) has rescinded its decision to cut the bulk electricity supplies to Atteridgeville and urged local residents to pay their service charges.

The local council owes the PCC R12 million for bulk services rendered.

Recently, the PCC announced its decision to cut the supplies if residents did not pay their monthly accounts.

As a result, the local council announced that electricity to the individual households of all defaulters would be disconnected as from Monday this week.

Sources in the township said yesterday that some houses' supply had been discontinued.

However, the PCC said in a statement yesterday that the threat to cut bulk supply to the township was an attempt to encourage local residents to pay their accounts.

"The PCC (has) decided today not to discontinue the bulk electricity supply to Atteridgeville at this stage," it said.

"The PCC seriously urges residents to pay their accounts," it added — Pretoria Bureau
Residents drive back sheriffs of the court

AN ATTEMPT by the Johannesburg City Council to evict residents of the Emerdale coloured township for not keeping up with payments failed yesterday in the face of forceful resistance.

Conflict has been building up in the area for several weeks with incidents of stone-throwing, the setting up of barricades, burning of council vehicles and several arrests. Emerdale was declared an emergency area as a result of the disturbances.

Early yesterday, several sheriffs of the court arrived at three houses in Emerdale with eviction papers, but were turned away by residents. The paper dated 2/4/72.

Emerdale and Surrounding Areas Civic Association chairman Farouk Jardine said, "They tried to use force to enter our houses, so we used force to push them out. They broke the door down, but we prevented them from coming in."

Jardine alleged officials started removing furniture through a window they had broken at one house. Police arrived at the scene declared to intervene and suggested further consultation with the council.

Councillor health and housing committee chairman Marietta Marx said in a statement yesterday the council was ready to take all reasonable steps to resolve the problem.

She said appeals to buyers of houses in Emerdale's Extension 5 to finalise the transfer of their homes, now five years behind the scheduled date, had failed.

"We have a moral responsibility to the hundreds of families on our waiting list. Purchasers who do not want to take transfer of the homes, or pay for them, are forcing us as a responsible local authority to resort to legal remedies," Marx said.

At the heart of the conflict is a payment boycott instituted by residents in 1967. The grievances then were alleged shoddy construction work, sub-standard materials and structural defects.

The council said it had "offered to remedy these defects at the contractors' cost", but some residents "would not let officials or the contractor into their homes."

Marx indicated that after several meetings and discussions involving the Emerdale management committee, the Emerdale and Surrounding Civic Association and the city council, an "agreement was reached, and this was confirmed by their legal representatives."

Jardine, however, said the council had not consulted residents and the civic association had not agreed on a solution to the problem.
Soweto rates move falters

The Soweto City Council will raise the tariffs from R55 to R63 a month, as agreed in November last year by the Greater Soweto Principal Parties (GSPP) of the three councils.

But Dobokwville and Diepmeadow will only institute the increases next month.

The phased tariff increases, which are scheduled to take place at four-month intervals until the end of the year, were part of a Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber plan to regulate and normalise tariff and rate payments in the greater Soweto area.

In terms of the schedule, tariffs are to be raised to R63 by the end of the year.

A spokesman for Diepmeadow Town Council said ratepayers and civic associations in the area had rejected tariff increases as improved services - a condition of the increases - had not materialised.

The spokesman said the delay did not jeopardise the agreement “The second lap of increases planned for July will happen as agreed,” he said.

The GSPP will be meeting tomorrow to discuss the “nitty gritty” of improved levels of service and to receive feedback about whether the councils were complying, said TPA chief executive officer Vic Mine.

Mine said progress reports on the implementation of the November agreement had been considered by the GSPP earlier this month, but some details had still to be considered.
Van Tonder threatens violence over squatters

BOERESTAAT Party leader Robert van Tonder has threatened violent opposition if the Transvaal Provincial Administration attempts to move the Zevelfontein squatters into his area.

Cosmo City, one of the possible sites being considered by the TPA, is located just a few kilometres from Van Tonder's large property at Northriding, north of Randburg.

Van Tonder, who has lived in the area for 30 years and is chairman of the local residents' action group, said eight vigilant groups had been formed in the area which were ready to meet the squatters with the kind of force that would make Soweto's attempts to keep them out look feeble.

There are indications that the Zevelfontein community has reconsidered its initial choice of moving to Cosmo City after hearing where the proposed site was.

Community representative Pinky Mokahena said the squatters had asked the TPA not to make public its final decision on where to move the squatters until the community had had time to consider it.

TPA representative Magda du Toit said the TPA was taking Van Tonder's presence into account in deciding the eventual site. The TPA may also decide against the area, as it cannot afford another high-profile political battle over the fate of the Zevelfontein community.

Van Tonder said none of the squatters worked in his area and emphasised that municipalities such as Randburg and Sandton should accommodate their workforce within their own boundaries.

He said Cosmo City was an affluent area and the residents would sue the TPA for billions in compensation for the drop in property values if the move took place.

At a residents' protest meeting in the area on Tuesday night, the DP, NP and "leftists" had all co-operated with him in discussing plans to keep the squatters out, Van Tonder said.

He said residents in the area had appealed to Transvaal Administrator Danie Hough late last year to make the area between Randburg, Midrand and Hartebeespoort dam a separate municipality, called the Garden Triangle. The move was initiated when it became clear that Randburg, Sandton and the TPA were planning to create squatter camps in the area.

Du Toit said a task group would report back this month on the appeal for a separate municipality.

The other option favoured by the Zevelfontein community was Waterval near Megawatt Park.
Letlhabile unhappy over policing by TPA

LEADERS of Letlhabile Civic Association yesterday staged a sit-in at the township manager’s office in protest against the Government’s decision to place the area under the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

The row follows the abolition by the Government of the Department of Development Aid which has been running Letlhabile, 20km outside Brits.

The publicity secretary of the civic association, the Rev Peter Bardenhorst, said Letlhabile residents rejected the TPA and felt their affairs should rather be administered by either the land affairs or public works departments.

He said yesterday’s protest, which was started at 8am, was also meant to urge township authorities to introduce affordable tariffs. The Rev Bardenhorst said the civic delegation involved in the sit-in refused to discuss the matter with other officials and stated clearly that they would not leave the office until their grievances were met.

“We want to discuss this problem with the deputy Minister of Development Aid, Mr Scheepers. There is too much work which the department has left incomplete and we will not allow ourselves to be swallowed up by the TPA,” he said.
Family units to be built for hostel dwellers

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A portion of Power Park Soweto, will be developed by the Johannesburg City Council as a pilot project to provide family housing for hostel dwellers.

A survey carried out by the Human Sciences Research Council last year at council-owned hostels revealed that it would be too costly to develop all existing hostels into family units.

The HSRC surveyed a sample of hostel dwellers during November last year and a report was handed to the city council last month.

Between 60 and 65 percent of respondents preferred any other accommodation to living in a hostel. The most important reasons for staying in the hostels were that families stayed elsewhere, that hostels were closer to work and that inmates could not afford to buy homes.

Of the "other type of accommodation" preferred, 60 percent of respondents in each hostel preferred a house. The choice of area was Johannesburg, followed by Soweto.

More than 85 percent of respondents in each hostel indicated they preferred to rent. According to researchers, this is probably attributable to the perception that buying a home is beyond what they can afford or are prepared to pay.

The HSRC report said a definite need existed for hostel dwellers to have access to other forms of accommodation.

The council has reserved a portion of land in Power Park (Portion C) for township purposes and the planning directorate is busy designing a layout to enable family units to be constructed.

It will cost the council R2 million to serve the approximately 130 sites available in Power Park.

It is proposed that as staff move from the hostels to the proposed family units, the existing family-type accommodation be converted to bachelor or family-type units.
Council security men accused of violence

By Peter Davies

Attempts to evict some Ennerdale Extension 5 residents from their homes in the township south of Johannesburg were unsuccessful early yesterday, amid what residents claim were "violent tactics" by the sheriff of the Supreme Court.

Residents said a heavily armed council security contingent — accompanied by police armoured vehicles — smashed down a door and threw a brick through the window of two of the houses served with eviction notices.

A spokesman for the council said he was aware that a door and a window had been broken during the eviction attempts but was adamant no damage was done by a city council official.

He said council security members did not have police power and that the sheriff of the court — an employee of the Department of Justice — had conducted the evictions. The sheriff would not comment.

The eviction notices had been served against three individuals after unsuccessful appeals by the council to home-buyers in Extension 5 to finalise transfer of their homes — now five years behind the scheduled transfer date.

Resident Farouk Jardine said Vereeniging’s sheriff of the court came to his door just after 8am with an eviction notice.

**Kicked**

“ITold him the council had agreed to reopen discussions on the whole issue. He said he had their instructions to evict me. When I refused them entry, they kicked the door until the lock broke. They came in and put a gun against my mother-in-law’s head and threatened my father, who is wheelchair-bound,” said Mr Jardine.

Ross McCulloch, a member of the Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association, said he was awakened by the sight of heavily armed council security men and members of the Vereeniging riot unit “wielding weapons of war.”

Mr McCulloch said: “My son Ross (8) was peering through the window when one of these council security guys threw a brick through it. Shards of glass slit his forehead and he had to go to hospital.”

Marnetta Marx, chairman of the health and housing committee of the Johannesburg City Council, confirmed yesterday that the sheriff had tried to carry out court orders to evict the occupants of three houses in Extension 5.

“We have been informed that the evictions were unsuccessful. We are now urgently awaiting the sheriff’s further advice on how he will carry out the court orders.

“The city council does not carry out evictions. The role of the municipal security officials present was purely to safeguard council property.”

Comment from the SAP was unavailable.
Ennerdale residents set up camp

By Shirley Woodgate

Ennerdale residents yesterday dug in and erected a "squatter camp" to house four families who were evicted last week by the sheriff of the court for alleged non-payment of rent.

Three of the four evictions were allegedly carried out on members of the Ennerdale and Surrounding Areas Civic Associations (Esca).

Chairman Farouk Jardine claimed that after warnings another 38 follow-up evictions had been ordered by the Johannesburg City Council today. "This is proof that the civic associations are being subjected to victimisation by hitting the leaders first," he said.

"Since 1985, other groups which opposed of-faldom were paid off, but we will not give in to council harassment and intimidation until our grievances have been addressed."

Watched by council security police in a parked Casspar outside Mr Jardine's deserted house, members of the civic association started erecting a tent on Saturday.

Police dismantled the tent, and later claimed a man was shot when he threw a petrol bomb at the vehicle.

Esca hotly denied the petrol bombing incident, and alleged residents were manhandled by security staff and the feared 32 Battalion.

By late evening about 25 members of the four evicted families — the Jardines, the McCullochs, the Somicksons and the Najans — were planning to move into their new makeshift accommodation.
RAADSKENNISGEWING 59 VAN 1992
STADSRADA VAN KLERKSDORP
REGULASIES BETREFFENDE BEWONINGS-
OORLASTE

Die Stadsraad van Klerksdorp publisirteer hierby inge-
volge artikel 101 van die Ordonnansie op Plaaslike
Bestuur, 1939, soos gewysig, die Regulassies betref-
fende Bewoningsoorlaste hierna uiteengezet wat deur
die Stadsraad ooreenkomstig artikel 11 van die Wet op
Ontwikkeling en Behuising, 1985, opgestel is en in ge-
volge artikel 96 van die genoemde Ordonnansie aan-
vaar is

1. WOORDOMSKRYWING

In hierdie Regulassies, tensy dit uit die samehang
anders blyk, het al die woorde wat in die Wet op On-
wikkeling en Behuising, No 103 van 1985, ooskrif
word, die betekensese wat aan hulle in daardie Wet
toegekend word en in hierdie Regulassies beteken—
“bewonder” in verband met enige perseel—
(a) enige persoon wat die perseel werklik bewoon;
or
(b) enige persoon wat regtens daarop geregist is om
die perseel te bewoon,
(c) enige persoon onder wie se beheer of bestuur
die perseel staan en dit sluit die agent van enige
sodanige persoon in wanneer hy uit die Repub-
liek van Suid-Afrika afwesig is of indien dit
onbekend is waar hy hom bevind,
“eienaar” met betrekking tot ’n gebou of grond—
(a) die geregistedere eienaar, of
(b) die persoon of instansie wat verantwoordelik is
vir die betaling van munisipale belasting of
dienste,
“Hoof: Gesondheidsdienste” die hoof van die
Raad se Departement Gesondheidsdienste of enige
beampte wat gemaatlik is om namens hom op te tree.
“gesin” ’n man of ’n vrou of albei, met of sonder
hulle ouers, en met of sonder die kinders van die een of
ander van albei van hulle, wat almal saamwoon
“Nasionale Bouregulassies” die regulassies afge-
kondig deur Goeievormskennisgewing R 1081 geda-
teer 10 Junie 1988, soos gewysig deur Goeievorm-
skennisgewing No 1726 van 26 Augustus 1988,
“perseel” enige huis, kamer, vertrek, skuur, af dak,
hut, voertuig, vaartuig of enige ander struktuur of
plek waarvan enige gedeelte gebruik word deur
enige persoon vir slaapdoelendes, of waarvan enige
persoon woon, of wat na die mening van die Hoof
Gesondheidsdienste bedoel is om gebruik te word deur
enige persoon vir slaap- of woonoelendes, tesame
met die grond waarop die struktuur geleë is en die
aangrensende grond wat in verband daarmee gebruik
geword word,
“Raad” die Stadsraad van Klerksdorp, die Raad se
Bestuurstuurskome wat handel kragtens die bevoeg-
hede wat ingevolge artikel 58 van die Ordonnansie op
Plaaslike Bestuur (Administtrasie en Verkeersings),
1960, aan hom gedelegeer is, en enige beampte aan
wie die Komitee ingevolge subartikel (3) van
genoemde artikel, op gesag van die Raad, die
bevoegdhede, funksies en pligte wat ten opsigte van
hierdie regulassies by die Raad berus, kan deleger, en
dit inderdaad gedelegeer het,

BOARD NOTICE 59 OF 1992
TOWN COUNCIL OF KLERKSDORP
REGULATIONS REGARDING HOUSING
NUISANCES

The Town Clerk of Klerksdorp hereby in terms of
section 101 of the Local Government Ordinance, 1939,
as amended, publishes the Regulations regarding
Housing Nuisances set forth hereinafter, which have
been compiled by the Council in accordance with sec-
tion 11 of the Development and Housing Act, 1985,
and adopted in terms of section 96 of the said Ordin-
nance.—

1. DEFINITIONS

In these regulations, unless inconsistent with the
context, all the words defined in the Development and
Housing Act, No. 103 of 1985, will have the meaning
assigned to them in that Act and in these regulation—
“accommodation establishment” means prems
es on which accommodation or accommodation and
one or more meals per person per day is provided for
payment to more than four persons,
“Act” means the Development and Housing Act,
No 103 of 1985,
“Council” means the Town Council of Klerksdorp,
the Council’s Management Committee, acting under
the powers delegated to it in terms of the provisions of
section 58 of the Local Government (Administration
and Elections) Ordinance, 1960, and any officer to
whom that Committee has been empowered by the
Council in terms of the provisions of subsection (3) of
the said section to delegate and has in fact delegated
the powers, functions and duties vesting in the Council
in relation to these by-laws,
“family” means a male or female or both with or
without their parents, and with or without the children of
one or the other or both, living together,
“Head Health Services” means the Head of the
Health Services Department of the Council or his
assignee,
“occupier” in relation to any premises means
(a) any person in actual occupation of those premi-
eses, or
(b) any person legally entitled to occupy those
premises, or
(c) any person having the charge or management of
those premises and includes the agent of any
such person when he is absent from the Repub-
lc of South Africa or his whereabouts are
unknown,
“National Building Regulations” means the regu-
lations promulgated under Government
Notice R 1081 dated 10 June 1988, as amended by
Government Notice No 1726 of 26 August 1988
“owner” in respect of a building or land means—
(a) the registered owner;
or
(b) the person or body responsible for the payment
of municipal assessment rates or services
2. VERHUURING EN BEWONING VAN PERSEELE

Niemand mag enige perseel of 'n gedeelde daarvan verhuur of help om dit te verhuur of toelaat dat dit bewoon of geokkuper word wat toestande tot gevolg het of toelaat dat toestande voortduur wat 'n oortreding van die volgende uitmaak nie

(a) Geen vertrek wat ten volle of gedeeltelik deur persone gebruik word om in te slaap mag bewoon word deur meer persone as wat 12 kubieke meter vryelugruimte en 4 m² vloerruimte vir elke persoon van 10 jaar oud of ouer en 8 kubieke meter vryelugruimte en 2 m² vloerruimte vir elke persoon jonger as 10 jaar toelaat nie. Met dien verstande dat geen woonvertrek kleiner as 6 m² mag wees nie.

(b) Niemand mag 'n toilet, gang, trap, trapportaal, badkamer, kas, buitegebou, motorhuis, stel, tent, pakkamer, afdak, skuur, kelder of selder gebruik om in te slaap of veroorsaak of toelaat dat dit so gebruik word nie, tensy die gebruik vir daardie doel deur die Hoof Gesondheidsdienste en ooreenkoms met die Nasionale Bouregulasies goedgekeur is.

3. SLAAPAKKOMMODASIE, VOORBEREIDING EN GAARMAAK VAN VOEDSEL

Niemand mag enige perseel verhuur of toelaat dat enige perseel deur meer as een gesin bewoon word wat toestande tot gevolg het wat 'n oortreding van die volgende uitmaak nie

(a) Geen perseel of 'n gedeelde daarvan mag deur sodanige getal persone bewoon word wat die slaapakkommodasie onvoldoen is en om toe te laat dat persone van die teenoorgestelde geslag van ouer as 10 jaar, met uitsondering van 'n paar wat as man en vrou saamleef, in afsonderlike vertrekte geakkommodeer word wat deur baksteenmure of afskorting geskei word en waarvan die konstruksie na die mening van die Hoof Gesondheidsdienste stigig en toereikend is nie.

(b) Alle perseel moet voorziens van fastelike vir die voorbereiding en gaarmaka van voedsel wat voldoende is vir die gebruik van en geredelik toeganklik is vir 'n bewoner wat enige vertrek of vertrekke daarin afsonderlik bewoon. Met dien verstande dat afsonderlike fastelike teen opsig van elke bewoner voorziens moet word vir die voorbereiding en gaarmak van voedsel indien die Hoof Gesondheidsdienste dit vereis.

4. ABLUSIEGERIUE

(1) Die eenaar van enige perseel moet toezien dat sodanige perseel voorziens is van een of meer stort(e) en een spoelkloset of alternatiewe goedgekeurde genewee, elk geskei geleë in een afsonderlike kompartement wat geredelik toeganklik is vir alle bewoners van die perseel is en wat toe-

“premises” means any house, room, shed, hut, vehicle, vessel or tent or any other structure or place, any portion thereof is used by any person for sleeping in, or in which any person dwells, or which in the opinion of the Head Health Services is intended to be used by any person for sleeping or dwelling in, together with the land on which the structure is situated and the adjoining land used in connection therewith.

2. LETTING AND OCCUPATION OF PREMISES

No person shall let or assist in letting or allow to be occupied any premises or part thereof so as to bring into existence or permit to continue conditions which will constitute a contravention of the following

(a) No room wholly or partly used by persons for sleeping in shall be occupied by a greater number of persons that will allow less than 12 m³ of free air space and 4 m² of floor space for each person aged 10 years or more and 6 m² of free air space and 2 m² of floor space for each person less than 10 years of age. Provided that no living room shall be smaller than 6 m²., and

(b) No person shall use a latrine, passage, staircase, landing, bathroom, cupboard, outbuilding, garage, stable, tent, store-room, lean-to, shed, cell or loft for sleeping in or cause or allow it to be so used unless its use for that purpose has been approved by the Head Health Services and in accordance with the National Building Regulations.

3 SLEEPING ACCOMMODATION, PREPARATION AND COOKING OF FOOD

No person shall so let any premises or allow any premises to be so occupied by more than one family as to bring into existence conditions which will constitute a contravention of the following

(a) No premises or part thereof shall be occupied by such a number of persons that the sleeping accommodation is insufficient to allow for persons of opposite sexes over 10 years of age, other than a couple living together as husband and wife, being accommodated in separate rooms, separated from one another by brick walls or partitions, the construction of which is substantial and adequate in the opinion of the Head Health Services.

(b) All premises shall be provided with accommodation for the preparation and cooking of food, adequate for the use of and readily accessible to an occupier by whom any room or rooms therein is or are occupied separately. Provided that separate accommodation shall in respect of each occupier be provided for the preparation and cooking of food if required by the Head Health Services.

4. ABLUTION FACILITIES

(1) The owner of any premises shall ensure that such premises shall be provided with one or more shower(s) and one water-closet or alternative approved facilities, each suitably placed in a separate compartment readily accessible to all occupants of the premises and fitted with
gerus is met goedgekeurde vuilwaterpype in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Bouregulasies. Met dien verstande dat elke stort vervang kan word deur ‘n bad wat toegerus is met goedgekeurde vuilwaterpype in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Bouregulasies.

(2) Die eenaar van enige perseel moet toesien dat sodanige perseel oor ‘n behoorlike voorraad warm en koue water beskik het wat geredelik beskikbaar vir die bewoners daarvan is.

5. BASIESE LEWENSVEREISTES

Geen eenaar van ‘n perseel mag—

(a) toelaat dat twee aanliggende vertrekke met tussenvir/Setvingsopenings soos deur, vensters of bolgie deur meer as een gesin bewoon word nie, tenby elke vertrek onafhanklik van enige ander vertrek voorwerp is van verligting en ventilasie in ooreenstemming met die Nasionale Bouregulasies;

(b) te onerig tyd versuim om toe te sien of toe te laat dat openings soos deur, vensters of bolgie nie met planks of paneels, toeëgelaan, toeëgelaan of op enige wyse versper word sodat dit op die verligting, kruisventilasie of toegang soos vereis in hierdie Regulasies, inbreuk maak nie;

(c) versuim om toe te sien of toe te laat dat wanneer enige vertrek deur meer as twee persone vir staaldoeleindes bewoon word, sodanige vertrek nie die oplewing, voorbereiding of gaarmak van voedsel gebruik word nie. Met dien verstande dat, vir die toepassing van hierdie artikel—

(i) twee kinders van 10 jaar oud of jonger, of

(ii) twee persone wat as man en vrou saamwoon as een persoon beskik word,

(d) versuim om toe te sien dat, in alle geboue waar meganese ventilasie voorwerp is, die doeltreffende en konstante funksionering van die aanlig behoorlik in stand gehou word nie, soos wat deur die Nasionale Bouregulasies vereis word.

6. HIGIENIESE VEREISTES

Geen eenaar van enige perseel mag toelaat dat sodanige perseel of gedeelte daarvan in ‘n ongeoorloofde of onhygiëniese toestand of onskeiklik vir menslike bewoning is nie, of nie skoon of goed in stand gehou word nie, of waarskynlik nadelig vir die gesondheid van die persone wat dit bewoon sal wees nie.

7. VERBLYFONDERNEMINGS

(1) Die eenaar van ‘n verblyfonderneming moet toesien dat so ‘n onderneming afsonderlike abusie-genewe vir elke geslag het en toegerus is met—

(a) een bad of stort,

(b) een handewasbak, en

(c) een spoelkloset,

oorrekomstig die vereistes van die Nasionale Bouregulasies. Met dien verstande dat minstens een bad of spoelkloset moet gebruik van elke geslag voorsien moet word.

(2) Elke badkamer, stortkompartment of spoelkloset moet duidelik aangedui word vir die gebruik van die geslag waarvoor die bedoel is. Met dien verstande dat waar ‘n reeks van twee of meer badkamers, stortkompartmente of spoelklossete op die perseel geïnstalleer is, sodanige aanduiding by die ingang na elke reeks aangebring moet wees.

approved waste pipes in accordance with the National Building Regulations. Provided that a bath fitted with an approved waste pipe in accordance with the National Building Regulations, may be substituted for each shower.

(2) The owner of any premises shall ensure that such premises shall have a proper and sufficient hot and cold water supply reasonably available for the occupants thereof.

5. BASIC LIVING REQUIREMENTS

No owner of any premises shall—

(a) permit two adjoining rooms with intercommunicating openings such as doors, windows or fanlights, to be occupied by more than one family, unless each room is provided independently of any other room, with light and ventilation in accordance with the National Building Regulations;

(b) fail to ensure that at all times openings such as doors, windows or fanlights shall not be boarded-up, built-up or obstructed in any way so as to interfere with the lighting, cross ventilation or access, as required by these regulations or the National Building Regulations;

(c) fail to ensure that when any room is occupied by more than two persons for sleeping purposes, such room shall not be used for the storage, preparation or cooking of food. Provided, however, that for the purpose of this section—

(i) two children of 10 years or under; or

(ii) two persons living together as man and wife shall be deemed to be one person,

(d) fail to ensure that in all buildings where mechanical ventilation has been provided the efficient and constant functioning of the plant is maintained as is required by the National Building Regulations.

6. HYGIENIC REQUIREMENTS

No owner of any premises shall permit such premises or part thereof to be in an unhealthy or unhygienic state, unfit for human habitation or not in a clean state or in good repair, or likely to be injurious to the health of the persons occupying the premises.

7. ACCOMMODATION ESTABLISHMENT

(1) The owner of any accommodation establishment shall ensure that such establishment shall have ablution facilities separate for each sex and equipped with—

(a) one bath or shower;

(b) one wash hand basin; and

(c) one water-closet,

in accordance with the National Building Regulations. Provided that at least one bath shall be provided for the use of each sex.

(2) Every bathroom, shower compartment and water-closet shall be clearly designated for the sex for which it is intended. Provided that where a series of two or more bathrooms, shower compartments, or water closets have been installed on the premises, the entrances to each series shall bear such designation.
8. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The owner of any premises or the occupier in respect of that part of the premises under his control, shall—
(a) keep all sanitary fittings, boilers, lighting and fire extinguishing equipment in proper working order at all times,
(b) keep such premises free from refuse, rubbish and litter,
(c) take adequate measures to prevent the breeding or harbouring of rodents, flies or vermin,
(d) ensure that every wall, door, surface and ceiling, unless constructed of materials not intended to be painted, shall be kept painted at such intervals as will ensure that the area painted remains clean and in a good state of repair.
(e) windows which can be opened must function at all times. Broken and cracked glass must be replaced and windows which are visible from the street or adjacent erven, must render privacy to residents by means of curtains, blinds or any other approved or acceptable method, but may not be painted.

9. ELECTRICAL CONNECTIONS AND LIFTS

(1) Where an electrical connection is available to any premises, the owner shall not permit any person to occupy such premises unless—
(a) each room has a functioning supply of electricity for lighting and power, and
(b) every passageway, entrance, stairway and lift has adequate lighting.
(2) Where a lift has been installed in premises, the owner shall ensure—
(a) it's continuous safe functioning, and
(b) its availability to occupiers of the premises, in accordance with the National Building Regulations.

10. EXEMPTIONS

The Head of Health Services or his assignee can exempt any person from all or any of these Regulations where such non-compliance is not practically feasible or shall not create or cause to create a health hazard or nuisance.

11. PENALTIES

The owner of any premises who has contravened any of the provisions of these regulations, which contravention has been found by the Council to constitute a nuisance in terms of section 11B of the Act and who fails to comply with a notice in terms of section 11b (2) (a) of the Act, to rectify such nuisance, shall be guilty of an offence and on conviction be liable to the penalties provided in section 11B of the Act.

J. L. MULLER,
Town Clerk
Civic Centre
KLERKSDORP
(Notice No. 22/92)
Noordgesig’s move welcome

By TSIDI THINANE

The Johannesburg City Council has welcomed an undertaking by the Noordgesig Civic Association to hold a meeting of residents to discuss calling off the rent boycott.

The Management Committee of the City Council said the NCA also forwarded a number of demands which included the scrapping of rents, the writing off of electricity arrears and the repair of houses.

In response to the demands, a senior official, Mr Rudi Bosman, said the committee could not consider undertaking a survey on repairs as long as the rent boycott continued.

"Those residents who are in electricity arrears are asked to discuss with the City Treasurer a way of paying to avoid legal action, the Treasurer will accommodate residents' problems," he added.

The council plans to set up an office in Noordgesig to deal with residents' complaints.
**Most white schools opt for Model C**

A MASSIVE 96 percent of former whites-only schools in South Africa have opted to become Model C - or semi-private schools. Only 88 out of the total 2191 former whites-only schools voted by the required two-thirds majority to remain State schools, according to figures supplied yesterday.

As a result, fewer teachers are now expected to lose their jobs.

State schools are defined as the whites-only status quo schools, and the Model B schools where parents decide on the admissions policy.

"The more schools that opt for Model C the fewer jobs lost," the executive director of the Transvaal Teachers Association, Hugo Ackermann, said yesterday.

"We are encouraged by the figures, but we stand by our previous position that we believe there was undue haste in the process of announcing teacher retrenchments.

"It is not good to make any teacher redundant. If the economy is going to improve we will need more teachers, but the problem is it takes a long time to get a teacher back into the system."

The Government announced in February that it expected 4 000 teachers would be retrenched when new staffing provision scales for schools came into effect on August 1.

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**Dismantle the hostels - SCA**

THE Soweto Civic Association last night called for the hostels to be completely dismantled rather than converted into family units.

This change of attitude was voiced by SCA executive member Mr Kgabu Mosunkutu at a Press conference in Johannesburg where the resumption of the Soweto rent boycott was announced.

Mosunkutu said it was clear that hostels "are the centre of violence" in both Alexandra and Soweto.

Their role had been discussed at the recent general council meeting of the SCA and "we are convinced that in order for violence to cease, the hostels must be emptied."

The SCA had abandoned the position that they should be transformed and felt that inmates should be settled in ordinary township housing.

Hostel structures lent themselves to being "turned into barracks which are housing vigilantes who are directed to maim, kill, rob and - indeed - rape", he said.
Boycott call threatens talks

THE future of local government negotiations across the country was plunged into crisis yesterday after the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) called for the resumption of the national rent boycott.

The SCA's general council resolved on Wednesday night to call for the resumption of the boycott in Soweto — and elsewhere.

Representatives of the ANC, SAPEU, CoCo- satu and the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal attended the meeting and supported the decision.

After walking out of a Greater Soweto Principals' Parties (GSSP) meeting last night, the SCA and the boycott, which was suspended in September 1990, would be lifted only if all black councillors in Greater Soweto were removed, the Johannes-
burg City Council took over the financial administration of the region and township violence was ended.

'The GSSP was formed in terms of the Greater Soweto Accord of 1990 and includes the three Greater Soweto town councils of Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville as well as the SCA and the Trans- vaal Provincial Administration. The GSSP is aimed to resolve the council's financial crisis. The walkout signals the end of the GSSP and threatens both the Greater Soweto Accord and the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber's plans for negoti-
ations.'

Boycott

{|From Page 1|}

ating a new metropolitan structure for the Greater Johannesburg.

In a statement yesterday, the SCA said the TPA's failure to improve service levels in the Soweto townships — as provided for in the Metropolitan Chamber's November 1991 agreement — and continued allegations of black local authority corruption and mismanagement had forced the resumption of the boycott.

The 1991 agreement, signed by the TPA, the SCA and representatives of the Soweto councils, set out phased increases in services charges in an attempt to regulate and normalise payments in Soweto.

TPA chief negotiator on local government issues Olusia van Zyl said the TPA was not solely to blame for the situation.

While the agreement to improve services had not been fully met, the payment of rates in Soweto had dropped from 60% in December to less than 30%.

Metropolitan Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said the situation had become "a very serious crisis, not only for the Chamber but also for the whole of the metropolitan area."

SCA executive committee member Kgaba Maphumulo said he expected the boycott to be supported by the SA National Civics Organisation, which would expand the boycott to a national level.

The SCA "rejected with contempt" the announcement last week fixing January next year as the deadline for the formation of joint local administrations.

"Minister Wessels' approach to the crisis of local government is completely unacceptable in that it undermines local initiatives and is authoritarian," an SCA statement said.

The SCA also called for the abandonment of workers' hostels. "We are convinced that in order for the violence to end, the hostels must be emptied and the occupants reintegrated into the community."
Security men evict 80 from house

More than 80 people have been evicted from a Bertrams, Johannesburg, house, the owner of Trust Security confirmed yesterday. SNR 3/4/1982.

Riet van Logergarten said his security officials had been called in on Wednesday to evict the tenants who had been given one month's notice.

Actstop claimed security officials had beaten tenants.

Mr van Logergarten said there had only been one incident. He had been threatened by a big man with an iron bar, so "he got hammered".

Actstop said the tenants had approached the landlord about high rentals and poor standards. There was no electricity, no baths or toilets.

The landlord then served the notices.

However, Mr Logergarten said the tenants had wrecked facilities. He said notices had been served after a council health inspector had declared the house uninhabitable. — Sapa
Cluster houses for R3m each

A LINKSFIELD Ridge property development in Johannesburg could attract foreign buyers.

The R25-million Montalla cluster housing project will be paraded at the London Daily Mail Ideal Home Show from March 26 to 29.

The project comprises 10 units below the Linksfied Ridge nature reserve. They will cost between R25-million and R3-million each and will be the most expensive cluster homes in SA outside Cape Town.

The luxury project represents not only an architectural triumph but an engineering feat. Engineering makes a large contribution to total costs.

The houses cling to the side of the ridge and overlie decomposed granite. About 60 60-ton capacity concrete piles were driven 8m into the ground under each unit to provide secure foundations. Horizontal forces were contained through retaining walls and earth anchors.

The size of the units varies between 600m² and 850m² and they have two to five levels. Luxury features include underfloor heating, heated pools integrated into water-fall features, hi-fi sound systems piped to all rooms, room-to-room intercoms with connections to all security points and closed-circuit monitors.

The situation and design of the units give a spectacular view to the north — even from the kitchen on the south side of each one.

Squires

The project is a joint Daycor Construction-Tomazos Group-Carol Franges development.

The Tomazos group is headed by Costa Tomazos who established the Squires Lofts chain of restaurants in the 1970s.

Daycor Construction was founded by David Day in 1982 and has an annual turnover of about R10-million.

The site was bought for R1.5-million and work began in January 1981. The first unit has been completed. Marketing will start in May.

The entire project is due for completion by the end of 1983.
Protea protest march planned

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

DISGRUNTLED residents of Protea South will march to the offices of the Soweto Council on Thursday to present a memorandum containing demands and grievances about housing in the area.

Permission for the march has been granted by the Soweto Council and a Johannesburg magistrate.

The march has been organised by the Old Protea Residents Association (OPRA).

OPRA secretary-general Thami Ndala told City Press the following demands would be presented:

- That old houses in Protea South be handed over to the occupants;
- That all people living in the shacks in Protea South be decently housed;
- That all vacant sites be made available for the erection of affordable houses;
- That infrastructure in the area be developed;
- That OPRA be recognised.
Refugees take over offices

By JOE MDHLELA

DISPLACED residents have literally ejected Alexandra Council administrative workers, including the town clerk, from their offices.

The action by the residents who fled attacks from hostel dwellers during the past three weeks has resulted in administration at the council offices coming to a standstill.

Chairman of the Alexandra Peace Forum, the Rev Busani Ngubane yesterday confirmed that service at the council had come to a stop.

Ngubane said the displaced people were also using the council offices to protest against the hostel dwellers who are occupying their houses near Madala Hostel.

"The authorities have so far failed to stop the illegal squatting by hostel dwellers of houses belonging to residents. The town clerk was not available for comment yesterday."
Jo-Anne Collinge looks at implications of a revived Soweto services boycott

When paying isn’t a habit

When the Soweto Civic Association announced that the rent and service tariff boycott was back on, it was reacting to virtually irresistible pressure from below.

Before the organisation took the plunge and broke off further negotiations with the councils of Soweto, Dube and Dobsonville and with the TPA on services and payment, residents had already turned the cash flow down to a trickle less than 30 percent of the billed amount was being realised.

In effect, ordinary residents had tramped into the dirt two key agreements to which the SCA had been party the Soweto Accord of August 1990 and the pact on revised tariffs and better services, signed late last year.

The Soweto Accord, signed by the three councils, the TPA and the SCA (the Greater Soweto Principal Parties or GSPP) brought the original four-year boycott to an end and laid the foundation for the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, a broader negotiating forum working towards non-racial interim government at metropolitan level.

It also set various low-level tariffs to wean people off the boycott and created mechanisms to address the housing and service problems.

Last year’s agreement among the GSPP revised the tariffs, but tied higher payments tightly to the achievement of certain minimum standards in the delivery of services.

In addition, this move to get Soweto’s residents to pay for services was coupled with moves toward the free transfer of the bulk of the township’s housing to the occupiers and plans for the institution of non-racial interim administration.

Both agreements were hailed as “historic.” But by now the capacity of the people of Soweto to defeat the makers of “history” is clearly established. Two explanations are put forward — usually by different parties — as alternative explanations for this dogged refusal by the people to honour the products of any negotiating forum.

The first runs that a “culture” of non-payment has set in — that people fully expect because of their disadvantaged position to consume public goods for which they have not paid. They will continue to do so in the absence of serious sanctions for non-payment.

The second argues that people are merely reasonable — that they would pay if they got the goods for which they were being charged. But the capacity of the three Soweto councils to deliver is not there.

There is a third factor, which almost all acknowledge. If the spirit were willing to pay for services, how would the pocket stand up?

The high unemployment figures and the low rates of income in the service and informal sectors leave little doubt that a substantial number of township households would be unable to pay for services under any circumstances.

This was acknowledged to some degree in the 1991 negotiations.

The tariff restructuring assumed no more than 80 percent of residents could pay. TPA’s Nigel Mandy points out, “The question of the majority who can pay, but refuse to, remains.”

Are they free riders who have become addicted to the fruits of ungovernability, or are they responsible consumers who are being repeatedly failed by the institutions responsible for delivering public goods?

The fact that non-payment arose in Soweto from a politically driven boycott cannot be ignored.

The culture of non-payment was fed on conflict and violence. Not only were councillors attacked as the tools of apartheid, but disciplined municipal policemen inflicted more than a few casualties during the emergency years. Evictions, court summonses and service cuts were recurrent, and the threat of evictions gave rise to such scarring events as the White City Massacre of 1986.

The agreements concluded in 1990 and the end of last year have not yielded the kind of returns that would cut through this heavy mood. The three councils remain in place. Dube and Dobsonville have been rocked by fresh corruption allegations. Soweto is chaotic as a result of squabbling in the ruling Sosasonke Party.

While Soweto Council spokesman Mopalafo Molesa insists that service improvements have been made, residents clearly discount this and the change is not apparent to the outsider, who is still struck by water running down streets and mounds of smelly refuse on the pavements.

Secondly, the move to non-racial metropolitan administration and to giving Soweto a share of the tax revenue of Johannesburg and Roodepoort is agonisingly slow.

Months after the tabling of the blueprint in the Met Chamber, ratification by one of the four white municipalities was still outstanding.

Thirdly, the promise of free transfer of thousands of tenants and leased homes to full ownership has been long delayed. The Cabinet has sat on the matter for

In 1990 the SCA was roundly condemned by the ANC for catering to the interests of white bureaucrats. The SCA shrugged this off, before the cuts in the 1991 budget hit a nerve, particularly in Soweto.

But surely it has hit upon a dead end. In arguing that weeds must be removed from a garden, the ANC has engineered a muddle of concessions to people’s demands for better services. The ANC has called for greater control over the council and for a review of community participation in decision making. When it comes to loses, the ANC is sitting on a rich harvest. But the ANC’s inability to harness this to its advantage is, with the ANC in power, a desperate sign of the ANC’s failure to deliver services to Soweto.

Soweto has been marked for destruction. The ANC’s inability to harness this to its advantage is, with the ANC in power, a desperate sign of the ANC’s failure to deliver services to Soweto.
More protest over moving Zevenfontein squatters

By Zingane Mkhwanazi

About 1 500 residents of Diepsloot, north-west of Johannesburg, held a roadside protest on Sunday against the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA)’s proposed resettlement of Zevenfontein squatters in the area.

The TPA initially wanted to resettle the squatters in Bloemfontein, but the plan was dropped after resistance from the residents and reservations on the part of the squatters.

The Diepsloot residents formed a 12km-long line next to the road holding placards and asking people to sign a petition. Some of the placards read “No to TPA,” “Hands off Diepsloot” and “Transfering Problems Again.”

Anthony Duigan, of the Greensfield Action Group, said that the squatters were very upset when he said that the squatters needed to be housed closer to where they worked.

“The problem is that once you talk about squatters, then people are quick to feed off it. Also, we are not taking small families, we are talking about 1 400 to 1 500 families — families that will change the whole shape of this area,” Mr. Duigan said.

Everybody that works in this area is accommodated here and there are many other people that live with them. There is also no municipality in Diepsloot to provide the infrastructure for squatters,” he added.

The chairman of the Diepsloot Residents and Landowners Association (DRRA), Stuart Allchin, said the protest was to make the public aware how people felt about the issue.

“Here in Diepsloot we provide housing for the people that we employ. The problem of the Zevenfontein squatters belongs to the Randburg and Sandton town councils, because those people work in those areas. Why does the TPA want to dump the squatters on a barren piece of land? What is the difference between Zevenfontein and here?” he asked.

Battle line ... Diepsloot residents demonstrate their opposition to the Transvaal Provincial Administration’s plan to resettle 1 500 squatter families from Zevenfontein in their area

Picture: Stephen Davies
ANC people may sit on police board

THE civilian representatives to the police board which must be set up in terms of the national peace accord signed in September last year include ANC members and supporters. ANC leaders Mathews Phosa, Pumla Mlanza and Janina Rauthe are among the 11 civilian nominees to the board.

The members were nominated by parties to the peace accord.

Other nominees are Clifford Shearing, Nic Haywood, P. F. Coetzee, Louis Visser, J. N. Steyn, Don Brunette, Peter Gastrow and Alreana van der Spuy.

The board will investigate allegations against the police and aspects of the SAP with a view to restructuring.

Meanwhile, the National Association of Democratic Lawyers has criticized aspects of the board. It says the Minister should not have powers to appoint anyone, that police in self-governing territories should not have the option of refusing jurisdiction and that board decisions should have greater status than mere recommendations.

Soweto council urges rethink of new national rent boycott

THE Soweto City Council has urged the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) to reconsider its call for the resumption of a national rent boycott.

Calling on the SCA to return to the Greater Soweto Principal Parties (GSPF) forum from which it walked out last week, council leader Mopalela Moseki said yesterday the call for a boycott had confused residents who had earlier this year received pamphlets telling them to pay.

And a Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber source said the boycott call and the walkout would come up for discussion at the chamber's meeting today.

The SCA walked out of a GSPF meeting last week saying it was calling for the resumption of the boycott — suspended in 1990 — because the Transvaal Provincial Administration had failed to improve service levels in Soweto townships as provided for in the November agreement.

The agreement, signed by the TPA, the SCA and representatives of the Soweto councils, set out phased increases in service charges in an attempt to regulate and normalise payments in Soweto.

The GSPF — which was formed in terms of the Greater Soweto Accord which ended a five-year rent boycott and wrote off R516m in rent and service charges arrears — was aimed at resolving the financial crisis that gripped Greater Soweto.

The GSPF comprised the three Greater Soweto councils of Soweto, Doornfontein and Dobsonville as well as the SCA and the TPA.

The SCA said continued allegations of black local authority corruption and mismanagement had brought about the resumption of the boycott.

It would not be lifted until black councillors were removed, the Johannesburg City Council took over the financial administration and township violence ended.

Sources said the boycott issue, which could have far-reaching implications for both the Metropolitan Chamber and the Greater Soweto Accord which brought the chamber into being, would come up for discussion at today's meeting.
Workshop tries to defuse violence

REGULAR visits to the hostels with an aim to create harmony and interaction between township and hostel residents could be the answer to the violence that is sweeping the Reef townships.

This is the conviction of a group that attended the two-day Sowetan/Pick 'n Pay Parenting Workshop held in Soweto at the weekend.

Participants agreed that part of the problem between hostel and township residents was caused by a gap that existed between the two groups.

It was resolved that cultural and sports events should be organised in order to make peace with hostel "residents", as they resolved to call them.

Former Sowetan Woman of the Year Ms Fikile Mlotshwa, explained that in 1990 she and other women under the International Prayer Women’s League had visited the Menale Hostel when fighting was at its height in that area. She said there was no hostility from the hostel residents and they

listened to what the women had to say.

"I think we can do this successfully even now," Mlotshwa said.

Another participant, Msophiline Lekalakala, suggested that referring to people who live in hostels as "hostel dwellers" and those who live in the townships as "residents" was discriminatory and could be another contributing factor to the tension. She recommended they be called hostel "residents".

Other issues discussed during the workshop were education, including the effects of teenage pregnancy, career guidance, parental involvement in children’s lives, co-ordination of services, projects and programmes in Soweto.

The Soweto workshop was the first of a series, that will be held in Bloemfontein, Pretoria, Daveyton, and the Vaal Triangle.
Green stance ‘a facade for racism’

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) yesterday accused residents in areas north of Johannesburg, who have opposed plans to settle the controversial Zevenfontein squatters in their areas, of using environmental issues to hide their racism.

TPA deputy director-general Len Dekker said environmentalism had become ‘a blatant facade for keeping blacks out. As the blacks come nearer, so they become greener.’

He said the Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) had appealed to people’s emotions and misled them, as the area south of the R28 to Krugersdorp was just “open veld.”

He said there was a misconception among residents that if they made enough noise about the squatters being moved to their area, the move would not go ahead.

The TPA had taken environmental issues into account in identifying areas for future development, and it had found very little “green” area left south of the R28.

In the light of this it had been decided that this area would be earmarked for settlement. The natural areas north of the road would be preserved, however.

Although urbanisation would take place there, Dekker warned it would not be the only area to face changes.

The TPA needed another 50 000 ha to settle a further 3 million people in the next decade, and many other areas would have to “come to terms with the hard realities of the new SA.”

He urged residents to stop being emotional about the problem of squatters. All local authorities would have to make provision for low cost housing, as it was “not possible to hide these people behind bushes,” he said.

KATHRYN STRACHAN
Eskom to deal directly with Soweto residents

BY TISID TSHANE

Eskom has decided to deal directly with Soweto residents with the Soweto City Council.

Eskom is happy to be involved in the Residents of Soweto.

FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, Soweto customers will be able to deal directly with Eskom.

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FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER, Soweto customers will be able to deal directly with Eskom.
Green Concern: Just A Camouflage - TFA

By Shirley Woodgate

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Landowners deny racist claims by TPA officials

Sowetan Correspondent

THE Greenbelt Action Group is demanding a public apology from two Transvaal administration officials following allegations of racism against landowners who oppose squatter settlements in the north-western PWV.

GAG secretary Ms Jill Wileman says she will report the matter to State President Mr FW de Klerk if both MEC Mr John Mavuso and deputy director of Community Development Mr Len Dekker do not apologise.

Wileman said allegations by Mavuso and Dekker that plot owners were using camouflage to conceal racist fears were a smokescreen for the TPA's mismanagement regarding urbanisation.

She said black landowners in the region attended GAG meetings while thousands of black workers were already housed on plots where they worked.

There were two multi-racial schools at Delsitoot, one of the areas considered as a permanent home for the Zevenfontein squatters, she said.

Discussing Dekker's claims that land between the Pretoria/Krugersdorp highway was yeld and could not be considered a green belt worth preserving, Wileman asked:

"What about Heldfontein Conference Centre, River Sands Farm, multimillion rand chicken farms, film studios, peach farms and established trout farms?"

Claiming the TPA had bungled the Zevenfontein squatter issue, Wileman said none of the reports costing the taxpayer thousands of rand had been properly used.

Planning was still abysmal, solutions were totally absent and neither housing or work opportunities were being offered to the squatters some six years after GAG started its costly campaign against Norweto, she said.
5,000 homes to get power

By JOSIAH BAHOROTO

About 5,000 homes in Evaton are to be electrified before the end of the year at a cost of R10 million. Construction work on the new substation is to start within the next month according to Mr. Paul O'Connor, Eskom's manager of sales and commercial services. The substation, which will cost R1.2 million, will be completed within the month. The substation will be connected to an existing line across the road which will carry high tension power. The main objective of the scheme will be to provide power to residents with service on all-electric lines.
War of words as tension rises over Diepsloot issue

By Shirley Woodgate

Tension mounted yesterday after top officials levelled allegations of racism at landowners opposing black settlement north-west of Johannesburg.

Residents have demanded the immediate resignation of Administrator Danie Hough, MEC John Mavuso and deputy director for Community Development Len Dekker.

In referring to the landowners, Mr Mavuso spoke of bigotry and Mr Dekker said they were using conservation to camouflage racist fears.

The row centres on the pending Transvaal Provincial Administration decision on sites for housing the Zevenfontein squatters, as well as millions of homeless people in the region.

The resignation call by Diepsloot Residents and Landowners' Association chairman, Stuart Aitchison, on grounds of sheer incompetence, is being backed by a groundswell of smallholders.

Mr Aitchison warned of the possibility of civil unrest in Diepsloot if the TPA tried to move the Zevenfontein squatters there.

"The people are not prepared to sit idly and watch their livelihood and life investments being sacrificed on the altar of the TPA's ineptitude and authoritarianism," he said.

He stressed that Diepsloot applied in 1989 to become a fully fledged free settlement area.

Mismanagement

Greenbelt Action Group secretary Jill Wileman said the allegations of racism were a smokescreen for TPA mismanagement of urbanisation.

Boerestaat Party and Garden Triangle Action Group leader Robert van Tonder, whose property borders Cosmo City, which is high on the list of areas earmarked for informal settlement, denied Mr Dekker's claim that all residents had been consulted.

He threatened court action unless his application for the establishment of a new municipality had been settled by Mr Hough before land was identified for squatters.

Peter Hewitt, spokesman for the Jukskei-Crocodile River Catchment Area Property Owners, rejected the racist label, claiming blacks already outnumbered whites in his area by about 30-to-one.

"Unlike the real racists who moved blacks up to 35 km away from their work, to Soweto and Lenasia, we have always housed our own workers," he said.

"The Zevenfontein squatters are a domestic Randburg and Sandton issue, since that is where they work.

"It is time the TPA started scientific planning, proper administration and detailed plans for compensation where expropriation takes place before people are resettled. It must look at proper employment for the homeless and stop resorting to name-calling if it wants to halt resistance."
FHA says “Our brief is to increase the housing stock, and, as these buildings are predominantly untenable because of the surplus in the A- and B-grade categories, we think there is an opportunity to be explored. The amount of such C-grade space is, in fact, accelerating, particularly in the inner urban areas, as the pull factor towards the suburbs makes itself felt.”

FHA CEO John Weaver says a professional team has been assembled to evaluate the viability of converting such buildings into flats. It comprises architects, town planners, civil and mechanical engineers, quantity surveyors and attorneys.

By the end of the month its initial findings will be known at the Trump Centre (owned by Conrad Penney), in Trump Street, Village Main, Johannesburg, and 51 Juta Street in Braamfontein (managed by Fountain Head Properties).

The company has been given a list of buildings managed by JHI but must still look at these.

Weaver adds: “Should the projects prove feasible and FHA succeed in gaining the necessary rezoning approvals from the relevant local authorities, we would acquire the buildings and refurbish them. “We are also identifying infill (vacant and dormant) sites in suburban areas that owners might want to dispose of. We are trying to bring products to the market below the R100 000 mark as a total package. The added spin-off of this kind of development is that existing social structures such as schools and creches will be better used.” In other words, we would make affordable homes available to lower-income earners, closer to job opportunities.”

Since its inception in 1983, FHA has developed just over 20 000 serviced stands and around 6 000 housing units in the R30 000-R50 000 range (also total packages). If infill and refurbishing prove practicable, the FHA says it will raise the money piecemeal and tackle projects as joint ventures with other private-sector developers. 

RECYCLING OFFICE BUILDINGS

Adding to the stock

FHA Homes is looking at several C-grade office buildings in Reef CBDs with a view to converting them into affordable, high-density housing. FHA, set up by the Urban Foundation, is now an independent company and the Transvaal operating arm of the New Housing Co.

Areas under scrutiny are Johannesburg, including Braamfontein, Germiston and its industrial area of Wadeville.
Resident to fast over authorities' slackness

ONE Alexandra resident who is fed up with official intransigence on action to resolve the problem of displaced people in the township has decided to stage a hunger strike until something is done.

Jeanette Mesatywa (26) says that as a Christian and a pacifist she does not believe in violence as a way of resolving problems. But she feels “sick at heart and angry” at seeing “sickly people, senior citizens and children being bullied out of their homes and then neglected by the authorities.”

“I have decided to protest by fasting outside the Presbyterian Church from next week until the local authorities respond to the plight of the displaced residents,” says Mesatywa, a Wits graduate who is currently doing volunteer work for the Alexandra Peace Group.

“I was born and grew up in Alex,” she says, “and I was horrified to see my stayaway day police firing teargas into the flats, regardless of the fact that there might have been children and old people in those flats who would be seriously affected by the gas.”

Mesatywa said that while she could intellectually understand the reasons for violence, her convictions, based on Gandhian principles of non-violence, could not condone violence as a solution to problems.
Civic accused of hiding behind boycott

By CHARIS PERKINS

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration has accused the Soweto Civic Association of calling a new rent and services boycott to conceal its inability to get people to pay their bills.

Only 30 percent of the people of Soweto are paying for water and rubbish removal — despite an agreement last November when the Soweto Civic Association undertook to try to secure payment by 80 percent of residents.

In exchange, the Soweto Council promised to improve the services.

The civic association declared its boycott on April 2, at a meeting which was to decide if the November agreement was working.

Shambles

"It seems that the civic association has little influence with the residents of Soweto," said the provincial administration's negotiator, Mr. Olaus van Zyl.

"It may well discourage payments, but it cannot persuade people to resume paying. Knowing that, one may draw one's own conclusions about its sudden decision to resume the boycott."

The association, however, denied it had lost control over Soweto residents.

"Our people are very disciplined," said executive member Kgabu Moukutu. "But there has been no improvement in the service, and people are not prepared to pay for a shambles.

With so few people paying service charges and rent, the boycott will make little difference to revenue.

Blow

However, the civic association's withdrawal is seen as a shattering blow to 18 delicate months of negotiation.

In September 1990, the historic Soweto Accord wrote off R516-million in unpaid rent and ended a boycott which began in 1986.

The Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, set up after the accord as a forum to tackle local government issues, suspended all activities this week in the face of the civic association's action.

Touted as the forerunner of non-racial local government systems across the country, its suspension leaves other metropolitan authorities without a model.

"The rent and services boycott is a grave crisis which must be resolved before any of the other matters in the Metropolitan Chamber can receive attention," said Mr van Zyl.

Deadlock

Chamber chairman Frederik van Zyl Slabbert and his secretariat will try to resolve the deadlock before the chamber sits again next month.

Unpaid services charges and rents have been costing the province and the Witwatersrand Regional Services Council up to R7.5-million a month.

Another R3-million a month will be lost if the 30 percent who pay their bills now join the boycott.

The province's deputy director of local government finance, Mr Louie Johnson, said the authorities could not afford to foot the bill.
Let's work together. Johannesburg management committee health and housing chairman Marietta Marx was applauded by residents when she called on them to assist the council in improving conditions in the area.

FIFTY years ago Fred Malgas (78) was forcibly removed from Vrededorp and dumped in a field outside Johannesburg—thereby becoming a founder member of the township of Noordgesig.

For the first time since then, Mr Malgas is hopeful that his poverty-stricken community will finally receive the help they need to improve their living conditions.

Last week civic leaders declared that the unrest in Noordgesig in recent months was over, after Johannesburg City Council officials and management committee members visited the area at the invitation of the civic association.

Despite warnings from council officials that the area was not safe to enter, the Johannesburg management committee's Marcella Marx, responsible for health and housing, and transport and utilities committee chairman Paul Asherson as well as officials from almost every council department spent a morning with residents, inspecting homes, the environment and facilities.

Toy-toting residents, preparing for confrontation, were told by civic leaders to quieten down and a carnival atmosphere prevailed as the officials were led by a crowd of residents from house to house and to "problem" areas.

Housing director Jan Tautz explained that a Government loan was used to finance the construction of the homes in Noordgesig and that all the rentals from these homes were being used to repay the loan.

He said it was unfair of residents to put all blame on the council "We are working within a law called the Housing Act."

Mrs Marx called for a clean slate. "Let's see what we can do for the people of Noordgesig now," she asked for all alleged family accounts to be sent to her to be sorted out.

Council officials were shown homes with holes in the roofs, large cracks in the walls, the public swimming pool with a hole in it and the football field constructed three years ago, but never opened to residents.

Mr Asherson promised that residents would have a pool by next summer.

One resident said that when it rained, she sat inside her house with an umbrella. "And when you put a nail in the wall, it falls down," another said.

Mrs Marx was slapped loudly by residents at the end of the visit.

"We saw people who were worried by how they live. We can't solve the problems by ourselves, but with you, we can do it," she told the crowd.

She said there was R80 000 available from the regional services council to upgrade the clinic facilities in Noordgesig.

Noordgesig Civic Association general secretary Lockey Moodley said there was a new spirit in Noordgesig following the visit. "They heard our problems and saw the houses. If the council keeps its promises to help us, this will be the end of the unrest."

The rent boycott, which started four months ago, will, however, remain in place until the city council "delivers," Mr Moodley said.

Mr Malgas said he was happy to meet the "new team" of councillors and officials, and hoped that from now, residents would be able to communicate with the council.

After the visit, Mrs Marx said she would report back to her management committee tomorrow to decide on action for Noordgesig.

"Some of the most disgusting work will be there," she said, pressed about the area because it was "dirty and cared.

Problems are almost over, could take a while to clear up a week ago.

The council got against rent increase—than a month ago, by the sheriff of the city, they were fine..."
The invalid was applauded by residents of Noordgesig

Cracking up. In one of the worst cases, the wall of this Noordgesig house is in danger of collapsing.

Pictures: Jacob Rydhoff

**ht old wrongs**

7

...red in Johannesburg's so-called colo...t. Noordgesig and Ennerdale, in recent...reporter LOUISE BURGERS reports.

...the visit...some and the council to help us. It...will, however, until the...Mr Mood...was happy of council and hoped...would...with the...Marx said...to her...tomor...row to decide on a plan of action for Noordgesig.

"Some of the houses are in a most disgusting state and a lot of work will have to be done there." She said she was not depressed about the visit to the area because it was obvious people cared.

Problems in Ennerdale, however, could take a lot longer to solve after resistance to evictions a week ago.

The council got court orders against rent defaulters more than a month ago, but attempts by the sheriff of the court to evict them were unsuccessful.

The council developed a housing scheme in Ennerdale Extention 5, and to date more than R8 million is owed to the council in rent arrears.

"We are still willing to talk to people to come to some arrangement," Mrs Marx said.

"But with waiting lists running to the thousands, we can't afford to keep people in houses who owe us thousands of rands.

The dispute in Ennerdale centres around the condition of the houses.

"We have gone to great lengths to resolve the problems of purchasers, and have reached agreement with their representatives to either rectify defects or reduce the purchase prices by independently assessed value," Mrs Marx said.

"Some residents, however, want the houses for free or at a very low cost."

The houses, ranging in price from R28 000 to R35 000, were sold on deed of sale in 1988.

Today they have a market price of between R60 000 and R70 000.

The council claims it made no profit on the land or buildings, and purchasers were required to take transfer by December 31, 1988, six months after proclamation of the township.

An agreement was reached between the Johannesburg City Council, the Ennerdale Civic Association and Ennerdale Management Committee that the findings and determination of the assessor regarding the value of the property would be final and binding, and that the deed of sale would be amended to reflect the new purchase price, that the original purchaser take transfer of the property within six months, and that the civic association persuade affected residents to start repaying monthly rentals.

"The agreement was confirmed in writing by the civic's legal advisors, the Legal Resource Centre, but the face of the civic changed and they now claim there was no agreement," Mrs Marx said.

Ennerdale civic leaders emphatically state that there was no agreement with residents and say they have problems with the council's offer.

They have accused the council of violence to the area, a claim which has been categorically denied by management committee chairman Ian Davison.

He explained that the council had been forced to take Gaspers into Noordgesig and Ennerdale after council security personnel were stoned and threatened with necklicing, but said the council men were under strict instructions not to use force against residents, and added that he had videotapes of the recent evictions to prove it was residents who had threatened the sheriff and council personnel.

Mrs Marx said where there was genuine hardship and tenants could not afford to pay rent or electricity, the council had a general relief fund from which they could possibly be assisted.
Inner city dwellers list problems

By Montshiwa Morokedi

High rentals, violent crime, inferior living conditions, sexual harassment of women and racism are the problems facing black residents in the inner city and some surrounding suburbs, the Johannesburg Action Committee said last week.

"A door-to-door survey by the committee among flat dwellers revealed that residents were unhappy with their living conditions, and felt they were being exploited by landlords.

A recent phenomenon, the committee said, was the sale of flats by sectional title. This was seen as a ploy to push the working class out of the city.

Actstop member Cas Coovadia said some landlords were still enforcing the abolished Group Areas Act by using fly-by-night security companies to extort and terrorise residents. There had been incidents of women being harassed and some allegedly being raped.

The existence of escort agencies and prostitution had also been raised by residents who felt these were having negative effects in the area, especially on children."
HSRC plans to survey Sandton
By Anna Cox

Interviewers for the Human Sciences Research Council will be visiting 1200 Sandton households during April to conduct interviews for a survey commissioned by the town council. The survey will gather information to guide planners and urban managers in future projects in the area.

Residents will be asked basic demographic questions about themselves, members of their households, the standards of council’s services, public participation, traffic and roads, council budget priorities, the future of local government, security, the environment and public facilities and amenities.

Residents will remain anonymous but the results of the survey will be made available.

The council has appealed to residents to answer questions honestly as the information will affect future policies.
Soweto hostels ‘to stay’

THE Soweto City Council would not close down hostels under its jurisdiction as that would cause more social strife, spokesman Mopalela Moseki said yesterday.

Moseki was responding to a call by the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) for the closure of all hostels. SCA official Kgaba Mosukutu recently told a meeting of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber that hostels should be emptied as violence emanated from them.

Moseki said while it was acknowledged that single sex hostels were “an anomaly” in the present political situation, Soweto hostels would not be emptied as such a move could spark more violence.

He said the council intended converting the hostels into family units and all interested parties were welcome to come forward with suggestions. Women and children already made up about 30% of the hostel population on the Reef, he said.

However, many hostel dwellers were not in favour of changing the buildings.

West Rand Hostel Residents’ Association vice-chairman Joseph Kubheka said yesterday he had not as yet come across hostel residents who were in favour of conversion.

East Rand Hostel Residents’ Association chairman Zakhele Mlambo said the Civic organisations should not interfere with the affairs of the hostel.

“We are opposed to the conversion of our hostels into family units. Most of the hostel residents’ families have homes in the rural areas, which they are not prepared to leave,” he said.

Meanwhile, the Alexandra Civic Organisation said yesterday it supported demands for the closure of the township’s Madala Hostel — an Inkatha stronghold and an unrest flashpoint.

24 flights for Easter weekend
Council plans to evict 5 over rent

JOHANNESBURG City Council confirmed last year that five evictions were planned for Ennerdale, south of Johannesburg, yesterday after residents reported seeing council security officials in the morning.

The council move follows an abortive attempt some weeks ago by the Sheriff of the Court to evict three residents.

The Johannesburg security officials would not carry out the evictions but would protect council property, a council spokesman said some weeks ago.

The evictions, according to a council statement, were because of arrears of house payments.

However, Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association chairman Mr. Farok Jardine said house payments were not made because the council had not fulfilled an agreement reached with Ennerdale residents on the houses, which were below standard.

The houses were built in 1986.

The council had claimed in its statement that the agreement reached was to sell an ascendant to judge the value of the houses' defects individually, and to deduct that amount from the original price of the house.

But according to Jardine, that was not the agreement reached by the residents and the council.

He said the agreement had been that an arbitrator would examine two reports on the houses - one saying there were superficial defects, the other that there were structural defects - and make a decision on the two.

The council's statement only mentioned the arbitration agreement by name. It also only mentioned the first report on the superficial defects.

There was no mention of the second report in its statement. - Sapa
Pta council to take over Atteridgeville

THE Pretoria City Council's Management Committee is temporarily to take over the administration of Atteridgeville following the resignation of three senior officials there.

Announcing this at a Press conference yesterday, management committee chairman Dr Peter Smith also disclosed that the Transvaal Provincial Administration had paid debts totalling R30.6-million owed by both the Atteridgeville and Mamelodi councils.

The three Atteridgeville officials who have resigned are town clerk Mr Dean Moton, administrator Mr Maartens Nel and treasurer Mr Jonne Jordaan.

The new temporary measures are expected to be discussed with the relevant civic associations, Smith said.

He added: "In view of the steps that the City Council of Pretoria has taken now with regard to Atteridgeville towards creating efficient administration, the TPA has decided to make a special inter-authority grant to settle the debts of Atteridgeville and Mamelodi."


Deputy chairman of the management committee Mr Cor Uys also announced that his council would no longer cut bulk electricity supplies to Atteridgeville.

"We will take drastic action against individual rent defaulters by cutting their power supplies. We appeal to all Atteridgeville residents to pay their rent," Uys said.

Smith said the management committee would recommend to the council on April 28 that town clerk Mr Hannes Redshinghugs be appointed town clerk of Atteridgeville.

"These measures are temporary as joint..."
Families evicted for non-payment of rent

By Michael Sparks

Mohammed Najam looked dazed as he watched the sheriff of the court — protected by an estimated 70 policemen and 15 police and riot control vehicles — load up his belongings.

He was one of four families in Ennerdale who were evicted yesterday for non-payment of rent. Mr Najam claimed he had been paying rent for the five years he lived in the house, but had not paid the arrears of the previous tenants.

"Whether you pay your rent or not, it makes no difference. They evict you anyway. You can see for yourself the house is not worth the money they want for it," Mr Najam said as the sheriff watched his furniture being removed.

The sheriff packed everything — even books, potted plants, linen, the telephone, a tent, a child's bicycle.

When the sheriff left, almost all that remained was the white municipal riot control vehicle on duty at each house to ensure those who had been evicted did not return to their homes.

Farouk Jardine, chairman of the Ennerdale and Surrounding Civic Association, was also evicted.

The city council had tried on a number of previous occasions to evict residents, but they had carried their belongings back into their houses, said civic member Vanessa Scheepers.

"That is why they brought the police this time," she said.

The city council was not prepared to comment.

Sheriff N C H Bouwman also refused to comment, saying "I am not interested in speaking to the press."
Hartbeesfontein stays in SA

By Jo-Anne Collinge

The western Transvaal community of Hartbeesfontein has been assured by the Deputy Minister for Land Affairs Johan Scheepers that the town will not be incorporated into Bophuthatswana.

Mr. Scheepers has written to Hartbeesfontein Civic Association secretary, Solly Pheto, stating, "I can now confirm officially that the residential area developed on the farm Hartbeesfontein will no longer be transferred to or included into Bophuthatswana."

According to Mr. Scheepers, it had been agreed in talks with the Bophuthatswana authorities that the town and sufficient land "for future extensions", be retained by South Africa.

The letter does not make clear the size of the total area to be retained by South Africa.
Car hire industry cuts down on new vehicles

THE big three companies dominating SA’s car hire industry will buy between 10 000 and 15 000 new vehicles this year, about 30% less than last year, Budget MD Tony Langley said yesterday.

Describing trading conditions as tough this year, he said the number of rental days sold by the industry in February at an average 72% capacity utilisation amounted to 2,6 million, 17,5% lower than the 3,3 million days recorded in the same month last year, which in turn was 12,5% lower than the 3,5 million days in February 1999.

Imperial Car Hire MD Carol Scott said Imperial would buy about 8 500 new cars this year, 200 of which would be from BMW’s new 3-Series range. These would be used mainly for businessmen and foreign tourists — of which there had been an upsurge since October last year, she said.

Scott said the company planned to keep a lid on rates following the 1% decline in interest rates earlier this year. Trading conditions in February and March had been boosted 16% over the same two months in the previous year by rentals from foreign tourists.

Avis will also take advantage of the models launched this year and has spent more than R7m on 30 new BMW 3-Series and more than R4m on 50 new Audi 500 SELs, a company statement said. Avis planned to buy about 5 000 vehicles this year.

Budget’s Langley said car hire companies were involved to some extent in the launch of new vehicles. Businesses hired new models to test them, either for individual or company fleet purchases.

Avis and Imperial said business in the industry — which traditionally led an upturn in the economy — had improved rapidly in the first months of the year. Rental volumes dropped 20% in 1991 compared to the previous year. Last year the companies forecast a total fleet of 15 000 vehicles for 1992.

Final sequestration order against Du Plessis

DESPERATE attempts by the children of former Cabinet Minister Petrie du Plessis to save him from bankruptcy failed yesterday when a final sequestration order was granted against him in the Pretoria Supreme Court.

The order, by Judge H J Preiss, concluded months of litigation, during which Du Plessis staked his final liquidation on several occasions.

Investec Merchant Bank Ltd obtained provisional sequestration orders last month against Du Plessis and his son Johan, who owed the bank nearly R1,4m after signing surety for the debts of an investment company they formed to develop the Plattekloof town of Steeport.

The venture failed, and Steeport was sold at a loss of more than R1m — Sapa

More power for Soweto

ESKOM has begun a multi-million-rand project to upgrade Soweto’s electricity supply network.

ESKOM CE Iain McRae said in a statement yesterday that the project was launched after it took over the electricity supply to the township from the Soweto City Council last month.

ESKOM was committed to bringing the level of service in the township to the same level as that of “other domestic customers in SA”.

“We have started addressing the most pressing issues, such as the replacement of broken meters and updating the customer database,” he said.

ESKOM had agreed to implement the tariffs negotiated by parties to the Soweto Accord, a spokesman said.

“A new tariff based on actual costs will be introduced after negotiations have taken place,” McRae said.

The Soweto Civic Association recently called for a rent boycott but said the R33,80 tariff for electricity, now controlled by ESKOM, should be paid.

Elitestar cancels 24 Easter flights

Elitestar Airlines has cancelled 24 flights to and from South Africa this Easter because of a strike by airport pick-up drivers and mechanics.

Elitestar said it had also decided to cancel 24 flights to and from Europe this Easter.

The strike began on March 31 and is due to end on April 7.
Evaton is soon to
be elected by

Building the Action

SOWETAN Thursday April 16 1992
20 arrested during rent march in Letlhabile

By ALINAH DUBE

TWENTY people, including officials of the Letlhabile Civic Association, were arrested after police stopped a march to the local township manager's office yesterday.

Most residents stayed away from work to protest against the cutting off of electricity and water supply in the township, near Brits. They had intended marching from the local community hall.

Northern Transvaal police spokesman Colonel Willie Vlotman confirmed the arrests.

He said 20 people were arrested after a stone-throwing incident and for displaying banners. Residents were ordered to leave the hall after the township manager had reported to the police that they had not obtained permission to use the hall.

Residents of Block A and B are without water and electricity following a clampdown on rent defaulters last week.

The secretary of the civic association, Mr Mike Molefe, said most people could not reach the hall as police blocked entrances from other parts of the area.

A small group of people led by the Rev Peter Bardenhorst danced the toyi-toyi along the street as police vehicles escorted them to the hall. They were joined by others as they approached the hall singing freedom songs.

Bardenhorst said the civic association could not obtain permission for the march. He said residents were told about this and asked to disperse.

He said a delegation from the civic association would meet the township manager, Mr Henne Stopforth, to discuss the issue of discontinued services.
4 houses burnt in eviction protest

ENNERDALE residents yesterday burnt down three houses, causing more than R100 000 damage, in protest against the eviction of four families on Tuesday for non-payment of rent.

Police spokesman Captain Pieter van Deventer said trouble started shortly before 9am yesterday when a group of about 100 residents petrol-bombed three empty houses in Capite and Breca streets in Ennerdale.

"They were the houses from which people were evicted yesterday. Damage is estimated at between R30 000 and R40 000. One house was also stoned, causing R500 damage."

Van Deventer said there had been no police action, no arrests and no reports of any one being injured in the unrest.

He said he understood that the council would continue to guard the houses. Police would continue to patrol.

In a statement, the city council's Health and Housing Committee chairman, Mrs Marnette Marx said the situation was confusing but that four houses had been burnt down.

She said the four tenants evicted yesterday were in arrears by a total of R106 000.

Marx said that during the morning, the council received more than 100 calls from residents wishing to make arrangements to pay off their arrears and take transfer of the houses. Yesterday residents barricaded the roads into the township and prevented firemen from reaching the burning houses.

On Tuesday the Sheriff of the Court at Vereeniging, assisted by a large contingent of police, evicted those residents the Johannesburg City Council had obtained court orders against for rent arrears.

Ennerdale Civic Association member Mr Andre Geen said the situation was very tense.

"Some houses have been burnt down. There were clashes throughout the night with the city council security at the houses. Geen claimed that council security men fired into the air with live ammunition and at residents. "But no one was injured," he said. - Sowetan Correspondent.

* See picture on page 13
TOO much haste on the part of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) may have led waste to the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

Early this month, the civic association walked out of a meeting of a subcommittee of the chamber dealing with tariffs and services for Soweto and called for a resumption of the Soweto rent boycott.

But the walk-out occurred before the committee had a chance to review a pre-prepared report on progress in implementing a crucial service agreement. The report, obtained this week by The Weekly Mail, showed that many of the SCA’s demands were being addressed.

While the report did not deal with technical issues like water and sewage, it indicated an improvement in refuse removal and the reading of electricity meters — two council services that had drawn many complaints.

Last week, the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) warned that reinstatement of the rent boycott by the SCA could “aggravate the critical financial situation to the point where the provision of services could collapse entirely”.

In response, an SCA representative pointed out Sowetans were not totally dependent on the councils for services. The SCA said electricity to the townships was collected by Eskom and it had called on its supporters to continue paying Eskom. He was confident the councils would not cut the water to the township for “moral reasons”.

The SCA also indicated residents would take responsibility for rubbish removals through clean-up campaigns.

The metropolitan chamber was established in the wake of the Soweto Accord, under which civic associations agreed to pay for services in exchange for a forum to negotiate a non-racial, democratic system of local government and improved services for Greater Soweto. The chamber was viewed as a model for non-racial local government.

Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert believed the forum was important for national and local negotiations. He said the chamber began to involve white and black local communities in addressing common problems which vitally affected them, helped to transcend apparently irreconcilable positions between rival political bodies and highlighted the need to develop civil society as a basis for successful democratisation.

“If the metropolitan chamber succeeds, it would have stabilised democratically the most important wealth generating region in South Africa and created a powerful bulwark for supporting democratic transition at a national level,” he writes in a forthcoming book, The Quest for Democracy.

Outlining the basis of the crises which seemed to drive the forum, Slabbert said: “The civics were prepared to persuade communities to pay for services if services were improved; those who provided the services were prepared to provide them to the communities paid.”

At a meeting of Greater Soweto Principal Parties early this month, the cycle collapsed. The SCA announced its withdrawal from the subcommittee and called for the resumption of the Soweto rent boycott.

Because the chamber operates on the basis of consensus, its activities were effectively torpedoed.

In a detailed response to the SCA statement, the TPA revealed a surprising amount of agreement with the SCA, even if it pulled the plug on the chamber.

The administration said improvements had occurred in all levels of services over the past year but conceded, “all conditions relating to the level of services have not yet been fulfilled”.

The TPA believed the main reason for this was that some council did not have the ability to provide these standards of services. The SCA admitted that the Johannesburg City Council assists and accepts responsibility for the administration and services.

The TPA accused the SCA of being unable to persuade the residents of Soweto to pay the rent and service charges.

In an agreement reached in November, all members of the subcommittee committed themselves to achieving payment levels of at least 80 percent.

The SCA admits payments by residents have fallen from about 50 percent to 30 percent over the past three months, but argued that “it is difficult to convince residents they don’t see any improvement in the services”.

The report, which suggests there’s plenty of common ground between the parties, was never discussed. After the SCA delegation read its statement at the start of the meeting, the agenda and the report was shelved.

Asked why they had left the meeting before the joint agreement the Chamber had been discussed, a SCA spokesman said: “Delegates were given a mandate to read the statement and withdraw from the committee. This is what they did.”

Despite the suspension of negotiations, there is substantial scope for the chamber to get back on track.

The SCA and other civic associations in the region wanted the other activities of the chamber to continue. “GSPP is only a sub-committee of the chamber,” said an SCA spokesman.

Slabbert has been mandated by the chamber to try and break the deadlock before its next meeting, when the suspension will be reviewed.

SCA may have been premature in quitting chamber

The Soweto Civic Association’s walkout may mean the end of the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber—but it appears their grievances are being addressed after all.

By PAUL STOBER

In a statement read to the meeting, the SCA gave as its chief reason for withdrawing from the forum, “the failure of the three Soweto city councils to deliver improved levels of services in terms of the agreements on tariffs”. The statement went on to call for the removal of all charges and involvement of Johannesburg in the provision of services for Soweto and the resolution of the violence in the area.

The TPA and the Soweto councils responded by calling for the suspension of all activities of the metropolitan chamber. “We cannot continue with negotiations while the entire administration and provision of services to the people are collapsing,” said the TPA in a statement last week.
Evictions

in Enosdale

Evictions

In Enosdale
Eskom promises new deal as it takes over Soweto power supply

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Soweto residents will soon see the first results of the takeover of the electricity supply to the township by Eskom.

Eskom chief executive Ian McRae announced yesterday that the process of upgrading and improving the electricity network had already begun.

"We believe we are ideally placed in terms of the technical, administrative and managerial resources to provide a good service to Soweto," said Mr McRae. "We know that this process is not going to be instantaneous or easy. However, we have commenced addressing the most pressing issues first, such as the replacement of broken meters and the updating of the customer database."

Although the Soweto Civic Association (SCA) announced two weeks ago that the rent and service boycott was back on, electricity payments were the exception. The reason is that the SCA's main demand in negotiations concerning the electricity supply has been met by the Eskom takeover.

In terms of negotiations, residents are liable to pay a flat rate tariff of R38.80 a month for an initial period of four months — until metering problems have been sorted out.

Letitia van Staden, one of the managers of Eskom's Soweto project, stressed that all accounts, queries and payments would be handled by Eskom from now on. Residents will shortly see the following developments:

- The hand delivery of separate electricity bills in the next few days. Services other than electricity will be charged on a separate account, sent out by the Soweto Council.
- The construction of 11 Eskom customer service centres in Soweto, located near rent offices but operating totally independently of them. Queries, complaints and payments for electricity will be handled at these offices. They would be open Monday to Friday between 7:30 am and 3:30 pm and on Saturday until noon.
- "It's also important to note that residents can pay at any other Eskom service office in town or near their place of work," Ms van Staden stressed.

She confirmed that the takeover meant that as far as Eskom was concerned, people started with a clean slate. They may have owed the Soweto Council for arrears electricity payments, but this did not concern Eskom.

The flat rate would apply until June, she said.

Ms van Staden said Eskom had taken on more than 100 workers formerly employed by the Soweto Council and was retraining them.
The political settlement being worked out at Codesa will remain meaningless until it is underpinned by a sound and stable economy in which all population groups will take part.

This is the view of Future Bank chairman Jabu Mabuza who also observes that white South Africans are somewhat reluctant to talk about black economic empowerment although many are beginning to accept the inevitability of a dilution of their political power.

Mr Mabuza notes that black empowerment has three legs — political, social and economic.

"It is disappointing to see that the process to empower blacks politically is being overtaken by the efforts towards economic empowerment."

When talking about black economic empowerment, Mr Mabuza stresses that he is not just talking about hot-dog vendors and spaza shops. "We want to enter into the mainstream of the economy."

"We also want to create our own economic giants, our own Sanlamis and Old Mutuals," he says.

"To do this we need help from white South African corporations in the same way that First National helped us to set up our bank."

"More joint ventures like this one will be needed to underpin any political settlement."

Mr Mabuza says black communities need such role models. "Until this happens, the majority to whom a future government will be answerable, may not support leaders who advocate free-market economies."

"While we appreciate charity by the way of hospitals, schools and so on, the business sector must make more investments in developing black businesses."

Economic reform needed — Mabuza
Power rates to be set

By SOPHIE TEMA

A new tariff based on actual electricity costs will be introduced by Eskom after agreement has been reached between the parties that were involved in the Soweto Accord of September 1990.

After the accord was signed Eskom agreed to implement tariffs negotiated by the Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville city councils, the TPA and the Soweto People’s Delegation until such time as certain minimum standards in the supply of electricity were met.

Eskom has begun upgrading and improving the electricity supply network in Soweto following its takeover of the system from the Soweto City Council.

Eskom chief executive Dr Ian McRae announced in Johannesburg this week the takeover was the result of an agreement between itself and the council.

McRae said the agreement followed lengthy negotiations with the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, the TPA, The Regional Services Council and the Soweto Civic Association.

High level

He said: “I believe this agreement is in the best interests of all parties concerned, particularly the electricity consumers of Soweto.

“Eskom is committed to building up the level of services in Soweto to be on a par with that of other domestic consumers in South Africa. Eskom is conscious of the need to provide a consistently high level of service to all electricity users.

“We believe we are ideally placed in terms of technical, administrative and managerial resources to provide a good service to Soweto.

“In this regard the secondment of Soweto electricity staff will be an important factor contributing to the success of normalising electricity supply.

“We know that this process is not going to be instantaneous or easy. However, we have commenced addressing the most pressing issues first, such as the replacement of broken meters and the upgrading of the customer base,” said McRae.
Alex civic affairs halted by violence

CIVIC affairs in Alexandra township have been brought to a virtual standstill by the ongoing feud between Inkatha and ANC supporters.

Alexandra town clerk Wilie Khumalo said yesterday most of the town council’s offices had been taken over by families displaced by the violence in the township.

Hundreds of families fled their homes last month after fighting between Alexandra residents and Inkatha-supporting hostel dwellers. They sought refuge at the council’s offices and the local civic centre.

Khumalo said the situation was inconveniencing council staff and was being “taken advantage of by some employees.”

He said it was difficult to keep thorough checks on staff attendance in such a situation, and a number of workers had not been reporting for work since.

But the council would not chase the families away as the violence which forced them out of their homes had not been addressed, Khumalo said.

Meanwhile, the Goldstone standing commission of inquiry into public violence and intimidation will question Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK) leaders about allegations that the organisation planned to attack four of Inkatha’s Transvaal strongholds.

Judge Richard Goldstone said in a statement yesterday a policeman told a Wit- Vaal regional dispute resolution committee on March 26 that police had received information that MK had held a meeting the previous day. The policeman said it was decided at the meeting to attack the Inkatha hostels.

“After inquiry by an ANC member, the ANC informed the regional dispute resolution committee that no such decision had been taken. The matter was then referred to the commission, which was informed by police that the information had come from two informants who had been at the MK meeting. The informants felt their lives were in jeopardy and on no account would they be prepared to meet, even in camera, with the commission. At the request of the commission, police have furnished it with written statements from both informants without disclosing their identities,” Goldstone said.

He said having regarded the seriousness of the allegations, the commission had decided to put the allegations to MK leaders “who are alleged to have been at the meeting in question on Thursday.”

Meanwhile Sapa reports three people were reported killed in Natal yesterday, bringing the day’s national death toll as a result of political violence to nine.

Earlier, two people were killed and 11 injured when a bus was ambushed in the Table Mountain area, east of Maritzburg.

In the same area three people were shot dead at a bus stop and three were wounded — including a three-month-old baby.

Near Empangeni on the north coast, a member of the KwaZulu Police was shot dead by unidentified men.

In another development, police yesterday held an identification parade in Thokoza, on the East Rand, in connection with alleged misconduct of 32 Battalion soldiers in Phola Park squatter camp on April 8.

Witwatersrand police spokesman Col Frans Malherbe refused to say whether any of the soldiers had been identified as culprits.

Key leaders will attend church talks

LEADERS of key black political organisations will meet church leaders today in an attempt to boost the peace process.

It is expected that the summit — convened under the auspices of the SA Council of Churches (SACC) — will set the stage for a meeting between church leaders and government.

SAPP reports that ANC president Nelson Mandela, PAC leader Clarence Makhwetu and SAPD chairman Joe Slovo will attend.

In a statement, the SACC said representatives from 19 black political organisations would attend. These included Inkatha, Azapo, the TBVC states, Cast, Cosatu, Nactu, Napec and the United People’s Front.


Chief Mangeni Mthethwa, the president’s private secretary, Amos Ngema, said yesterday the Inkatha leader would not attend the summit but he had “other commitments (KwaZulu capital) Umthi.”

SACC general secretary Frank Chikane said today’s “emergency summit on violence” was in response to alarming levels of political violence.
in the community, with the Administration House of Delegates merely acting as the funding authority.

However, because the Local Authority in this instance, failed to take the necessary remedial action, the House of Delegates out of concern for the plight of those low-income families who desperately need to be assisted, decided to departmentally execute a housing project as indicated above.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is he aware of the fact that, firstly, there was no request from the House of Delegates to take over these sites for low-cost housing, and secondly, a city councillor by the name of Mr Peter Corbett is adopting an obstructionist attitude, is playing cheap party politics and refuses to accede to the reasonable request of the LAC? In view of this, is the hon the Minister now prepared to wield the big stick and to use his powers in terms of the Housing Development Act (House of Delegates)?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, the Department of Housing is fully aware of the situation in Durban, and particularly in Chatsworth, and I want to tell the hon the Leader of the Opposition that a meeting is scheduled for this Friday to discuss two projects in Chatsworth. If the hon the Leader of the Opposition has any special matter to raise, he can write to us and we shall look into the matter and furnish him with an answer.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is he aware of the fact that he indicated that there was a shortage of funds, will he demand the R5 million for the Shallcross Link Road to provide facilities such as this?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am grateful to you for giving reference to precise thinking, that that question has no direct relevance to this issue. I made it clear that the Department of Housing has a policy with regard to such issues and we will pursue the matter. When funds are available, we shall certainly provide the hall.

Mr K PANADY Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, would he say that community halls should not be built at all?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, the hon member misunderstood my answer. I did not mean that at all, nor did I say that.

Mr K PANADY Mr Chairman, will the hon the Minister agree that there is a need for a community hall in the very fast growing area of Newlands West?

The MINISTER Obviously and precisely

Community hall: Newlands West Area

3 Mr K PANADY asked the Minister of Housing

(1) Whether he intends building a community hall in the Newlands West area, if not, why not, if so, (a) when and (b) what are the other details in this regard,

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

The MINISTER OF HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE

D98E

The MINISTER

In view of the fact that the limited funds which are available in the Housing Development Fund, is urgently required to provide housing for the many poor families desperately awaiting a roof over their heads, Community Halls is not regarded as a priority.

(a) Not applicable

(b) Not applicable

(2) No

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

Mr Chairman, arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, in view of the fact that he indicated that there was a shortage of funds, will he demand the R5 million for the Shallcross Link Road to provide facilities such as this?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I must again point out, with reference to precise thinking that that question has no direct relevance to this issue. I made it clear that the Department of Housing has a policy with regard to such issues and we will pursue the matter. When funds are available, we shall certainly provide the hall.

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The MINISTER Obviously and precisely

Sandfields Primary School: representations

4 Mr M ABRAHAM asked the Minister of Local Government and Agriculture

Whether representations made by the Sandfields Primary School in Tongaat for land under the control of his Department to be used as school grounds have been referred to him, if so, (a)(i) by which Department of the Administration House of Delegates, (a)(ii) why and (b) what was his Department's response in this regard?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE

D107E

No

(1) Whether Stand 6876 Portions 3 and 7- Lenana

5 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing

(4.7.1)

(1) Whether Stand 6876 Portion 3 and Stand 6876 Portion 7 in Lenana Township were sold by tender by his Department, if not, (a) why not and (b) how were they sold, if so, when,

(2) whether these stands were repossessed at any stage, if so,

(3) whether they were repossessed owing to the failure of the awardees to pay the tender price, if not, why were they repossessed, if so, what is the present status of these stands?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE

D108E

No

(1) No

(a) Both of these properties were sold by the former Community Development Board

(b) It is not clear from the records inherited from the former Department of Community Development whether the properties were sold by public tender. Portion 3 was sold on 23 April 1982 and Portion 7 was sold on 21 May 1982.

(2) Yes

CAU? - 0

HOUSE OF DELEGATES
(3) Both properties were repossessed because in each case the purchasers failed to comply with the two year building clause and the accounts were both in arrears.

On 13 December 1991 the Housing Development Board approved the re-statement of the original purchasers of each property subject to certain conditions. However, it was subsequently reported that both companies which were the original purchasers had been deregistered. The legal issues are being investigated at present by the Department and the properties are consequently not available for re-sale until these issues have been clarified.

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, arising out of this, the Minister's reply, does he have any knowledge of who the purchaser was?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, if the hon the Leader of the Official Opposition is seriously interested in the answer, I shall find out and let him know.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, in which he said that some time in December 1991 the Housing Development Board decided to reallocate these two sites, could he tell this House on what basis that decision was taken?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, I am not aware of the basis on which this was done, but I can find out from the legal advisers.

Mr M RAJAB Mr Chairman, in view of those circumstances, will the hon the Minister please communicate to me the full series of events relating to this matter?

The MINISTER Yes, I shall do that.

Mr P PADAYCHEE Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, does he know that, although the companies were deregistered, permission had been given for Mr Thanb to purchase that site? Is the hon the Minister aware of that?

The LEADER OF THE OFFICIAL OPPOSITION Mr Chairman, further arising out of the hon the Minister's reply, is he prepared to submit the first Minister of Housing in the House of Delegates to a judicial commission of inquiry?

The MINISTER Mr Chairman, that is a matter to be considered.

Allocation of Stand 6870: Lenasia

*6 Mr M RAJAB asked the Minister of Housing [127]

Whether Stand 6870 in Lenasia Township was allocated recently owing to representations made by a member of Parliament, if not, what is the position in this regard, if so, (a) what was the purport of these representations and (b) when and (c) to whom was the stand allocated?

(2) whether he will disclose the name of the member of Parliament in question, if not, why not, if so, what is his or her name?

The MINISTER OF HOUSING AND AGRICULTURE

(1) No

On 23 August 1991 the Housing Development Board approved the sale of the property to Mr Y Govender. However, the Board's decision was not conveyed to Mr Govender because the Regional Representative of the Johannesburg office of the Department of Local Government, Housing and Agriculture reported to the Chairman of Board that Mr Govender had produced a Deed of Sale in respect of the property which was suspected to be fraudulent. The Chairman requested that the Board's decision be held in abeyance.

The MINISTER Yes, I shall do that.

Mrs S Govender, the mother of Mr Y Govender, subsequently submitted representations to purchase the property and was interviewed by the Housing Development Board at its meeting on 20 March 1992. The Board decided on that day that the property inter alia be leased to Mrs S Govender at a monthly rental of R500.00

(2) Falls away

Business interrupted in accordance with Rule 180(3) of the Standing Rules of Parliament
Novel plan for low-cost city housing

BY FERAL HAFFAJEE

An ambitious social housing plan could be just the ingredient the Johannesburg inner city needs to shake off the decay and the crime that large scale urbanisation has brought in its wake.

But the plan all depends on "creative financing" policies. And by this the project planners mean low interest rates from banks and subsidies from the government and parastatals involved in housing.

Residents' association Actop last year offered to buy seven buildings in Joubert Park and the city council, from landlord David Gorfill.

Gorfill has had his fill of rent struggles, of commercial instead of residential rates and taxes and excessive water and electricity bills — he wanted to sell quickly, even to his tenants.

"I get about R200 000 a month in rentals on these buildings and about R110 000 of this goes to the city council," says Gorfill.

In the first plan of its kind in the country, residents hope to buy the seven buildings as a social housing scheme and run them co-operatively. An elected management committee drawn from the tenants will administer the buildings. They will set the internal by-laws, determining everything from how many pets a family may have to making plans for people to move from bigger to smaller flats as family size dictates.

Social housing usually refers to affordable housing in the inner city which will provide security of tenure for the flat-dwellers. Its co-operative feature is that the residents will own and manage the buildings.

The buildings will be removed from the marketplace and be maintained as a stock of low-cost housing to prevent gentrification or slumification of the inner city.

During an interim phase which will last between three and five years, the residents will be armed with the "management and organisational skills that they will need to take over control of the building".

A development organisation involved in this type of work, the Co-operative Planning and Education Coop, will work with the tenants in weekly workshops teaching the necessary skills. Already they have begun work organising residents into campaigns to eliminate white responsibilities and teach tenants organisational skills.

A Section 21 company (not for profit) will initially own the building and lease to the tenants as a tenant-friendly lessor. After this period, "tenants will assume full control and ownership of the buildings", says Odette Geldenhuys of the Legal Resource Centre, which spearheads the project.

The path to full tenant control will be a rocky one. Loan assistance in South Africa is guaranteed to help individual property owners not lessors or co-owners.

Bankers are interested in the idea but are wary of the co-operative form of ownership. And they are still considering the suggestion that tenants be given a loan at a preferential interest rate of 11.5 percent rather than the market 19.5 percent.

The asking price of the buildings is another problem: while Gorfill's price of R84 million for seven buildings may not seem a lot, tenants are not prepared to pay more than R5 million.

Gorfill this week told The Weekly Mail he had a buyer waiting in the wings willing to pay his price.

Tenants say the buildings are in sorry state and the basic infrastructure has gone to ruin: lifts do not work, the plumbing needs to be completely overhauled, all the buildings need to be rewired and most of the foyer and garages rebuilt.

These renovations will cost millions, says Patric Bond of Planet, the development agency which is handling the financial side of the project.

Where possible the renovations will be undertaken by skilled people in the community.
Suspended chamber set to reconvene

THE Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber, suspended two weeks ago after the collapse of the Greater Soweto Principal Parties (GPSP), is likely to reconvene on May 13.

All parties involved in the first round of negotiations on Wednesday night — the Soweto Civic Association (SCA), Soweto City Council, Transvaal Provincial Administration (TSA) and chamber officials — expressed optimism yesterday that a solution to the crisis could be found in time to get the chamber functioning before the next scheduled meeting.

SCA general secretary Pat Lephunya, whose organisation walked out of the GPSP forcing the suspension of the chamber, said the civic association was "optimistic things will be resolved".

Chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert said while there remained some "quite fundamental shifts" of opinion to be taken by participants, they all exhibited a willingness to explore the options.
Company allegedly sold sites in Diepkloof allocated for parks

Land-trouble zone

PENTAX'S Civil and Engineering Contractors, the company at the centre of an investigation into allegations of corruption and mismanagement in the Diepmeadow Council, allegedly sold sites in Diepkloof Zone 4 which it did not have the right to sell.

According to the council, the sites could not be sold because they were zoned for parks.

The estate agency who found buyers for the 13 sites, Property Express of Florida, says Pentax's for the thousands of rands it lost in commission when its buyers could not get a transfer of the sites.

Property Express entered into an agreement with Pentax's in January last year to sell sites in Diepkloof Zone 4.

Pentax's Piet Smit signed agreements with 13 Property Express buyers between January and June last year, selling the sites for between R12,500 and R15,000 each.

Property Express claims that at the time Pentax's sold the sites, the council had not legally allocated these stands to Pentax's. No Land Availability Agreements had been entered into between Pentax's and the council.

When Property Express made direct enquiries to the Diepmeadow council as to why its clients could not get Annexure C documents for the sites they had bought, they were told the sites were zoned for parks, and could not be sold as residential stands.

City Press has a copy of correspondence from the council to Pentax's dated April, which says the allocation of park sites made to them for housing development by the councillor of the ward is "invalid ... and cancelled with immediate effect".

CB Estates of Johannesburg, the estate agency which was then marketing Pentax's properties, and which had arranged the deal with Property Express, was told Pentax's had taken up the Annexure C matter with the chairman of the council's executive committee, who had undertaken to "investigate and solve any problems which may arise."

The chairman at that time was Councillor Fred Phiri, who was unseated from the council this week. Phiri was removed from the chairmanship of the executive last month after the council heard allegations of his involvement in bribery and corruption.

In July, Piet Smit warned CB Estates that "your agents should not have interfered directly with the council's executive committee. No direct contact must take place with any authorities of the council whatsoever."

Smit said he and his partner Tony Baxter had met the chairman of the council's executive committee and "in no uncertain terms were heavily rapped over the knuckles for outside interference, just as the problems were being solved."

Smit warned CB Estates that "stricter control (must) be exercised on your agents, otherwise we will have no option but to suggest you erase them from your team and cancel all existing deals pending."

Smit wrote to CB Estates on a letterhead from Transvaal Property Corporation (Pty) Ltd, the company he owned with Baxter, and which closed down last June, facing claims for defective workmanship on 97 houses it built in Meadowlands.

This warning was followed by a letter dated August 2 from the Diepmeadow Council's Director of Housing, Jooste Mothapo, rezoning the sites residential and allocating them to Pentax's for development. The letter says an agreement must be entered into between Pentax's and the council.

By this time, Pentax's had sold the sites

City Press confirmed with the Transvaal Provincial Administration that no agreements between Diepmeadow Council and Pentax's had been approved by the TPA.

According to the Black Community Development's Act 4 of 1984, all Land Availability Agreements must be submitted to the provincial administrator for approval.

Property Express has taken from several of the buyers their letters from Pentax's a summons for its forfeited commission.

City Press asked the new chairman of the council executive committee and councillor for Diepkloof Zone 4, Godfrey Mogotsi, to investigate the allocations, but his findings were not available at the time of going to press.

DEFECTIVE WORKMANSHIP ... All 97 houses on Group Housing's Zone 9 development have been shoddily built. Residents are suing the company for damages.

Readers' Hotline

READERS' HOTLINE
Helping you with your problems
PO Box 548
Kempton Park 2100

will have no option but to suggest you erase them from your team and cancel all existing deals pending.

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Oukasie development body ‘sign of reconciliation’

By Jo-Anne Collinge 2/3/92

The Oukasie Development Trust (ODT), launched yesterday in festive-fighting spirit in this western Transvaal township near Brits, has been hailed as a sign of reconciliation between forces pitted against each other by the apartheid policy of forced removals.

The ODT, comprising a majority of community members plus representatives of the Transvaal Provincial Administration, the Brits business community and various advisers to the Oukasie community, will oversee the upgrading of 1600 sites in the 65-year-old township, which stood condemned until just a year ago.

“Together we have a country to rebuild — a country savaged by war and experimental policies, the likes of which were never implemented anywhere else in the world,” said Rocky Malebana-Matsang of the ANC.

In a speech which bounced as lightly as the marimba music which preceded it, Mr Malebana-Matsang repeatedly drew laughter from the crowd, still lively despite an hour-long parade through the streets.

But he added the sober reminder that the ANC was not prepared to allow anything to interfere with the pursuit of a political settlement.

Condemning the forthcoming racial referendum, he conceded that the ANC had no choice but to encourage people “to defend the gains of change” and the negotiating process “as initiated by the ANC and now supported at least by Mr F W de Klerk”.

He added: “To build a nation we need to accommodate other people, to tolerate others’ views and political aspirations. And thus we are prepared to do”.

The practice of tolerance should be pursued not only at Codesa but at grassroots level — and the ODT could provide a focus for such interaction in Brits.

ODT chairman Levy Mambolo stressed that the trust would be fully accountable to the people “and open to community scrutiny”. It would not replace the Oukasie Civic Association or the Oukasie People’s Delegation, which had played a vital role in fighting removal and winning the right to redevelop Oukasie.

The upgrading involves providing tapped water and sewerage to existing homes, laying out new sites, and improving roads and drainage.

The bulk of the cost will be covered by the capital subsidy scheme of R7500 per household administered by the Independent Development Trust.

Mambolo announced that the process of transferring the land from the Government to occupants was well under way and “the people will soon be armed with their title deeds”. In addition, the TPA — which is currently acting as the development agent — would start with physical work today.

Staffers from the Legal Resources Centre, the Land Investment Trust and the Urban Foundation will continue to advise residents of Oukasie.
Turn hostels into homes

The demand by the people of Alexandra that the hostels, from which most of the violence emanates, should be demolished and converted into family units - and there should be no compromise on this, chairman of the Alexandra Peace Forum, the Reverend Busani Ngubane, said.

Ngubane recounted incidents in which dead bodies had been found alongside the Madiba Hostel.

"This is happening all the time, even though it appears to be some quiet in the area," he said.

He said that killings had reduced the residents near the hostels into a bundle of nerves.

Coupled with the killings, most of the residents staying around the hostels, which is regarded in a "no-go" area, have been displaced.

"Their houses are now occupied by hostel tenants. The ANC representative at the area, Ml Obed Bapela, says the ANC was becoming an enemy.

"The area is becoming a health hazard at fifth semester," Bapela said.

Bapela also declared that "the ANC was becoming an enemy of the Minister of Law and Order with a view to having a declared a disaster area.""

The meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday.

The meeting is scheduled to take place on Monday.

A number of families are staying with relatives in the Alexandra, E Rand, Soweto and Pretoria.

He also suggested that the hostels, especially the Madiba Hostel, was used to store a wide range of ammunition.

Even the theory that the hostel inmates were armed by white people, had some semblance of truth, he said.

"Most of the inmates are not sophisticated people. It is important to find a way out of the situation," Ngubane said.

He said that killings had reduced the residents near the hostels into a bundle of nerves.

"We have been provided with information to the police and nothing has happened," he said.

"If the police are serious about peace being restored in the area, they will need to stop dragging their feet and do something constructive to disarm hostel inmates," Ngubane said.

"The excuse the police often make is that they were short-staffed, but when they have to police the hostels, they make excuses for nothing," Ngubane said.

"We reject this argument as invalid. When they find our people are not short-staffed, but when they have to police the hostels, they make these excuses for nothing," Ngubane said.

The Reverend Busani Ngubane
**Rent war reduces social hive to slum battlefield**

As black tenants were "illegal", they had no say and had to contend with whatever landlords were offering.

The father-and-son duo, Messrs. Bantu and Mapungubwe, have been served with notices from the Rand Supreme Court restraining them from harassing tenants.

A tenant has also laid a rape charge against Mapungubwe.

After a Supreme Court order, the case was found in favor of the tenants. The landlord was ordered to stop harassing them.

The case was heard on October 2, 1991. Armed security guards prevented the landlord from entering the building.

The landlord was also found guilty of trespassing and angry tenants were stopped from sleeping in his shacks until the court ordered him to vacate.

One of the most serious charges facing Mapungubwe is that of rape, which police say they will investigate.

According to the landlord's attorney, Mr. Nkombo, the issues have been handled in court and the case was resolved.

On September 20, tenants marched to the office of the landlord and the two sides were acquitted of the charges.

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**THE URBAN FOUNDATION**

"Shaping Society through Development"

The Urban Foundation (UF) perceives development as the process of enabling and empowering people, communities and organisations to determine their own circumstances. The UF is an independent, non-government agency, and its prime areas of focus are:

**Education**
- In-service Training of Teachers,
- Liaising with teachers to address broader educational needs

**Informal Settlement Support Service**
- Upgrading communities to develop and develop informal settlements

**Community Resource Centres**
- Working with communities to establish Resource Centres to help address the community's development needs,
- Existing Resource Centres are:
  - The Ubuntu Centre, Cugulele,
  - The Masiphathane Centre, Philispum, specializing in training community members in building low-cost, timber-frame housing structures

For further information please call 021-232310

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**Tenants fight with Nico Basson**

Cresthill, a 14-storey block in Parktown, was co-owned by former military intelligence officer Mr. Nico Basson, who caused a stir last year when he revealed his secret to improving security. A tenant on President F.W. de Klerk's destabilisation agenda.

He has been accused of renting to tenants and forming a management committee which was not affiliated to Actstop.

After refusing to let tenants to his side, Basson was booted from the building and had his son arrested.

He told tenants they were not allowed to nominate candidates.

Basson also offered to improve security. But one of the results of the "improved security" was that each tenant had to carry an identity document to prove that he was a bona fide resident. He also brought in a number of foreign security guards.

These people, according to Actstop assistant general secretary Mr. Vivian Klaas, were used by Basson as shock troops to intimidate residents.

Another complaint was that Basson charged rent per individual, not according to a flat's size.

On March 7, there was a demonstration outside Cresthill tenants were told rent would be raised.

Basson told tenants that R320 for a bachelor flat to R400 for a one-bedroom flat was not enough.

Tenants marched to Basson's office to demand an explanation, but he refused to speak.

Tenants allege that Basson is an ANC member. Basson denies he is an ANC member. He says he is not an ANC supporter, and has been advised not to speak at that moment.

The tenants areDoug Basson is a R3.5 million overdraft caused by rent boycotts. He says rent will have to be increased to cover arrears, claiming that he owes the money to the tenants.

Despite the deep mistrust between Actstop and Basson, the two sides are negotiating.

On March 18, the tenants postponed the meeting. Committee members met Basson and agreed that the tenants should consider buying the block, and Basson freed the Anglo-American Corporation from any such venture.
Ground for Soviet studies still rich but not as red

SOUTH AFRICA

Before

After

U.S.S.R.

WAT DOES a self-respecting research institute do when a subject matter is wiped off the map of the earth? This is the problem facing the Unit for Soviet Studies at Stellenbosch University. With the word “Soviet” already banned as dated as “totalitarian”, what's left for the unit to do?

But “n prof fake ‘n plan” and the unit, which was opened independently since the revelation in 1989 that it was supplying information to South Africa's Central Intelligence Agency, found ample room for study in the reawakening of political relations between South Africa and the former communist states of Europe.

Professor Philip Nel, who heads the unit, said the focus of attention had always been on Soviet policy towards South Africa.

“Our policy was that with so many excellent analysts working in the Soviet Union and academic working in Europe, it would be spurious to duplicate their work”, Nel said.

Among the significant developments between South Africa and the Soviet Union before its dissolution, Nel singled out Mikhail Gorbachev’s invitation to President FW de Klerk to visit Moscow (though events led him to cancel his visit at short notice). A similar invitation was made to ANC president Nelson Mandela.

“In general, the South African and Russian governments are moving towards diplomatic relations,” Nel said. The establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries would not happen immediately, but it was likely that South Africa and Russia would establish such ties within a year, he speculated.

“I would not be surprised if we also had a Ukrainian and a Kazakh consulate or embassy in South Africa.”

Nel said events in the former Soviet Union had had an indirect impact on political discourse in South Africa.

“We now see Andrei Yurchenko using the word communism, and through that channel, referred to significant developments in the former Soviet Union,” Nel said. “Russia may go for the ascension of Natal on the model of Yugoslavia and the USSR.”

“A piece of the Western newspapers that was ignored is that many Russians hold regarding South Africa.

Nel pointed to instances where “white people were needed” in this country.

“The argument for a policy that remains relevant even if no longer red,” he said.

“The only ascension is in the unity of the people.”

The article was published on February 1910 in the South African Times.

A new article in the Moscow News, dated February 1910, is entitled “South Africa End of South Africa”. The article refers to the following events:

In the article, the author claims that South Africa has ended its apartheid era.

The article advocates for a non-racial South Africa, where all races are equal.

The article calls for the establishment of a new government that is fair and just.

The article also mentions the importance of education and the need for a new educational system.

The article concludes with a call for unity among all South Africans.

The article was published on February 1910 in the Moscow News.
Houses of Parliament

House of Commons

The Speaker took the Chair and called for the attention of the House to the motion for the adjournment.
The minister has requested that the level of the official opposition to the government's position be increased. (Legislation) [Legislation] [Legislation]

The minister has requested that the level of the official opposition to the government's position be increased. (Legislation) [Legislation] [Legislation]
Residents to slug it out with TPA

HARTEBEESFONTEIN residents near Rustenburg, fighting against incorporation into Bophuthatswana, plan to meet the Transvaal Provincial Administration over the issue.

They were told this week by the Western Transvaal regional representative of the Department of Land Affairs, Mr Henry Stopforth, that the department was no longer handling the matter.

Stopforth told the Hartebeesfontein Civic Association that the TPA had on April 1 been appointed the authoritative body.

All the residents' grievances should now be directed to a Mr Pelser, who is the TPA's director in the region.

Co-ordinator of the Hartebeesfontein Civic Association Mr Nathaniel Mmusi has requested Stopforth to set up a meeting with Pelser.

Mmusi said yesterday that the association had not been informed of the takeover.

He said they had handed a memorandum of their grievances to the local administration office last year.

Senior police officers in the Rustenburg district attended this week's meeting with the residents.
Dieploof
a hostel of
good vibes
By SOPHIE TEMBA

DIEPLOOF Hostel near Baragwanath in Soweto looks like any other hostel.
Most of the windows are broken, the walls are cracked, and the ceilings are pocked with holes.
But it is different from other Reef hostels because the inmates and residents in the neighbouring houses have a good relationship.

So chummy are they that the residents turn to the hostel dwellers for protection when they need it.

City Press spoke to a group of women chatting near the hostel who were full of praise for the hostel dwellers, saying they lived in harmony with them.

"We regard them as our brothers," said one woman.

"When their wives and children come to visit we take them into our homes," said another.

The hostel dwellers once stepped in to help residents who were being threatened by other hostel dwellers.

"It was amazing because we know most of them are IFP supporters," the woman said.

IFP youth leader Thamba Khoza, said this was normal.

"People should live in harmony," said Khoza.

"Dieploof hostel is an example of how residents and hostel dwellers can live together without bloodshed."
Sit-in to be held at council’s offices

THE executive committee of the Mamelodi Civic Association is to stage a sit-in at the local municipal offices from tomorrow in order to pressure councillors to resign.

This was announced yesterday after an urgent meeting of the MCA.

The meeting resolved to seek a court order suspending local councillors and also for the institution of a Commission of Inquiry into the finances of the town council.

By MONK NKOMO

Mr Pasty Malefo, publicity secretary of the MCA, accused the council of being insensitive in cutting electricity supplies to rent defaulters. He also criticized councillors for having increased rent by 40 percent early this year without consulting residents.

He said the MCA had already written a letter to the Transvaal Provincial Administration seeking an urgent meeting with the officials to determine affordable rent in the township.

"The 12 executive members of the MCA are going to occupy the council offices from tomorrow to protest against the high rents and to call on councillors to resign because they do not serve the interests of the residents," said Malefo.

Residents who attended yesterday’s meeting at Moretele Park also approved a suggestion that the Pretoria City Council should take over the administration of the township.

Another executive member of the MCA, Mr Teoena Matle, said they had briefed lawyers on the intention to force the town council to produce audited financial statements dating back from 1994.

"The council cannot increase rent when councillors are unable to produce financial statements to motivate reasons for the increment," Matle said.

He added that the MCA had already held talks with officials of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) over their grievances.

"We are planning to launch a massive campaign such as consumer boycotts and stayaways to pressure Mamelodi Town councillors to resign and also for the authorities to agree to our request for the introduction of affordable rent," said Matle.
Vosloorus set to march

VOSLOORUS residents, many of whom are on a rent boycott in protest against "exorbitant electricity tariffs", will march on the local municipality offices next month.

Vosloorus Civic Association (VCA) spokesman Mihlathuzeli Siboza said the decision to stage a march was taken at a meeting called by the organisation at the weekend.

By VENILLA YOGANATHA

Vosloorus residents decided on mass action "in an attempt to get the local council to lower tariffs", the VCA official said.

He said current negotiations between the VCA and the council over the matter had reached a deadlock.

The council cut electricity to the area when residents went on a rent boycott in February this year in protest against what they termed high electricity tariffs.

At the time, Siboza claimed that the council was charging residents 5.5c more than what their neighbours paid for electricity in Boksburg.

Vosloorus town clerk Mr George Prinsloo dismissed the claims as "nonsense".

However, residents have since allegedly switched on their electricity supply by using a circuit breaker.

The dispute arose when the council allegedly re-engaged on an agreement between it and the VCA.

The two parties apparently agreed on a flat rate of R60 a month at the beginning of the year.
CAST call for end to violence

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) has called on its communities to unite against ongoing township violence.

Speaking after a weekend meeting at a Johannesburg hotel, CAST publicity secretary Sandy Lebese said the violence was "disturbing the fabric of society".

Mr Lebese called for the immediate removal of all SADF units, including 32 Battalion, from the townships and "the end of raids and harassment on communities by security forces".

President de Klerk's call for the disbanding of private armies was not acceptable, he said.

"We cannot allow the Government to dictate to us to disband 'people's structures'. The liberation armies should remain until the new government is elected."

Referring to the recent announcement by the Minister of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Leon Wessels, that there would be non-racial local government elections in two years' time, Mr Lebese said the communities should also take two years before rent and service charges were paid.

The Vaal Civic Association will hold a march on May 9 to protest against the Transvaal Provincial Administration, Telkom and Post Office, and the SAP and SADF.
Declare Alex disaster area, Kriel urged

Alexandra community leaders yesterday met Law and Order Minister Herman Kriel in Pretoria and asked him to declare their violence-racked township a disaster area. The 12-person delegation comprised members of the local branches of the ANC, ANC Youth League, Congress of South African Students, South African Democratic Teachers Union and the SACP.

Delegation spokesman Paul Mashatile said the main purpose of the meeting with Mr Kriel was to discuss the ongoing violence in Alexandra and to have "Beirut" — the area between First and Sixth avenues which has been worst hit by protracted violence — declared a disaster area.

He said 80 people had died since March 7, with 885 injured and about 10,000 displaced.

Mr Mashatile said certain measures would be taken once Alexandra had been declared a disaster area.

These steps included financial assistance to families to rebuild their houses.

"But the matter would have to be discussed with the State President first," he said.

Mr Mashatile, who is also secretary for the local SACP branch, said the group wanted to meet President de Klerk.

However, Mr Kriel had told them Mr de Klerk had delegated him to hold the discussions.

Mr Kriel was assisted by a representative of Mr de Klerk's office.

Mr Mashatile said the talks were frank and open and Mr Kriel had listened very carefully to the community leaders.

Mr Kriel had assured them that he would submit a report on the meeting to Mr de Klerk.

Further talks would be held with Mr Kriel, who had also promised to visit Alexandra in the near future.

A Law and Order spokesman declined to comment on the meeting.
Storm brews over Alex refugees

By Anna Cox

Confrontation is looming between about 140 Sandton council workers and the town council about the workers' refusal to vacate council premises in Sandton which they have been occupying since last year to escape violence in neighbouring Alexandra.

The council, which threatened to evict the workers last year but held off pending negotiations with the workers, said yesterday that the employees would have to be housed elsewhere "as a matter of urgency".

But the workers, interviewed by The Star yesterday, maintained they would not move. The matter was due to be discussed at a town council meeting last night.

Sandton management committee chairman Willem Hefer said yesterday about 570 employees had vacated the council premises - several with the assistance from the council's housing scheme, Mr Hefer said.

The other employees remained in the depot, although the council had explained to them that they could not continue to live there.

"Since that date the council has been actively seeking ways of assisting these employees to find alternative accommodation," Mr Hefer said.

However, some difficulties had arisen such as the scarcity of land and affordable housing in the PWV area and the reluctance of financial institutions to invest in black townships.

The occupant yesterday said they had been sleeping in the depot's toilets, change-room area and unwallied eating area.

Nyamswami Mramba said it was too dangerous to return to the township. "I have tried to find other accommodation but have been unable to," he said.

Hilmot Maani added "Although we are sleeping in the toilet area here at the depot, it is better than getting killed in the township."

Joseph Bwelu said he too had tried in vain to find alternative housing.
Workers row with council

CONFRONTATION is looming between about 140 Sandton town council workers and the town council.

The workers refuse to vacate council premises in Sandton which they have been occupying since last year to escape violence in neighbouring Alexandra.

The council, which threatened to evict the workers last year but held off pending negotiations with the workers, said on Monday the employees would have to be housed elsewhere "as a matter of urgency".

But the workers maintained they would not move.

Democratic Party councillor Mr Rick Ehlers raised the issue at a town council meeting on Monday night but management committee chairman Mr Willem Hefer declined to answer questions and referred Ehlers to a Press statement released earlier.

In the statement, Hefer said some 570 employees had occupied the Zandfontein and other council depots in March last year after an outbreak of violence in Alexandra.

The council later gave the workers permission to stay there temporarily.

After numerous requests for them to find alternative accommodation, 430 employees had vacated the council premises - several with the assistance from the council's housing scheme, Hefer said.

The remaining employees stayed on at the depot, although the council had explained to them that they could not continue to live there.

Workers claim they cannot find housing.
Sudden power cut-offs opposed

A decision by the Johannesburg City Council management committee to cut off electricity without warning to consumers who failed to pay their accounts in time drew fire from councillors at the council's monthly meeting last night.

"It is a crude way to cut electricity without warning when a person doesn't pay because he is hard up," Conservative Party council leader Jacques Theron said.

By acting in this way, attempts by the council to establish good relationships with the public would be pointless, Mr Theron said (121).

Councillor Clive Gilbert said it was unacceptable that no warning be given.

"National Party council chief whip Ernie Fabel said it was expensive for the council to send out warnings and lawyers' letters to electricity consumers who did not pay their accounts on time.

He suggested that an attempt be made by council officials to telephone consumers instead of cutting power immediately — Municipal Reporter.
Housing & Hostels — T.V.L.

1991

400 low-cost houses for Evaton township

The South African Housing Trust is financing the project with the aim of making affordable housing available to lower-income groups. Civemech, in its capacity as a construction management company, is providing services for the development.

The construction management agent concept used by SAHT and Civemech develops local builders rather than supervising them. Civemech is enhancing the abilities of the black builders, enabling them to take on the role of contractors, thereby creating employment opportunities.

Mr. Jonathan Masuni, a Civemech builder, received the Small Builder of the Year award from the SAHT.

At a time when many developers are declining work in black townships because of unrest and vandalism, Civemech is involved with the construction of more than 1000 low-cost houses for the SAHT, as well as providing management services for two projects for the African Self-Help Association.

These projects are a creche in Pretoria North, funded by the Douglas Murray Trust, and a creche in Diamini, partly funded by a bequest. The houses in Palm Springs are due to be completed later this year or early next year.
Row over MCA's funds

By ALINAH DUBE

THE ousted publicity secretary of the Mamelodi Civic Association, Mr. Pasty Malefo, yesterday called for the disbandment of the executive committee amid allegations of misappropriation of funds.

Addressing reporters during a press briefing held in Mamelodi, Malefo accused Mr. Lazarus Mzwayini, chairman of the MCA, of owing the community an explanation as the money that has disappeared was for the Advice Office and not for the civic association.

He said Mzwayini and "his clique" approached a sponsor and obtained R17,000 without the approval of the central executive committee.

"They opened a secret account. They did not appoint a board of trustees and appointed themselves as signatories. They used about R8,000 to pay the rent (for the advice office) which was in arrears and about R6,000 is not accounted for," Malefo stated.

He added that none of the people serving on the executive committee was employed by the advice office and therefore the money could not have been used for the payment of salaries.

A source close to the committee which was involved in negotiations with a private sponsor told reporters that the money was supposed to be paid out to the civic body once someone professional had been employed to run an office.

"But to our surprise, Mzwayini and his people went to the institution and got money without following the right procedure," Malefo said.

These people seem to be in a hurry to finish off the community's money before the annual general meeting on September 28," he said.

Mzwayini refused to discuss the matter yesterday.

He said the executive committee would release a statement after a meeting which was scheduled to take place on Tuesday.

"One thing I can say is that I am not prepared to be drawn into this mud-slinging campaign by Malefo. There must be someone in the executive who is feeding him with distorted information," Mzwayini said.
Playing a role in cultural urbanisation

In addition to mutual assistance and welfare services, stokvels also play a major role in advancing cultural urbanisation and in the transition from rural to an urban identity.

Stokvel parties in the 1920s and 1930s provided a setting where musicians provided aspiring urbanites with a means of self-expression and a new working-class culture.

This helped the people's values and motivations of the rural society to meld more easily into the urban spectrum.

On Sunday afternoons stokvel members marched to the party in uniform, singing Tsوا纳 regimental and initiation songs, popular urban songs and Christian hymns.

Source: David Coplan's "In Township Tonight"
Lights-out warning for Soweto

The Greater Soweto area was yesterday threatened by the Transvaal Provincial Administration with the termination of electricity and other services unless new tariffs were agreed upon.

In a statement from Pretoria, Transvaal MEC Olus van Zyl accused the Soweto People's Delegation and the Soweto Civic Association of "shifting the goalposts" during negotiations.

The Soweto Accord, signed last September, allowed for interim charges to be levied which would be reviewed when the Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber was introduced. However, when the chamber was set up in April, the SPD and SCA objected to increased tariffs without first restructuring the local government of Soweto.

The administration of Soweto's electricity was then passed to the regional services council. "The SPD/SCA then made further demands. Consequently, the goalposts were moved despite the fact that consensus was reached between all parties who signed the 1990 Soweto Accord on service charge increases."

At the current charges, only 20 percent of Soweto's electricity bill was covered. Mr van Zyl said only half of Soweto's residents were paying their bills. "The money owed to Eskom — and thus came about since the Soweto Accord — amounts to more than R120 million already."

Mr van Zyl said the TPA backed a "new non-racial system of local authority", but until this was negotiated, the current system had to remain.

He appealed to Soweto residents to pay their accounts of face action.

He said individuals would mutually have their electricity turned off, but if this did not have the desired effect, "the services of larger blocks, and later even the whole of Soweto, would be discontinued." — Sapa
A manless existence

By ALI MPHAKI

It's the simple fact that here women lead a manless existence.

Maybe it is the four-roomed brick houses, which are in sharp contrast to the massma of leaf-shaped red-roofed concrete buildings, which make up the south of Mzimhlope.

Or maybe it is the fact that here women lead a manless existence.

Founded in 1968, in line with the Verwoerdsian apartheid philosophy, initial residents came from the Hand Helping Women's Hostel, which was situated in Jeppe near Johannesburg.

Others came from a women's hostel, which was near the George Goche male hostel.

The women resident would be alerted of her visitor and would join him in the lounge area.

As a man, dare you be found "out of bounds"; serious repercussions awaited you. Serious repercussions would also follow for a woman resident if found with a male in her room.

Whereas the lounge is one of the few things that still remain intact in the hostel, it is noticeably no longer a hive of activity.

Today there is no fence around the hostel and that stern-faced "blackjack" who used to man the entrance, is now a thing of the past.

But whether male visitors do sleep in the rooms or not is purely a matter of conjecture.

Children are also barred from visiting with their mothers, but are allowed to visit and stay with their parents during school holidays.

Each of the four-roomed houses has three bedrooms, a bathroom and a common kitchen.

"blackjack" policeman at the single-gate entrance.

Entry to the hostel by males was restricted to a lounge area, situated near a hall in the middle of the hostel.

The woman resident would be alerted of her visitor and would join him in the lounge area.

As a man, dare you be found "out of bounds"; serious repercussions awaited you. Serious repercussions would also follow for a woman resident if found with a male in her room.

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Each of the four-roomed houses has three bedrooms, a bathroom and a common kitchen.

In the kitchen there is a coal stove, one table, chest of lockers and a sink, all supplied by the council.

Six women share the three bedrooms.

If she does not have a mattress, the Soweto Council provides a sleeping bag.

The women do their own cleaning and sometimes paint the walls of the rooms.

Their mail arrives at the matron's office and is distributed to the various addresses.

But what is it like to live in this hostel?

Victimised

Most residents interviewed agreed that the hostel is no longer a safe place to live in.

Surprisingly, none of them would give their names.

One resident said, "You know brother, wherever women are in a group, they seldom understand each other.

"If I talk, I may be victimised.

But she went on: "While we have not been caught in the spiral of violence sweeping other hostels, the fights we experience here are for minor things like the washing of pots, making a fire, washing dishes etc.

You know the kind of things women fight over."

"What it means is that a woman should not have her own house, if peace of mind is what you are looking for."

The hostel residents pay R6 a month.

For over the years, Mzimhlope residents have urged that the hostel be incorporated into the township or be turned into family units.

These sentiments are echoed by Soweto council public relations officer, Mr. Mpozana, who says, "This place has lost all pretense of being a hostel."

"The basic objective for which it was established - to provide accommodation for single women - has grown obsolete with the changes within the Soweto community."

There is a dire need to accommodate families. Bachelors and spinsters should be housed at the right places, like flats etc," he said.
Land sought for council housing

The Johannesburg City Council is looking for land to house thousands of low-income people queuing up to register for council-owned houses.

The council's executive director for health and housing, Dr Nicky Padayachee, said yesterday the municipality was looking to the Independent Development Trust (IDT), the Development Bank of Southern Africa (DBSA), government and even the World Bank to fund the low-income housing scheme.

Thousands of blacks seeking to apply for council-owned houses in Johannesburg are queueing daily outside the council's housing division offices. Padayachee said that since last week numbers had grown from 300 a day to 2,700 a day.

The total number of applicants up to yesterday was about 10,000.

"The scheme is open to people who earn less than R1,200. Council houses are for disadvantaged people. People who cannot afford to buy houses. Previously houses were allocated on the basis of race, but now they are given on the basis of need," Padayachee said.

The council had written to government and the own affairs housing departments informing them of the scheme and asking whether it was allowed to accept applications from all population groups for council-assisted housing. He said a reply was expected soon.

"At the moment we are looking at all available land for low-cost houses. We feel that poor people should be housed as near as possible to the inner Johannesburg area, and not placed 60km away where they have to spend a lot of money on transport. Local authorities have no tax base. So we will apply pressure on the IDT, the DBSA and the central government to finance the scheme. We will go as far as the World Bank to get those funds," he said.

The council has a housing stock of about 30,000 units. These are in white, coloured and Indian areas. Only these race groups qualified for housing until the council's decision to open its accommodation to all races.

At present there are no empty houses. Blacks would be able to occupy council housing as current occupants bought their own homes and moved out, Padayachee said.

He said the council was consulting with experts on how to draw up the fairest possible waiting list.
Rent accord in balance

JOHANNESBURG. — The Greater Soweto Accord seemed on the verge of collapse yesterday as the TPA and the three Soweto councils said they might be forced to go it alone in trying to resolve the area's financial crisis.

The announcement by Transvaal MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiations Mr Olaus van Zyl came on the eve of a Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber meeting today.

The Soweto Accord, signed last September by the TPA, the city councils of Diepmeadow, Dobsonville and Soweto, and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), ended a five-year rent boycott and wrote off R516m arrears.

It provided for the payment of an interim monthly tariff of R23 for basic services and metered electricity.

The councils are reported to owe Eskom more than R120m and a recent meeting of the Metropolitan Chamber was told that the townships faced a collapse of essential services unless money was found urgently.

Mr Van Zyl said in a statement yesterday that the financial situation was serious, and that the SPD kept on "moving the goalposts". It had been agreed at the signing of the accord that service charges should be increased.
Soweto accord on brink of collapse

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The announcement by Transvaal MEC for Institutional Development and Negotiation, Claus van Zyl, came on the eve of a Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Council meeting today.

An agreement between the Johannesburg City Council and the cash-strapped councils could be announced at the meeting, sources said yesterday.

The Soweto Accord, signed last September by the TPA, the city councils of De Beers, Dobsonville and Soweto, and the Soweto People’s Delegation (SPD), ended a five-year rent boycott and wrote off R16m arrears.

It provided for the payment of an interim monthly tariff of R3 for basic services and a metered tariff for electricity.

The accord stated that none of the five councils have to act unilaterally.

But since then the townships have fallen into arrears again, and the TPA and the three councils seek to increase the tariffs while the SPD demands that the running of services should be handed over to the Central Witwatersrand RCC or the city councils of Roodepoort and Johannesburg.

The SPD has complained that the councils have failed to run the services efficiently and have failed to meet provisions of the accord. It has also maintained that the four other signatories could not reach agreement without its input.

The councils are reported to owe Eskom more than R126m and a recent meeting of the Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce was told that the townships faced a collapse of essential services unless money was found urgently.

Van Zyl said in a statement yesterday that the financial situation was serious, and that the SPD kept on “moving the goalposts.” It had been agreed at the signing of the accord, he said, that service charges should be increased.

“...to ensure the continuation of services to residents, the three Soweto councils have no other choice than to continue their urgent examination of the possibility of increasing the interim service charges, and to consider the implementation of higher tariffs once the inquiry is completed — preferably with the co-operation of all parties, but if this is not possible, on their own,” Van Zyl said.

Meanwhile, a Johannesburg City Council source said yesterday that an announcement would be made at today’s Metro Chamber of Commerce meeting regarding an agreement on financing between Johannesburg and the Soweto councils.
Township power to be cut again

KRUGERSDORP would cut power to neighbouring Munseville today because the township had failed to pay its account, Munseville administrator J L Nieuwoudt said yesterday. Nieuwoudt said residents had paid only R41 099 on an account of R127 000 built up from July 4, when power was restored after a five-month switch-off.

Electricity was reconnected after the West Rand RSC paid in R30 009 on the strength of assurances by the local civic association that consumers would pay an interim monthly flat rate of R30. A Munseville council source said only 50% of the township's 1 008 households had paid and the civic association had failed to attend a meeting of the joint Munseville Forum to discuss the issue of payments.

Nieuwoudt said in a statement that the flat rate was to be adjusted upwards if it proved to be too low. "Large amounts are also owing to Krugersdorp for water, health and sewage services," he said.

Row over game lodge name

A LEADER of a tribe forcibly removed from its land in the western Transvaal claims that a new luxury game lodge is using the tribe's name without permission.

Arthur Monnakgolga, a leader of the Bakuweng tribe which was relocated to Ledig in Bophuthatswana in 1966, said yesterday that the new 250-bed Bakubung Lodge in the Pilanesberg National Park is profiting from using the tribe's name without having consulted leaders beforehand.

But Bophuthatswana Parks Board director Roger Collinson said yesterday the developers of the lodge, who also own the Kwa Maritane game lodge, had received the approval of the chief of the Bakubung and had worked in close co-operation with the tribe in developing the lodge.

Monnakgolga said yesterday that Stocks and Stocks and the Bophuthatswana Parks Board, which jointly developed Bakubung, had been responsible in using the name without consulting the whole tribe.

He said the lodge, 10km from Sun City, had been developed above the heads of the local community, with the approval of Bophuthatswana's President Lucas Mangope, and that as a tribal community leader he had refused to sign an agreement consenting to its construction.

However, Bakubung operations director Gert Brumme said yesterday that the conflict arose partly from a disagreement within the tribe about who its leaders were.

Collinson said the lodge was built with the full support of the Bakubung's Chief Monnakgolga, who appeared to be in conflict with his cousin of the same name.

Stocks and Stocks spokesman Bart Doretman claimed at last weekend's launch that the local community was an integral part of the new development and said the local economy would be stimulated by the jobs created.
Blacks join line for city’s 30 000 council houses

By Louise Burger Municipal Reporter

Thousands of blacks are queueing up for council-owned housing in white areas in Johannesburg after steps by the city council to set up a single waiting list for its properties.

Johannesburg acting housing director Ken Cunningham-Scott said the council had recently written to the Government to find out whether it was allowed to accept applications from all population groups for council-assisted housing in all areas in the city.

"We are still awaiting a reply, but we are accepting applications from all and sundry so that when we do ultimately get the green light, we will be in a position to allocate housing," Mr Cunningham-Scott said.

"This is a pro-active step. We need to get our house in order and cannot be seen to be tardy."

Before the Group Areas Act and other land Acts had been scrapped, the council had three waiting lists for its approximately 30 000 houses in white, coloured and Indian areas.

Wildfire

Two weeks ago officials decided to compile one list.

Mr Cunningham-Scott said the word had spread "like wildfire" that blacks were now eligible for council houses, and queues began forming outside the housing department offices.

"Extra staff had had to be brought in to cope."

"There is such a great shortage of housing. We have had more than 1 000 applications a day, predominantly from blacks."

He said the unexpected numbers that had descended on council offices would provide valuable information for the council’s new urbanisation department, helping it assess the need for housing and facilitate the provision of land.

Hoping for a home... more than a thousand people wait to put their names on the list for council-owned houses in formerly white areas. The Johannesburg City Council is still waiting for permission to allocate the homes.

Picture: Karen Fletcher
Katlehong residents
angry over wrong bills

Residents of the East Rand township of Katlehong are angry after receiving exorbitant electricity bills because of faulty meters.

And they claim that town councillors personally severed power cables to homes when township youths illegally switched electricity back on in the wake of power cuts.

People in the township's upmarket satellite suburb of Spruitview held a march in the area last Friday to present a memorandum to the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) and President F W de Klerk complaining of the local council's incorrect billing.

They said June and July's electricity accounts ranged between R400 and R1,000 for each month and amounts that had already been paid were not credited.

Katlehong Mayor MacDonald Mhlaho admitted on Friday that the meters were faulty, and said the council had now decided that the 500,000 residents should pay an interim monthly rate of R86,81 a month while the council's technical department tries to fix the meters.

The Spruitview Ratepayers Association said in the memorandum that it had offered the services of two chartered accountants to assist the council's treasurer, but the council had failed to take advantage of this.

"As a result of the glaring inefficiency and unmitigated incompetence of the Katlehong Town Council, the residents of Spruitview have no option but to cast a vote of no-confidence against it."

It said the residents had resolved to ignore the council's accounts and pay a flat monthly rate of R100.

But Katlehong Civic Association (KCA) president Paul Sechlo said the residents he represented had resolved to continue with a total rent and service boycott pending the resumption of talks with the TPA and the Germiston City Council.

He said negotiations on services had broken down earlier this year when money paid to the council for electricity had failed to reach the supplier, Eskom.

Sechlo said his executive was working on a date to resume talks with the TPA.

He also alleged that councillors had cut cables to households which had not been paying the bills.

Union declares disputes at Mama's Pies

THE Food and Allied Workers' Union (Fawu) has declared a dispute at three Mama's Pies factories in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban.

Spokesman Ernest Therin said yesterday the union had, in the course of negotiations, dropped its wage demand from a 35% across-the-board increase to 15.9% in an effort to reach an early settlement.

Negotiations, which started in June, affect about 800 workers.

He said Mama's Pies had offered 8% during the second round of talks, but then told Fawu it planned to withdraw and remove the 8% offer.

After the union lobbed all Premier Food Industries divisions, the company agreed to continue wage talks and restate the offer, Therin said.

However, the parties failed to reach agreement yesterday it was premature to comment on the dispute.

A spokesman for Premier Food Industries said a meeting between the parties had been scheduled in Cape Town for today.
Corbachev hanging onto his job – SACP

City council threat
Tokoza faces cuts yet again

TOKOZA residents are set to face yet another blackout tomorrow if payments made over the weekend are not enough to cover power supply expenses.

Administrator Mr Gert Muller said the township consumed electricity worth R15,000 daily and, unless residents paid, power supply would be switched off on Tuesday.

"The council has held talks with the civic committees and the civic association to discuss the situation."

On Friday, Muller appealed to residents to pay their electricity accounts and offices were due to open over the weekend to enable residents to pay.

Tokoza had been in the dark for six months - since December last year - before an agreement was signed in June which effectively ended the rent boycott.
Boycott could thwart housing plans, banks warn

THEO RAWANA

A BOYCOTT of bond payments could thwart building societies' plans to introduce innovative housing schemes in townships. Nedperm Bank's director, Hugh MacLachlan and on Friday, MacLachlan was reacting to Cosas Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) president Moses Mayekiso's threat of a national bond boycott if community organisations did not get co-operation from financial institutions.

Mayekiso said in a recent TV debate that the boycott was being considered because township residents were having difficulty repaying loans and were unhappy about the attitude of banks and building societies.

MacLachlan said Nedperm had noted with regret that Cast had suggested a boycott in the face of the massive housing crisis.

"What is now required is not talk of bond boycotts but a discussion, between all parties concerned, of ways in which additional adequate housing can be made available in the shortest possible time," he said.

There can be no doubt that there is an urgent need for a massive programme to be launched by the private and public sectors to provide housing for the hundreds of thousands of people who have poured into our metropolitan areas in the past months.

"Such a programme needs to involve not just one banking unit, such as Nedperm, but other banking institutions as well as government and major industrial and commercial firms," said FNB assistant GM on banking, Pat Lamont, said a bond payment boycott would have a negative effect on the bank's risk assessment.

Every application is assessed by the bank and the threat of a boycott would have a negative effect on the granting of loans, he said.

FHA Homes CE John Weaver said a bond payment boycott would bring about a conflict situation in which building societies would refuse to give bonds.
Mixed race housing line still to cross

PHALABORWA. — Black employees at the Palaborwa mining company scheduled to move into white areas in the town this week seem to be waiting for the storm of protest raised by right-wing elements to blow over.

By Thursday, the house in Koppiesdoorn Street to be occupied by the Ngobeni family, was still empty, although neighbours said they had no objections.

A senior mine official who lives in the suburb said he had met the new family and thought they would fit into the neighbourhood well.

“Mr Ngobeni is a senior official and actually earns more than my husband,” his wife confided.

She described threats by right-wing elements to evict the Ngobeni family as “trivial” and “a lot of hot air.”

Meanwhile, rumours that a coloured family was to move into a whites-only block of flats this week appeared to be premature. They were evidently “not ready yet” for the move, said a sympathetic flat dweller.

The complex, owned by the mining company, is occupied mainly by its employees, so any new family moving in would probably know the existing tenants.

Right-wing objectors are not directly affected in either suburb, as none of them live near the accommodation allocated to the non-white families.

“The mine has done its homework well — it will not move people into a neighbourhood where they are likely to be beaten up,” said a shirtless miner from his kitchen, where he was making supper.

“We will not take any nonsense or noise around here from khaki-clad vigilantes who have no right to hang around. All of us work shifts and therefore need to get our sleep,” added a burly colleague.
Pioneers who shun rightwing madness

MARCH of this year was a particularly important month for businessman Mr Madala Mukhondo.

Mukhondo made history on the 23rd of that fateful month by becoming the first black person to open a shop in the Conservative Party-controlled town of Louis Trichardt.

Owner of a fleet of taxis which run between Johannesburg and Louis Trichardt and between that town and Mecuma, he has been undaunted by threats of rightwing backlash.

Mukhondo, who made it the hard way in life, went on to also open a hair salon in the town last month.

Travelling daily to Tshikwaran in Ha Kutama after the day's work was done, the trip soon became a problem for Mukhondo and his wife Gladys.

House

It wasn't long before they were toyng with the idea of buying a house in the town. If the right price came up, they would buy, they decided.

When they heard that 58 Kruger Street was for sale, they immediately concluded a deal. The house is an old building with a large yard. Trees are growing and look very lush.

For the Mukhondos, the move to No 58 was to alleviate the burden of daily travel to Ha Kutama. But it was not to be.

Since moving into the old-style house on October 8, rightwingers have been throwing stones on to the roof every night at about midnight.

Two weeks ago a brick was thrown through a window, but the very worst was still to come. White resistance to blacks moving into the town was still to show itself in even more serious ways.

They have not, however, made arrangements for their son's schooling and expect him to travel daily to Makhabo township in Venda, about 60km away.

But not all those who have bought houses in the town want to be heroes. Businessman Mr Joseph Baloyi also bought a house in Louis Trichardt but since paying for it in August, he has not moved.

He said: "These guys are cruel and I am scared of moving in. They can kill me, you know."

Resistance to blacks moving into these areas is not restricted to houses.

Recently, when former Venda Development Corporation chief executive Mr Wilson Muvhulwa bought a farm outside Louis Trichardt, he was threatened with the poisoning of his water supply.

Today, Muvhulwa carries his drinking water from his rural home at Murungwa, about 35km away.

Muvhulwa has turned his hilltop house into a fortress, with expensive security lighting and high fences.

Near Petersburg, the Motsele brothers bought a farm near Beyone, but had the only access road to their farm blocked by their white neighbours.

Road

Previous white owners of the farm had used the road past the neighbouring farm without any problem. The matter is still pending in the Supreme Court, where the Motseles have sought relief.

These self-styled ambassadors face a few social problems too.

Who do they mix with?

Coming from the carefree life of townships and suddenly becoming an isolated minority in the self-centred cultural zones of whites, is going to take some adjusting.

By

MATHATHA TSEDU

FOCUS

Fornet 26/11/91

FOCUS

That came last Wednesday when, from a white Toyota Corolla cruising past the house at about 9pm, nine rifle shots were fired into the house, narrowly missing Mukhondo.

The bullets, from an R-1 rifle, pierced iron window frames and smashed through walls.

The Mukhondos have joined the trend of black people moving into hitherto white areas since the repeal of the Group Areas Act.

While the move to suburbs has gone off smoothly in major metropolitan areas such as Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town, the ride for platinum miners has been pretty rough.

Besides the Mukhondos, Phalaborwa Mining Company assistant shift supervisor Mr Mackson Ngobeni moved into the town amid calls for his blood by rightwingers.

His house was later stoned, leading to a 24-hour guard by company security.

Bullets

It is this do-or-die attitude that drives people like Mr David Muren - an insurance consultant from Venda - to move into what others have described as the bowl's den.

After buying a R100 000 house at 85 Kameel Street in Louis Trichardt, Muren is set to move in next week.

I was with him when he inspected the bullet damage to the Mukhondos' house.

He said: "They have left us the day before we have things. They cannot change or turn this tide."

He shook his head and muttered: "They really wanted to kill Mukhondo!"

Muren (34), a father of one, and his nurse wife Muluna, say their immediate neighbours have accepted them and they expect no problems after moving in.

Burnt

Another PMC employee, Mr Tenayson Phusa, had his expensive German car burnt to a cinder in another rightwing attack three weeks ago.

In Petersburg, a few black lecturers have moved into university-owned houses, but no incidents have been reported.

This was in direct contrast to the upsurge that greeted the move into the town's suburbs several years ago by Venda consulate staff.

The Mukhondos are adamant they will not move out. "This is our house. We bought it and we are not going to move out."

"If they want them, they can come and kill us. That is the only way we will move out of here," Gladys Mukhondo told Sowetan this week.

Ngobeni was more philosophical: "These people are not used to having black neighbours as their equals. They only want us as their maid and servants.

"But that era is now over and we are moving in to stay."

On the danger of violent attacks by rightwingers, Ngobeni said he saw himself as a "ambassador". "I am a pathfinder and an ambassador."

"Whites think we are just noisy people and I am out to prove them wrong."

The use of violence and the threat of violence has forced many blacks to move to other parts of the country, where they are far from these kinds of attacks.

These kinds of attacks have been reported in other parts of the country as well.
Row brews over Soweto freehold area

Staff Reporter

A row is brewing in Soweto between developers, the council and the Protea South Homeowners' Association over the township's one and only freehold title area.

The Homeowners' Association claims it has been given a raw deal by developers Gough Cooper and the Soweto City Council who, it alleges, have failed to fully develop the area.

Association spokesman Mike Baloyi has accused the developers and the council of overpricing the land and not building the suburb according to specifications.

He said the supposedly elite suburb was surrounded by a squatter camp and dilapidated houses which had led to a decline of property values.

Homeowners were afraid of increased crime and health hazards.

Other grievances included the incomplete tarring of streets and roads, inadequate street lighting, too few telephones, a poor postal service and fluctuating land prices.

Mr Baloyi said his association's meetings with both parties were in vain. Even an appeal to financial institutions to intervene drew a blank.

"Now the only avenue available to us is to seek redress through the courts of law," Mr Baloyi said.

Unjustified

Dermond Gloster, group public relations manager for Gough Cooper, said the complaints have been directed for the most part at the wrong quarter.

"For instance we are concerned about the presence of squatters, but have no authority to interfere directly in this matter. We have protested repeatedly to the Soweto City Council about it because they are occupying land scheduled for development by ourselves. So far the council has taken no action.

"The state of the old Protea houses in the area is also a matter for the council, rather than ourselves. Nor are we responsible for street lighting, postal or telephone services.

Complaints of buildings not being completed according to specifications were unjustified, he said.

Each house is thoroughly checked by inspectors from the building society providing the finance, before any payment is made to the company, he added.

He said: "Roads remain untarred in some sectors where no development has yet taken place. No Gough Cooper houses are on sale in those areas as we only develop in phases that have been seen and approved by the council.

"As to the alleged inconsistency in the pricing of land, the price varies according to the size and position of the plot and also over a period of time, according to market conditions."

The council failed to respond to allegations in spite of receiving a fax from The Star two weeks ago.
Boycott ends in Messina

By Abel Mushi

The Messina Civic Association (Meca) yesterday called off the two-week-old consumer boycott of white businesses in the northern Transvaal town after some of their demands were met.

Meca chairman Abram Luruli said the organisation had reached agreement with the Messina Town Council on issues including the dissolution of the Nancefield Local Authority Committee, removal of a dumping site from the township and withdrawal of charges against residents who took part in marches in the town.

"Remaining demands include the resignation of Johan Kok as the chief executive officer of Nancefield," he said.

Residents have agreed to apply for permission to stage marches if their applications are not be unjustly rejected.
a year-on-year average price rise of 14% for medium-sized homes (140 m² to 220 m²) to about R120 000. However, those of 220 m² to 350 m² increased by an average 13%.

Absa says this means a 1.5% drop in real terms of medium-sized properties when inflation is factored into the equation. So house prices have been falling in real terms since the end of 1983 by an average of 7.5% (annualised) every quarter.

Absa's Christo Luus believes that, despite the recession, residential property has shown remarkable resilience. What is more, he says, the tide could soon turn for the better. His optimism is based on an expected economic upturn beginning in the second half of next year.

Furthermore, though inflation remains high, the relatively stable rand, a strong decline in credit demand and a healthier foreign exchange reserve position could motivate a lowering of interest rates in the first half of 1993. Provided inflation is kept in check, the bank rate could drop by two percentage points and mortgage rates could fall to 18% within a year.

"This is encouraging for the housing market," Luus comments.

But, while Absa is optimistic, Pam Golding's Ronald Ennik says a huge oversupply of houses at the top end of the market is causing some desperate sellers to drop prices radically.

"This situation is exacerbated by about five or six cluster complexes which have just come on to the market with units priced at more than R1m. I doubt some of the developers involved have first-hand experience of the top end of the market and some certainly did no research before proceeding with their schemes," he claims.

He adds the situation is just as depressing in middle-income housing where properties around Johannesburg are being sold for less than was paid for them a year ago. "Only smaller houses are showing any signs of buoyancy," he maintains.

This view is endorsed by the Aida group which says property price increases in greater Johannesburg have not kept pace with the official inflation rate for two years. However, chairman Aida Geffen says this follows a 30% rise in 1989.

"Prices rose by 9% last year and 11% to October this year. There are, however, some areas which have performed well. These have generally been areas where houses are priced up to R300 000. Examples are Kensington (Johannesburg) and Germiston where the increases have been 24% and 30% respectively this year."
The cash-strapped township of Atteridgeville, plagued by problems in supplying and maintaining services to its 11,500 households, is to get wide-ranging assistance from the Pretoria City Council.

Atteridgeville administrator Martiens Nel, whose council owes Pretoria about R8m for electricity and other services, said yesterday the assistance was not financial, but involved supply and maintenance of services.

Nel had asked the council for urgent discussions on co-operation with Attridgeville. He had said its problems were compounded by inability to perform administrative, technical and financial functions.

Pretoria decided this week that its transport department, which had evaluated Atteridgeville’s refuse trucks, would help repair essential vehicles, consider hiring vehicles to the township and provide driver training to five officials.

Stationery and cleaning equipment will also be provided. The sports and recreation department will advise on management and maintenance of sports and recreation areas and provide training for workers.

Pretoria will run the local electrical sub-station and train electricity personnel.

Pretoria town clerk R N Redelinghuys had recommended to his council that a working group be set up to investigate how to help, starting with the possibility of doing administrative and accounting duties on an agency basis.

Nel said yesterday about 25% of the township’s households were defaulting on payments. “By Wednesday morning we had cut off electricity supply to about 500 of these households.”
TPA identifies massive tracts for housing

THE Transvaal Provincial Administration is believed to be on the verge of identifying about five vast tracts of land in the northern PWV region to be developed as site-and-service projects to meet massive urbanisation.

This follows the controversial establishment of Ivory Park on the eastern boundary of President Park, Midrand, where about 85 000 homeless people have been settled within less than two years on 711 ha demarcated for informal settlement.

Sources have indicated that the first of the sites could be available from as early as March.

According to reliable sources, the bulk of these settlements will accommodate Johannesburg's northern neighbours, specifically Sandton, Randburg, Midrand and Verevoorburg. The following developments are expected to be announced soon.

- It is speculated that the so-called "Norwest" or Diepsloot area is being considered to accommodate Sandton workers from Sevenforty where squatter shacks were recently demolished.
- Cosmo City on the

TO PAGE 2.

Housing

FROM PAGE 1.

Broederstroop/Lanseria Road just beyond the Jacaranda Tea Garden is being envisaged for housing Randburg workers attracted to Kya Sand Industrial area.

- Parts of Modderfontein/Linbro Park/Mia Trust land east of the Pretoria/Johannesburg freeway are being investigated to provide relief for Alexandra.
- Agricultural land east of Jan Smuts Road near Olifantsfontein is being considered as the logical extension of Tembisa.
- Land near Irene is earmarked as housing for workers of the burgeoning industrial sector in Verevoorburg.

When asked for comment TPA director of physical planning Jan Breytenbach would not say if discussions about the future of these areas had taken place.

But he said that no official announcement had yet been made and if such an announcement was made, it would not be without the knowledge of the residents or councils in the areas.

Recently the Greenbelt Action Group which halted the Norweto development of peri-urban land west of Midrand, applied for the area including Diepsloot to become a Local Area Committee (LAC) and for the major portion of it to be recognised as a conservancy.

The Council for Local Government Affairs (the successor to the Transvaal Board for the Development of Peri-Urban Areas) indicated at that time that Sandton, Randburg and Krugersdorp were seeking to expand their boundaries to the north.
Messina boycott ends as 3 quit

By ELIAS MALULEKE

THE last three councillors of Nancefield township in Messina have finally bowed to pressure from residents and local bodies and resigned from the local authority, forcing it to collapse.

They are mayor Jimmy Chauke, deputy mayor I Singo and councillor Mashaba Thanga.

The council was accused of incompetence, maladministration and of doing nothing for the people of Nancefield.

The Transvaal Provincial Administration will now appoint an administrator in the township, a move which was hailed by residents, the ANC and the Messina Civic Association (Meca).

The resignation of the councillors also led to the ending of a two-week-old consumer boycott.

Meca spokesman Albert Lurihi said the decision to call off the boycott was taken at a mass meeting on Monday after the TPA and the Messina Town Council met four of the six boycott demands.

These were the resignation of black councillors, the removal of a dumping ground in the township, withdrawal of charges against demonstrators and the reversal of plans to close a graveyard.

"The other two demands, namely the resignation of a white chief executive officer in the local council and the repeal of all restrictive by-laws, will be discussed with the TPA and the town council as soon as possible," Lurihi said.
Police, army hand out greetings

By Glen Elsas
West Rand Bureau 2/12/91

The Roodepoort Traffic Department joined with the police and the Defence Force to hand out hundreds of Christmas greetings cards to residents on Friday night.

The project was arranged by the Roodepoort Co-ordinating Committee and was the first project of its kind to be launched on the Witwatersrand.

The cards contained hints on safety at home, in the street, in a vehicle and when on holiday.

Representatives of the traffic department, the army and police spent hours delivering the cards house to house.
TPA accused of appropriating greenbelt

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAC) at the weekend accused the Transvaal Provincial Administration of imminent plans to establish informal settlements in the greenbelt north-west of Johannesburg without consulting residents.

GAC chairman Anthony Duggen said in a statement the TPA plans were a "cruel" response to the housing shortage. The GAC rejected the plans and threatened a "wave of protests" if they were implemented.

"We have been aware of the TPA's plans for some time and know that they are trying to do this before December 16 without consultation with residents. We also know that the TPA officials were hoping that GAC would not get wind of this." (12th)

"We have tried unsuccessfully for the past two weeks to get interviews with Olaus van Zyl or the MEC in charge of housing, John Mavuso."

He said the Saturday meeting gave a mandate to GAC to use every effective tactic available, including extra-parliamentary means, to secure the green lung for the PWV.

GAC held a special meeting on Saturday in response to a report in the Saturday Star of TPA plans to move the Zevenfontein squatters into the Delpsloot area — Staff Reporter.
Townships face gloomy Christmas

By Helen Grange

There will be little Christmas cheer this year for the residents of at least five Transvaal townships which have had their power cut off because of debt.

Two townships are struggling without water and one has neither water or electricity.

The townships affected include Silobela, Carolina (electricity cut October 1990), Siyathuthuka, Belfast (electricity cut May 1991), Munseville, Krugersdorp (electricity cut last month), Ipeleng, Schweizer-Reneke (electricity and water cut September 1991), Reagile, Koster (electricity cut September 1991); Syatembba, Balfour (water cut last month) and Ratanda, Heidelberg (water cut last month).

Negotiations are under way between white and black local authorities. However, a Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) spokesman said white councils frequently violated agreements by putting up tariffs.

Negotiations with the authorities are also under way to solve the rent boycott in about 70 Transvaal townships.

At least five townships in the province now fall under the wing of white councils, which are rendering services on an agency basis to the townships.

In Atteridgeville, the Pretoria City Council decided to take over the township administration and seek funds from the regional services council to subsidise township services.

These moves have been condemned by CAST as an attempt by the Government to undermine their main demands for nonracial local authorities and legitimising non-representative black councillors.
CAST opts for partial consumer boycott

By Paula Fray

The Civic Association of Southern Transvaal yesterday backed down on calls for a Black Christmas and instead announced a "partial consumer boycott" to force the Government to take decisive steps to end the violence.

The partial boycott was also to raise the level of vigilance and awareness of protracted violence during the festive season, which CAST president Moses Meyekiso described as a "Christmas of mourning."

Last week two of the country's largest trade union federations said they had not been formally consulted about the initial proposed call for a Black Christmas.

"This council felt there would be no reason for our communities to behave as if this had been a normal year. It is known that hundreds of our people have been killed, maimed and their property destroyed," said a CAST statement read by general-secretary Dan Mofokeng.

CAST members felt that:
- People should be wary of picnics and excessive drinking.
- People should support cutting down on excessive spending.
- People could not buy basic foodstuffs and medicines from white-owned shops.
- People would refrain from big parties.
- In the tense atmosphere that existed today, firecrackers were bound to heighten tension and confusion. CAST had appealed to businessmen to act responsibly by not selling firecrackers during this period.

CAST official Oupa Mthule said it was hoped the boycott would force the Government to take action which was viewed by the community as action to stop the violence - such as the arrest of the perpetrators.
**PWV green belt – ‘black option’ threat**

By Shirley Woodgate

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) yesterday warned it would resort to "the black option" if all legal means failed to convince the authorities of the need to preserve the group's 100 sq km Kareebosrand conservancy area as a recreational "green lung" for the PWV.

The threat to apply the pressure tactics of the civic associations was in reaction to well-founded speculation that at least five legal squatter camps in and around Johannesburg are about to be announced by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

One is in Dipsloot, which is part of the 1986 "Norweto plan", originally intended to house 50,000 people but shelved after massive opposition from affected residents.

Other site-and-service developments are allegedly planned for Cosmo City, adjoining the farm of Boerestaat Party leader Robert van Tonder west of Randburg, an area near to Irene, land north of Tembisa and a belt from the Islamie Trust east of the Ben Schoeman highway through Modderfontein to Lumbro Park.

Mr van Tonder reportedly told Sapa that the TPA had told him the rumours concerning the area in the vicinity of his farm were unfounded.

"My farm has instead been earmarked for incorporation by the city of Randburg. There seems to be no plans afoot to turn this vicinity into any overnight squatter camp for the TPA," he said.

Late yesterday, Transvaal MEC, John Mavuso announced that the need for low-cost housing in Muldersdrift, Charlswell and Ranieseg would be met by "smaller concentrations spread over more areas".

But GAG chairman Anthony Dugan said "Ivory Park, where 50,000 people have been accommodated in less than two years adjoining Rabin Ridge and President Park in Midrand, has showed that once squatter development is allowed, it knows no boundaries."

An area bounded by the Skurweberg south of Hartbeespoort Dam, Lanseria Airport, Vlakplaat and the Johannesburg City Council-owned Dipsloot nature reserve had been declared the Transvaal's first conservancy three years ago.

About 150,000 smallholders, including several "black" kraals, now occupy the area.

The region included the "last great urban greenbelt" in the entire PWV and should be preserved for posterity, Mr Dugan said.

The action by the TPA was labelled "ill-conceived" and typical of the crisis response employed by the authorities to the pressures of urbanisation.

GAG recently applied to become a local area committee with control over its future.

Randburg has previously applied to incorporate land up to the Krugersdorp highway, and it is believed Sandton and Krugersdorp are eyeing land beyond their northern boundaries.
Jo'burg seeks court order on unpaid rent

The housing feud between the Johannesburg City Council and the Ennerdale and Surrounding Areas Civic Association (Esca) came to a head yesterday when the city council brought an urgent Supreme Court application against the residents.

Esca spokesman Roger McCulloch said matters had reached this stage because the council demanded that residents, who had bought their houses under a deed of sale, now take transfer of the properties and pay arrears rentals or face eviction.

"But the council is asking between R27 000 and R35 000 for houses in Ennerdale Extension 5 that have been valued at no more than R15 000."

Mayor financial institutions had "pulled out of the scheme," said Mr McCulloch, and the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research had condemned most of the houses, recommending that some be demolished to window level and rebuilt.

"We are an established community, and we are prepared to pay the rental and take transfer of the houses," said Mr McCulloch.

"All we want is for the city council to discuss our grievances with us and value the houses more realistically — something they have consistently refused to do for the past six years."

City council management committee chairman Ian Davidson described "as absolute nonsense claims that bonds could not be raised because of the poor quality of the houses.

"Of the 800 houses in the original development scheme, some 400 have been sold already."

On the allegation that the CSIR had found 90 percent of the houses defective, Mr Davidson admitted that CSIR tests had found certain defects.

However, later tests by the city council showed that defects were not as widespread as reported by the CSIR.

After negotiations with the Ennerdale management committee and Esca, Mr Davidson said, it was agreed that an arbitrator would decide the value of each house, and assess the cost of repairing any defects.

The cost of repairs would be deducted from the purchase price.

It was also agreed to waive the rental backlog, amounting to R4 million, if residents paid the current rent. Residents would then go through the process of applying for bonds.

If bonds were not available, residents could remain in their houses as long as rent was being paid.

"There was never any ultimatum to residents to either take transfer or be evicted. There is no way we will evict anyone who is paying his rent.

"What actually happened was that we struck a deal, and Esca reneged on the deal. There appears to be a hard core among the residents who seem to want the houses given to them."

The court hearing was postponed until January - Sapa.
Nankan targets black property buyers

THERE is potentially a large group of middle to upmarket black property buyers who are remaining in the townships because they are uncomfortable about buying property through white estate agents, says Nankan Real Estate director Vino Nankan.

"The black buyer often has to face a sceptical agent who questions whether he can afford the property, and does not attempt to provide the best service possible," he claims.

Nankan Real Estate, which is already operating but will be launched officially early next year, will cater for the black property buyer.

"The black buyer does not want to be made to feel inferior and many prospective buyers have been waiting for an agency that they can be comfortable with," Nankan says.

Nankan is also MD of Venrich Housing, a construction company that employs about 300 people — 80 office staff, 200 site workers and 60 sales people.

While Venrich has been active in the low-cost market for the past six years, it is shifting its focus to include the upper end of the market. A cluster home development in Khyber Rock is under way and will come on-stream in the first quarter of 1992.

"The units are primarily directed at the black yuppie, but prospective white buyers are welcome. The units will cost about R700 000," she says.

This year Venrich has sold about 700 township units, ranging in price from R35 000 to R150 000. The company is active in Mamelodi, Tembisa, Spruitview, Dobsonville, Protea Glen and Diepkloof.

More and more developers are moving out of the low-cost property market as problems there are increasing. Developers are continuously taking greater risks, not just financially, but also with the loss of life, and in some cases the financial institutions are refusing to grant bonds.

"These institutions have an obligation to take some risk as well. In addition, the township civic associations have to be consulted about possible developments," she says.

Government is also "passing the buck" and serviced land in new, less violent areas needs to be provided, where development can take place and loss is minimal, Nankan says.

"There is a good future for the black townships as there will always be a middle- to lower-income group that needs to be housed, and people of the same culture tend to want to live together," he says.
‘Greenbelt’ residents to fight on squatter issue

RESIDENTS of the plush "greenbelt" northwest of Johannesburg are squaring up for a fight with the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) over the proposed development of the area which they fear will include large-scale squating.

The Greenbelt Action Group (GAG) yesterday announced it would form a civic association to prevent the TPA from developing low-cost housing and relocating squatters in the area, which lies between the Sandton-Randburg boundaries and the Hartebeespoort Dam.

TPA MEC for Planning John Mavuso announced plans yesterday for several small low-cost housing sites in the "greenbelt", saying there was a "need of land for the settlement of low-income communities north of Randburg and Sandton".

GAG, which represents conservation-minded residents, said the area should be preserved as a "green lung" to be used for limited development and recreation.

GAG chairman Anthony Duigan said yesterday the development was "ill conceived", and accused the TPA of lacking a development strategy and practising ad hoc "crisis management".

"The sandstone apartments and small industries were also threatening the area.

Asked why he thought the "greenbelt" should be spared the development of the rest of the PWV area, he said the "green lung" was essential for the PWV.

He said he was sympathetic to the plight of squatters, who are increasingly moving into the "greenbelt", but said it was the function of the TPA, not GAG, to properly house victims of bad policy.

He added that Randburg and Sandton councils had shown a willingness to relocate squatters currently living in the "greenbelt". Moving homeless people in small numbers to the area would not work, he said, because small squatter settlements inevitably grew into big ones.

Mavuso said yesterday the TPA would consult ratepayers' associations and "other interest groups" in the region over its plans, and added that the TPA executive committee had not yet taken any decision on the development of the area.

But he said discussions with local authorities in the area had concluded that a recommendation be made to the TPA executive committee that small concentrations of low-cost housing should be developed in the area.
Shortage of upmarket housing to be tackled

The shortage of upmarket residential land is among the criticisms lodged most frequently against Germiston, but the city council is taking steps to overcome the problem.

Town secretary Tome Heyneke says: "We have a good supply of housing in the middle-market range, but there is a demand for executive quality housing which has not been met."

He says this need will largely be met by the proposed amalgamation with Bedfordview, established as a prestigious residential address.

At the same time, a proposal for the development of apartment blocks aimed at the young executive on the banks of Germiston Lake is under consideration.

Management committee chairman Leon Louw says: "People have the wrong impression of Germiston as a place to stay. The tendency is to think of it as an industrial city, but it offers a high quality of lifestyle, with all the conveniences of a major centre."

Congestion in the CBD is minimal, while parking is usually readily available.

The city is blessed by an unparalleled "sports and recreation belt", meeting the needs of a range of people and ensuring a green lung is maintained at its centre.

It also boasts a major regional shopping centre and an adequate supply of convenience shops.

"Yet despite the advantages of the city, residential properties are considerably cheaper than those of its neighbours, although this advantage will not be maintained indefinitely," Louw says.

As far as residential property development is concerned, Heyneke says the development of upmarket housing can be left to the free market.

Focus

The council's philosophy, on the other hand, is to focus on the need for low-cost housing.

"We cannot lose sight of the hundreds of thousands of people to the south of Germiston who live in squalid conditions.

"Their needs have to take priority," he says.

The low-cost housing issue is one of many to be sorted out if Germiston's proposed amalgamation with Katlehong becomes a reality.

"All the parties involved agree housing will probably be the priority of the future," says Heyneke.

"Intimately linked with this is the need to provide and manage services at an adequate level of quality."

The biggest informal settlement in the area has developed on serviced industrial land, he says at this stage the provision of base-line services is less of an issue than administration and management.

"But we have agreed that both water and water-borne sewage must be supplied to any new housing development," he says.
Amalgamation of town councils bodes well for the future

A PROPOSED amalgamation with Katlehong, Palm Ridge and Bedfordview will make Germiston the first city in SA to combine the established residential areas of all population groups. In the process, it is expected to give the city lead in establishing the new SA, drawing in overseas investors and creating an environment for industrial peace and prosperity.

At the same time, the city expects to make the transition to a changed national political structure more smoothly.

Town clerk Tome Heyneke says "We decided to join forces with Katlehong for practical reasons.

"When your neighbour is drowning, you have two choices. You can pull him out, or you can let him drag you down with him.

"Our survival is linked with that of Katlehong, and it makes sense to centralise the administration of the two areas to improve efficiency and quality.

Inevitable

He says it is inevitable that the future will see the borders of cities and regions being altered to address the inequalities in viability between black and white areas.

"Why wait until we are forced to join hands?"

"By reaching an amicable agreement now, we can develop a system, forge links and train people to be ready to meet the changes.

"Indications are that cities will be able to choose from a variety of models in determining how they will be run, and we will be better able to choose what is best if we are already friends."

Heyneke says inefficient administration and poor services are a major cause of distress and resentment within black townships.

Someone who receives an electricity bill of R3 000 because of an administrative error isn't going to attempt to deal with it.

"The administration of Katlehong is inefficient because it lacks the money and equipment to be anything else.

"By making our facilities available and helping to train staff, we can make a substantial difference to the residents of the town."

This move has met with widespread approval from industry, which sees it as a positive step towards stability and security.

"Most industrialists want to see their workforce enjoying an improved quality of life, if only because this makes them more reliable and productive," he says.

If the amalgamation comes off, the city plans to consolidate political and administrative control in Germiston, with regional offices operating in Katlehong and Bedfordview.

The proposed political body will comprise 17 councillors, made up of the existing seats in Bedfordview, Germiston, Palm Ridge and Katlehong. This body will govern the whole of the greater Germiston area.

Another resolution, however, indicates that spending will not be spread evenly across the board.

Monies collected will be spent on the areas where they have been collected, apart from a nominal initial 5% which will be fed to Katlehong.

Before its success can be assured, however, various challenges must be met.

"A potential pitfall is the need to end the rent and service boycott in Katlehong," says Heyneke.

"Arrears amount to millions, it owes Eskom R50m.

"We're working as much as possible with the civic associations and the suppliers to reach some agreement over payment."

At the same time, we need to persuade the residents to pay at least some of the money owing to Katlehong Town Council to enable it to settle its debts."

Priority

If negotiations do not come unstuck over this issue, a priority will be to improve the quality of services in Katlehong.

"Having won the residents' co-operation over paying for what they get, we will aim to bring about improvements as rapidly as possible. Linked with this, we aim to heed the cry for a balanced tax base.

"But Germiston cannot take on the load for uplifting Katlehong unaided."

Response to the proposed merger has been mixed.

Some Bedfordview rate-payers are bitterly opposed on the grounds that the merger will rob their town of its exclusive identity and cost them money.

CP councillors in Germiston have little objection to amalgamating with Bedfordview - but are resisting suggestions that Germiston link hands with Katlehong.

No response was received from community and council representatives in Katlehong.
City council in feud with Ennerdale folks

The housing feud between the Johannesburg City Council and the Ennerdale and Surrounding Areas Civic Association came to a head on Tuesday when an urgent Supreme Court application was brought against the residents.

Esca spokesman Mr Roger McCulloch said matters had reached this stage because of the city council's demand that residents, who bought the houses under a deed of sale, now take over the properties and pay arrear rentals or face eviction.

"But the council is asking between R27 000 and R35 000 for houses in Ennerdale Extension 5 that have been valued at no more than R15 000."

In addition, major financial institutions have pulled out of the housing scheme, which he says has been poorly constructed.

The Council for Scientific and Industrial Research had condemned the majority of the houses, recommending that some be broken down to window level and rebuilt.

"All we want is for the city council to discuss our grievances with us and value the houses more realistically - something they have consistently refused to do for the past six years."

Apparentley previous resident committees also tried without success to elicit a response from the council, which McCulloch says is only prepared to discuss the matter on its own terms.

Chairman of the Johannesburg City Council Management Committee Mr Ian Davidson described "as absolute nonsense" the charge that bonds were not available because of the poor quality of the houses.

"Of the 800 houses in the original development scheme, 400 have been sold already."

Davidson admitted that tests carried out by the CSIR found certain defects.

Davidson said it was agreed that an independent arbitrator would decide the value of individual houses and assess the cost of repairing defects.

It was agreed to waive the rental backlog for the time being if residents paid the current rental. The residents would then apply for bonds - SA Press Association.
TPA plans new black townships

RECOMMENDATIONS have been made to the Transvaal Provincial Administration for the establishment of low-cost communities north of Randburg and Sandton.

Representatives of the TPA have had talks with all the relevant local authorities in the area, including the Local Government Affairs Council, in connection with the proposed development.

TPA MEC Mr John Mavuso said it had been agreed that the need for low-cost housing in that region should not be met through concentrations on one or two large sites, but rather through smaller concentrations spread over more areas.

It was also decided that the different local authorities should consult with residents' associations and other interest groups in their area.

The TPA has, however, not yet taken any decision on the development.

The critical housing shortage has created problems in South Africa and many private enterprises and property institutions have made efforts to alleviate the crisis.

Shelter

Over the past four and a half years, a total of 29,000 families have obtained housing through developers and contractors working with the SA Housing Trust, providing shelter for an estimated 190,000 people.

The building of these houses was underpinned by the provision of some 40,000 serviced stands in close co-operation with local community representatives.

However, financial institutions have been reluctant to enter the low-income market in any meaningful way.
TPA looks set to extend house ownership

The decision by the Central Transvaal Metropolitan Chamber to transfer about 118,000 houses to residents has resulted in pressure to extend full ownership to all Transvaal blacks.

There are already strong indications that the Transvaal Provincial Administration has accepted this principle.

The chamber this week approved a Soweto Civic Association recommendation that 118,000 rented or leasehold houses in Greater Soweto be transferred to residents. The older houses — about 194,000 — would be handed over free of charge, while others would go at reduced cost.

Transvaal MEC Olaus van Zyl told the chamber’s meeting on Wednesday that he would take the decision to the Cabinet for approval.

The chamber’s decision, he said, would have “tremendous” implications countrywide. If approved by government, the move would be a major step towards granting property rights to blacks.

Civic association Cast yesterday called on the TPA to extend full ownership of all 233,000 state-owned houses in the Transvaal.

Cast deputy president Kgaps Mosunkuthu said it would make no sense for the TPA, and indeed central government, to refuse to grant the same agreement to all other township residents.

Mosunkuthu said the decision was a victory for people who had struggled for many years for what was rightly theirs.

The transfer of the housing stock had been one of Soweto residents’ demands during the five-year rent boycott, and it grew louder after the September 1990 signing of the Greater Soweto Accord which wrote off R150m in arrears.

“Ass such we also appreciate the TPA finally acknowledging the right of every individual to own a home — to purchase a house if they so wish,” Mosunkuthu said.
Electricity may be cut to 4 Vaal townships next week

ELECTRICITY supplies to four Vaal Triangle townships could be cut next week and a meeting to discuss the fate of three of the areas had been scheduled for Tuesday, officials said.

Nigel Mandy, secretary of a negotiating forum formed by civic leaders and authorities, said he had unconfirmed information that power to Bophelong could be cut off on Monday by its supplier, the Vanderbijlpark Town Council.

The talks would involve members of a subcommittee of the forum to discuss the situation in Sebokeng, Sharpeville and Bopatong townships, Mandy said.

Town treasurer for the four townships G P Roets said Sharpeville was "in real danger" of losing electricity.

Mandy said "I have notified the attorneys of the civic that the matter is to be discussed." The meeting will be held in Sebokeng at 10am.

Mandy said only townships where less than 55% of residents had paid for their accounts were likely to lose electricity.

The Vaal Civic Association said the threatened action was "unjustified." Administrators of the four townships have rejected complaints about non-delivery of accounts.

The agreement signed on August 20 between the concerned parties provides for a township council to consult the negotiating forum before cutting off power supplies.

Meanwhile, the Vaal Civic Association charged yesterday that residents of Sharpeville were "being subjected to terror" on a daily basis.

"Reports reaching us indicate a certain political party has been conducting a recruitment drive among our youth and methods being used are intimidation," VCA spokesman Paul Sithole said. He did not identify the group.

Sithole said the association had called a meeting of residents on Sunday to discuss the issue. — Sapa
Calls for a Black Christmas are not making much headway. The idea emanates mainly from the Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) — the body which has sought to replace “government” township authorities with itself in conditions of violence and uncertainty for which it must bear some responsibility.

A Black Christmas is one in which blacks neither buy anything nor celebrate on the basis that there is nothing to celebrate. In fact, of course, this would mean a consumer boycott over the holidays, enforced, one must assume, by a variety of means. It must be expected that in certain areas Christmas gifts will have to be taken home in brown paper parcels disguised as essential medicines and foodstuffs which are exempt from the boycott.

Retailers are gloomily anticipating a Black Christmas in any case. Consumer spending is depressed and likely to remain so for some months. What most people want for 1992 is a job. To compel entire communities to forgo any enjoyment that the coming season might bring is to compound misery with discomfort. Perhaps that is the point.

What Cast and Azapo both appear to need is reassurance that nothing whatsoever is getting better — not the political situation, not the daily lot of average people, not even a sense that someday violence will abate and normality return.

Cast’s demand that government should take decisive steps to end township violence is either meaningless or disingenuous; a Christmas consumer boycott would bring with it fear and recrimination in the affected communities.

What such calls and demands have in common is that they monotonously insist upon seeing blacks as perpetual victims. They are the sackcloth to go with the ashes of destitution. By implication, blacks can never improve their political or economic lot except through the negative force of boycott.

As last weekend’s preparatory meeting on constitutional negotiations demonstrated, blacks are perfectly capable of sitting down to make significant deals on a common future. The presence of the ANC, for example, suggests that the main liberation movement now sees its best advantage in smoke-filled chambers of debate rather than in the streets — a major shift in emphasis from its stance earlier this year when it suspended negotiations because of violence.

The big question for next year is not who can appear most revolutionary in terms of street theatre. It will be whether the sharing of power will also mean, as it should, the sharing of responsibility. It is one thing to rant about taxes and the redistribution of wealth — quite another for the interim government to take a cold look at the national accounts and decide what is best for all.
MP wants blacks out of white Virginia

NEWLY elected CP MP for Virgina Kobus Beyers yesterday promised "drastic action" to remove black mine employees from white residential areas, but mine groups Gemmin and Anglo refuse to budge on their integrated housing policies.

"The mines are asking for big trouble and they are going to get it," Beyers said. "They are going absolutely against the wishes of their white employees".

Gemmin spokesman Laing Geldenhuys said Gemmin would not accept discrimination against any of its employees.

"Our employees are our assets, and we have to look after them if somebody qualifies for a company house, he gets it. While we try to avoid confrontation where possible, we refuse to accept discrimination."

Anglo spokesman James Duncan said integration had always been group policy.

Beyers said he had a mandate to speak on behalf of white mine workers because they made up 80% of the constituency which elected him in a landslide victory last week.

The white workers were concerned because there had been a "dismal collapse" of standards in areas where black families had moved in.

"Our strategies will start early in January. Strike action could be part of it. If the mines don't listen, they will have to feel the reality. If white miners workers strike, they will know all about it because they are much more dependent on white mine workers than the others," he said.

Similar controversy resulted in a crippling consumer boycott in Phalaborwa last month. Black consumers boycotted white businesses in retaliation for right-wing action against a black mine employee who moved into a company house in a white area.
Eskom 'left much to be desired'

THERE are probably legitimate reasons why people fail to pay their electricity bills, Eskom official Mr Johan du Plessis said during the Sowetan/Radio Metro Talk Show yesterday.

Du Plessis said it was the quality and management of supply that needed to be put right.

He said meter readers were often not sufficiently trained and motivated to execute their duties.

"Local authorities will need to train personnel to be able to provide quality service that will be without blemish," he said.

The fact that meters were often out of order did not augur well for generating confidence among consumers.

Du Plessis said the management of supply was an issue that left much to be desired in some of the black local authorities.

Eskom insisted on quality customer services and good relationships with the consumers.

"Unfortunately that cannot be said of the black local authorities," he added.

He said Eskom could not always intervene when consumers encounter problems with municipalities.

"They have the right of supply, and we leave it to them to administer the supply as they see fit," he said.

Mr Peter Kgame said Eskom operated a power line service which tries to attend to queries made by the consumers.
Soweto scheme to give 48 000 houses for free

SOME of the 103 000 Soweto householders will next year be able to either own their houses for free or buy them at reduced prices, a Soweto Council spokesman said yesterday.

The council's public relations officer Mr Mosalefa Mosela said he wanted to clarify reports that all 103 000 houses would be transferred freely to people who had been staying in them.

"That is not so," he said.

He said the scheme, devised to rescue Soweto service from collapsing, divided householders into three categories:

- People who have been renting their houses since 1962, who would automatically be given them free of charge;
- People who rented their houses between 1962 and 1981 and do not owe money in terms of loans to the council, who would also get their houses free of charge; and
- People who have been renting their houses since 1981, who would be allowed to purchase them at reduced prices. Negotiations will take place between interested parties.
Pensioner won't pay high rates

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A 61-year-old pensioner from the southern suburbs of Johannesburg has refused to pay the increase in her rates account in protest against the new valuation roll.

Patricia Hoffman of Lindberg Park has R100 outstanding on her account from July and refuses to pay until she can talk to someone at the council and get a fair hearing.

"It may not sound such a lot of money, but when one is a pensioner and has to pay higher rates with all other expenses, every rand counts," Mrs Hoffman said.

She cancelled her car insurance and given up her phone to cut costs.

"How can they charge us such high rates when they don't even fix up the streets?" she asked.

A few days ago she tripped on a piece of uneven curbing and fell and hurt herself. I have complained to the council but nothing has been done. "I hate being ignored," she said.

No one seems to have any backbone in standing up to the council I am making a personal stand and others should join in," she said.

According to a council treasury official, homeowners who do not pay their rates could face legal action.

At last month's Johannesburg City Council meeting, independent councillor Sam Moss read out a letter from various ratepayers' associations threatening action if the council did not do something about the high rates increases.

Mr Moss said he had been inundated with calls and letters from ratepayers all over Johannesburg who want to get involved in the rates revolt.

Ratepayers demand that the existing valuation roll be replaced by a new roll by July 1993, residential rates be based on those of the previous financial year plus 10 percent from February 1 next year, profit generated by electricity be confined to 10 percent, and that costs be strictly controlled.

Ratepayers have urged that the council respond to their demands by January 31 or resign.
PLANNING authorities seem set on accommodating millions of township people out at the periphery — in the green belts to the north and south of Johannesburg where only the more privileged live.

There are no jobs out there and transport to work there is very expensive. Jobs will not be created.

Meanwhile there are thousands of hectares of land near Johannesburg's central area — where job opportunities exist — lying deserted and with no announced plans for future use.

According to the Johannesburg City Council, there are 14,000 ha of mainly deserted land suitable for housing and industry — well over double the 6,000 ha it initially offered.

In fact, the council has even surveyed 50,000 ha of municipal land.

The land in Johannesburg is under pressure to be developed.

The mining companies pay no rates on this land because they have no taxable income, but they agree to pay rates on land they prepare for their own purposes.

Much more land is probably permanently unsuitable for development, some parts could be used for housing, but only if a viable way could be found.

Civil engineer Cliff McMillan of the Planning Forum believes market forces on their own will not alter the situation in the near future. He warns that a piecemeal approach is needed.

James Clarke argues that unused mine land could be used to solve Johannesburg's housing problems. The land would also provide a large number of jobs for people who need them.

JAMES CLARKE argues that unused mine land could be used to solve Johannesburg's housing problems. The land would also provide a large number of jobs for people who need them.

The President's Council report on the management of the South African natural and built environment specifically recommended that urban expansions should not be made at the expense of farmland and that areas may have to revert to virtual urban development to avoid stretching lines of communication and economic breathing points.

In the previous Johannesburg council debate on the issue of using mine land for housing, Mr. Solomon Serowele claimed that when the West Rand Administration Board wanted mine land for housing, they were quoted escalating prices in the mines. Yet much of the land will never be used even if the price of gold doubles.

Environmentalist Fred Dekker suggested that much of the land should be used to create parks. The council has yet to decide on a master plan for the area.

Brian Malan, the mayor of the City of Johannesburg, said that much of the land should be used to create parks. The council has yet to decide on a master plan for the area.

The council is discussing the issue with a number of interested parties. Mr. Malcolm McMillan, a member of the council, said in an interview that the council would like to see the land developed for residential purposes.

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Pretoria Council wants new tariffs

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents have been given until noon today to either pay new tariffs proposed by the Pretoria City Council or submit economically viable solutions to the township's rent problem.

The Pretoria City Council, in a statement released yesterday, said they had recommended that Atteridgeville residents pay tariffs similar to those paid by whites in the city and Indians and coloureds in Laudium and Eersterust, respectively.

The proposed tariffs are refuse (R13 a month), electricity (12.32 cents a unit), water (78 cents a kilolitre), sewerage (R14.70 and R7.35 during the first and second points respectively).

The council said these proposals had already been discussed with the Atteridgeville/Saulsville Residents' Organisation, the Interim Committee and Ministers Fraternal.

 Asked by Sowetan if they had taken into account the fact that the infrastructure, including roads and other facilities in Atteridgeville were far below par than in the city, Laudium and Eersterust, a spokesman for the council said these tariffs were the lowest as compared with those in Vereeniging.

By MONK NKOMO

A spokesman for the council yesterday said in terms of the agreement between the three organisations and Atteridgeville’s administrator, Mr. Maartens Nol, residents had to pay a monthly flat rate of R7.5 during October and November and then determine an acceptable fixed rate payable from December 1.

"Resident’s organisations failed to submit these proposals. That is why the Pretoria council recommended their own tariffs. Atteridgeville residents now have until 12 noon today to either accept these tariffs or come up with their suggested figures," a council spokesman said.
Blackout in Vaal Triangle

FOUR Vaal townships can brace themselves for a Christmas without water and lights following an announcement that electricity and water cuts will be implemented in the area from Monday.

The townships to be affected by the power cuts are Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bopatong and Bophelele.

Residents have only up to today to pay their accounts or face a black-out, Sebokeng administrator

By GRACE RAPHOLO

Mr HC Immelman said Administrators of the townships said payment for monthly services had decreased steadily. In cases where less than 65 percent of residents paid their accounts, the township would be blacked out completely.

In areas where payment was reasonable, only individual defaulters would be penalised.

Immelman said last week the town council had issued notices warning residents that non-payment would lead to electricity and water supplies cuts.

He said money was needed for payment of personnel salaries, provision of water, provision of electricity and maintenance of underground cables, substations and the network.

Sebokeng town clerk Mr NP Louw said the council was not making any profit on electricity supplied to residents.

The VCA chairman, Mr Malik Madise said they were embarrassed by the administrators’ intentions to cut off water and electricity supplies.

He said the intention amounted to contravention of the agreement that was signed.

He accused the administrators of trying to foment violence since Christmas was the worst time to switch off the lights.

He said the matter would be referred to a forum jointly established by the VCA, TPA and the municipalities.
Free homes plan

CP Correspondent

SOWETO tenants who have been rent-payers for years - some families have been paying for three generations - are excited at the news that they might soon enjoy full and free ownership of their matchbox houses.

This week, the Transvaal Provincial Administration met the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber and the TPA agreed to a recommendation by the chamber that ownership of rented houses be given over to tenants free. The Civic Associations of the Transvaal has long been campaigning for this.

Discounted

The takeover scheme applies to houses built before 1962. These built after the beginning of 1962 would be sold at a discounted rate. This is the suggestion the chamber and the TPA would put to the government.

But, says the TPA, in the end it is only the government that could make the transfer of rented houses to tenants a reality. The TPA, which accepted the transfer of houses in principle, still had to submit its report on the matter to the Cabinet for its consideration and approval.

A pamphlet explaining the housing agreement will be distributed to every household in greater Soweto.
THE complexion of rightwng towns in the eastern Transvaal is quietly changing, and conservative whites in these areas do not seem to be putting up much resistance.

More and more blacks are moving into these economically depressed towns, which rely heavily on the buying power of blacks for survival.

Whites in these hardcore rightwing areas do not appear to be opposing the move. In fact, they are making way for blacks to move in.

The once flourishing dorps and towns are dying a slow death. Some have already been run down, and those that still show signs of life are being maintained by the buying power of blacks.

While these rightwingers chant racist slogans at political meetings, they turn a blind eye to their new black neighbours when they return to their homes.

This is happening in Akasia, Bethal, Breyten, Carolina, Ermelo and Standerton - towns which are as rightwing as Ventersdorp.

Blacks say they are attracted to these towns because they "walk freely" in the streets, there is no noise, drunkenness and most importantly, the houses are cheaper than those in the township.

Blacks buy homes in these CP-controlled towns in the eastern Transvaal, particularly in Standerton, while hundreds of houses are standing empty.

A modern four-bedroom house with a yard sells for between R40,000 to R65,000 in town, while a small house with a little garden space sells for much more in the township.

The people moving in are not tycoons, and many are not even affluent. They are the Mr and Mrs Average who work in department stores, or as cops, miners, teachers and nurses.

Their only problem is that bigotry prevents them from using local amenities. Whites want to keep kindergartens, recreation facilities, schools, churches, hotels and restaurants reserved for themselves.

But the new residents are coping with little difficulty and feel the inconvenience is worth it.

The rightwingers say they are forced by the "sellout" government of President FW de Klerk to allow blacks to buy in their towns and live "between us and them".

The CP says as soon as it comes to power, all blacks will be kicked out of white areas.

Newly elected MP for Virginia, Kobus Beyers, said the overwhelming CP majority in Virginia showed a complete rejection of government policies, particularly the effect of "forced integration" through the scrapping of the Group Areas Act.

He said hundreds of blacks had moved into "white" towns and mine houses.

"As soon as the CP takes over the government all blacks will be kicked out," he said.

Estate agents disagree, and say blacks are in these areas to stay.

Just economics

Several estate agents canvassed by City Press said the pressure to sell houses to blacks was based on economics, not on "forced integration".

They pointed out that in most cases, blacks were moving into "redundant" mining towns because hundreds of houses previously occupied by whites were standing empty.

Whites were moving out because the towns were in economic decline.

This forced a drop in house prices because there was no demand.

"Selling to blacks is revitalising the market and giving the towns the economic lift urgently needed," said Manuel de Sousa, of De Sousa Estate Agents in Standerton.

"They also realise that a town is made up of a collective community and not by an examination of the population," he added.

Another estate agent said very few whites were actually complaining about blacks in their areas, as they realised their prejudices were unfounded and their new neighbours kept to themselves.

"People are giving Christian charity a chance. In essence, people are saying 'Do unto others as you would do unto yourself'," he said.
BAR-FACED CHEEK ... Thabo Tswetsi outside the "all white" Standerton hotel that kicked him out for being black.
GONE FOR A SONG... Anna Mndebele and her children stand in front of their new house, which the family bought in a CP stronghold for next to nothing.
Bid to resolve non-payment

By Abel Mabelane, East Rand Bureau

The Bedfordview Town Council, which is a member of Greater Germiston, has recommended that an independent mediator be urgently appointed to help address and resolve the non-payment of municipal accounts.

Greater Germiston consists of the amalgamation of Germiston, Bedfordview, Katlehong and Palm Ridge.

The Bedfordview council said the mediator must be acceptable to all the participating local authorities.

The mediator would convey and obtain support for the principle of one tax base and to ensure continued involvement of all interested groups by means of agreement to the amalgamation process.

The council said that, in the event of the rent and services boycott not being permanently discontinued, provision should be made for the withdrawal from the agreement by any of the participating local authorities.

The council recommended that for final full amalgamation to take place, municipal services, including the provision of water, would be rendered only to those consumers and rate-payers who made the required financial contribution.
Rightwingers call off attack

A BLACK family that moved into the conservative Northern Transvaal town of Louis Trichardt has had peaceful nights lately as stones that have been raining on their roof have stopped.

Mr Duesky Mukhondo, who moved into a white Louis Trichardt suburb in October, said the attacks stopped last week after a report in the *Sowetan* highlighting his plight. His family had been a victim of rightwing attackers who:

- Threw stones on his roof every night without fail since October 4.
- Fired three rounds of high-calibre rifle shots at the house, missing Mukhondo by inches, and
- Invaded his yard and

By MATHATHA TSEDU

when confronted, told him they owned the town and could walk anywhere they wanted.

The *Sowetan* reported that after the last incident Mukhondo was allegedly expelled from the police station where he reported the matter. Police allegedly told him that the white prowler had the right of movement in the town and if Mukhondo did not like that, he could go back to his village.

Mukhondo yesterday said he met the station commander to complain. "The station commander appeared very upset by the matter and said it was still being investigated. He however told me that the white man's wife and children had made statements that the man had been outside my yard and not inside.

"I told Captain Pretorius, the station commander, that I knew my yard and its boundaries well enough. The man was inside my yard. He said he would see to it that I am safe here and since that day we have had peaceful sleep.

"We now wonder what it is that was done by the police that could not have been done when we were complaining about the stones since October," Mukhondo said.

Police comment could not be obtained at the weekend.
Blackout in 4 Vaal townships

Four Vaal townships will have their water and lights cut today because residents' payments have been too low to cover the cost of the services.

The townships are Sebokeng, Bopatong, Bophelong and Sharpeville.

The ANC has condemned the move, saying "service tariffs were beyond the reach of most residents, and municipal services were inadequate in any event".

"Rent crisis cannot be solved by threats of power and water cuts.

"Instead, township administrators and the Transvaal Provincial Administration authorities should negotiate with the Vaal Civic Association to decide how much residents can afford to pay and how to make townships economically viable - plus tariffs affordable."

A memorandum of agreement had been signed by the VCA and the TPA, in terms of which residents were to make stipulated monthly payments for municipal services provided by the council.

Sebokeng administrator Mr HC Immelman said they were bound by the agreement, which was signed by the VCA, TPA and administrators, to cut supplies if fewer than 65 percent of township residents failed to pay for services rendered by the municipality.

The VCA has accused the administrators of violating the agreement by cutting supplies.

VCA chairman Mr Mahik Madise said the matter would be referred to the Negotiating Forum, which was established to deal with matters that transgressed clauses of the agreement.

The ANC also rejected attempts by the Pretoria City Council to charge Attridgeville and Saulsville residents tariffs similar to those paid by whites in the city and by Indians and coloureds in Laudium and Eersterus.
Threat to cut Atteridgeville power

The Pretoria City Council yesterday said it might be forced to switch off electricity supplies to Atteridgeville if the township's leadership failed to submit an economic tariff by Thursday.

Pretoria Regional Services Council vice chairman and council member, Councillor Cor Uys, said the council would be forced to take action if people did not pay for services. Representatives of the Atteridgeville residents were told of the council's decision to consider adopting tariffs applicable in the Pretoria areas, including coloured and Indian townships.

Mr Uys said the tariffs paid in the Pretoria areas were justifiable even if they might not be enough to cover the budget of the township.

He said the RSC had voted on R87 million for the upgrading of Atteridgeville. The council's threat to suspend electricity follows a breach of an October 1 agreement between the authorities and leaders of the Atteridgeville Saulsville Residents Organisation and Saulsville Atteridgeville Interim Committee.

The Pretoria RSC had made available as surty an amount totalling R1 million for the period from the agreement date up to November 30.

Chairman of the RSC, Dr Piet Delport, said representatives had breached the October 1 contract by not coming up with the tariffs.
Last-minute reprieve on blackout

Vereeniging Bureau (27)

Residents of four Vaal townships, who were facing an electricity-blackout yesterday due to non-payment of accounts, have again been granted a last-minute reprieve.

The deadline for defaulters in Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bophelong and Boipatong has been extended to December 17, after which power will definitely be cut-off.

Harry Immelman, one of the administrators for the area, confirmed yesterday that the threatened blackout follows a steady decline in monthly payments for services since the last mass power cuts in the area earlier this year.

According to Mr Immelman, administrator of Sebokeng and Bophelong, residents were bound by a memorandum of agreement — signed by the Vaal Civic Associations, TPA and local township administrators — to 'cut' the power supply if fewer than the stipulated 65 percent of residents failed to pay for services.
Prepaid meters for townships

By Abel Mabelane
East Rand Bureau

Town councils in East Rand black townships are negotiating with Eskom for the installation of prepaid electricity meters. In the interim, councils are warning rent boycottting residents to pay up or face electricity switch off over Christmas.

The administrator of Duduza, Willie Robinson, said only 27 percent of residents were paying rent. The council had received R280,000 from the Regional Services Council for the installation of prepaid meters, which, he believed, would restore trust in the black townships' accounting system which had already lost credibility.

Teakane's administrator, Jun. Vining, whose council owed Eskom R4 million, said the council was also negotiating with Eskom for the installation of prepaid meters.

The mayor of Vosloorus, Morris Simekwa, said at least 67 percent of residents were paying rent. Residents who did not had their power cut off as was happening in individual houses in Tembisa at Hospital View and Morireng Section.
One week's grace for Vaal

Sowetan Reporter
10/11/99

FOUR Vaal townships which nearly had their water and lights cut off yesterday have been given until next Tuesday to pay their bills.

The townships are Sebokeng, Bopatong, Bophelong and Shapeville.

Sebokeng administrator Mr Herman Immelman said they did not want residents to have a dark Christmas and urged them to pay their water and lights bills this week.

Payment

He said in certain areas, sewage would also be cut off unless sufficient payment was made.

Commenting on the administrators' change of heart about the cut off, Vaal Civic Association chairman Mr Malik Madise said the move made a slight difference on their side.

He said the administrators had actually noted it was illegal for them to cut off supplies without the Negotiating Forum's permission.

The forum was established after the signing of an agreement between the town councils, administrators and the VCA.

Madise said he had personally observed a greater number of residents flocking to the council's offices to pay their water and lights accounts.

He stressed that no one had the right to cut off supplies unless the forum gave permission to do so.
Bid to avert Vaal blackout

THOUSANDS of residents in Vaal townships have started paying their water and electricity accounts following an announcement that essential services would be discontinued unless 65 percent of the residents paid.

Mr Moses Manamela, a spokesperson for the Vaal Civic Association, said he had been monitoring the payments since the announcement was made.

He said, however, that there was a lot of misunderstanding concerning the amount the residents had to pay.

He said more than R144 000 had been paid since last Friday. More residents were expected to pay during the week.
Rent boys urge end of local civic association boycott

Rent boys have urged upon their local civic association to end its boycott of the RBA, which they say has led to the failure of the association to meet. Rent boys have been refused to meet with the local civic association, which they say has led to the failure of the association to meet. Rent boys have been refused to meet with the local civic association, which they say has led to the failure of the association to meet.
Threats won’t help rent crisis says ANC

THE rent crisis in black townships will not be solved by threats of power and water cuts, the ANC warned yesterday.

“The current rent crisis is largely due to the economic non-viability of the township infrastructures. The inhuman system of black local authorities, and not the rent boycott, resulted in the current fiscal crises in black townships throughout the country,” said ANC spokesman Mr Ronne Mamoepa.

He was reacting to threats by authorities that electricity and water supplies would be cut in four Vaal townships on Tuesday unless residents settled their rent accounts.

The Pretoria City Council has also given Atteridgeville residents until tomorrow to submit economically viable rent proposals or face the same fate. The council has recommended that residents pay the same tariffs as whites in the city.

“It is unjust to expect Atteridgeville residents to pay similar tariffs with whites before the creation of a single tax base for all the people of Pretoria,” Mamoepa said.

Residents, Mamoepa said, did not even receive adequate municipal services for what they paid.

He added: “The TPA and respective city councils must enter into negotiations with the civic organisations not only to discuss how much residents can afford to pay but the fundamental issues which make townships economically non-viable and tariffs unaffordable.”
Local authorities look to private firms to fight crime

As crime increases daily on the Reef, several security companies have proposed that they be contracted to patrol suburban streets at a small charge to the ratepayer.

The glossy presentations from those companies are at present being investigated by municipalities such as Johannesburg and Randburg — desperate to do something to curb serious crime.

Paramed is one such company which recently put forward a proposal to the Johannesburg City Council's newly formed anti-crime committee which is investigating various suggestions to police the city's streets.

Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs said his council was also investigating using private security companies to patrol the streets.

Paramed proposes to control the crime rate in the suburbs at a cost of R15 per home by establishing a new company, to be called the Johannesburg Crime Prevention Service (JCPS).

Paramed says it would be able to put 1,000 men on the streets within 10 months in armed response units. The units would act as a back-up to police and all men would be required to become police reservists.

However, some ratepayers organisations are not waiting for their local authorities to come up with solutions and are approaching private security companies for discount security schemes.

Paramed managing director Mark Flemmer said his company had received many inquiries from ratepayers associations.

His company has entered into an agreement with the Killarney Ratepayers Association to provide security for the entire suburb.

"We are busy signing up all the body corporates, which will collect the fees for us.

"But to get everyone signed up for R15 a month is usually difficult. It is easy to do it in Killarney with 3,000 residents in a high density area."

Mr Flemmer said there was a need for private security on a far wider scale.
Anger Greet's TPA squatter settlement plan

The TPA settled on a traditional housing format for their squatter settlement on the shores of the city center. The settlement would include a mix of traditional homes and modern housing options to accommodate the diverse needs of the residents. The project aimed to provide a safe and secure living environment for the squatters, who were previously living in makeshift structures. The TPA worked closely with the government and local authorities to ensure the project's success and to provide a dignified living space for the residents. The plan included provisions for community services, infrastructure, and economic opportunities to enhance the quality of life for the residents.
CIVIC association Cast will seek an urgent meeting with financial institutions to discuss continuing home loan foreclosures despite a joint mechanism between the parties.

A conference of Transvaal citizen associations and the Association of Mortgage Lenders, held in September to look into the bond crises facing black housing, ended with the formation of a working committee to address the issue.

The conference was said at the time to have averted a threatened bond repayment boycott by township residents.

Cast secretary Dan Mofokeng said yesterday the civic had proposed a moratorium on foreclosures while the committee was attending to the issue.

Rand Supreme Court records show there were about 533 default judgments against black bondholders from the beginning of November to last week.

Association of Mortgage Lenders chairman Tim Hart said he was not aware of the moratorium.

Some financial institutions are unwilling to give details of their exposure to the black home loans market, but recent reports show the Allied has a R1bn investment in black areas.

Brian van Dam of Standard Bank said in October his bank's exposure to black areas was R700m. While FNB's Andre le Tray said his bank, with a total R4.6bn investment in home loans alone, had dropped race classification in granting loans.

The Nedcor's Denis Creighton said he could not disclose exposure to the black market, but investment in areas "commonly zoned black constitutes 20% of our total home loan investment."

The Nedcor is said to have put up for auction more than 100 houses in Soweto alone in the past two weeks.

Mofokeng said it was clear some branch managers were given a "free hand" to act as they pleased on foreclosures.

Air evacuations for policy holders

RENNIES Travel has contracted Medical Rescue International (MRI) to carry out emergency airborne evacuations for holders of a new travel insurance policy which are involved in accidents or who fall ill while travelling in Africa or overseas.

The new policy has been developed in view of the recent sharp increase of business and leisure travel into Africa and the associated health-care risks taken when visiting some of these countries.

RENNIES Travel Marketing GM Kathy MacWhirter said the policy provided unlimited medical cover in Africa, and cover up to R250 000 in case of an accident.

MRI has undertaken to fly ill or injured policy holders back to SA.

"There are no A-grade hospitals in southern Africa outside SA and the importance of being able to evacuate people out of some of those countries has been proven time and again," she said.

MRI carries out about 40 evacuations from African states every month.

Most of the cases handled are vehicle accidents, although many snake bite and tropical disease victims have also been evacuated.

Its helicopters also carry a supply of safe blood which has been screened for the HIV virus.

War risks have also been included in the cover, which pays up to 50% of personal accident costs brought about by war.
Civics to seek urgent meeting on foreclosures

CIVIC association Cast will seek an urgent meeting with financial institutions to discuss continuing home loan foreclosures despite a joint mechanism between the parties.

A conference of Transvaal civic associations and the Association of Mortgage Lenders, held in September to look into the bond crisis gripping black housing, ended with the formation of a working committee to address the issue.

The conference was said at the time to have averted a threatened bond repayment boycott by township residents.

Cast secretary Dan Mofokeng said yesterday the civics had proposed a moratorium on foreclosures while the committee was attending to the issue.

Rand Supreme Court records show there were about 322 default judgments against black bondholders from the beginning of November to last week.

Association of Mortgage Lenders chairman Tim Hart said he was not aware of the moratorium.

Some financial institutions are unwilling to give details of their exposure to the black home loans market, but recent reports show the Al Hab has a R1bn investment in black areas.

Brian van Dam of Standard Bank said in October his bank's exposure to black areas was R700m, while FNB's Andre le Tray said his bank, with a total R4.6bn investment in the home loans field, had dropped race classification in granting loans.

The Perm's Denis Creighton said he could not disclose exposure to the black market, but investment in areas "commonly zoned black constitutes 20% of our total home loans investment."

The Nedperm is said to have put up for auction more than 100 houses in Soweto alone in the past two weeks.

Mofokeng said it was clear some branch managers were given a "free hand" to act as they pleased on foreclosures.
New device for E Rand project

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

COROBRICK's new corewall system will be used for a R2.2 million houses contract for the Pick 'n Pay staff housing scheme at Sthama View on the East Rand.

The development, by Let Property Developers of Johannesburg, will be the first major project in the Transvaal to use the recently launched corewall system. The 50 houses, with an average 34m², will be priced at R29 000. The project is due for completion next April.

The managing director of Let Property Developers, Mr Jeff Le塔pe, said "Pick 'n Pay approached us and asked us to submit recommendations for staff housing. "Affordability and quality were the two key criteria. After considering a number of options we decided that Corobrick's new corewall system would be the ideal solution for this project."

Under the umbrella name corowall, the company has assembled an extensive range of products and systems which make traditional burnt-clay masonry and a viable option for low-cost housing. The systems are based on the concept of single-skin exterior walling and have aroused keen interest among prospective homeowners, financial institutions and development groups.

At its official launch in the Transvaal at the recent The Star Affordable Homes Show, the corewall system met with enthusiastic response and a number of firm orders were received for developments in the Transvaal, the Free State and QwaQwa.

The chain store's houses will be constructed on a fully serviced site with high-mast street lighting, roads, electricity, water and sewerage at Sthama View Extension One, opposite Palm Ridge, and a 15-minute drive from Johannesburg's southern suburbs.

The houses will be built in a variety of elevations, in a pedestrian configuration rather than in the more conventional back-to-back layout. They will have two bedrooms, a kitchen, a bathroom and a living area.

The company will advance a R5 000 deposit to staff who qualify for the housing scheme and provide collateral for mortgages. The show houses were approved by Wendy Ackerman, wife of Raymond Ackerman, chairman of the chambers.

Letape said "We are tremendously excited at the potential of the corewall system. It effectively means that genuine clay face brick walls become a viable option in the low-income housing field."

"The marketing support manager of Corobrick Transvaal, Mr Crispin Smith, said "Corobrick offers a range of workable solutions to housing problems with systems that are appropriate in rural and urban environments.""
Black homebuying grows

WHILE home buying among whites has slackened, activity among black home buyers in Soweto is picking up, according to property experts.

They say this is a fair reflection of what is happening politically and economically in South Africa in that the average white consumer is hard hit by inflation, high taxation and poor job prospects.

The managing director of Mepco Home Developers, Mr Jethro Mishahi, said that the shortage of homes was becoming a serious problem facing the country.

South Africa faced a crisis which was largely the result of unsatisfactory living conditions experienced by the vast majority of its people.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

The experience during the past year has confirmed the inadequate rate and inappropriate pattern of socio-economic development in South Africa which had to be raised and adjusted to meet the needs of the people.

"This can only take place within the constraints of available resources," he said.

Camdon’s managing director, Mr Scott MacRae, said a new market was clearly emerging among middle-class blacks who wanted better housing.

Their security problems and desire for a more pleasant environment were identical to those of their white counterparts.

"I believe that when the country settles down politically and unrest abates, the black market is going to boom to an unprecedented degree," he said.

Both managers agree that the so-called white market could remain relatively static or grow at a slower rate. This was an exact mirror of general trends in the economy, where black consumer buying power was rapidly overtaking that of whites.

They also said that for the moment, the biggest demand from black buyers appeared to be coming from the middle to lower end of the market. These buyers tended to be more in the market for homes in black areas.

"It is therefore relatively easier to market their existing properties which realise cash and release money for the next house," MacRae said.

As a result prices were hardening in the R50 000 to R100 000 bracket and it was expected that a new breed of black speculator would emerge.

However, at the upper end of the black property market, prices have slumped. Sellers interested in moving to white areas discovered that because demand has fallen it is difficult to market their existing homes.

Mishahi said as a result there were some remarkable bargains in the more affluent areas of Soweto where homes were being priced at well below replacement value.

Once again the unrest was influencing that situation and there was also the novelty of moving to a white area.

In time that will change.

A normal political situation would lead to reduced unrest, eliminating one of the prime motivations.
Tembisa fears a dark Christmas

TEMBISA residents have called on their local civic association to negotiate for the end of the rent boycott for fear of spending Christmas without electricity.

Residents said although they supported the Tembisa Residents' Association in the rent boycott, the TRA had not done enough to help resolve the rent boycott issue.

In the meantime, the council continues cutting power supplies to residents who have failed to pay rent.

The electricity is reconnected only after the amount owing has been paid.

President of the TRA Mr Albert Tlame has denied allegations that his organisation was not doing enough to help resolve the rent boycott.

Tlame said attempts had been made to meet the council on the matter, but the council had refused to meet them.

"We also tried to revive negotiations with the TPA on the issue, but they said they could no longer enter into talks with the council because they want it dissolved," Tlame said.

The mayor of Tembisa, Mr Solomon More, could not be reached for comment, because the council phones have been disconnected due to the non-payment of services.

SOLOMON MORE
Prosecutions over illegal electricity

About 300 Sebokeng residents who illegally connected electricity to their homes will face prosecution, administrator Herman Immelman has said.

Mr Immelman said the council had warned people whose power supply had been cut off that illegal connections would result in prosecution.

He said at least 20 people would be brought to court soon to face charges.

Mr Immelman said the council had suffered financial loss as a result of damage caused by people illegally connecting electricity. A child is reported to have been killed at an electrical installation which had been tampered with.

In Katlehong this year, eight people are reported to have been electrocuted at meter boxes and sub-stations, while 13 others were injured, some seriously.

In Tembisa, a youth was shocked at Ezbuhloni Section last week while fiddling with a transformer. His arm was badly burnt. A power failure resulted in nearby sections. — East Rand Bureau
Housing Minister visits Soweto

By Kaiser Nyatsombha
Political Staff

Provincial Affairs and National Housing Minister Leon Wessels yesterday visited Soweto and some East Rand townships to acquaint himself with issues falling under his new portfolio.

Mr Wessels, who was a guest of the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA), told the Soweto Town Council the TPA had taken him to Soweto and the other townships so he could see things for himself and get to know people he would be dealing with.

Transvaal administrator Danie Hough and some of his MECs, including John Mavuso, were in the entourage.

"Mr Wessels, a former Foreign Affairs Deputy Minister, told Soweto councillors and council employees he had first visited Soweto 18 years ago as a student and had been to the township a number of times since then."

He said the negotiations which South African leaders were engaged in were "tenuous", and expressed the hope that the talks would succeed.

"The spirit of peace and negotiations augurs well for all of us," he said.

"We have to bury the hatchet, leave the past and its baggage behind and live for the future."

Mr Wessels' first stop was Ivory Park outside Tembisa at 9am, where he spent an hour before proceeding to Soweto.

In the afternoon he toured the East Rand townships of Vosloorus, Spruitview, Killeboom and Pola Park outside Tokoza, where he had tea with a squatters' committee.

From there he drove to Johannesburg where he had talks with the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council.

Soweto mayor Alfred Nyathi yesterday commended Mr Wessels for his visit to the township and said his council looked forward to a good relationship with the Minister.

"Change, Mr Nyathi said, should begin at the local level and continue through to national level."

He said his council would continue "to strive for the best services possible" for Soweto and to serve all the residents of the township.
Putting Life Back in the City

Title a "Strategic Plan for the City and the Central Business District"...
Power ‘thefts’ prompt litigation

HUNDREDS of Sekhukhun residents face legal action for “stealing” electricity worth thousands of rands.

Herman Immelman, administrator of the Vaal Triangle township, said yesterday about 200 residents had installed electricity in their homes illegally “by connecting wires to underground electrical cables”.

Immelman said apart from being a hazard, the illegal connections were costing his town council thousands of rands. “We have no option but to prosecute all these residents who steal electricity.”

He said apart from the residents who had illegally installed electricity in their homes, there were residents who had reconnected theirs illegally “by bridging the meters” after power supply had been cut off for non-payment of services.

Vaal Triangle Association chairman Maliki Madise said his organisation was “totally opposed” to illegal power connections as they were contrary to the association’s commitment to negotiating solutions in the Vaal Triangle.

“There is a Vaal Triangle negotiating forum at which problems, including power cuts, are being discussed,” Madise said.

Immelman urged residents not to tamper with electrical installations because of the danger. “Two children have been electrocuted in the township while fiddling with these installations,” he said.

The illegal power connections in the Vaal Triangle came a week after a youth’s arm was badly burnt when he allegedly interfered with a transformer in Tembisa on the East Rand.

Land transfers ‘are still possible’

JUST under 70 000ha of land could still be incorporated into the TBVC states, the Development and Department said yesterday.

In response to inquiries, the department said in a statement there were no plans to incorporate land into the TBVC states “for the time being”. However, certain trust land could still be incorporated into the TBVC states in terms of the Borders of Particular States Act.

About 11 000ha could be incorporated into Transkei, about 9 000ha into Bophuthatswana, about 44 000ha into Ciskei and about 5 000ha into Venda.

Undertakings

In response to a question about whether the department intended proceeding with the transfer of the land in the light of constitutional negotiations, the department said:

“In terms of the government’s White Paper on Land Reform and negotiations regarding constitutional development, it is still possible to incorporate certain trust land into the TBVC states, taking into account existing undertakings, agreements and legislation.”

Since February last year, only two pieces of land have been transferred to the TBVC states, benefiting Bophuthatswana on both occasions.

In April last year, 43 154ha were transferred and in October 32 424ha was handed over.

The second transfer was criticised by a wide range of organisations, particularly the ANC.

In a statement issued at the time, the National Land Committee and the Black Sash also challenged government to state whether it was serious about dismantling the system of apartheid.

The ANC’s Youth League described the step as “controversial, nonsensical and insensitive” at a time when talks on the future of the country, including the reincorporation of the TBVC states, were about to start.

DP MP Peter Soal said the bureaucracy was clearly unaware of policies that were abandoned following President FW de Klerk’s February 2 speech almost two years ago.

Soal said it was totally unacceptable to reward an administration which had behaved badly with regard to human rights.

Regional and Land Affairs Minister Jacob de Villiers was quoted as saying that the Development Trust had bought much of the land as far back as 1975 and the territory had been used for some time.

The transfer of the land was “merely keeping a promise”, officials said.

Since then, the ANC’s first land conference has called for a moratorium on all large-scale land transfers, arguing that a national land dispensation should first be negotiated.
Dobsonville hostel sold to private enterprise

By KENOSI MODISANE (12M)

DOBSONVILLE hostel - the scene of countless cold-blooded killings in the past - has been sold to a private company and will be renovated in the new year.

Town clerk Mr Tony Roux yesterday said: “The hostel has been bought by a private company and will be renovated very soon.

“Those renovations and other arrangements, which I cannot at this point divulge, will begin in the very first weeks of the new year.”

The hostel is the second to be sold in the township since the Deerp Kloof hostel was sold to a private company for R862,000 late last year.

Earlier this year, leaders from extra-parliamentary organisations, business and the Government set up a steering committee to address the hostel’s problems.

Upgrading hostels

The Independent Development Trust and the Development Bank of South Africa had undertaken to give assistance in upgrading hostels.

This came after residents had expressed concern about violence allegedly carried out from hostels.

Some parts of the Dobsonville hostel which include the double-storey flats along Ludzidzini Street (where Sunday’s massacre took place) have already been occupied by families.

It was reported that the attackers, who left 12 people dead, had come from the direction of the hostel and also from two locations where the violence erupted.

“The families have moved in without council approval but we appreciate that they are using the facility properly,” Roux said.
Pta service debt crisis is now R47-m

THE debt crisis flowing from arrear service fees in Pretoria's black townships has reached alarming proportions, with Mamelodi and Atteridgeville owing the Pretoria City Council and the Pretoria Regional Services Council a total of R47,46-million.

Results are that residents will be asked to pay higher service fees - with expected increases of as much as 35 percent - and that the RSC had "frozen" some projects planned in the two areas, as money budgeted for projects could be held back to repay loans.

A Pretoria City Council spokesman disclosed that Mamelodi owed the council R13,33-million for nine months of electricity supply, R2,92-million for five months of water supply and R3,13-million for nine months of sewerage service.

The spokesman said Atteridgeville owed the council R7,18-million for nine months of electricity supply, R1,73-million for six months of water supply and R1,77-million for 11 months of sewerage service.

In addition, the Pretoria RSC is owed R11-million by Mamelodi and R6,4-million by Atteridgeville for loans that paid arrear service fees to the Pretoria City Council in October last year, saving the two townships from bulk power cuts at the time.

RSC chairman Mr Piet Delport said neither Mamelodi nor Atteridgeville had paid their first repayment instalments of R4,2-million and R2,4-million respectively, which were due on October 31.

Representatives from Atteridgeville have been asked to agree to new "economic" service charges by yesterday. If this did not happen, the RSC said it would "seriously consider" whether to renew a guarantee for the payment of service fees to Pretoria after today.

Guarantee

Should the guarantee not be renewed, another cut in the bulk power supply to Atteridgeville could follow.

The RSC - who said the present "flat rate" of R75 a month was insufficient to pay for services - suggested Atteridgeville residents pay the same charges as residents of Pretoria, which would amount to a monthly average of R134,06 per household, if power and water are used sparingly.

A spokesman - who did not indicate what the tariffs would be - said residents had until today to submit objections in this regard.
Calls for drastic action as lenders turn backs on decaying city flatland

Lending institutions have indicated they will offer mortgage loans more in the central flatland only if property values cease to drop or if some third party provides collateral to reduce the risk.

The city council's position, as voiced by councillor Marchesa Mara, is that it is in the interest of property values to keep interest rates low and that the city council will have to find a way to finance the required improvements.

At the moment the penalties that are imposed by the lenders for non-payment of interest are high. The council would like to see the interest rate reduced to a level that is more feasible for the property owners.

Mr. Mara says, "I see this as a partnership with the residents and the private sector to revitalize the city. The council would have to consider very specific things that could contribute to this partnership."

"We can upgrade the streets, make nice walking areas, plant trees, and slow the traffic. We can see to it that maintenance gets done and that people get used to the new environment," he adds.

The council also recognizes the importance of the redevelopment of the central flatland for the future of the city. It has made a commitment to the residents to ensure that the redevelopment plan is carried out.

Mr. Mara says, "We are not in a position to finance the redevelopment of the central flatland on our own. We need the support and cooperation of all parties involved, including the lenders, the residents, and the city council."
Lost after a lifetime

SOWETO granny Margaret Motlogela, 74, had her home repossessed last week - two years after getting a bond to build two rooms and a garage on to the small council home she has lived in all her life.

When the family built on the extra rooms they had no idea they were burdening themselves with a debt which would cause them to lose their home.

Margaret's only income is her R225 old-age pension and the R300 a month she collects from renting out the two rooms and garage. Her monthly bond repayment is R375 - more than her total income.

At the time she was granted the 20-year bond of R24,000 by the Perm three years ago, her son-in-law was employed and contributing towards the repayments. He has since lost his job and can no longer pay.

When the home was repossessed last week, the arrears were more than R6,000 and the family has no hope of paying it off.

Acting Chief Executive of the Perm, Dave Harrison, told City Press the bank was in a very difficult position.

Harrison said Motlogela was granted a bond in 1988, when interest rates were 14 percent and when the economy was in much better shape than it is today.

"At that time we granted bonds to pensioners who had extended families living with them and contributing to the bond.

"We saw the financing of home extensions as a good investment which encouraged home ownership and increased accommodation. With the deteriorating economy and interest rates of 20 percent, today's picture is very different," he said.

"We have tried to find a solution which allows the family to remain in their home, while stopping the interest on the bond from rising.

"The only way we can achieve this is to buy in the property and allow the owners to remain on the property at a fixed rental. We negotiate a reasonable rental with them and ask them to sign a 30-month lease. Our idea is to renegotiate at the end of this period. If their circumstances have improved and they are able to meet the bond repayments again, we will consider transferring the property back into their name," he said.

"Motlogela signed a lease this week and has agreed to pay Perm the R300 she collects in rent. She hopes she will be able to get her house back in 1994."
High rates, spending, crime tarnish Jo'burg's image

The Democratic Party, which took control of Johannesburg's management committee in an alliance with the National Party in the 1981 elections, has been criticized for its handling of the city's financial affairs. Despite the party's efforts to reduce the city's budget, which included cutting electricity profits and reducing rates, the city's financial situation has remained challenging.

Bureaucracy was targeted in a massive restructuring drive initiated by the management committee in mid-year. The aim was to improve efficiency and cut costs. However, the restructuring process has been met with resistance from city workers. The management committee has faced criticism for its handling of the restructuring, which has led to job losses and reduced services.

The DP's move to privatize the city's assets has also come under attack. The party's plans to privatize the city's assets have been criticized as a move to benefit private interests at the expense of the city's residents. The opposition has called for a moratorium on the privatization process.

The city council has been criticized for its handling of the Johannesburg metropolitan council. The council has been accused of failing to address the city's pressing needs, such as improving public safety and reducing crime. The council's failure to address these issues has led to a loss of confidence in the council and a decrease in the city's reputation.

The city's financial problems have also been highlighted. The city's budget has been criticized for being unbalanced and failing to address the needs of the city's residents. The city has also been criticized for its handling of the city's infrastructure, which has been accused of being poorly maintained.

The city's residents have been left frustrated by the city's handling of these issues. The city has been criticized for its failure to address the city's problems, which have led to a loss of confidence in the city's leaders. The city's residents have called for a change in leadership and a fresh approach to addressing the city's problems.

Despite these challenges, the city's leaders have remained committed to improving the city's financial situation and addressing its problems. The city's leaders have called for a united approach to addressing the city's challenges and have urged residents to work together to find solutions.
Vereeniging ignores threat, boycotts talks

By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

Despite threats of retaliation, Vereeniging Town Council will not attend an urgent meeting of the Vaal Civic Association tomorrow to resolve the water and electricity crisis in local townships, Vereeniging management committee chairman Dr Mario Milan said last week.

Dr Milan was reacting to a statement by the Vaal Civic Association in which threats were levelled against neighbouring white town councils which fail to attend the meeting.

Contract

The meeting concerns the impending blackouts in Schoekeng, Sharpeville, Bophelong and Botshabelo due to non-payment of electricity accounts.

Addressing a press conference after the Vereeniging council’s monthly meeting last Thursday, Dr Milan said the council was not directly concerned with the electricity issue.

The council has a contract with Eskom which stipulates that Vereeniging supplies Sharpeville with electricity while Eskom pays the account and in turn recovers the money from residents.

The moment Eskom decided to stop paying, the council would disconnect the power supply.

Dr Milan stated that the council was not prepared to fork out one cent of ratepayers’ money to keep neighbouring black townships going.

He stressed this was not a racial decision, but that the council’s budget was structured in such a way that it could not allow for an additional average monthly expenditure of R400 000 for Sharpeville’s water and lights bill.

Dr Milan also said that the council would not join the newly constituted Vaal Triangle negotiating forum, which is investigating the establishment of one non-racial democratic local government for the area.

“No white town council will contemplate joining the forum and accepting the liability of the chaos that reigns in the black townships today.”

“However, as the mother city of the Vaal Triangle, we are prepared to meet and talk with anyone, including the civic associations, and to be a facilitator or to offer help and advice in an attempt to solve some of their problems.”

Dr Milan said the council was not cool towards the human suffering and misery that was taking place in the townships. But it could not understand why the black community could not get its house in order and elect the right people to represent them and their desires for a better community.
High rates, spending, crime tarnish B.C. governo's image

It was a year of record for the job creation in the city as new-neighborhood residents have streamed in, and overall employment has grown.

The economy is booming, with new businesses opening and old ones expanding. The city's population has grown by 30,000 people in the past year. New housing developments and commercial projects are underway.

The city's finances are robust, with record-high budget surpluses. The city council has approved a $400 million capital spending plan for the coming year.

Crime rates have risen, with a record number of break-ins and thefts reported. The police force has been stretched thin, with officers working long hours to keep up with the demand.

The city's budget is focused on improving public safety and infrastructure. A new police station is being built, and the city is investing in new technology to help officers keep the peace.

Overall, the city continues to thrive, with a bright future ahead.

The遭到的报告的 Fechaの来日に据え

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Overall, the city continues to thrive, with a bright future ahead.
Racist whites harass tenant

AN East Rand showbiz personality has been threatened with death for refusing to heed a call by anonymous whites to move out of his new house in Dalpark near Brakpan.

Mr Enoch Ndclela, promotions officer of Teal/Trutone Music, a subsidiary of Gallo Music, received the threat barely two weeks after moving in.

Dalpark is a white suburb of the Conservative Party-controlled town of Brakpan.

"When I moved in I noticed that the house had been broken into. Several fittings, including a sliding door, had been removed," Ndclela said.

"Then in the morning of December 7, a group of whites were spotted by neighbours waiting in a car next to my house.

"About 4.30am, my wife and I were awakened by the shattering of glass. When I went to investigate, I was greeted by a big stone dipped in blood with 'Get out kaffir, otherwise we will get you', written on it," Ndclela said.

He said he reported the matter to the police, who promised to investigate.

"I told them that this was not the first time that stones had been thrown into my house," Ndclela said.

Colonel Dave Bruce, a spokesman for the Witwatersrand police, said the matter was being investigated.

By Ike Motswana
TPA unable to revive shabby Hillbrow areas

The Transvaal Provincial Administration has no authority to reverse the deterioration of residential areas and local residents must exercise the necessary control themselves, says Mr. Dave Hough, Administrator of the Transvaal.

Hough was reacting to a question in an interview published in the latest issue of RSA Policy Review, an official government publication, whether the TPA intended controlling the deteriorating situation in areas such as Joebe Park and Hillbrow.

"Local governments are autonomous bodies and have the necessary powers to exert control in their own urban areas."

On the priorities of the latest budget for the Transvaal, Hough said R2.5 billion of the TPA's total budget of R5 billion had been allocated for health services.

"In this way, the TPA wants to ensure that health services of an acceptable standard are available to particularly the less privileged people of the Transvaal."

In addition, R1.4 billion was allocated for community services for social pensions and grants, intergovernmental grants to black local governments, subsidies to social welfare institutions, and for the management of informal towns.

The settlement of squatters countrywide was stretching their resources to the limit, and the land which has already been identified was just enough to satisfy the current demand.

"All we can do is to buy informal town lands as fast as possible in those areas where the most urgent need exists and to establish towns there as soon as possible."

-SAPA
IN AN attempt to address the imbalance between commercial property and residential property growth in the Midrand area, a new high school and diverse shopping facilities are planned.

"What is lacking in Midrand on the residential side is more than made up on the commercial side and we are working on addressing this imbalance. The lack of schooling facilities and shopping variety should soon be addressed," Midrand mayor Gavin Heughan said recently.

A high school was on the cards, construction on which would hopefully begin in 1992. The Midrand Town Council was also trying to find ways of solving the residential shortfall by working with developers, he said.

On the commercial/industrial side, construction of Alphen Square, a R20m industrial development, Midrand, will begin in early 1992 by Langley Fox developments.
An objective look at mass action

Disruption resulting from mass mobilisation can result in economic sanctions, deterring foreign investment far into the future. This warning, from a senior academic in strategic studies, comes from the verbatim notes that make up a new book published by the South African Institute of Race Relations.

"Forum on Mass Mobilisation" focuses primarily on the African National Congress and the Mass Democratic Movement (MDM), and specifically the resolution by the MDM at its July 1980 Lusaka meeting, to strengthen mass action in order to control the pace and agenda of the negotiation process.

The tragedy, the book concludes, is that among the major political players — the Government on the one hand and the ANC on the other — is capable of stopping mass action even if it wanted to. The Government, it seems, faults the ANC for continuing with mass action, which it sees as contrary to the Pretoria and Groote Schuur Minute, while the ANC sees the legitimate weapon to pressure the Government and to ensure itself a major role at the negotiating table.

The study is structured around interviews with several political participants, academics, police and journalists. These interviews are based on the same questions, without attempting to define "mass mobilisation", and each of the respondents gives his own interpretation of what it means. The book lists seven incidents of "mass action", ranging from rent boycotts to consumer boycotts, disruption of schools and attacks on black councillors.

The method of presentation ensures that no obsequity be limited only by the selection of participants — which would otherwise be impossible in an interpretative document. It leaves judgment on the various issues raised to the reader, and thereby makes a practical contribution to the debate on the whole issue of mass mobilisation, which will be with us right into the new South Africa, judging from statements made by some of the interviewers.

Dr Anthea Jeffrey points out that the ANC had decided to make 1981 "the year of mass action for the transfer of power to the people", a resolution taken at the organisation's national council last year. This action had resulted in local authorities being owed more than R1.6 billion in rent and service charges, while services in 22 townships had been cut off at various times over the year. Consumer boycotts had been called in several towns, for several days, mainly because of the refusal by Conservative Party-controlled towns to grant permission for the holding of marches.

The Government, it seems, faults the ANC for continuing with mass action, which it sees as contrary to the Pretoria and Groote Schuur Minute, while the ANC sees the legitimate weapon to pressure the Government and to ensure itself a major role at the negotiating table.

The study is structured around interviews with several political participants, academics, police and journalists. These interviews are based on the same questions, without attempting to define "mass mobilisation", and each of the respondents gives his own interpretation of what it means. The book lists seven incidents of "mass action", ranging from rent boycotts to consumer boycotts, disruption of schools and attacks on black councillors.

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A senior academic in strategic studies warns "Countries which are prone to this kind of atmosphere suffer from almost perpetual sanctions afterwards. This is best summed up in the phrase developed in Argentina, where they talk of self-imposed sanctions they went through a period of instability with mobs on the street — now nobody wants to spend money or invest there".

A spokesman for the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) says that no single organisation is responsible for mass action throughout the country. The contradiction becomes clear when the spokesman says "we have suspended the armed struggle". Clearly referring to the position of the ANC, and in the next breath says "we will not stop mass mobilisation, even under a new government."

"We will intensify mass mobilisation to get rid of apartheid. We do not trust the Government to get rid of apartheid without the pressure of the people who feel its pinch," he says.

On the question of intimidation and the role this plays in the success of mass mobilisation, the spokesman said, "The Government talks of intimidation. This is propaganda. Organisations do not initiate intimidation. And then, again in contradiction, "It does happen, however, some individuals who are not instructed by their organisations do this."

CAST's campaign to force the resignation of black councillors has led to the bombing of homes and killings. But the CAST spokesman says "This is not encouraged or authorised by CAST. But the council police use violence against the people and then the people resort to violence against them. We understand why people are using violence. We do not sanction it. But we also do not condemn it."

A spokesman for Cosatu says "That the whole history of South Africa in the last 20 years is one of firstly by brutal repression of any attempts to engage in any peaceful protest and demonstration."

"What the South African state has done is to criminalise all opposition by the disenfranchised majority. So that various forms of action — now described as mass mobilisation — which sprang from concrete grievances which people were experiencing in schools, communities and factories, all these forms of mass mobilisation came to be seen as legitimate targets for State brutality, detentions, shootings, bannings, etc."

The ANC is, for its part, aware of the dangers of mass mobilisation.
Top Team Rights - Economic Crime

Section 1

1.1. The Office of Economic Crime is responsible for implementing the strategy of the Director for Economic Crime and ensuring the effective enforcement of the strategy.

1.2. The Office of Economic Crime is responsible for investigating and prosecuting economic crimes that are committed in the EU.

1.3. The Office of Economic Crime is responsible for providing support to EU member states in their efforts to combat economic crimes.

2.0. The Director of Economic Crime has the authority to appoint and dismiss the personnel of the Office of Economic Crime.

3.0. The personnel of the Office of Economic Crime are required to maintain the highest level of integrity and ethics.

4.0. The personnel of the Office of Economic Crime are required to maintain confidentiality with respect to all information obtained in their work.

5.0. The personnel of the Office of Economic Crime are required to report any conflicts of interest to the Director of Economic Crime.

6.0. The personnel of the Office of Economic Crime are required to undergo regular training and professional development.

7.0. The personnel of the Office of Economic Crime are required to comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

8.0. The personnel of the Office of Economic Crime are required to report any violations of this policy to the Director of Economic Crime.

9.0. This policy is effective immediately upon publication and applies to all personnel of the Office of Economic Crime.
'Snapped up'

in former mining town

Staff Reporter

House sales in the former mining town of Grootvlei, south-east of Johannesburg, are way over target, a director of the private consortium that bought the town earlier this year said yesterday.

A group of businessmen bought the town for R4.5 million when the Springfield Colliery closed down. The ANC had also wanted to buy the town, which is 90 km from Johannesburg, to house returning exiles.

The director of the consortium, G C Viljoen, has rejected a report that Grootvlei is becoming a ghost town. More than 80 of the 150 homes in the town had been sold but many were not yet occupied, while the mine rehabilitated the area, he said.

Grootvlei Extension 1, which was previously the black housing area, has been completely sold out, he said.

Estate agent Donald Herman, who took over property sales in the town in August, said the houses were "selling like hot cakes".

The prices of three and four-bedroom houses range from R29 000 to R59 000 and had been sold mainly to Johannesburg buyers who commuted to town each day.

"More than 70 percent of the property has been sold or is under development — it's certainly not a ghost town," he said.

Buyers were particularly attracted to the former mine facilities, including a sports club, hall and swimming pool.

The owner of a hotel on the outskirts of Grootvlei, however, is unhappy with the situation and said the future of the town was very bleak.

"It looks to me as if they have sold very few houses," Manie Kriel said.

Although many houses in the town are not yet occupied, business prospects are very good, say local businessmen.

Cecile Wilemae of Grootvlei Dairy said residents were optimistic about the future of the town.
SANDTON'S CROWDED HOUSE

Sandton's hotel race is on. Leading players in talks with property owners near the Sandton Sun (Property December 6) are moving away from the pack.

Still in front is Liberty Life Properties which has edged even further ahead with the submission to Sandton Town Council of a draft site development plan for its five-star project. Its new Southern Sun-managed hotel — to be on the corner of Fifth and Maud streets — is an 18-storey tower (pictured below) to be linked by skywalk to the Sandton Sun (opposite).

The Intercontinental Group is prepared to sign a mixed management and lease agreement with JCI for a five-star-plus, 320-room hotel. JCI's property is on the corner of Katherine Street and Rivonia Road and there is an application for hotel rights lodged with the town council.

"Our intention is to get something tied up before the year is out or in the early part of the new year," says JCI Properties' senior manager Russel Jackson.

He adds that JCI, which owns the Holiday Inn in Milpark and Sandton, will form part of an investment consortium.  

But how many more hotels can be accommodated in Sandton? Jackson says research by hotel operators shows there is room for two new five-star hotels with 500-600 rooms.

The Hilton group has been talking to another runner in the race, Time Developments. The latter's property, with no hotel rights, is opposite Sandton City between Liberty's new hotel site and the proposed Sandton Square.

Sandton Square co-developer, the Stocks Group, declines to name the hotel group it is reported to have in its pocket.
**Housing FM 2C [12] 91**

**Hearts and lungs**

**Transvaal** Provincial Administration has postponed a final decision on its plan to establish a number of informal settlements outside Johannesburg. Its executive committee will meet again early next year. Opposition came from local groups as well as the ANC, which slammed the plan as another unilateral government act at a time of transition.

The TPA planned to establish 13 villages north-west of Johannesburg as high-density informal settlements to accommodate about 20 000 squatters. The area stretches in an arc from Blue Hills-Knoppieslaagte in the east to Broederstroom-Rhenosterspruit in the west.

One of the more active parties concerned, Greenbelt Action Group, has hailed as a breakthrough the TPA's decision to include the interest groups in all decisions, consultations and negotiations. The group has been responsible for co-ordinating opposition from residents and property owners in the North Rand green belt to what is seen as poorly planned urban development. Attempts by representatives from 15 greenbelt areas to oppose similar TPA plans in the past were unsuccessful. They now believe that a breakthrough has been achieved.

The ANC says the action was being taken "at a time when both the ANC and government form part of a National Housing Forum." The TPA announcement appears to undermine the forum, it says, and raises questions about government's commitment to housing and other crucial socio-economic policies.

The TPA had already identified a site-and-service area in Delspoort — the main area Greenbelt wants to keep free of squatters. There is no local authority in the area to control the influx of squatters or provide elementary services.

In 1986 plans were under way to develop Norweto in the Delspoort area as an upmarket black township north of Sandton. This was halted soon after the Group Areas Act was repealed. Now the TPA intends creating villages, each consisting of about 1 500 stands of about 250 m² each, serviced by dirt roads, with one water tanker for 20 houses.

FINANCIAL MAIL • DECEMBER • 03 • 1991 • 29
Land near CBD could help solve housing crisis

BRENDAN TEMPLETON

NEW avenues for town planners to explore will present themselves in the new year when thousands of hectares of low-priced inner-suburban land becomes available for low-income housing.

The land stretches along the southern fringe of Johannesburg and lies next to major transport routes, industrial areas and the CBD.

**Costs cut**

Instead of creating sprawling shanty townships up to 35 km away from central areas, it may be possible to develop many smaller residential areas closer to cities.

Costs could be greatly cut because the extent of new infrastructure — sewerage, shops, roads and electricity — would not be as great as when a township was developed from scratch.

The land is owned largely by mining corporations — which say legislation has prevented them from releasing it for housing.

Presently the land is graded as "agricultural" land, meaning the mines do not have to pay rates or taxes on it. This allows them to let it lie idle without cost to themselves.

The new Minerals Act will effectively remove the "holy ground" status enjoyed by the mines by scrapping the differentiation between proclaimed and unproclaimed land.

If the land is used for township development, it could improve the quality of life for thousands of homeless families and slash the cost of urbanisation.

Until now, myriad laws and regulations have made township development on this land a three-cornered nightmare for developers.

They have had to contend with the owner of the land, and the Government when applying for development rights. Now the Government has effectively removed from the relationship, leaving it up to the developer and the landowner to strike up a deal.
Huge rent hikes for Ikageng

By Dan Dhlamini

IKAGENG residents kicked off 1992 on a sour note as they face rent increases of between 100 and 200 percent.

Township administrator Johan Oosthuizen, also mayor of Potchefstroom, issued pamphlets to residents last week notifying them that the increases would be implemented on January 1.

Confrontation

Newly elected Ikageng Civic Association chairman George Gaduka said Oosthuizen was "plainly seeking confrontation by drastically increasing rent and service charges, despite objections by the People's Delegation in various meetings with him and Transvaal Provincial Administration representatives.

Gaduka said the People's Delegation and the administrator had reached an impasse over the issue of increasing tariffs, but now Oosthuizen has forged ahead with the increases.

Although Gaduka did not say what action the ICA would take, he said a serious confrontation was looming in the new year."
Dark start to festive season

By Monica Oosterbroek

It has been cheerless festive season for the residents of Gaelic Mansions in central Johannesburg since the landlord switched off the electricity because tenants were in arrears.

The electricity was switched off on December 6.

Resident Terrence Alexander said people had lost mounds of food bought for Christmas when the fridges and freezers defrosted. Lifts did not work and elderly people were forced to walk up four flights of stairs.

Mr. Alexander said he was afraid to arrive home after dark as it was dangerous walking down the dark passages to his door.

"I haven't been able to watch television, have a cup of tea or relax in a hot bath for two weeks," he said.

"Imagine the difficulties facing mothers with children," he said.

The landlord, Iqbal Joosub, said the electricity had been cut off because tenants were in arrears with payments on rent, water and electricity. He said tenants owed more than R41 000 on electricity alone.

Mr. Joosub said that only four of his 32 tenants were up-to-date with payments.

Outlining the difficulties facing landlords, he said some tenants had not paid rent or electricity bills for two years, and he did not have the money to pay the outstanding bill himself.

"They beg for accommodation but then don't want to pay. If they do, it's seldom the whole amount. When the electricity is cut off, I get the blame," he said.

However, Mr. Joosub said he was not a heartless man and said he hoped to have the electricity turned on by Christmas Day.

Mr. Joosub said he was going to "beg or borrow" money to get the electricity turned on until the end of the year. After Christmas, he said he would start procedures to evict tenants who were seriously in arrears with payments.
Coal mines support green efforts

THE SA coal mining industry has supported efforts to counter the danger of global warming. But it says that concerns about the greenhouse effect are based on incomplete and inconclusive scientific knowledge.

A delegation in support of "environmentally beneficial initiatives", published in the latest issue of the Chamber of Mines Newsletter, forms the industry's response to the proposed international implementation of an anti-global warming campaign, known as the Toronto Target.

The target calls for a 20% worldwide reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2005 (using 1990 levels as a base). Carbon dioxide is one of a number of "greenhouse" gases, which include CFCs and methane.

The chamber said coal mining companies could be affected by universal support for the Toronto Target, as it could prompt major coal consumers, such as thermal generating utilities, to consider other energy sources which release less carbon dioxide.

"Although the full impact of the envisaged global emission controls may only take effect in 15 years' time, the industry is already examining what economically sound responses may be possible in the interim to protect the environment while minimising disruption to industry," the newsletter said.

The industry is committed to working with government on a framework of incentives and disciplines to encourage initiatives which would be environmentally beneficial and economically justifiable.

These would include improved efficiency of energy utilisation and encouragement of increased electrification, possibly within the framework of a national energy policy.

The newsletter also details an environmental planning and management procedure that the chamber has devised to help member mines ensure that their activities comply with environmental legislation.

The document would guide mines in drawing together and documenting comprehensive information required for the compilation of an environmental management programme report, the newsletter said.

Such a report summarises all data relating to a proposed prospecting or mining project, detailing information required to satisfy various authorities that the developer has fulfilled its environmental responsibilities, including those contemplated in the new Minerals Act, which is expected to come into operation early next year.

A feature of the new Act is its requirement that all mines and prospecting projects will in future have to submit a formal rehabilitation plan before authorisation to commence mining or prospecting is granted.

Previously, this requirement applied only to certain open cast mines.

The report not only describes the potentially negative environmental effects that are expected in all phases of the project, but also how these effects may be monitored, managed, controlled or rehabilitated.
Two killed in Christmas unrest

TWO people died in unrest-related incidents over Christmas, but there was little serious crime, particularly on the Witwatersrand and in Soweto.

Police said the body of a man was found at Khayelitsha, Cape Town, after a mob attack in which several houses were gutted.

At Murchison on the Natal South Coast a man was shot dead by unidentified attackers. Other incidents were reported at Nyanga, Cape Town, where a woman was injured when a crowd stoned a bus, and at Table Mountain near Maritzburg when a man was shot in the leg.

In Pretoria an 18-year-old man was stabbed to death at about 3am on Christmas morning.

Plea on shebeen hours

THE Vaal Civic Association (VCA) yesterday urged shebeens and taverners in Vaal Triangle's townships to close early to ensure the safety of patrons during the rest of the festive season.

VCA chairman Malik Madise said this had been decided when his organisation held an urgent meeting with representatives of the ANC Evaton branch this week.

The two organisations also resolved to seek a meeting with police to discuss violence.

In another development, developer Vanderbijlpark Estate Company and the VCA had agreed that the community would be involved in a housing project in Thepspo, an area between Sharpeville and Boipatong.

Madise said the agreement was signed at a news briefing on Tuesday. "The agreement stipulates that the community should not be left out of the project. It should be involved. He could not give a time of the project nor the date on which it would start."
Bid fails to prevent train fare rise

RAIL fares are set to go up by 15% this week after Transport Minister Paul Welgemoed turned down appeals for the increase to be suspended.

Rail authorities and affected parties had urgent talks on Friday, during which the Minister said if the increase did not go ahead on January 1 the already deteriorating rail service would collapse completely.

One of the participants at the talks, Civics Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) vice-president Khabil Mosunkuta, said yesterday the meeting had produced a "mixed outcome".

The parties agreed to set up a broad-based conference towards the end of January to examine tariffs and other issues including security on trains.

He said his organisation was still hopeful government would put the fare increases on hold until the conference was held.

The conference would look at the re-structuring of the entire railway commut-
TPA to spend R6m on Thokoza hostels facelift

WORKERS' hostels in Thokoza are to be upgraded to the tune of R6m by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA). The work would start in January, a TPA spokesman said yesterday.

This move is likely to defuse tensions surrounding the multimillion-rand plan by the Independent Development Trust (IDT) and the TPA to turn the neighbouring Phola Park squatter camp into a "proper town".

Thokoza Hostel Dwellers' Association chairman Zakhele Mlambo said the Phola Park project be shelved as it would cause friction between squatters and the hostel dwellers. He said authorities should upgrade all the hostels in Thokoza before developing Phola Park.

TPA liaison officer Magda du Toit said yesterday the revamp was "with a view to improving the quality of life of residents. Details of the plans still had to be finalised but the project would get under way within weeks.

General upgrading of the infrastructure in other towns, including Soweto and Atteridgeville, was in the pipeline, she added.

Transvaal MEC for Physical Planning and Development John Mavuso said last week Phola Park would become a proper town early next year, following the allocation of R15m by the IDT for the development of 2,000 serviced sites. Development would start with the removal of huge piles of refuse and would be followed by the provision of running water and toilets.

Du Toit said plans to develop the squatter camp arose out of talks between the Phola Park community, the Thokoza town council, civic consultant and development agency Planect, and the TPA.
Reprive for Munsieville

By SELLO MOTLHABAKWE

MUNSIVILLE township near Krugersdorp was yesterday temporarily repressed from darkness as town council engineers struggled with a technical problem.

In a statement released earlier by the Munsieville town administrator, Mr JH Niewoudt, the council had threatened to cut off electricity by yesterday afternoon.

However, the technical problem is only temporary, said Mr Nigel Mandy, consultant for the council.

**Solve the problem**

"As soon as the engineers solve the problem the supply will be cut off," he said.

The cutoff could be effected today.

The administrator had earlier said only R41 500 had been paid by residents. The rent and service arrears in the area amount to R127 500.

The statement said negotiations on other tariffs would be continued on the Munsieville Forum.

The council justified the latest cutoff - the second this year - on what it said was the Munsieville civic association's apparent breakdown on an agreement to get residents to pay a flat rate which was upwardly adjustable.
Township faces power cut

Residents of Munseville in Krugersdorp face a possible power cut this week. Krugersdorp town clerk Thys Oosthuizen said the Munseville Civic Association had, earlier this year, undertaken to ensure that the township's electricity account would be paid every month. But, he said, at the end of last month hardly any payments had been received.
Now blacks are fighting roads that plough through residential areas, writes Conrad Berge

**Rallying to block the highway of apartheid**

 until now it was middle- to upper-middle class whites who mounted campaigns to stop new highways ploughing through their neighbourhoods. It was assumed, indeed even used in argument, that the people who really needed these roads were the less privileged - "the poor beggars are crying out for access - they won't even notice the noise and fumes."

To such it will come as a shock that the ANC is championing a campaign to stop a major highway ploughing through a black area. The highway is the proposed six-lane "A3" and the area is Vrededorp/Pageview/Mayfair.

Two well-attended meetings have been held, pamphlets have been distributed and a campaign of resistance planned which includes a rates boycott, disrupting city council meetings, marches and sit-ins.

The highway is perceived as a product of apartheid and intended to serve the interests of fat cats in the northern suburbs.

Mayfair is racially mixed but predominantly Indian. Having been driven from Vrededorp to Lenasia and elsewhere, having returned first under the cover of nominee owners and now legally, these people will be damned if they will allow their rapidly developing neighbourhood to be destroyed by a parading shot of a hideous era.

The proposed A3 highway threatens to flatten a wide band of precious inner city housing, it side-swipes two mosques and the local park and wrecks Mayfair Convict, one of the first non-racial schools, now running to capacity.

Above all, the proposed highway cleaves a compact community. It cuts off people from their work, shops and friends, children from their schools and congregations from their places of worship. It will be physically impossible to protect closely abutting houses from the incessant roar and stench of traffic.

Unlike white suburbanites who had to purpose-make organisations to take up the struggle, Mayfair/Vrededorp has only the ANC.

First to hear the brunt of its anger is the city council - "the DP has only the interests of the rich at heart." The chairman of Johannesburg's management committee failed to respond to 30 telephone messages and the council's officials tried to quell the outcry by initiating an environmental study and moratorium while declaring to others that the road would go ahead.

As in Sandton, big business is seen as the hidden villain.

Property developers in Newtown and Crown Mines want the road to attract "decision makers" from the north to upmarket offices blocks in the south.

And friends in government are backing them.

In merely declaring that the A3 is unacceptable, the ANC has made it too risky for government to commit capital to it.

A monument already exists to this last gasp of the old South Africa, anyone who cares may go to see it. It is a half-built bridge on the site of the old Panburger Roadhouse opposite Milpark Hospital on Barry Hertzog Avenue.

It is an eloquent and well-placed monument. It tells not only of the end of an era but also of the determination of communities to preserve their integrity, regardless of race, class or culture. □
Long wait for a cheap home

By Zingisa Mikhuma

Most low-income black people who form long queues outside the Johannesburg City Council offices daily, hoping to rent council-owned houses, are married with families but have never owned houses before.

Since vacant Johannesburg council houses were made available to all race groups three weeks ago, the council has processed more than 10,000 applications at a rate of 2,700 a day, officials have reported.

People start lining up as early as 8 am. Some spend the night there, even though council offices only open at 9 am.

To qualify for council housing, people have to earn less than R1,200 a month.

The council has 30,000 housing units available in white, coloured and Indian areas but none are vacant.

Yesterday it was reported that the council was looking for land to house thousands of low-income people who had registered.

When The Star visited the area, many people were not aware there were no houses available at present.

Kholosa Matshikza, a divorced mother of two, said she was among the first to arrive at the council offices.

She joined the queue at 3 am and waited six hours before obtaining a form which she had to fill in and bring back.

For Soweto mother of six, Esther Ngcobo, the day spent queuing was worth the day's wages she may lose.

Eunice Nkwane (28) shares a shack in Meadowlands with her husband and child.

"I hope my husband and I will be allocated a house as I am sick of staying in someone else's backyard," she said.

Unemployed Vusi Mlambo (31) said: "I have been on the Soweto Council's waiting list since 1986 and I know there are thousands on that list.

"At least here the list could be shorter and I hope to get a house soon."
Commission divided over Wage Act for domestics

THE National Manpower Commission is divided on whether to recommend inclusion of domestic workers under the Wage Act.

Recommendations to extend labour legislation to domestic workers are contained in a 10-page report to be published in the Government Gazette today. The report has been handed to Manpower Minister Eli Louw for consideration.

Main recommendations are that domestic workers be covered immediately by the Basic Conditions of Employment Act and the Labour Relations Act. The Workmen's Compensation Act and the Unemployment Insurance Act should also be extended to domestic workers.

Although it was recommended that domestic workers be included under the main labour laws, specific amendments had to be made to provide for the special circumstances.

Members who felt that domestic workers should not be included under the Wage Act — which determines minimum wages for employees not covered by negotiated wage agreements — recommended instead that there should be wage guidelines.

These should be non-binding and drafted by the Wage Board or similar institution. Wages could be recommended according to area, worker competence and training and employers' financial ability.

Members who recommended that domestics should be included under the Wage Act, said that the Wage Board was a forum for debate, argument and the presentation of evidence on whether there should be minimum conditions of employment, including a minimum wage.

Inclusion under the Wage Act would allow the Wage Board to investigate wages and other conditions of employment in the domestic sector.

The board would take account of relevant factors and could recommend minimum wages for different areas. Manpower Minister Eli Louw would, however, retain a discretion as to whether to give effect to the recommendations by making a determination.

The commission was also split on a contract of employment for domestic workers. One group supported the view that provision should be made in the Basic Conditions of Employment Act that no domestic workers may be employed for longer than three months without a written contract. The contract should be signed by both parties, be available for inspection, and both employer and domestic worker should have a copy.

Other commission members felt that no statutory compulsion should exist.

It was recommended that domestic workers be entitled to 12 weeks maternity leave, as provided by the Basic Conditions of Employment Act.

The commission decided to investigate whether female employees in all sectors should be guaranteed their jobs back after pregnancy.

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AIDS drive to get R5m

NATIONAL Health and Welfare Minister Rina Venter announced yesterday the allocation of R5m to a six-month AIDS communication campaign and a further R1.2m to a children's lifestyle training programme.

The allocation of more resources was "essential" because over 300 people a day were becoming HIV-infected.

AIDS Unit head Dr Monda Holmshaw said the campaign would feature an African approach.

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'Explosive' township crisis warning

PRETORIA — An explosive financial crisis was developing in black townships despite spending by regional service councils, Central Witwatersrand RSC chairman John Griffiths said yesterday.

Griffiths told a public administration conference at the Human Sciences Research Council the growing crisis could lead to a total breakdown of services and could contribute to problems with health services.

He warned that SA could enter an era of uncontrollable inflation, a "suspect" balance of payments and an even more biased public sector if the authorities went for quick-fix solutions to buy political goodwill.

Griffiths said accelerated urbanisation had placed extreme pressure on infrastructure and services. "Part of the interum solutions required the involvement of local authorities in providing administration and technical assistance for the joint provision of services.

Joint administrations would be even better, he said.

In the PWV area, 40 000 to 50 000 hectares would be needed for housing by the year 2000. About half of this would be needed to meet the current backlog.

It was accepted SA had to provide housing for more than 200 000 families a year between now and the end of the century.

Griffiths said identification of land was being hampered by statutory and inflexible policy and planning documents.

He said the plethora of bodies involved in urbanisation should be rationalised into one department.
DP wants homes to be transferred

THE transfer of certain housing units to residents in black townships could help to defuse the issue of rent and service charge boycotts, the Democratic Party said yesterday.

DP spokesman on local government Mr Tony Leon was reacting to the National Party’s constitutional proposals relating to the granting of additional voting rights to property owners at local government level.

He said in a statement issued in Johannesburg the NP’s proposals could achieve greater acceptability if certain steps were implemented.

These, he said, included the immediate transfer of existing housing in black townships to “those tenants who have leased their homes from local authorities for a certain period, and thus the conversion of millions of tenants into homeowners.”

He pointed out: “This will also help defuse the politically-charged issues on rent and service boycotts, since the providers of utility services will be dealing with home owners with secure title, and the right of resale, instead of local authority tenants who, in many cases, have repudiated the value of their property several times over.”

Leon said the latter suggestions would test the Government’s sincerity as to whether their proposals were legitimate or simply disguised in racism.

The DP further proposed a plan to create low-cost housing through the marshalling of existing programmes and resources, “currently dispersed through four housing departments and hundreds of local authorities.”

The latter plan, Leon suggested, could be supplemented by the provision of State-owned land.

Another proposal includes the forging of an agreement between civic associations, local authorities, financial institutions on an iron-cast formula for the provision of bond financing with the single purpose of affording most South Africans access to home ownership.

“This will require a commitment by the ‘civics’ that any such agreement will be honoured and not discarded when the issue of repayments becomes a tantalising political weapon.”

The DP added that this was a massive challenge to Government and the private sector, “the African National Congress and others need to be less equivocal and ambiguous on the entire question of property rights.” - South African Press Association
Eskom sues Soweto council

Johannesburg — Eskom has started proceedings to sue Soweto City Council, which owes the electricity producer R131 million.

The council, which buys from Eskom and in turn supplies the councils of Diepmead and Dobsonville, is in the grip of a financial crisis and faces a collapse of essential services.
Soweto faces summons over debt

ESKOM has started proceedings to sue the Soweto City Council, which owes the utility R131m.

The council, which buys bulk electricity from Eskom and in turn supplies the other Greater Soweto councils of Deerpine and Dobsonville, is in the grip of a financial crisis and faces a collapse of essential services.

Soweto faces summons over debt

Sources said yesterday the council had been summoned by Eskom and stood to have its R560m electrical equipment attached if it was found to owe the utility R131m.

Eskom distribution and marketing deputy GM Allan Morgan yesterday confirmed that summons had been served on the council.

He said: "We are hoping for a friendly resolution of the problem. We could land a solution in the form of an agreement on an agency basis or an arrangement through the Central Witswatersrand Metropolitan Chamber.

The three councils, with the TPA and the Soweto People's Delegation (SPD), are principals in the Greater Soweto Accord which ended a five-year rent boycott and wrote off its R560m debt last September.

Since then, the council has fallen into arrears as residents failed to pay for services, and the financial crisis that ensued is still a subject of debate at various forums, including the metropolitan chamber.

The councils and the TPA want interim

Soweto tariffs increased, while the SPD demands that, since the supply of services was poor and the billing and metering faulty, the provision of supply should be transferred to the Central Wits RSC or to the municipalities of Johannesburg or Roodepoort.

At a chamber meeting on Wednesday, the Johannesburg City Council proposed establishing an interim metropolitan authority, which would see to the provision and administration of services on a regional level. The proposal was referred to the chamber's constitutional working group for urgent discussion.

Deerpine town clerk Jan de Jager said the three councils had on Wednesday signed an agreement transferring the running of the area's electricity supply to the RSC. But he said even that transfer would not remove the need for higher tariffs.

Dobsonville mayor McFarlane Phenethi said the residents of his township were paying for services and did not want anything to do with calls for rent boycotts.

"But when their electricity gets cut off, they blame my council, even when it could be from a fault in the source of supply, Soweto," he said.

Soweto City Council PRO Mojalefa Moseki could not be reached for comment yesterday.
Shape up, TPA tells Tembisa

THE TPA has warned Tembisa City Council to put its finances and administration in order in order to be relieved of its functions.

Transvaal MEC for local government Burger Lategan said in a statement yesterday the Administrator had found the council's finances had "become unsound".

"The Administrator has decided to direct the Tembisa City Council to take the necessary steps to remedy the situation within specified periods.

"If the council fails to take the necessary steps to restore the position within these periods, the Administrator may take further action," Lategan said.

Lategan said the council had not yet submitted estimates for the 1991/92 financial year, although these should have been in by May 18.
BOND BOYCOTTS

The last straw?

Another nail has been slammed into the coffin of the already moribund black housing market. Hammering it in was the Civics Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) — and it barely lifted a finger to do the job. All it took was the hint of a nationwide bond boycott aimed at forcing the mortgage lending institutions to reduce bond rates.

However, first indications are that those who will suffer most are precisely the people such a boycott is designed to assist. The institutions are jittery about lending into the bottom end of the private black housing market, where their financial backing is desperately needed to fuel housing development. The Cast statement will, if anything, make it harder to get housing finance even if the boycott threats do not materialize. Ironically, this comes just when the institutions are reportedly grappling with ways of stepping up the availability of mortgages to the black housing market.

A bond boycott would be a nightmare come true. As it is, they have had a taste of it and have seen the economic devastation that the Soviet rent boycotts brought about.

So too have the evices, the structural inheritors of the Eighties' campaign promoted by the ANC in exile to "make the townships ungovernable." Fueled by the conviction that economic sanctions hurt — hurt whites, that is — they presumably hope that the threat will be sufficient to coerce the institutions into reducing borrowing costs. There is no conception that interest rates are a function of supply and demand in the money market — the issue is entirely politicized.

Cast publicity secretary Sandy Lebese stresses that the boycott is only a suggestion at this stage. "It would be used as a last resort to pressure the institutions into lobbying government to make home ownership affordable to low-income groups. Ordinary people are being denied home ownership rights. They can only be afforded by middle-class professional and business people."

Those whose need is greatest are denied ownership because of "profiteering" on land and finance. Lebese adds: "In Mamelodi a patch of land costs about R24 000 and is, therefore, way out of reach to a family with a monthly income of R1 500. We must sit down with the institutions and discuss the matter."

National Association of Home Builders chairman Gavin Hardy believes that the mere suggestion of a boycott could have catastrophic implications. "The institutions are already jittery in the extreme. Some have stopped granting bonds in the black market. Others are, at best, reluctant lenders. So despite the desperate need for houses, we really have to battle for the finance. This kind of thing will just kill it completely. The institutions will just turn the taps off."

That would mean no loan finance available for middle-income black buyers, an exacerbation of the housing problem and increased polarisation of black and white across the wealth divide. "Ungovernability" would also lead to a deterioration of social services and conditions, whoever was in power.

Reaction from the institutions is perhaps predictable, though more restrained than that of Hardy. They point out just how little control they have in setting interest rates and stress that it will be homeowners who will be the real victims of a boycott.

United Bank's Neville Bosman points out that all lending is done from funds obtained at market-related rates. "United cannot influence these rates, which are based on the prevailing interest rate pattern supported by the Bank rate."

One of the biggest lenders to blacks is the Perm, part of the Nedperm group, which says that 20% of its bond exposure is to this market. Perm individual director Hugh Macachlan says the Cast suggestion that a bond boycott could solve SAA's massive housing crisis is regrettable. "We hope an organisation like Cast, with whom Nedperm has good relations, and with whom we consult in the development of various housing schemes, will be able to bring its good offices to bear on those who believe that the crisis can be solved by a boycott."

"There's an urgent need for a massive private and public sector housing initiative to address the growing backlog and provide for the hundreds of thousands of people who've poured into the metropolitan areas. Such a programme needs government participation, the banking community and leading industrial and commercial organisations."

A bond boycott would erode their willingness to participate, Macachlan says. "What is required is a discussion between all concerned of ways in which additional adequate housing, together with the necessary infrastructure, can be made available as quickly as possible." He adds: "There are no quick fixes to this crisis."

First National Bank's Pat Lamont says the Cast suggestions must be seen as negative for everyone including homeowners, developers, depositors and lenders. "It would be irresponsible of us to lend to people knowing that they'd be in court having their homes repossessed in a matter of months."

In the event of a widespread boycott, the institutions would most likely lose rank and not with necessary firmness. That would probably involve widespread repossessions and evictions. The cost of that would be resentment and bitterness that would take a long time to erase. Cast should be aware of this.
New residential dawn will turn...

Jo'burg into a 'people city'

FRANK JEANS

AS the city council moves ahead with its grand plan for the revitalisation of Johannesburg, it is now taking a serious look at the main ingredient which will make it all work — people.

The Eloff, De Villiers and Frederick streets enclaves is pinpointed as the scene of a new residential dawn for Johannesburg — the beginning of a massive population build-up to serve the capital-intensive commercial and retail expansion.

'Unprecedented'

In a recent interview, Councillor Eddy Magid, chairman of the City Council's Planning and Development Committee and deputy chairman of the Management Committee, said:

"The whole act is coming together and to see the development work now in progress in Johannesburg, one can only conclude that the CBD has not seen any evidence of a recession. The on-going programme of development is unprecedented."

'Emphasising the need to see the residential component as vital to the success of the overall plan, Mr Magid, pointed out the council is considering the establishment of blocks of flats soon which will be the forerunners to similar undertakings in the city."

He also pledges the council to avoiding bureaucratic bogdown so as to get action now for the development of homes. And in line with this attitude has been the streamlining of the council's Planning Department, where plans are now being approved on average in 105 working days.

Incentives, too, for the property owner and developer must inevita-

ble follow and the entrepreneur "looking for specific advantages from the council" to get residential projects on to site should contact Ian Symon, executive director of Planning and Development.

"The major commercial developments such as Bank City and Turbine Square will create thousands of new job opportunities downtown so that the timing has never been better for new residential development close to the workplace," he added.

Bank City alone will be home to an office army of 6 000 and this number will swell to an estimated 10 000 with the coming on stream of other prime property assembles, Turbine Square and Sage Properties' retail and office venture which straddles Eloff Street and between De Villiers and Fritchard Streets.

Perimeters

The latter goes through council this month and construction is due to begin soon.

Adding to the new look will be the re-emphasis on pedestrianisation, with Kerk and Eloff, Plun and Smal streets all coming into carless areas and buses re-routed around perimeters of the city.

There will be the pedestrian link, too, with the newly-planned Ka- serne bus and taxi terminus which, along with its commercial component, will cost R550 million.

The bullion rand spread will involve, for the first time, what has long been mooted by property pundits — the "air link" with Braamfontein.

Consistent with the council's policy to deck the rail lines from Queen Elizabeth Bridge to End Street, the council has agreed in principle to the R600 million conference and trade centre to be put together by Rail Commu-

LIDCHI'S 2 DAY PERSIAN CARPET SALE
People must control power

ALEXANDRA has shown that it is possible to put control of electricity in the hands of the people, a civic association representative told delegates to the conference.

Eskom's Johan Du Plessis told delegates how negotiations with the Cast-affiliated Alexandra Civic Organisation (ACO) had resulted in an agreement to remove control of electricity supply from the Alexandra Town Council. From this month control would be placed in the hands of the Regional Services Council.

The Eskom agreement forms part of the Alex Accord, which effectively places control of Alex civic affairs in the hands of the RSC.

Delegates from several cities called for Cast affiliates to follow the Alex example and negotiate with Eskom for the removal of electricity supply from local authorities. They argued that taking away control of electricity supply from local councils would hasten their collapse.

Du Plessis said 70 per cent of South Africans, a total of 23 million people in three million households, had no electricity jobs would be created. This programme would cost R3-billion, and grants, funding and soft loans needed to be made available.

Du Plessis said Eskom could electrify a house for as little as R100, working on the Readiboard prepaid system, as opposed to about R1 500 to wire a small house for electricity. The Readiboard was in one room of the house and could provide adequate power for plugs and lights. Cards to operate the system were R10 each.

Du Plessis said the system had been installed in about 30 000 houses to date and seemed to be working well.

Du Plessis said the question South Africa had to ask itself was not whether the country could afford to supply electricity to all its people, but whether it could afford not to.

A delegate from an informal settlement in Soweto reminded the conference that while electrification was of concern to many delegates, it was irrelevant to others because they were homeless. They had no homes to put electricity into.
Doornkop sites still selling

SITES at Doornkop, the Transvaal Provincial Administration's controversial site-and-services scheme near Dobsonville, are still being sold by Johannesburg developers.

This is despite an ongoing investigation by the TPA into the alleged improper allocation of sites by private developers.

City Press investigations have also revealed that hundreds of Doornkop sites have been allocated through private developers and large companies for staff housing.

The TPA made Doornkop sites available at R$100 on a 30-year lease for homeless, low-income people. Sites were supposed to be allocated only to families earning less than R$600 a month and who had their names on council housing waiting lists in greater Soweto.

This week, at least two private developers were still selling houses and about 2,000 sites have not been occupied.

The TPA is currently conducting an investigation into the allocation of all empty sites at Doornkop. The investigation has already taken about two months and is likely to take several more.

Each siteholder has to be contacted either by telephone, letter or personal visit and asked the reasons why he or she has not yet occupied the Doornkop site they have been allocated.

The TPA will decide next week what to do with unoccupied sites, or sites which were allocated to people who did not meet its criteria.

Meanwhile, the TPA has made an urgent appeal to anyone who has been allocated a site but who has not yet occupied it to contact the Doornkop administration office.
**Kagiso sub-division row**

**By SOPHIE TEMA**

FAMILIES of an elite area in Kagiso near Krugersdorp have brought legal action against the Transvaal Provincial Administrator and a housing developer to stop them from "overcrowding" the area.

About 11 families – already established in the area – have submitted affidavits to the Rand Supreme Court asking that the administrator and housing developer Saambou Wonnigs be stopped from sub-dividing the remaining sites on sale in the area. The families claim the sub-divisions of the plots was reducing the value of their plots.

In their affidavits the residents said there has been a steady flow of people into the elite area who have built houses that "compare favourably with the sites."

The families have also written a letter to the Kagiso Town Council, requesting its intervention in stopping the developer from sub-dividing the remaining stands.

In a letter written to the TPA, the Kagiso Town Council indicated that it had no objections to Saambou having part of Kagiso extension 4 sub-divided "to make it more marketable", on condition the minimum residential stand measured 500 cubic metres.

Residents claim the 1 000 square meter sites were originally sold at R26 000 while the 500 cubic meter sites were to be sold at R25 000 a site.

A spokesman for Saambou Wonnigs told City Press it would contest the action.
Vaal township without power

The vast majority of residents in black townships in the Vaal Triangle are still living without electricity, a month after the signing of an accord to end the six-year-old service charges boycott.

The accord was signed by the TPA and civic associations in the Vaal.

The town clerk for the towns of Sebokeng, Sharpeville, Bopatong and Bophelong, Mr Klaas Louw, said on Friday that Sharpeville and most sections of Sebokeng remained without electricity, as payments had not reached the agreed target.

He said there was also a danger that power to Bophelong and Bopatong could be terminated if payments were not maintained at 70 percent.

Louw pointed out that residents of Sharpeville faced an additional problem even if their payments reached the 70 percent mark, an additional R1 million had to be paid to the Vereeniging Town Council before electricity could be restored. - Sapa
Helping hand offered for money crisis

The Johannesburg City Council management committee took the bull by the horns in the chamber-like arena of the council chamber on Wednesday last week, spelling out its vision of a non-racial interim government for the central Witwatersrand metropolitain region.

The loudest applause for management committee chairman Ian Davidson came from Cyril Ramaphosa of the Soweto Civic Association (SCA), who saw in it as the first considered answer to repeated demands that an authority be set up with the resources and expertise to run and repair South Africa’s biggest township, Soweto.

That the SCA offered a significant input to the plan was of small account, insisted Mr Davidson.

They agreed on fundamental principles, and Johannesburg had acted in the firm belief that structural change was the key to resolving the financial crisis in Soweto.

He welcomed Mr Davidson’s observation that “any step forward requires a holistic approach”.

This implies that all issues are linked and a workable, acceptable solution has to address all issues simultaneously,” Johannesburg’s proposal has three main elements:

1. The establishment of a metropolitan services corporation or board to provide certain transport services on a metropolitan basis, such as electricity and public transportation.
2. The involvement of Johannesburg, Randburg, Sandton and Roodepoort in Greater Soweto and Alexandra through these structures.
3. This would give the new body the credibility, power and financial clout of the Regional Services Council, Mr Davidson said. Without funds and legislative powers, the chamber remained a talk shop.

In practice, it would mean that the proposed interim metropolitan authority would take over all the powers, functions, resources, and obligations of the RSC, while the metropolitan chamber would become the decision-making body of the interim body.

The decision-making arrangements of the chamber would have to overcome the Soweto crisis.

Until Wednesday, various parties in the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber were deadlocked on how to overcome Soweto’s financial problems.

The township councillors and the provincial council feared that higher service charges and levies from residents were absolute priority and could not wait for structural change.

The covenants, on the other hand, urged that unless apartheid municipal structures were demolished, it was futile to expect residents to pay up — putting money into the hands of inefficient and bankrupt councils with no hope of seeing any improvement in living conditions.

But, said Mr Ramaphosa, the core of the Johannesburg proposal — stable provision and payment for services, better provision of services, streamlined regional decision-making, and restructuring into metropolitan and local bodies — fostered the chamber “a beacon that we can all start working towards”.

The other civic bodies in the chamber were obviously content to have the SCA speak for them. The other white municipalities — Randburg, Roodepoort and Sandton — were sympathetic, but made it clear that they were not about to be hustled into immediate support.

Perry Oeltel of Sandton pointed out that they might repent at leisure if they found themselves to the principles of the plan, then found there were significant differences of interpretation.

Mr Davidson emphasised that his proposal was only an outline and there were many details which had to be studied. The plan, however, was presented to a number of prominent people and organisations across the political spectrum, and reaction had been favourable.

Mr Davidson said communities had to accept equal responsibility for the collection and payment of rates and charges. Johannesburg would not subsidise people who were not prepared to pay for services.

“Consequently, any step involving structural change is contingent on adequately resolving issues such as the ending of boycotts, the setting of economic tariffs, and the normalisation of payments for services in Greater Soweto and Alexandra.”

The second part of Johannesburg’s proposal dealt with the creation of a metropolitan services corporation to provide certain services.

The corporation could include Eskom and the Rand Water Board.

Greater Soweto and Alexandra would then have to request that the developed (white) councils take over their administration on a contract basis.

Any interim proposal would also have to address elements such as:

1. Direct financial assistance by the Transvaal Provincial Administration and Government.
2. The contributions of Eskom and the Rand Water Board.
Eskom sues 20 black councils over arrears

By Louise Burger

Eskom has obtained judgments against 20 black local authorities for the R336 million it is owed for electricity in the Transvaal and OFS, but will not ask the councils to pay up while negotiations are in progress.

On Thursday, Eskom began proceedings to sue Soweto City Council for the R131 million it owes in electricity arrears.

For several months, the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council (CWRSC) and the TPA have warned that the Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville town councils were on the verge of financial collapse as funds were exhausted because people were not paying.

Eskom PWV distributor manager John Bradbury said people had to realise Eskom was in a difficult position.

"We have an obligation to our stakeholders, as a creditor, to secure our position. We have issued summonses and will get a judgment against the Soweto Council."

The CWRSC said the summons against the Soweto council would not affect its bid to take over bulk supply of electricity to Greater Soweto.
Call for stayaway on Reef goes unheeded

A TWO-DAY stayaway, called by Cosatu, the ANC PWV region and the Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast), was widely ignored by township residents yesterday.

ANC PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa said yesterday the stayaway was intended for East Rand residents only and not for the whole PWV region.

However, it would appear the stayaway failed on the East Rand as well as in other areas.

Spoornet and Putco officials said their passenger loads were normal.

“There was no noticeable drop in the number of commuters,” a Spoornet spokesman said.

This comment was echoed by a spokesman for the bus company.

The SA Chamber of Business did not even monitor the action.

A Bosom Chamber of Commerce spokesman said it had been a “normal” day in the East Rand town.

Mamoepa said he did not have any information on how many people had stayed at home.

“We are still awaiting reports from our zones.”

The stayaway was apparently observed by Cosatu officials on the East Rand, as there was no response to repeated attempts to contact the Germiston offices.

Cast officials also appeared not to be in their offices, as ringing telephones were left unanswered.

The three organisations had called the stayaway yesterday and today to protest against the flare-up in violence which preceded Saturday’s signing of the national peace accord.

Sapa
Lekoa rent
- appeal is thrown out

THE Appeal Court in Bloemfontein has dismissed an appeal by Mr Solomon Motoli Tsaan of Sharpeville, against the rejection of his application for an order to declare that he was not obliged to pay rent to the Lekoa Town Council.

On February 5 1988 Mr Justice MJ Strydom, in the Witwatersrand Local Supreme Court, upheld a point in limine by the town council and the Administrator of the Orange Free State (in his capacity as Administrator-Development Board for the Oranjevaal area).

The point disputed the locus standi of Tsaan and another man to bring the application, as they did not have a reasonable fear of eviction from their homes and did not have a sufficient right or obligation, which required a declaratory order; were, in fact, asking the court for advice, and the issues should not be decided piecemeal - Sapa.
Cheap houses show

LOW-COST housing units in the R5 000 to R10 000 price region will be on view during the Golden Highway Housing Expo starting on September 25.

The Department of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing and the Transvaal Provincial Administration said in a joint statement a large number of companies and developers will build about 90 houses, using a wide range of building materials.

The show will be on until October 9, and will be open from 9am to 7pm every day. - Sapa
Rumours spark a rush for council housing

THEO RAWANA

IN THE past two weeks about 30 000 people have applied for accommodation in houses owned by the Johannesburg City Council.

Many of the thousands of blacks queuing daily at the housing division mistakenly believe they will get the low-income housing at the expense of coloureds and Indians.

People interviewed in the queues said they had been told by "people who know" that coloureds and Indians in such areas as Noordgesig, Newclare and Rosettenville would be evicted to make room for blacks.

However, the council's health and housing committee chairman, Marnetta Marx, rejected the claims as malicious rumour meant to "unsettle" the council's low-cost housing drive.

The queues started after the council decided to consolidate its three, racially-based, housing waiting lists into one.

The council's health and housing executive director, Nicky Padayachee, said last week the scheme was open to people of all races who earned less than R1 200 a month.

He said the council had 30 000 units in white, coloured, and Indian areas for low-income people, but there were no empty homes at present. Applicants would be able to move in only as previous occupants moved out.

But many of the applicants were under the impression space would be made available for them through evictions.

Joyce Ndlovu, a nurse at Soweto's Lebowa Clinic, said: "I heard it from people who were told by their union that we would be moved into houses from which coloureds and Indians had been kicked out."

"People are told all sorts of things and the wrong impression is always created," she said.
Top ANC officials buy in luxury belt

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

In South Africa the organisation recently acquired Shell House, Johannesburg, as its headquarters in a multi-million-rand deal, and on the residential front individual members have been buyers of up-market properties.

McRae says for example, an SACP secretary has acquired a property in Observatory. Johannesburg and former ANC president Mr Oliver Tambo has bought a home in Sandhurst, Sandton, in the heart of the so-called white "mink and manure belt".

He says "ANC president Nelson Mandela himself lives in a luxury home with his wife, Mrs Mandela, in Soweto.

Camdon's has also been approached by the ANC in connection with property deals, he revealed.

However, if experience in South Africa's neighbouring states was any guideline, whites had no reason to expect that their property rights would be infringed.

Indeed, property rights had been enshrined in the constitutions of Namibia and Zimbabwe and in general values had appreciated.

In one instance, for example, a home in Harare sold for R90 000 at the start of independence was now selling for 10 times that amount.

The ANC has put to rest any suggestions of property confiscation, forced sales of property and forced accommodation of the previously unprivileged, he says.

A senior ANC spokesman had told Camdon's that any suggestion along these lines was "propaganda".

"There is no question of confiscating white property.

"It would seem that multiproperty ownership will be entirely the prerogative of the individual, if he can afford it, and again, such ownership would be protected - although this privilege could attract taxation," he said.

Basic need

The ANC's policy is to address a basic need for housing among the million or more South Africans who presently do not have proper housing.

"This implies redirecting more of the country's resources into housing.

"This policy does not mean dispossession of those who already own property in any way, whether by force or by coercion.

"What the ANC policy does mean is that..."
Some want to be alone

Proposals to eliminate migrant worker hostels as a means of solving internecine black violence are simplistic and will not work, argues Lawrence Schlemmer, director of Wits University's Centre for Policy Studies.

A system whereby hundreds of thousands of men live in overcrowded, barrack-like single quarters for months at a time between short trips home to visit their wives and families is indefensible. This system of hostel accommodation, however, is as old as industrialisation in SA. Despite decades of criticism from human rights agencies and welfare groups, until very recently hundreds of public and private hostels have been maintained and, new ones built.

Since the early months of 1991, however, calls for the dismantling of the hostel system have become more strident. The reason, as we know, has been the spate of lethal politically coloured violence that has occurred in the Transvaal, with hostel dwellers associated with the Inkatha Freedom Party and youths who live in surrounding residential areas as active participants and in many cases as violent aggressors.

Since the beginning of 1991 well over 500 people have died in this type of violence in the Transvaal.

The ANC has called for the urgent termination of the single-sex hostel system and local authorities in some instances have begun demolishing them. The Independent Development Trust has helped to fund the conversion of one hostel in Natal into family accommodation and further plans along these lines exist in the private and local authorities sectors. It has become part of current popular wisdom that dismantling these hostels will reduce or eliminate the organised violence, or counterinsurgency, surrounding the hostel communities.

SA has known many poorly considered and hurried attempted solutions to social problems in the black townships, many of which have done more harm than good. The latest urge to dismantle the hostel system may be yet another. While hostels are manifestly inadequate institutions, they both contain and have created certain social realities that will not go away with the dismantling of the physical structure.

According to Prof Dan Smit, there are at least 380,000 public and private hostel beds in SA and the number of people who make use of these exceeds 1m migrant workers. Hostel inmates are not normally included in the calculations of the urban accommodation shortage in black communities, if they were, the effective shortage of shelter estimated now would double. This fact alone is a reason for caution.

Other relevant factors exist as well, however. In research conducted by me and other researchers conducted jointly with Prof Valerie Moller in the mid-Eighties, it became clear that a proportion of hostel dwellers preferred, and would be likely to continue to prefer, temporary single status in the cities in cheap hostel accommodation.

Personal interviews by trained black staff among representative samples of male migrant workers in hostels yielded the following understandings:

- Some four out of 10 hostel dwellers considered the life to be the best way for single migrants to live in the city.
- Only about one-quarter of the hostel dwellers perceived themselves as urban or urbanising people.
- If only one to one-and-a-half out of 10 people on average expressed an existing or ideal preference for urban work and living, and
- At least half the migrants did not even feel that they would like their wives or rural female companions to join them in the city, or at least not permanently.

It was clear from the findings that migrant workers who wished to urbanise permanently, or who saw no alternative but to move permanently to the city, were already moving into shacks and private lodgings voluntarily. One might reasonably expect therefore that the perception among people who remain in hostels of their own accord as temporary, economically orientated squatters in the city, has further crystallised and intensified.

Earlier surveys showed that among the reasons for this was the fact that the hostel migrants valued certain rural resources. Among Zulu-speaking hostel dwellers in the Transvaal, for example, at least six out of 10 had, or expected, access to their own rural land (2 ha-3 ha in most cases) and despite their youthful average age, at least 50% had cattle in rural KwaZulu.

The inevitable conclusion one must draw is that, notwithstanding the constrained, frustrating and unnatural conditions in the hostels, a substantial proportion of the residents prefer this mode of urban existence to making any significant investments in more stable urban accommodation. Their priorities are in the rural areas.

Other more recent results support this broad conclusion. In a March survey among black township residents, which included a special sub-sample of hostel dwellers, a stark polarisation of values and attitudes emerged between hostel migrants and other urban black people (see table).

The hostel dwellers are not merely a category defined in terms of accommodation. They are in a sense social enclaves with a different political culture and different kinds of interests than the surrounding township dwellers. Clearly, simply dismantling the hostel system is not only complex in its implications for the residents, but may not remove the problem perceived to surround the hostels and their inhabitants.

What should be considered in particular is the fact that the hostel dwellers are so distinct in socio-economic interests and political orientations that they will remain enclaves even if their hostels are closed. Having been employed in townships prior to the programme of hostel construction in the Sixties and Seventies, and mindful of patterns of residential location elsewhere in Africa and the Third World, I would make the confident prediction that migrants will establish themselves in clearly defined and bounded concentrations within squatter camps.

Very recent experience in shack areas of Natal would seem to indicate quite conclusively that violence can erupt as easily between opposing concentrations of shack dwellers as between hostel dwellers and surrounding residential areas. Indeed, the phenomenon referred to as "warlordism" originated in shack areas.

In conclusion, therefore, what must be stated is that the policy dilemma around the future of hostel accommodation is more complex than much facile comment in the media would suggest. Hostels are a particularly unpleasant and artificial form of accommodation, and serious thought and research must be devoted to identifying appropriate options. If the motivation for destroying the hostel system, however, is largely or in part to fragment the migrant cohesion of hostel communities, the policy will most certainly backfire.
Talks on services deadlocked

A MEETING which was to resolve electricity problems in Spruitview ended in a deadlock last Friday and was postponed to October 14.

Both the Transvaal Provincial Administration and the Katlehong town council rejected a R10 service fee in light of a report submitted to the meeting by SRA and Katlehong town council coordinator each who would work with the city treasurer and Auditor-General to check irregularities in the community's accounts.

He suggested that the SRA and Katlehong town council appoint one accountant each who would work with the city treasurer and Auditor-General to check irregularities in the community's accounts.

If irregularities were found, a secret commission of inquiry would be set up to investigate.

However, SRA chairman Mr Jabu Njongane cautioned that, until the problems of irregularities and misappropriation of money by Katlehong town council were solved, Spruitview residents would continue paying R10.

He said his association would exempt residents from any liability which might arise from arrears, as a result of the flat rate.
Civics to move on rate hike

THE Civic Associations of Southern Transvaal will consider a bond rates boycott on September 30 to force banks and building societies to stop increasing interest rates.

Mr Moses Mayekoe, the president of Cast, addressed about 500 Kagiso residents before a march to the police station to demand the resignations of the township mayor, Mr Eddie Mooketsi.

Grievances

He accused banks of exploiting people.

"Banks take people for a ride. They do not listen to grievances. Rates must be decided by the people."

"The council must implement nonracial local governments.

"The Krugersdorp council must run Kagiso while we prepare for the implementation of nonracial local governments because they have money.

"The wealth of the country must develop our township."

At the police station the marchers were met by the head of protective services, Captain Ignatius Sonekal who accepted the menu.
Council acts against 3 000 rent defaulters

HUNDREDS of Mamelodi residents have had their properties attached and electricity supplies cut and two were arrested in a major crackdown on rent defaulters by the local council.

A police spokesman yesterday confirmed that two people had been arrested in connection with the illegal reconnection of power supplies to their homes on Tuesday night.

According to a spokesman for the Mamelodi Council, about 3 000 tenants had been referred to the council’s attorneys for failing to pay rent and ignoring several notices to settle their arrears.

One of the people arrested is a teacher who admitted he had not paid rent for almost a year.

By MONK NKOMO

He also confirmed that electricity supply had been cut by council officials on Tuesday.

The police spokesman said they had received complaints from the council that the power to 20 houses had been disconnected on Tuesday but had been illegally reconnected.

“We checked the allegations and asked the owners of these houses to switch off. They did,” he said.

Rent defaulters

From Page 1

“We then patrolled the area in the evening and found that two of these houses had been illegally reconnected. Both tenants were then arrested,” he said.

The teacher’s wife said they did not know who had reconnected their electricity.

A council spokesman said hundreds of rent defaulters have had their properties attached and nearly 3 000 cases have been handed to council lawyers who are seeking default judgments against them.

Amid the massive crackdown on rent defaulters, residents resolved at a public meeting organised by the local cvca association last Sunday to stop paying rent until their demands, including the resignation of councillors, had been met.
Tokoza gets warning on power cuts

THE East Rand Civic Association has called on Tokoza residents to pay their service bills to avoid a looming electricity switch-off.

The civic's general secretary, Mr Makgabo Moloto, said about half the township had not paid an interim agreement rate of R71 decided on at a meeting between the organisation and Tokoza town council in June this year.

He said the council had told the civic the amount paid since the agreement was not enough to cover the cost of supplying electricity to the township.

The civic had embarked on a door-to-door campaign to encourage residents to pay.

Although some were disgruntled because electricity had not yet been restored to their part of the township, he urged them to pay and to keep their receipts until the issue was finally resolved.

"We are meeting the council on Thursday to discuss a possible solution."

The township was without electricity for seven months until the interim agreement on June 14.

Moloto feared there would be resurgence in violence in the township if it was once again plunged into darkness.

"It's relatively quiet at the moment, but I fear the situation will go back to the way it was if the electricity is switched off."

Flashpoint

Tokoza was the flashpoint that rekindled nationwide unrest a week before the National Peace Accord was signed on September 14 by political organisations, trade unions, church groups and business leaders.

On September 8 a total of 18 people were killed and 22 were injured when Inkatha Freedom Party supporters marching to a rally in Tokoza were ambushed.

By the end of the week more than 100 people had died on the Reef - Sapa
Low-cost houses to be built in Evaton

MORE than 8 000 affordable homes are to be built about 5km north of Evaton in an attempt to alleviate the housing shortage in the area.

About 44 developers and construction companies are to take part in the project, which has been hailed as "a step in the right direction" at a time when black housing has become a major problem in South Africa.

The developers are to hold a special exhibition - the Golden Highway Housing Expo - where several types of homes have already been built for the community to see the types of houses developers can build in the R5 000 and R10 000 price range.

The show starts today and runs until October 9.

He said the land was made available by the Transvaal Provincial Administration. Several other housing projects would be built elsewhere to provide houses for the homeless.

He estimated that the Government would subsidise the first batch of homeowners by at least 33.3 percent depending on certain factors.

Other projects envisaged for the area include schools, a shopping complex and recreational facilities.

People can visit the show from 9am to 7pm daily.

Experts will be on hand to supply information on how to choose and buy one of the houses.

"The expo" will be officially opened by the Minister of Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr Leon Wessels.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO
Israeli firm to build R40-m development

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

Israel-owned Minray International has announced the development of an up to R40 million housing development in Windmill Park, just south of Boksburg.

The project, which is being marketed exclusively by Arda Boksburg, entails the construction of 500 duet houses ranging from 50m² upwards. Sales started last month.

Two houses will be built adjacent to one another on a 100m² stand. A standard unit which includes two bedrooms, a fully fitted bathroom and kitchen will sell for R64,000. This price includes all ancillary costs including bonds and transfers.

Minray has been operating in South Africa since 1985. It has built over 4,000 houses in the Transvaal and the Orange Free State.
Home bond boycott threat

Members of the black community might resort to bond repayment boycotts if financial institutions failed to address land and housing problems, the Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal hinted yesterday.

General-secretary Sam Ntuli said institutions needed to consider the needs and nature of their consumers’ communities.

The present lowest cost for a formal housing unit was between R30 000 and R35 000 and the bond repayment rate was about R341 a month for Government-subsidised houses and R563 for unsubsidised ones.

CAST called on financial institutions to educate consumers on housing bonds.

Though it had not yet called a bond boycott, CAST said if the problems were not addressed, it would “have no option but to go back to our structures with proposals which may not be acceptable to financial institutions”.

The unavailability of land and the housing problem were being exacerbated by high unemployment, low wages and high inflation.

CAST said it was arranging a conference to discuss the issues.
Talks to decide on new rent

Officials of the Department of Development Aid and a residents' delegation from Soshangue, near Pretoria, will hold another round of talks on Monday to discuss the rent crisis in the township.

Soshangue residents resolved at a meeting last month to pay an interim monthly flat rate of R30 for August and September.

It was thought that at that time would have been the period within which the department and the delegation would have come up with a solution as to what tariffs to be paid.

The money was agreed on to make funds available to pay for services to avoid a cut-off by the bulk supplier until a solution is found.

However, a spokesman for the department said only 22 percent of residents had paid the interim rate by last Monday.

Talks

"But at the moment there was no action planned against rent defaulters by the department as talks are still in progress and a joint working group from the two parties is busy finding a way to end the crisis," the spokesman said.

The two parties have been involved in several rounds of talks over the township's problems, including alleged high tariffs for rent and services said to be charged by the local administration.

The residents embarked on a rent boycott from April 7 until the end of July when they agreed to pay the interim tariffs. | Sapa.
Mamelodi council attaches rent defaulters’ possessions

THE Mamelodi Town Council has attached the possessions of about 100 households in what is believed to be the first such action against rent defaulters in the current rent crisis in Transvaal townships.

Mayor Simon Mokone said yesterday the council had handed cases of about 3 000 households to lawyers to recover part of the R20m debt built up during a seven-year rent and services boycott.

Transvaal black councils have been hit by rent and services in the past few years, but action against residents has been restricted to cutting electricity and water supply.

Mokone said the township had fallen into arrears in its payments to ESKOM and the Pretoria City Council since a rent and services boycott was launched to protest against the shooting of 12 local residents in 1984.

He said the procedure followed in taking action against defaulters was to give residents 90 days' notice to pay up, then another 21 days, after which a seven days' warning to cut electricity was given.

"Then, if they still fail to pay, the residents are warned of legal action. It is only after the council's lawyers have obtained a court order that they attach such possessions as furniture," he said.

Mokone said the council had invited civic association to suggest alternative strategies after the organisation demanded it stop "harassing the people".

"But once legal action has been through, it is irreversible," he said.
Boycott: councillors’ actions under fire

By Melody McDougall
Vereeniging Bureau

Vaal Triangle Regional Services Council (RSC) chairman Gustav du Toit has criticised the actions of three Vanderbijlpark town council representatives after they boycotted the RSC’s monthly meeting in Vereeniging this week.

Their failure to attend resulted in the lack of a quorum and the meeting had to be postponed.

According to Mr du Toit the three councillors — Gerhard Smith, Vanderbijlpark’s management committee chairman, Nic Bohme and Eben Potgieter — left the council chamber just as the meeting was about to start and assembled in the foyer.

Mr du Toit said that after the meeting was adjourned, two of the councillors, Mr Smith and Mr Potgieter, joined other members of the RSC for refreshments in the mayor’s parlour.

Condemning their behaviour, he said postponement of the meeting had led to a delay in execution of certain projects.

Mr du Toit said it was a pity that certain representatives used “apparent party politics” as a reason to disrupt the RSC’s activities.

The three concerned are all members of the Vanderbijlpark town council’s CF caucus.

Commenting on the issue, Mr Smith said he and the two other councillors did not attend the meeting because of dissatisfaction with one of the most important items on the agenda.

This was a report on the joint forum of the Vaal Civic Association, in which the principles of one town council with a single tax base was to have been discussed.

Mr Smith said that the National Party (Mr du Toit is a member of the NP) and the TPA were, in conjunction with the Vaal Civic Association, laying the foundation for the ANC principle of one town council with a single tax base.
Threat of another Tokoza blackout

ELECTRICITY supply to Tokoza township on the East Rand was about to be cut, township administrator Mr Gert Muller said yesterday. He said only 42 percent of residents had paid their fees this month.

More than half of those who had not submitted a flat rate of R71, which was not enough to keep the power supply on, Muller said.

Residents had been informed that flat-rate payments had been phased out since August.

The East Rand Civic Association has appealed to residents for payment.

The association's general secretary, Mr Makgabo Moloto, allegedly said half the township had not paid the R71 inequity flat rate decided upon at a meeting between the association and the council in June this year.

Muller said the council planned to meet members of the civic association last night to discuss the looming power cut. - Sowetan Correspondent
Homeless shelter bursting at seams

PASTOR Koos Nel, the man who started a shelter to house the destitute, can no longer cope with the number of people turning to him for help.

The Saturday Star on August 24 published a full report on Mr Nel’s shelter. Since then, about 50 homeless people have been turned away at Mr Nel’s Refuge in Christ Mission near Germiston because there is no space to accommodate them.

The shelter was built to cope with 100 people.

“At the moment there are 120 families in here and I can’t cope with this situation,” says Mr Nel.

Mr Nel has appealed for people in need of help to contact their nearest social welfare departments before turning to the shelter. “My heart gets sore every time I have to turn people away here,” he said.

Many people at the shelter are already sharing beds meant for single people.

Some people are now sleeping on the floor. As a result, the church services, usually held three times a day, have to be held outside.

HEARTSORE. Pastor Koos Nel now has to turn away the destitute.

Mr Nel, who depends on the support of donors, said: “These people have been retrenched. How on earth can you expect them to pay? They are driven here by hunger.”

The aim of the mission is to rehabilitate its residents – some of whom are former prisoners or who used to roam the streets – and return them to normal life.

Mr Nel is appealing to the social welfare departments of various towns to intervene.

He said he hoped caring citizens would help him to build a bigger shelter.
HUNDREDS of retrenched Sasol workers are about to lose their houses in Sebokeng, Evaton and other Vaal towns because they have lost their company housing subsidies along with their jobs.

Most of the workers only moved into their new houses in the past year, after being encouraged by the State-owned oil-from-coal corporation to buy houses through building societies. But Sasol stopped granting 100 per cent subsidies from this month.

Most of the group of 30 who came to City Press for help have lived in their houses for less than a year — some for as little as three months.

They have bonds of about R35 000 with a variety of banks and their monthly repayments are about R600 a month. Most of the workers got Sasol subsidies of between R400 and R500 a month from this month. Most of them will not be able to pay their bonds.

More than 700 workers were retrenched at Sasol's Vereeniging plant this month and workers accuse the company of reducing staff to enable it to contract out essential work such as maintenance.

Some of the retrenched workers have apparently been re-employed by the private contractors and are back at Sasol doing their old jobs for lower wages and no benefits.

Retrenched workers this week told City Press of the additional trauma of losing their homes as well as their jobs.

Assistant fitter Josias Koalepe only moved into his Sebokeng house in May. Four months later he was retrenched and has no prospects of another job. His bond repayment is R538 a month and with his R500 Sasol subsidy he managed comfortably to pay R138 for his R35 000 house. Now he stands to lose it.

As a breadwinner with three school-going children his meagre retrenchment package will barely keep the family in food and other essentials. There is simply no money to pay the bond.

"Why did Sasol encourage us to buy houses if they knew they would retrench us?" Last year, Sasol personnel officers gave pamphlets to all the workers saying we should buy houses before September 1991. We did as they advised us, only to find that four months after moving into the first proper house I have ever had, I am going to lose it. This is a very bitter pill to swallow," Koalepe told City Press.

Koalepe said he took the Sasol's invitation to workers to apply for subsidies to mean they were assured of their jobs for the future.

"How can they give us housing subsidies with one hand and take away our jobs with the other?" Vaal Civic Association chairman Malik Madise says the issue is of great concern to the VCA.

"We are totally against homelessness and this policy of linking houses to jobs is one which creates homelessness. We are contacting the financial institutions for an urgent meeting to discuss the implications for homeowners of these massive retrenchments."
Property

Timber takes off!

A TIMBER house building project is to be launched in Doornkop, Soweto, to train residents in the building of timber-frame houses and to establish a non-profit supply depot for building materials.

The branch of the South African Lumber Makers' Association (Salma) in the area will be run by Salma and the community associations of Doornkop and Dobsonville.

Sixty community members will be trained over the next few months to build simple timber houses. A 10 metre square, one-roomed house will cost about R250 to build, including a tilled roof, window and door.

The Doornkop project is the first to be launched as a result of a conference organised earlier this month by Salma and City Press in conjunction with community associations and homeless communities.

The first group of 12 trainees has started a three-week training course, which is free to people chosen by their associations.

These trainees must undertake to return to their communities to build houses for homeless people.

Trainees receive a study allowance from the Department of Manpower for attending the course.

The course is approved by Manpower as part of its job-creation programme.

Trainees receive a certificate at the end of the course.

Manpower also funds the employment of trainees so long as they are employed on the project.

An important part of the project will be to set up a materials depot where community members will be able to buy timber and other building materials at cost. Salma members will supply timber direct from the sawmills to these associations.

Trainees were hard at work when City Press visited the training centre last week and were shocked.

"We are so excited about this project. We desperately need houses in Doornkop and we feel we will be able to build for people when we finish this course."

"When we get land at Doornkop we did not have anyone interested in supplying materials."

They said the new skill will enable them to make Doornkop a decent community. They
Cops say join IFP or else claim

By THEMBA KHUMALO

SEVERAL Dobsonville residents have complained that local policemen told them to join the Inkatha Freedom Party if they did not want to be attacked by hostel dwellers.

Residents allege that police told them to join Inkatha when they went to report an imminent attack by hostel inmates on September 14.

Later that evening red-headed impis attacked houses, breaking windows and doors and assaulting people indiscriminately, the residents claimed.

Scores of people were wounded and their houses looted by the marauders.

Among those who complained about the police was local resident, Medupe Mogole, who said his mother went to the police station to report the threatened attack and a policeman advised her to join the IFP.

She refused and the officer allegedly warned her against "bothering the police with reporting Inkatha attacks" and chased her out of his office.

She fled to another part of the township and is terrified to return to her house.

SAP spokesman for Soweto Lt G Mane-moothu denied that the police were recruiting "agents for any political party."

"We are apolitical and we don't allow our members to indulge in politics. "We are an impartial force and any policeman who violates our rules is dealt with."

Executive member of the Dobsonville Civic Association, Zacharia Medupe, said his organisation was investigating Mogole's allegations.
THE “Helen Joseph” Women’s Hostel in Alexandra was built in 1972 when the government planned to bulldoze Alex and build eight hostels.

Even before that time many families were forcibly removed to Soweto and Thembisa, but residents resisted. Today there are two men’s hostels and one women’s hostel in the township – a stone's throw away from the opulence of Sandton.

The approximately 2,800 women at “Helen Joseph” come from one to another and back to stay on. Their right toresses and have

MINDS scenes

WOMAN’S WORK IS NEVER DONE... A resident scrubs a passage floor in the hostel.

BEDROOM SCENE... A peek at Zodwa Mahlangu and her family who live in the hostel.

CAUGHT IN THE ACT... A woman reads.
over the country with the - to find work.

In Johannesburg, due to an acute lack of action, they are forced into dormitory-like conditions.

Occupations range from workers and teachers to informal business such as sewing, hawking, and more.

Photographer Anna Zief gets a rare behind-the-scenes look at the lives of the little-pushed hostel-dwellers.

PIN-UP GIRL. Charlotte Tyu and son Sibusiso are fast asleep in their room.
Row brewing over bonds

The Civic Association of Southern Transvaal is to meet financial institutions today to discuss the land and housing crises in the black communities.

The president of Cosat, Mr Moses Mayekuo, said the organisation was concerned that "the banks have pulled out in financing housing in developing areas."

"Cosat feels financial institutions should provide finance in a manner that will meet the needs of the communities. This means education on bonds, explanation on hidden costs and interests, careful monitoring of defects in building as well as the reputation of builders and private financial institutions and civic."

"Cosat strongly feels that the financial institutions owe a duty of social responsibility to the community in this respect." Mr Mayekuo said Cosat dissociated itself from the boycott of bond repayments.

He said the conference aimed at finding interim measures while the national policy was still being negotiated.

Mr Tim Hart, the executive director of the Association of Mortgage Lenders, said all the financial institutions would attend.
Cast leader assassinated in Thokoza

CIVICS Association of Southern Transvaal (Cast) general secretary Sam Ntsh was shot dead by unknown gunmen yesterday.

SAP spokesman Capt Henrieke Better said an occupant of an unmarked Toyota Cressida fired shots from an AK-47 rifle at Ntsh as he stood in a street in Thokoza, on the East Rand.

Ntsh died instantly.

There were no reports of other injuries in the shooting incident, which happened about 11.45am.

VERA VON LERES

Cast president Moses Mayekiso yesterday blamed hit squads for Ntsh's death, saying it could be linked to the "targeting" of the democratic movement's leadership.

ANC president Nelson Mandela told a rally in Eldorado Park that NP members were safe but that ANC leaders were being shot.

"Government is aware of the presence of death squads but is refusing to disband them," Mandela said.
450 families to move

About 450 Mamelodi families staying in a danger zone close to an open mine are to be moved to a nearby area as from tomorrow, Transvaal NEC John Mavuso said yesterday. The Mamelodi Civic Association had indicated its willingness to cooperate with the move.
Urgent talks held over homes crisis

By Louise Burgess
Municipal Reporter

Banks and building societies have formed a working committee with Transvaal civic associations to address bond repayment problems and the shortage of housing.

A crusade meeting was held in Johannesburg yesterday.

Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST) spokesman Mohammed Dangor said issues included access to and affordability of housing and finance, foreclosures, the impact of VAT, lack of information for prospective borrowers, community trusts and the state of the economy.

The meeting began with a special memorial service for CAST general-secretary Sam Ntuli, who was shot-dead on Sunday.
R25 million levy invalid

THE Atteridgeville Town Council may have to refund local residents nearly R25 million following last week's ruling by the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein.

The court found that a special levy implemented by the council two years ago was null and void.

The levy was implemented in an apparent bid to avoid refunding residents' following unlawful rent increases in 1985.

The ruling, made last Friday, followed a successful appeal by Mr Thabo Schume of Atteridgeville. The respondents were the council and the Administrator of the Transvaal.

Schume, a member of the Azanian Peoples Organisation, successfully challenged service charge increases imposed by the council in 1985.

Atteridgeville's administrator, Mr Maartiens Nel, could not be reached for comment yesterday.

A spokesman for the Transvaal Provincial Administration said he was unaware of the judgment. He said he would issue a statement after he had studied it.

In a statement released yesterday, Azapo said the ruling meant that the council should now refund

To page 2
Council 'owes residents' in wake of court ruling

From Page 1

residents an amount of money still to be established by the organisation's accountants. The amount is believed to run into more than R25 million. The Pretoria township has 11,000 tenants.

Mr Justice Stafford

The council then filed an application for leave to appeal on July 8, 1988 but withdrew the application on February 17, 1989.

Instead of refunding residents, the council promulgated a by-law in 1988 which provided for a special levy to be paid by tenants retrospective to the time that the unlawful increases were implemented.

The Pretoria Supreme Court had earlier ruled that Sehume was entitled to a refund for rent money invalidly collected by the council.

Mr Justice Kreger, acting judge of the Appeal Court, ruled last Friday that the council had discriminated unreasonably against householders who had made payments for charges for municipal services under the invalidated by-laws.

Kreger said both in its intent and its effect, the special levy imposed by the council served to reverse the invalidation of the laws.

Reacting to the latest ruling, Azapo said "This is a tremendous victory for the residents of Atteridgeville who were deprived of a refund by the council despite their hard-earned victory in a court of law.

"Residents would soon be informed of the amounts they are owed by the council. But we can state categorically that the amount due to the tenants far outweighs what is owed to the council, and we hope that this will lead to the immediate restoration of electricity in the township."
Atteridgeville
power restored

ELECTRICITY supplies to Atteridgeville will be restored today, it was officially announced yesterday.

The Pretoria Regional Services Council, the administrator, the local civic association, the Pretoria City Council, the interim committee and the minister's fraternal announced this in a joint statement released yesterday.

After several meetings during the past weeks to resolve the rent crisis, the parties agreed that residents would pay a flat rate of R75 a month during the October and November months.

Hostel inmates would pay a flat rate of R15 each during the same period and all other premises would pay the existing published charges as approved by Atteridgeville in respect of occupation, sewerage, rubbish removal, water and electricity.

“Before October 31, the Atteridgeville representatives and the administrator will determine economic tariffs which will be implemented on December 1 this year,” the statement said.

The township had its power cut on July 22 when the Atteridgeville council failed to pay nearly R5 million in arrear service charges.

All parties who negotiated the deal yesterday warned that electricity supplies would be cut to residents who did not pay the new rates. October accounts are expected to be paid in by next Saturday.
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CAST rejects new township bosses

Municipal Reporter

The Civic Association of Southern Transvaal has dismissed the appointment of white administrators for Alexandra and Kagiso as a non-event.

CAST vice-president Kgabusi Mosunkutu yesterday said nothing had changed as black local authorities were still intact.

MEC Olaus van Zyl said in a statement this week that the regional services council chairmen of the areas in which Alexandra and Kagiso were situated would take over from councillors who had not bowed to pressure from extra-parliamentary organisations to resign.

The councillors would retain their positions, but would relinquish all decision-making powers to newly appointed administrators, CA du Bruyn and John Griffiths.

Mr van Zyl said this would ensure the continued provision of essential municipal services.

Mr Mosunkutu said the civic had repeatedly called for the resignation of all black councillors.

"This is no event at all. We don't want apartheid cities. The black local authorities must be scrapped and the councillors must resign.

"In the interim, all services must be taken over by the white councils until there is a new dispensation because they have the expertise, the finance, and our people have been contributing to them for years."
Council owes R25m to residents — Azapo

The Atteridgeville Town Council might have to repay local residents more than R25m following successful legal action by Azapo, the organisation said yesterday.

Action challenging the legality of tariff increases imposed by the council from April 1985 was brought by Azapo member Thabo Sehume — represented by the Legal Resources Centre — in March 1988, Azapo said in a statement.

Sehume had submitted that the increases were not properly advertised.

Judgment passed by the Appeal Court in favour of Sehume last Friday meant that increases implemented in April 1985, April 1987 and January 1989 were illegal, Azapo Central Transvaal region secretary Kabelo Seabi said yesterday.

After Mr Justice Stafford had declared on June 17 1988 that increases implemented in 1985 and 1987 were null and void, the council filed a notice of application for leave to appeal, but withdrew the notice in February 1989, Azapo said.

"Thereafter, increase No 3 (January 1989) came into effect with a special levy which was reflected in the January 1989 accounts," the organisation said.

"We took the council to court and on August 29 1989, the court ruled in favour of the council concerning the 1989 increase."

The organisation launched an appeal in September 1989, leave to appeal was granted and the actual appeal started in the Appellate Division in January last year.

"The matter was heard before the Appellate Court on September 10 1991 and on September 27 judgment was passed in our favour," Azapo said.

It said since the only lawful increases were those introduced in March 1986, the council owed the 11 000 odd Atteridgeville households all the extra payments they had made, which Azapo put at more than R25m.

Azapo said yesterday its accountants were still working out exactly what was owed.

Atteridgeville administrator Martene Nel could not be reached for comment.

A TPA spokesman said the province could not comment because an extract of the judgment had not yet been received.

The township, which owes the Pretoria City Council about R1,8m for electricity, water and sewage removal, this week had the electricity supply reinstated after a two-month cut-off. This followed provision of security by the Pretoria RSC.

Cosatu clarifies statement

Cosatu spokesperson Neil Coleman said yesterday the federation wanted to clarify that it had not called for a national economic negotiating forum to replace the National Manpower Commission, as may have been implied in yesterday's Business Day.

He said Cosatu would rejoin the commission if it was restructured to perform the function of a negotiating forum, representing all major parties. It was presently merely an advisory and unrepresentative body. Cosatu's withdrawal followed a failure by government to implement an agreement to restructure the commission on that basis.

He said Cosatu was not proposing that the commission should deal with broader economic issues. It should perform its function directly in relation to labour legislation. However, it had become apparent that there was a need for separate forums involving unions, employers and the state to discuss constructively economic and labour issues which included job creation and retrenchments.

OVEN AND LOAD ARE

FOR

CABERNET

LONDON; JUNE 1991:

Led by noted wine
Price, the London branch
Wine & Food Society's
Fleur du Cap Cabernet
Collection. Five bottles
contain the same wine but
from five different

Summing up the tasting in the "Food & Wine" magazine, Mr Price said:

"The wine is truly excellent in taste between the various types of oak barrels, and is clearly better than its separate pressings. It is a blend that is sold only at the Fleur du Cap Cellar door and is now available for the first time.

CAPE TOWN; JUNE 1991:

Fleur du Cap Cabernet has been selected by the Wine Society's Wine & Food Society as the best wine in the 1986 and older Cabernets. Fleur du Cap Cabernet 1986 is now available for the first time.

FLEUR DU CAP

PRIDE OF THE CAPE
Civics furious over try at spying
By Rehana Rossouw

STAFF of the National Civics Interim Committee are convinced that security forces are attempting to spy on them after a worker was approached to provide information for a shadowy research organisation.

Last month, Ms Cathy Aranes, an administrative worker at the organisation's national office in Salt River, was offered money by two people if she photocopied minutes of meetings Aranes believed she was targeted for. She is the second member of the organisation to be asked to pass on information in recent months.

The approach came days after Aranes had been passed off as finding another job with an employment agency. She later received a telephone call from a woman calling herself Amie. Amie Justin said that she had obtained the telephone number from Lautscher and asked if Aranes would be interested in an office administration job and Aranes arranged to meet her in a restaurant with a man who introduced himself as Carol. As Carol, Aranes said, "We went to a restaurant to discuss the job offer over coffee, but even before we got there I was suspicious. They asked me about my job and what I did, and then they began talking about Cia (Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal)."

At the restaurant "Carol" said they were part of a group researching what "people on the ground" felt about organisations. He said Aranes could help them by photocopying minutes of civic meetings and giving it to them.

They were particularly interested in arguments and problems members had with each other.
Township tariff rises ‘illegal’

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Atteridgeville Town Council may have to refund more than R25m to residents of the township following successful legal action by Azapo, the organisation said yesterday.

In March 1988, Azapo member Mr Thabo Sehume instituted action challenging the legality of tariff increases imposed by the council. Mr Sehume had submitted that the increases were not properly advertised. Judgment passed by the Appeal Court in favor of Mr Sehume last Friday meant that increases implemented in April 1985, April 1987 and January 1989 were ‘illegal’, an Azapo spokesman said.
Cast probes Ntuli murder

THE Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday criticised police investigations into the assassination of its general secretary Sam Ntuli, and said it had begun its own probe into the murder.

Police said, however, that their investigation was hampered by a lack of cooperation from residents of Thokoza, where Ntuli was gunned down on Sunday.

Investigating officer Lt Rudi van Oost said witnesses were reluctant to come forward with information, and conflicting reports had been received.

Police had no hard facts to work on, but were taking statements and continuing with the investigation.

In another development, the Thokoza ANC Youth League said yesterday that Ntuli had been warned on Saturday that elements of the East Rand community wanted him dead.

Local Youth League chairman Mbongeni Radebe said the warning had come from residents "with links to other structures" in the township. He added that the car used by the killers had been seen in Thokoza before.

The killing was part of an organised attempt to destroy progressive organisations, Radebe said.

Cast vice-chairman Kgalakgoe Maunake said the organisation was following various leads in its investigation and would later compare notes with the police.

He said the community would not withhold information from police and had pledged to assist their investigations.

Cast president Moses Mayekiso said police should stop making excuses and get on with their investigation.

Cast, meanwhile, has called on communities to maximise their personal security.

Government, the organisation said, should publicly disband its counter-insurgency units and death squads.

A memorial service will be held for Ntuli in the Thokoza auditorium on Sunday.
Phalaborwa gets first black resident

PHALABORWA's first black resident has moved into his new home in the CP-controlled town despite furious opposition from right-wingers.

Mine supervisor Jackson Ngobem was allocated a house in the white Phalaborwa by his employer, Phalaborwa Mining Company (PMC), in accordance with company housing policy adopted after the scrapping of the Group Areas Act.

But the CP-controlled town council "opposed the move, calling a referendum on August 23 to gauge public sentiment.

Only 20% of the town's population bothered to vote, with 1,328 "no" votes against 45 "yes" votes.

Although the council interpreted the results as a mandate to try to block Ngobem's arrival, mayor Jan Grobbelaar said the council could do nothing as long as Ngobem was within the law.

PMC declared itself an "equal opportunities" employer in 1963.

The only area of company policy in which discrimination was practised was in housing allocations, which were regulated by the Group Areas Act.

PMC, which owns 1160 out of the 3100 stands in Phalaborwa, approved Ngobem's application after the Group Areas Act was repealed and allocated him a house in Knoppeldoring Street. Two other black employees have since applied for houses in the town and a coloured mechanic is to move into a block of flats.
Movement cast giant shadow

Unity

Eventually, despite the boycott, individual councils in CAST's subsequent meetings continued to support the ANC's plan to form a new non-racial council. The result was a renewed political and social struggle for democracy and unity. The new council was composed of representatives from various political parties, including the ANC, the IFP, and the Progressive Federal Party. This council was known as the United Democratic Front (UDF).

Crisis

To sum it up, by November last year the crisis had reached its climax. The growing sense of urgency led to the formation of the UDF as a response to the ANC's call for a non-racial council. This was a significant development in the struggle for democracy and unity in South Africa. However, the crisis also highlighted the extent of the apartheid regime's resistance to change. Despite the ANC's efforts, the path to freedom was long and fraught with challenges.

ABBIE MAOKE

1988
A man who hated councillors and courted host of enemies

SAM Ntuli was a man with a mission. He aimed to wipe black local authorities off the map. His efforts to drive black councillors to mass resignations were not in vain.

Many resigned, most with some, such as former Inyorton mayor Tom Buya, ending up working with him after being politically "cleaned." But Sam Ntuli, the general-secretary of the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST), knew the dangers of his kind of work. Often he talked of death. He knew there would always be someone waiting to fill his shoes. Last Sunday his fears became reality.

He was gunned down in Tokela, while on community business, by men who are believed to have been armed with AK-47 assault rifles.

It was an end he knew he would be ahead of Destiny's time, not least of all since developments last November. Mr Ntuli (51) had been making things extremely difficult for the councilors. He had sought to disunite the black community by spearheading a "race now" campaign, which was to be supported with festive season matches on the homes of councilors reluctant to resign.

The marches were organized to take place between Christmas Day and New Year's Day. The council was to resign by November 30 or face the consequences.

On December 14, with two weeks to go before the marches began, the council stopped. It was reported in the Tokela Chronicle that the councilors "were in the process of resigning."

Mr Ntuli reportedly lost control of the situation.

A police investigation is still ongoing. It is not clear if there are indications of criminal activities.

In January, Mr Ntuli took on the Alberton City Council when he, with the help of councilors in the Tokela Chronicle Association, orchestrated a consumer boycott of white-owned businesses.

Mr Ntuli's arrival in Tokela was not the beginning of his journey. He had been involved in various community projects, including education, health, and housing.

In April, on the eve of the signing of the blueprint for the Kuwadzana Metropolitain Charnel, Mr Ntuli's death made the councilors again the focus of attention.

There was violence in the township and it was the councilors who were accused of being the "chief offenders." A leading businessman commented at the time: "We can't afford to be the most hard-line. Let's not allow this to go on for too long."

Then, on February 14, Mr Ntuli's Tokela house was bombed. Five people, including an 18-month-old baby girl and a nine-year-old niece, were injured in the attack.

Mr Ntuli arrived in Tokela, and as he revealed, in an exclusive interview with the Saturday Star, that the sticking point for the councilors was the issue of "race." He said: "For five years, the councilors had been in place country-wide, ready to be accredited.

Clampdown

He added that "secret societies" had been "silenced" since 1986 as a result of former President P.W. Botha's clampdown on political activities.

He claimed that CAST had more than 500 active members. The councilors were later to delay and accuse the councilors of the Matabeleko Chamber. The condition was later to delay and accuse the councilors of the Matabeleko Chamber. The condition was later to delay and accuse the councilors of the Matabeleko Chamber. The condition was later to delay and accuse the councilors of the Matabeleko Chamber. The condition was later to delay and accuse the councilors of the Matabeleko Chamber. The condition was later to delay and accuse the councilors of the Matabeleko Chamber. The condition was later to delay and accuse the councilors of the Matabeleko Chamber.

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LONG WAIT... Women and children outside Waldorf Heights wait for a lawyer to get them back in. They were evicted by the landlord in an argument over rent payments. PIC: EVANS MBOWENI

Flat tenants out on the street

By ERIC NAKI

Tenants at Waldorf Heights flats in Hillbrow, including one woman, spent the whole day in the street on Wednesday after being evicted for not paying rent directly to the landlord.

Although the tenants claim to be up to date with rent payments, the owner, Joe Faber, kicked them out because he had not received the money.

In August, tenants decided to keep their rent payments in a bank account because Faber neglected the building.

They claimed they had been without electricity since last year.

The only lift for the 11-storey building has been out of order for the past two years. In most flats, window panes are broken and doors leading to the balcony have no handles.

When City Press visited, the flat was empty, the tenants waited outside while their lawyer negotiated with security personnel to allow his clients to re-occupy their flats.

Later in the evening, a list of legitimate tenants was read out and those with keys for their flats were allowed in, together with their sub-tenants.

One woman had to sleep on the pavement the whole night and another was allegedly raped by a security guard.

Faber told City Press he had nothing to do with the issue as the letting agency he used – which he refused to name – was dealing with it.
Black family moves in amid AWB threats

FEARLESS. Mackson Ngobem and his wife, Gelly, who say they will not be intimidated

A BLACK family moved into a white suburb of a right-wing town this week after their lawyers warned the AWB to stop its death threats and racist talk.

The threats against Phalaborwa Mining Company father of five, Mr Mackson Ngobem, 46, and his wife Gelly, 42, have sparked a massive ANC consumer boycott which will begin in the mining town on Tuesday.

Legal Resources Centre lawyers informed Mr Friz Meyer, leader of the AWB Wemkommando in Phalaborwa, that an urgent court interdict would be sought if he did not stop verbally harassing Mr Ngobem.

Mr Meyer, who is also a spokesman for the CP, FPNP, Phalaborwa Tuwsag and Boerenvrydsbeweging, confirmed he had been asked not to infringe on the rights of Mr Ngobem, but added that "nothing much would come of this."

"Mr Ngobem's lawyers said the interdict would forbid me from going within a one-kilometre range of his house. In that case they will have to get an interdict against almost every citizen of Phalaborwa, because we do not want this family to live among whites.

"No matter what happens, he and his family are not safe. Every black man who moves into our town will leave us no choice - they all will become targets."

"Open war has been declared now that he has moved in and I can do nothing to stop people from harming him," he said.

Mr Meyer said "blood would flow" in the streets of the CP-controlled town if black families moved into houses allocated to them by the FMC.

Mr Ngobem has been an assistant shift foreman at FMC for the past 20 years. He said his new home was like a dream come true.

"I was so happy when I was told we could move here. We lived in the Namsakgale township, which meant I had to travel 43km to work and back every day."

"The people who make these threats and those who do not want us to live in our house do not know what kind of man I am. I am a Christian man who lives a religious, good life with my family."

"But I believe that no one will harm us. I believe in the goodness of mankind. My neighbours have been very friendly and I am sure no one will interfere with us."

He said his children had also settled down in their new home.

Mr Paul Clother, a FMC spokesman, said yesterday his company would continue implementing its non-racial housing policy.

The spokesman for the local ANC branch and the Consumer Boycott Committee, Mr Ludwig Raklaba, said "The boycott will go ahead and it will continue indefinitely."

"We have handed our demands over to the council, but they refuse to speak to us. The local Chamber of Commerce has also been notified," he said.
14 families out on the streets

ABOUT 14 families were evicted from a Johannesburg block of flats yesterday for allegedly failing to pay rent.

This is the second eviction at the flats in a week.

Four families were evicted last Tuesday.

The 14 families, most of whom began staying at Claridge Court in Joubert Park since the flat was decontrolled in 1989, said they were not warned of the eviction.

Caretaker Mr William Tekane said management had evicted the tenants for failing to pay rent since June.

The families' clothing and other belongings were scattered on the pavement yesterday.

Actstop executive member Mr Tshediso Lebelo refuted management's allegations.

He said the problem started in June when tenants were told that the

By ISAAC MOLEDI

owner, Goruffil Brothers, had sold the building to driving school owner Mr David Phahladra.

They were also told by Goruffil's agent, Lector, that Phahladra had decided to increase rent. By June, tenants were paying between R260 and R450 a month.

Lebelo said tenants had marked on a rent boycott after several attempts to meet the new owner had failed.

Phahladra knew nothing of the arrangement, Tekane said.

Mlokoiti

In the issue of October 7 Sowetan inadvertently misspelt the name of Dr Gail Mlokoiti, the intra-organisational communications manager at Eskom.

The error is regretted.
Home of black supervisor in 'white area' attacked

The house of Palabora Mining Company supervisor Mackson Ngobeni, who became the town's first black resident last week amid threats by right-wingers, has been attacked.

His house is now under 24-hour guard by company security. Police patrols pass at regular intervals, Mr Ngobeni said.

Mr Ngobeni said the attack took place at 4.05 am on Sunday.

"I heard glass shattering. When I went to investigate I found a brick in the dining room where the window was shattered. There was no one nearby and I did not see who did it," he said.

Mr Ngobeni said he called the police and mining security, who responded speedily.

Company spokesman, S H Rix, said the company was satisfied with security arrangements and said the incident was unfortunate but would not deter the company from carrying out its policy to deracialise housing for employees.

Mr Ngobeni (46), a father of four, said the family would not move out.

"This is our home and we are not going anywhere. Many whites have also phoned to welcome me and some sent my family cakes and cards," he said.

Mr Ngobeni's intended move to Phalaborwa's white area raised the ire of the local AWB, which threatened that his "blood will flow".

AWB leader Fritz Meyer was restricted by a Supreme Court order last week from harming Mr Ngobeni. While pledging to honour the court order, he said the attacks would continue until Mr Ngobeni moved out.
Family in white area attacked

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Cast/mortgage lenders meeting gives hope for resolution of housing crisis

By MONDLI MAKHANYA

There are glimmers of hope about the financing crisis in the black housing market. But it is still far from being resolved, despite increased contact between civic organisations and financial institutions.

All that a meeting last week between the Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) and the Association of Mortgage Lenders achieved was the formation of a joint working committee to resolve the crisis.

At the heart of the crisis is financial institutions’ cold feet about lending in black townships. As a result, private developers are stampeding out of black townships.

The financial institutions’ main concern is the profitability and risk factor lending to township dwellers entails. However, threats of bond boycotts have aggravated the banks and building societies’ paranoia.

The recession’s products of low wage increases, increased retrenchments and high interest rates are taking their toll on township dwellers’ ability to meet bond payments.

Thus civics are demanding affordable interest rates; a moratorium on foreclosures; and the reversal of the 25 percentage point bond rate rise.

A participant at the meeting says “there was agreement on some issues but we disagreed on many more than we agreed on. Given such a situation and the almost irreconcilable positions of the two groups the working group certainly has an arduous task ahead”.

Nedbank chief economist Edward Osborn, speaking in his private capacity, says there is no room for compromise on the issue of interest rates and risk assessment.

“If you’re going to make exceptions insofar as interest rates and risk assessment what are you going use as your criteria: colour, income level or area of residence?” he asks.

He points to the danger of distorting the market and also compromising financial institutions’ obligation to their clients and shareholders.

A way of this logjam is what Osborn refers to as “appropriate government subsidised institutions for risk venture lending” and Cast calls a “people’s bank that will provide local communities with access to their savings and loans mechanisms”.

But unless the state intends financing such an institution through huge foreign borrowing or excessive taxation, the financial institutions are still going to have to play major role.
By THEMBA KHUMALO

A SECOND massive rent boycott is looming in Soweto after thousands of residents received high bills in Greater Soweto, Dobsonville and Diepmeadow townships.

According to councillor Benjamin Mtmku, the local town clerk for an explanation, the official left his office and told them he was in a hurry.

Residents in Greater Soweto have been threatening to resume a second rent boycott after most of them received exorbitant bills in the last few months. They argued that the meter-readers had used the “old trick” of not reading the meters properly.

In August Eskom and other major consortia such as the Rand Water Board threatened to discontinue their services in the area if residents did not stop boycott action.

Civic and political bodies have subsequently renewed their call for the councillors’ resignation.

Bills spark rent threat

Mtmku, who is also an ANC member, blamed the council staff for the bills and accused the meter-readers of being inefficient. They are employees of a private company hired by the council for the task.

“I burst into the offices of senior officials and told them to hand over the township administration to the ANC because they are a failure,” said Mtmku.

Residents only received their August bills at the end of last month. The Dieploof Civic Association called a public meeting at the local hall last week to discuss the issue.
Beyond the water pail

By DAN DHLAMINI

At least 10 people were allegedly arrested for stealing water in one of two western Transvaal townships where authorities have cut water and electricity supplies this week.

However, western Transvaal police said only seven people — not 10 — from Schweizer-Reneke's Ipelegeng township were arrested and charged under the Fencing Act, and not for water theft.

The spokesman said the Schweizer-Reneke Council had instructed police to arrest anyone who jumped the fence which serves as a border between Ipelegeng, Sharon, Coloured township and Schweizer-Reneke.

Seven residents will appear in court on November 14 to face charges under the Fencing Act.

Ipelegeng Civic Association spokesman Jerry Masse said residents felt police were taking sides with the Ipelegeng Council and were trying to prevent residents from obtaining water.

"Our coloured and Indian brothers were giving us water free of charge," he said. "The tap in Sharon has now been disconnected, but people travel about two kilometres to draw water from the mosque," he said.

Maine residents had requested that they pay water and electricity rates directly to the Koster Council, but this was rejected.

He said the community felt that the Koster Council did not want to involve itself in the "struggle of the people." They therefore felt they had to exert pressure on white voters to force the council to respond positively.

Koster town clerk Johan Truter said the consumer boycott and the disconnection of water and electricity were totally unrelated.

Supplies were cut because Reagile owed Koster about R30,000 for services rendered.

Transvaal Administrator Olaus van Zyl recently visited Carletonville's Khutsong township, following protests by several residents.

Residents of Extensions One and Two had staged a council sit-in to protest exorbitant electricity bills.

After discussions with Khutsong Civic Association representatives, Van Zyl said he would look into the grievances.
"I want my house back'" by Monwabisi Nomadolo

LOOKING as frail as a flower, a sobbing 92-year-old granny this week said all she wanted was her house back and not to be sent to a home for the aged.

Sarah Segoba, one of the oldest residents and first teachers in the West Rand township of Mokhaleng, had her three-roomed house taken over by lodger Sello Ditse, allegedly without her consent.

"I agreed to stay with them as I was living alone at the time," she said.

She was now a stranger in her own house after Ditse took over ownership, she said.

Ditse, who is in his early 30s, said he was given the house by the council's housing committee.

Refused to name the people who allocated the house to him.

Segoba told City Press she had stayed alone in her house in Mokhaleng Street since 1964.

"But now I'm told to go to a home for the aged. I don't want to leave my house," she said, tears rolling down her wrinkled cheeks.

She said she was locked outside the house when Ditse and his wife, a high school pupil, were away.

"They would leave me a bowl of soft porridge outside," she said.

Ditse, who moved in 18 months ago, did not deny locking the old woman outside. Neither did he deny taking Segoba to a doctor in order to obtain a medical form with the intention of sending her to a home for the aged.

"She is old now and she forgets to lock the house. As a result, we could get our property stolen," he said.

Defending himself, he said he consulted his family before taking the decision to send her to the home. This was denied by Segoba's relatives.

Ditse said he was related to the 92-year-old women through his wife.

The council superintendent, Vuyo Peich, confirmed the house had been transferred to Ditse with Segoba's consent.

Segoba, who still speaks fluently for her age, said her misery started 18 months ago when a local councillor brought in the couple to stay with her.
Township borhole battle rages

By Joanne Collinge

The situation towards sunset at 5.00 p.m. was described as acute. The residents had been warned to expect a possible protest from the council workers, who were planning to continue their strike for the next few days. The council workers had been demanding better working conditions and higher wages, but the council was refusing to negotiate. The police had been called in to maintain order, but tensions remained high.

The protest was organized by the local union, which claimed that the council was not fulfilling its obligations to the workers. The council's response was that the union was causing unnecessary disruption and that the workers were not allowed to strike.

The situation escalated when the council workers, armed with pickets and banners, took over a key section of the township, blocking access to essential services. The police warned that they would not tolerate such behavior and warned the workers to clear the area.

The protest continued into the night, with the council workers maintaining their position and the police standing by.

The township remained divided, with tensions running high between the council workers and the council. It was uncertain how the situation would be resolved, but it was clear that the dispute was far from over.
Residents cry out for homes

MORE than 1 000 desperate QwaQwa residents have in the past few weeks mobbed the offices of the territory's local authorities, demanding affordable homes.

The incident happened after the QwaQwa Housing Department opened 187 affordable homes for sale in Namabrah, a district of the area.

The general manager of QwaQwa Housing, Mr Anton Valks, called the resultant melee a crisis - "but not because of the huge number of people vying for so few houses".

"We felt we were being confronted with the whole truth about the acute housing crisis in the country," he said, adding, "In a way, the show of demand was also an endorsement of our mission, which is the provision of affordable housing and the promotion of home ownership among the people."

QwaQwa Housing was established in 1989 with the major objective of providing housing in the territory, thereby helping in its own area, to ease the serious housing backlog currently facing South Africa.

He said, "Since our inception, we have built close to 1 000 houses the majority of which are in the affordable range. Our main concern is the ordinary person who would not normally be able to afford a house."

The houses sold by his department are sold to low income earners - R600 and below - at R9 000 and at a low deposit of R100.

He said that they offered a one-stop service which included planning, building and loan finance.

In the 1991 financial year housing delivery had been planned to reach 3 000 units. The cost of the entire project was expected to exceed R24 million on completion.

He said additional 2 000 affordable houses were due for delivery by December.
Uproar over power cuts in Pretoria

SCORES of residents in Atteridgeville are up in arms over constant electricity power cuts in certain parts of the township since Monday.

Affected residents, including those in Matsemela, Mngomezulu and Ramokgopa streets on the western side of the township, as well as those people staying in areas bordered by Sekhu, Maunde and Ntshu streets, have complained of blackouts since Monday, especially in the evenings after 6pm.

A spokesman for the town council yesterday confirmed that problems existed but assured residents that the matter was being attended to.

Remedy

He added that the blackouts were caused by the upgrading of electricity sub-stations in those areas.

"We appeal to residents to bear with us. We are doing our utmost to remedy the situation," the spokesman said.

Chairman of the local civic association, Mr Reeves Mabutse, yesterday said they were unaware of the problem but

By MONK NKOMO

promised that they would discuss the issue with the administrator, Mr Maarten Nel.

"We assure residents affected that everything will be done to stop this inconvenience," Mabutse said.

Residents in the affected areas said they had heeded the call by the authorities to start paying a flat rate of R75 a month during October and November.

The call followed successful negotiations between community-based organisations and the authorities which led to the restoration of power supplies in the township on October 2.

Electricity was switched off on July 22.

"We appeal to the local town council to address the problem of regular power cuts as soon as possible because we no longer want confrontations with the authorities, especially on the issue of electricity," residents said.

In the dark

"We have paid our accounts as requested and we expect the town council to deliver the goods. We have been in the dark for a long time and we cannot be inconneced again especially after we have paid for the essential service".

Nel could not be reached for comment yesterday.
Rising costs may force landlord to evict 4 000

A LANDLORD who owns eight blocks of flats in Hillbrow, the CBD and Joubert Park and who can no longer afford mounting municipal costs and continuous resistance to rent rises, may be forced to evict his tenants — all 4 000 of them.

David Gorfil, of Gorfil Brothers Investments, the director of the group which owns the blocks, says: "The rents would have to more than double for the buildings to stay open and meet the present monthly municipal rates and taxes."

"I have to close and empty these buildings so as to stop a monthly running loss of more than R60 000 — but this could so easily be avoided."

"The city council and the Independent Development Trust have expressed a desire to participate in a scheme which would make all the flats in these buildings available to the tenants through ownership at a fraction of their market value."

He has even intimated that his company would be prepared to throw the units into such a scheme without immediate down-payment.

Mr Gorfil believes one of the major burdens is the matter of water consumption and the "inequitable" municipal charges on the blocks.

Tenants are apparently enthusiastic about securing ownership of the units but it all depends on the municipality coming down to Earth with reasonable charges," says Mr Gorfil.

Clifford Garrun, Chief Whip of the Democratic Party in the city council, is sympathetic to the problem and says the matter will be discussed next week.
Rates ‘tax’ to provide better suburb security?

By Bronwyn Wilkinson

Private security companies could provide 24-hour total suburban security for R10 or R15 a month per household if municipalities would take over the administration of the payments.

"Several companies are prepared to get together and form a common company that would virtually take crime off the streets in the suburbs," Barry Blyth, group manager for one of the companies, said.

Mr Blyth said the conglomerate would provide trained, armed security officers in patrol cars, bicycles and on foot. A central control would co-ordinate what he described as "a mass of people on the streets 24 hours a day."

It would cost each household R10 to R15 a month.

"All the companies involved would lose money in the scheme, but it would worth it to get rid of the incredibly violent crime in these areas," he added.

The proposed organisation would work in conjunction with the police, who had a bitter shortage of manpower on the streets. "We are not trying to get rid of the police," Mr Blyth said, "but they are too short of manpower. We are not law enforcement officers. We can only prevent crime. Once we make a citizen's arrest, the police take over from there."

All detective and judicial work would be left to the State associations in Johannesburg, Randburg and Sandton.

"But the logistical nightmare of getting people to pay the R10 would mean virtually an entire operation on its own," Mr Blyth said. Administration costs would raise the fee several thousand percent.

"But if we can get the municipalities to add the cost to the normal rates, we could start almost immediately," he said.

The three municipalities had been approached, and had felt the idea was a brilliant one. Mr Blyth said, "but they say they have to form a committee to discuss the matter."

"It is no good forming committees. Six months down the line they will still be voting for a chairman and we will have even more brutal murders on our hands."

However security director for the Johannesburg municipality, Gerhard Vandermerwe, said it would be "virtually impossible to add a security levy to rates."

"This would have to be negotiated with the ratepayers and people are very nomadic, so the ratepayers change all the time," he said.

Domestics

Security training for the public would be included in the R10 fee. Houseowners and their domestic staff would be trained in basic security awareness and first aid at regular seminars.

Mr Blyth said the Neighbourhood Watch system contributed to crime control, but what was really needed was a full-time high-visibility skilled force.

"What we are offering is a practical solution to the problem of crime that will do more than any number of stickers on walls could ever do," he said.

The security companies had been negotiating with residents...
Residential sector quiet

WHILE Rabe Property Developers has moved into the white housing market, it retains a presence in the low-cost housing sector.

However, the group says the residential market seems to have become quiet. VAT is having little effect on the market, says national sales director Dave Harris.

"While VAT has affected prices by between 5% and 6%, this is not really stopping people buying. The market has become tougher but there is a huge backlog of homes for blacks,"

Rabe's latest project, the New Tembisa Gardens development, has about 400 stands for sale. Homes range from 44m² to 120m², and start at R33 000, including the stand.

"The development is aimed attracting families with a joint income of R9 500 a month, and about 75% of sales are to government employees."

The group's Dobsonville North Gardens project has also been successful, with about 400 of the 900 homes already sold.
Garden Route house prices top of MLS lists

HOUSE prices placed with Multiple Listing Services (MLS) in Johannesburg rose 22.7% in the six months to end-September, compared with the same period last year, figures released by the company show.

"However, Johannesburg house prices recorded only the third highest increase of the 10 regions covered, with the Garden Route and Cape Town showing better growth of 34.6% and 29.4% respectively," MLS MD Bruce Wilson said yesterday.

Average selling prices for Johannesburg houses at the end of September, as recorded by the MLS members, was R141 900. Durban showed growth of 21% in house values.

PETER GALLI

This was considerably higher than our national average selling price which rose by 14.4% to R121 441," Wilson said.

Prices in the Free State dropped by 17.4% with the average selling price there dipping to R92 500 from R110 800.

Houses in the Johannesburg area took longer to sell at 44 days in the period to end-September compared with 34 days previously, with the national MLS average being 36 days.

"Of major concern to the MLS board is widespread over-valuation of properties," Wilson said.
Plan to merge four Rand towns comes under fire

THE plan to amalgamate four southeast Rand towns into a single nonracial local authority came under fire from the Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (Cast) yesterday.

Southeast Rand Co-ordinating Committee (Sercom) member and Bedfordview town clerk Anton Kruger said Bedfordview, Germiston, Katlehong and Palm Ridge were expected to merge within six months.

"The amalgamation, as far as I know, is the first of its kind in SA," Kruger said yesterday.

But Cast president Moset Mayekiso said in a statement yesterday that the amalgamation of the four towns into a single local authority would worsen rather than improve the problems that exist in black residential areas.

"We see this move as an attempt to reverse the gains achieved in Alexandra, where the provision of electricity has been transferred to the white municipality without reviving the half-dead (black) councillors," Mayekiso said.

Sercom, which recommended the merger of these four towns earlier this year, said in a statement this week that "all the present councillors of the four local authorities will become members of the amalgamated council."
Alternative policing takes centre stage in war on crime

By Shirley Woodgate

Johannesburg City Council plans to pump an additional R200 million a year into security. Sandton and Midrand have launched crisis-control centres, and private residents are flocking to join blockwatch schemes to combat the wave of crime engulfing the Reef.

In addition, private security firms have overnight become big business as a large number of people sign up for protection, often as back-up to other precautions including vicious guard dogs, burglar bars and double locks.

This is the picture which emerges as the latest wave of violent crime rocks urban areas and it becomes clear the police are unable to stem the tide without help.

Johannesburg management committee member Paul Asherson said millions of rands would be poured into the traffic and security department, where there were plans to increase the staff complement from 1,000 to 600 over the next 18 months.

This follows a Government thumbs-down for plans to launch a municipal police force, claiming this was not provided for in legislation and that the SAP had responsibility for criminal policing.

Johannesburg's newly trained traffic department recruits will patrol suburban and business areas, armed with traffic tickets which Mr Asherson believes will dent the huge bill incurred for their employment by at least R1 million.

Randburg management committee chairman Andre Jacobs said his council would soon be asked to endorse recommendations in a joint SAP/council crime prevention report to the Commissioner of Police.

He hinted the scheme involved a protection force similar to the hobby-on-the-boat.

In Sandton, which operates a crisis control centre linked to the police and the Defence Force, additional security plans are being discussed by a group of members of the SAP, rate-payers and the council.

Last week, private security companies offered to supply 24-hour total security for suburbs, at a cost of between R10 and R15 a household, but their appeal to municipalities to take over administration of the payments by including the cost in rates has been turned down.

The rejection is mainly on legal and logistical grounds.

But residents in Johannesburg's eastern suburbs have not sat back and waited for official reaction.

Blockwatch instigator in the area in 1987, former city councillor Lionel Keenan, said crime figures had plummeted since the launch of the scheme, likened to the local police station.

Termed by local ratepayer chairman Bentley Cooke as "not a bunch of vigilantes or cowboys, but the eyes and ears of the police", Sandton's Lumbo Park have manned a blockwatch for years.

"People simply have to take action and stop relying on the police. At the end of the month a Federation of Blockwatch Associations is to be launched — proof that the movement is not only growing but successful," Mr Keenan said.
CAST slates joint councils

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal has rejected the amalgamation of white and black local authorities, especially where these mergers are pursued without consulting township residents' associations.

CAST president Moses Mayekiso said his organisation was "unimpressed by attempts by the white-led East Rand Co-ordinating Committee to unite the local authorities of Germiston, Katlehong, Bedfordview and Palm Ridge."

Not only was the move undemocratic — since residents had not been consulted — but it would prolong the life of "unpopular and corrupt black local authorities."

Mr Mayekiso said the Germiston-centred merger was very different from the co-operation negotiated between Sandton and Alexandra, since provision of electricity to the township had been taken over by Sandton "without reviving the half-dead councillors."

It also contrasted with agreements reached through the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber for the regional services council to take over the supply of electricity to Greater Soweto.

"We had this development as a positive product of genuine negotiations," CAST would continue to press for white local authorities to take over township servicing during the phase of political transition, "not because we recognise them as legitimate but because they have the resources and skills accumulated through our taxes."

This position implied that black local authorities should go, said Mr Mayekiso.

"CAST challenges the TPA to dismiss these councillors immediately. The time has come to use wages and allowances, spent on councillors, to provide for facilities and the development of our people."

Cut-off extension

BY ALINAH DUBE

ATTERIDGEVILLE residents who have not paid their current rent accounts have been given until mid-November to pay up or face a black-out.

The township's administrator, Mr Maartens Nel, and community representatives requested that the threat to disconnect electricity supplies to rent defaulters be suspended until November 13.

"Until October 23, 83 percent of accounts had been paid, indicating willingness by the community to honour the agreement signed on their behalf by their organisation," Nel said yesterday 25 Oct.
Residents make sure their case gets Headlined

ZINGISA MKHUMA

MORE than 20 Ennerdale residents protested in The Star's foyer yesterday against what they said was a lack of press coverage of the cutting of electricity and water supplies to parts of their suburb.

The placard-waving group initially refused to leave the premises until they were met by representatives of the African National Congress, the Pan Africanist Congress and the Azanian Peoples Organisation.

However, the group eventually left the premises after speaking to The Star's Deputy Editor-in-Chief, Rex Gibson.

The residents said they wanted the political organisations to persuade the Ennerdale Development Board (EDB) to re-connect the services.

The Board had cut off supplies to some houses for non-payment of rates, which residents say are too high. They stopped paying rates in August after the EDB failed to come back to them on a dispute over allegedly faulty meters.

Two weeks ago EDB officials, accompanied by police, cut off electricity supplies to some houses. Residents who tried to re-connect their supply were threatened with arrest and legal action.

A spokesman for Ennerdale Surroundings Civic Association, Clifford Smith, said the protest was to highlight their plight to authorities and to the political organisations.

Members of the EDB were said to be holding a meeting yesterday and were not available for comment.
By DESMOND BLOOM

IN Thokoza, one of the country's worst centres of unrest, I last week visited a rat hole called a hostel where 6.000 men mainly Zulu-speaking — live in semi-darkness.

The rain was coming down heavily, turning pools of water in the overgrown courtyards into filthy, muddy lakes.

Inside unemployed men sat around on a few cement benches, or on old tin boxes they used as beds. Pools of water were forming on the floors.

**Pravin**

The hostel complex is made up of many narrow buildings with entrance rooms containing stone tables and stone benches. There were two interleading bedrooms on each side, but none.

The only beds in the buildings were four tin trunks, without mattresses, on which the men made their beds.

In some of the entrance rooms men were stoking coal fires. Although it was late afternoon, the rooms were dark. The windows were painted and holes stuffed with newspaper and rags.

A few men were playing cards near an open door, screwing up their eyes to see.

The weather added to the depression I felt and it took me back to the overcrowded tenement slums I saw in Harlem, New York, over 20 years ago.

It was a time of heavy rioting by black Americans and it was made clear to me by sociologists that the overcrowded living conditions, the oppressive heat and unemployment created the frustration that fanned the riots.

It was also clear to me this week that the shocking conditions at the Thokoza Hostel created the frustrations which contributed to hostel inhabitants being driven to violent acts.

I asked several unemployed men how they managed to survive.

I was told there was no spirit of camaraderie among the hostel men. Those who had jobs provided food for the others.

They all claimed they were bachelors, saying people in the township resented them “chatting up” their women.

Moreover, some of them rented a room in another hostel.

Others have left their families in Natal, hoping to send them money when they worked.

On some of the walls there were pictures of women, footballers and placards praising Inkatha.

The hostels are surrounded by rolls of barbed wire, put there at the request of the hostel dwellers, according to Thokoza's town clerk, H. Combrinck.

"They requested it after last year's unrest because they feared for their safety," he added.

Combrinck said each hostel dweller was required to pay a rental of R15 a month, but many did not pay.

"We know that the hostels are in a terrible state, but Thokoza does not have the money to repair them. The people of Thokoza are unwilling to use their money to repair the hostels for people who are only there temporarily.

"He said, however, the council was prepared to repair the toilets when they were damaged.

However, I was shown an ablution block where the sewage from half a dozen toilets lay centimetres deep on the floor.

"We cannot use the toilets," I was told.

**Attacked**

The hostel dwellers denied that they caused the trouble in the township.

They claimed they have had no trouble with their closest neighbours from the road from the hostel.

The hostel dwellers said they were attacked by people living elsewhere in the township.

A typical hostel dweller is Jeremiah Ndlovu, 22.

He said he had lived at Thokoza for the past five years and had a good job in a die casting plant where he did shift work.

He is the eldest of seven children and regularly sent money home to his parents in Natal to help raise his six brothers and sisters.

Like others in the hostel he supports Inkatha, but said he had not been involved in any unrest.

Although he agreed the
Landlord hammers crime

By Monica Oosterbroek

Landlord George Gabanellis smashed down the doors of seven of his tenants' flats with a sledgehammer last night as he began a one-man crusade against crime in a Johannesburg building he has owned for less than a month.

Mr Gabanellis, who owns Impala Lodge in Bree Street, claims the tenants were running shebeens and dealing in drugs. Some had not paid rent for more than three years and most were guilty of overcrowding.

He said notices of complaint and eviction orders had been ignored — so he had to take action himself.

"This flat is a den of iniquity and a hell-hole. Police are too scared to come here so I have to do something on my own," he said.

Mr Gabanellis said he started his rampage after a tenant tried to stab him. He tried to evict the tenant this week and claims the tenant came to his take-away across the road to kill him.

"I grabbed the knife and poked him in the face so he is probably bleeding to death somewhere," he said.

Mr Gabanellis reported the attack to the police and has laid a charge of attempted murder.

"Then stormed into my building and bashed his door down with a hammer and told his wife to get the hell out."

He went through the building, bashing down the doors of tenants he wanted out.

"And I took the doors away," he said.

Other tenants, including Actstop members, seemed delighted with Mr Gabanellis's actions last night. They said at least two of the evicted tenants had harboured criminals with AK-47s in their rooms.

"All night these people kept us awake with noise and their criminal goings-on. I am very happy they are moving out," one tenant said.
Security now top issue for most Reef councils

Staff Reporters

The need for additional security in crime-plagued Reef towns and cities is now a top priority among councils investigating various protection measures for residents and business premises.

The Johannesburg City Council has made an annual R20 million pledge towards security and the councils of Sandton and Midrand have launched crisis-control centres and hugely successful blockwatch schemes. Randburg may soon introduce a joint-protection force with the SAP along the lines of the bobby-on-the-beat.

Private security companies last week offered northern suburbs' councils 24-hour total security for suburbs at a cost of between R10 and R15 a household.

On the West Rand, where 306 people were murdered in the first six months of this year, councils have stepped up traffic police patrols in the suburbs. The Randfontein council has introduced more regular car patrols of all areas on a 24-hour basis, a spokesman said.

Krugersdorp has patrols working in shifts in residential areas and Roodepoort is looking very seriously at the possibility of stepping up patrols.

Town clerk Div de Villiers said the council felt very strongly about the issue and would start the patrols as soon as funds permitted.

Spokesmen for the three Vaal Triangle town councils of Vereeniging, Vanderbijlpark and Meyerton agreed that private security patrols were probably the answer and that these councils would now seriously consider these measures.

Meyerton municipal spokesman said extra security could be seriously considered, provided the service rendered were good and if ratepayers were to contribute towards it. Local residents would also have to be sounded out on the issue.

There were 44 murders in the Vaal Triangle between January and September this year and more than 3,000 burglaries.

On the East Rand, where 241 people were murdered in August and September, councils have done little to step up security, and those contacted by The Star revealed no future plans.

In Pretoria, the crime rate is far lower than on the Reef — and residents ascribe it largely to the effectiveness of neighbourhood watches.

A recent survey showed that about 43 percent of Pretoria's citizens — black and white — felt neighbourhood watches best contained crime.

Only 18 percent of those interviewed relied on the police and individual security for controlling city crime — Afrikaans-speaking individuals contributing only 8 percent and blacks 26 percent to this average.

Pretoria management committee chairman Pieter Smith revealed that the Pretoria council had not placed security at the top of its list of priorities.

"We are fortunate not to have the same level of crime as on the Reef, so there isn't really a demand for us to address security. At one stage, the question of city police was raised, but we felt the SAP handle their duties very well in the city."
Business Day

SURVEY

Rivonia-based 5th Avenue Properties has gained a good deal of market share in the area in the three years it has been operating. Good access and the trend towards decentralisation have contributed to Rivonia's popularity and it has lived up to expectations as a growth area. PETER GALLI reports

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Residential market is backbone of growth

AS THE residential market was instrumental in the founding and initial growth of 5th Avenue Properties, and with the perception of related market indicators and trends, the company decided to concentrate on marketing large group housing and sectional title schemes.

In addition, most of the present staff have previously worked in the residential area.

The company tends to developments where it procures the land, puts a developer on it and then markets the units for the developer.

Residential director Sharon Scott says: "This area has shown outstanding growth and we have about 180 units available in five schemes, all of which are under sole mandate to us."

About 90 of these units have been sold, and units range from R180,000 to R600,000.

5th Avenue specialises in top-quality affordable cluster homes, she says.

"We have set a ceiling on residential units at about R500,000, thereby concentrating on affordability in the Sandton area."

"We have also clinched two deals with Permaprop, Scott says.

5th Avenue's residential focus is concentrated in the northern Sandton areas and the company intends to remain in this area as it is well positioned and there is a lot of land around that offers good potential.

Affordable

In addition, Sandton is a popular residential area that, with 5th Avenue's input, offers affordable upmarket homes.

Marketing of Le Mistral, an upmarket development of 25 units in conjunction with Permaprop, began recently, and those units have been sold.

Situated just off Rivonia Road in the heart of Morningside, the units offer buyers a choice of 10 different designs and between two and four bedrooms, depending on their requirements.

The units are being targeted at around R480,000 and have excellent finishes and skylights, with the emphasis on security.

Another development, Brecknock, offers prospective buyers a choice of four English-style designs in Bryanston.

Units start at around R290,000 and buyers are offered treed stands in the pine forests of Bryanston.

Of the more affordable units handled by 5th Avenue Properties, 38 of the 63 units in Malaga, Athol Gardens, have been sold since its launch in June.

Cluster homes are becoming popular as they have security appeal, potential staff problems are reduced and first-time home buyers are able to acquire an upmarket home at a price they can afford, she says.
Ratepayers protest in Wilbank

"We held meetings with the town clerk and with the council, but the council are not agreed. We feel the people of Wilbank cannot afford culture and recreation if it comes at such a high price. If we have to pay a lot of money, we question why it is so high," the chairman of the Wilbank Ratepayers Action Committee, Mr. Burger, said recently. "They've increased rates to pay for more than a prepared to pay," Mr. Burger said.

He pointed out that several services were running at a loss and the council was in debt. The council was in debt and wanted to privatize the park. "We cannot understand how a loss should be either," he said.

The councilors who have been in the council for many years have been in the council for many years, having been a loss and a lot of money. It is not our duty to privatize the park. "We have a loss and a lot of money," he said.

The councilors have been in control and we want all these councilors to be stopped or privatized. We say the people of Wilbank must be stopped or privatized. We say the people of Wilbank will be stopped or privatized.

"If we have to pay for more than a prepared to pay, we question why it is so high," Mr. Burger said.

By Sharon Smith (313)
Civic upset over flat rate arrears

CIVIC officials in Soshanguve, Pretoria, yesterday expressed concern about residents' delay in paying an interim flat rate of R50 for October agreed to with the Department of Development Aid.

Deputy chairman of the Soshanguve Residents Association Mr Benny Makema voiced his concern after examining figures released by the department.

Department spokesman Mr Thys Hyman announced that only 32 percent of township residents paid the flat rate for October.

There were also those who failed to pay for August and September - months included in the interim agreement.

Defaulter

Hyman said the money paid by the residents so far was not enough for the township manager's office to pay for bulk services including electricity and water.

He said according to the agreement the residents who had not paid had until Friday afternoon to pay their accounts. He urged those still owing for August and September to use the opportunity to pay their arrears by the set date.

He said any action to be taken against rent defaulters would be decided at a meeting between the department and officials of Sorea, scheduled for November 7.

The two parties have been involved in discussions since mid-April after Soshanguve residents resolved to embark on a rent boycott because of alleged continued irregularities in rent accounts and false meter readings.

-Sapa.
Own house for R10 000

ABOUT 84 houses of all shapes, sizes and designs have sprung up alongside the Golden Highway on what was previously the farm Drnzek, near Evaton within three weeks.

The houses were specially built for the Golden Highway Housing Expo by 43 private companies who built the houses to show potential home owners what is available for an outlay of R10 000 or less.

The deputy director of the Department of Planning, Provincial Affairs and National Housing, Mr Alex Weisz, said approximately 25 000 people visited the Expo organised by his department.

The developers would be paid the costs of erecting the homes, which would then be handed over to the TPA to market. The houses would form the nucleus of a new township at Drnzek.

The homes for the Expo are designed for people earning less than R1 000 a month. The services which have been supplied are a tap for every 10 houses and an "aqua privy" for each house.

The African Builders Association, which is affiliated to Foundation of African Business and Consumer Services, was one of the main exhibitors at the Expo with 14 houses on show.

"We would like to see the private sector become involved in low-cost housing as a financier if each employer could finance a home for his employees with a satisfactory work record, it could go a long way to reducing the housing backlog," Weisz said.
Rude welcome for homeowner

By Glen Elsaas
West Rand Bureau

A Greenhills, Randfontein, man, who bought a house in the neighbourhood only three weeks ago, had his car tyres slashed and rude messages spray-painted on the vehicle and veranda on Tuesday night.

Bennett Makgatho, a Kagiso businessman, was cleaning the house and measuring for curtains when he saw about six men jump over the fence.

They moved across the lawn and when they reached his car, which was parked in the driveway, they slashed the tyres and sprayed rude messages on the windows. They also painted words on the veranda before they left.

Mr Makgatho said the men wore stockings over their faces and at least one was armed. He had switched off the light and watched from a dark room.

"It was a really unpleasant experience. I was also armed and was concerned for my own safety. I decided to hide inside the house rather than confront the men. I don't want to create bad feelings here," Mr Makgatho said.

He has reported the matter to the police.
City centre flatland ‘no go area for granting bonds’

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Major financial institutions have virtually called a halt to the granting of bonds in Johannesburg’s central flatland area on the grounds that the risk is too high for them to take.

Confirming that they have declared Hillbrow, Joubert Park and most of Berea as areas where new home loans would not be approved until matters improved, spokesmen for Amalgamated Banks of South Africa — embracing the United and the Allied — and First National Bank blamed the physical deterioration of the area in the last five or six years and declining property values.

Standard Bank divisional general manager Erle Tomlinson denied that his bank had turned off the tap entirely.

Perm marketing manager for home loans Dave Wright said the Perm had reached its limit on overall market share — at around 30 percent — and “if you look at our exposure, we’re as far as we want to go”.

Estate agents have branded the ban as indiscriminate. They claimed that loans made by institutions which denied a blanket ban were few and far between.

By making home ownership impossible, the banks and building societies were promoting the physical decay of Hillbrow, Berea and Joubert Park, estate agents claimed.

“They are creating a vast slum between the northern suburbs and the city centre,” charged the director of one estate agency.

Julio Lucardia of Home Team said the decision flew in the face of experience which showed that “if people can actually buy a home — no matter how small — they will look after it a lot better”.

Some agents felt that the targeting of Johannesburg’s flatland had racial undertones, although the restriction applied to both white and black buyers.

FNB senior manager Andre Latre said the bank had continued to lend in the Hillbrow/Berea area long after other institutions had stopped...
Daring Marc set for the last laugh

By IAN SMITH

MARC WAINER can remember vividly the alarm on the faces of Investec group directors when he said he wanted to spend R90-million on buying flats in Bedfordview.

After all, institutions had been shedding their investments in apartment buildings for years and no block had been built anywhere near central Johannesburg in a decade.

But entrepreneurial Mr Wainer, 45-year-old head of independent banking group Investec's new property division, convinced the board that his dream of introducing a different lifestyle could produce profits.

He was given the green light and Investec Property Group led a consortium of investors in the purchase of 11 blocks with 964 flats on 10 ha in Bedfordview.

A total of R8-million was committed toward refurbishing and establishing a "village" estate with entertainment and recreational facilities, landscaped gardens and high-level security.

Option

The market's view of the deal is shown by the 36c jump in the share price of the seller, Stanprop But Investec and its consortium partners look as if they will have the last laugh.

Sales of the flats in Bedford Gardens started in May, and after only four months more than a third have been sold.

Investec's annual report says returns in the next two years are expected to be large.

Johannesburg-born and educated Mr Wainer, who dropped the option of a university degree to become a rep for a company selling display equipment, says he had no doubt that the time was ripe for an entry to the residential property market.

The gap between purchase prices and replacement costs has never been bigger and is still widening, he says. Rising rents will increase demand and there are people who can afford to buy in spite of high interest rates.

There is a growing opinion that interest rates are likely to soften. The scrapping of the Group Areas Act will strengthen the market.

Mr Wainer says a typical two-bedroom flat in Bedford Gardens selling for R180 000 would cost R240 000 to build today, without any allowance for the price of land.

Investec Property Group's commitment extends beyond the refurbishment and sale of the Bedford Gardens flats.

The management company is trying to foster community spirit and social activity by residents.

"We want to bring back a way of life enjoyed by families 20 years ago," says Mr Wainer.

Security is vital, and the grounds are patrolled 24 hours a day. Investec's involvement in the property business stems from the merger with Metboard, which brought the Incity property trading company into the group.

Mr Wainer started Incity after a spell with the family-owned grocery shop in Yeoville and as a shopping centre manager. He and his two partners sold a large part of the business to Metboard before Investec came on the scene.

Major

Mr Wainer says "When the merger with Investec came about I did not think I would stay long. But I have learned far more from Investec that I ever believed possible."

"I now wish I had been involved with a group like Investec much earlier in my life."

He says the bankers were a little worried about the property business in the early days, but once they were convinced that ideas were sound they gave their full support.

"Only over a year ago the property business became a major force when I Kuper & Co was bought and merged with Incity to form Investec Property Group.

They were complementary companies. Incity concentrating on buying property, adding value and selling. Kuper is a market leader in property management and administration.

In the year to March 31 the property business contributed nearly 23% to Investec group, which has assets R2.8-billion and funds under administration of R6.8-billion."
Right-wing attack on black homeowner

By PETA KROST

A BLACK man has vowed not to let violent right-wingers drive him from his dream home.

Yesterday, Mr Bennet Makgatho's attractive house in the quiet Randfontein suburb of Greenhills still showed the evidence of an ugly incident - profanities and threats spray-painted over the front of the house.

Mr Makgatho, 45, who bought the house three weeks ago, said "I left the township for peace and quiet, but instead I got this ugly welcome on Tuesday night."

Lyng in wait for him at 10pm that night were 10 abusive young men clad in black with their sleeves cut off.

Gun

Mr Makgatho said "As I got out of my car, two black women across the road warned me these people were in my garden. Then I saw them and asked what they wanted. "When they started swearing and threatening me, I realised there was trouble."

Once behind a locked door and security gate in the darkened house, Mr Makgatho peeped out of a window and saw a white man shaking the gate and motioning others to join him.

"When the others came closer they covered their heads with balaclavas and I saw one of them had a gun tucked into his pants. "I wasn't afraid, just angry."

The intimidators then slit all the tyres of Mr Makgatho's German car and came back to shout more abuse.

They disappeared for 15 minutes, but returned to spray-paint vulgarities over the front of the house once the men had left. Mr Makgatho made his way "ducking and diving" to the police station a few kilometres down the road.

Watching the incident from a neighbouring house was a family and their domestic worker.

The family, who asked not to be named for fear of retribution, had been woken by their domestic worker, who had warned Mr Makgatho while she was waiting for her friend's lift to arrive.

"I heard them threatening to kill that man. We saw the whole thing."

Her employer said "I phoned the police four times and it took them an hour to get here. "If they had come when we phoned, they would have caught these men."

This weekend, Mr Makgatho, who owns a bottle store and beerhall in Kagiso, was insistent "I'm staying in my new home. "I'm not afraid Living in the townships, I've got used to worse things than this. It happens all the time. I have always fought intimidation. "Once they realise I don't scare easily, maybe we can become friends."

Mr Makgatho will eventually bring his wife, Lebo, and two daughters, Npho, 11, and Lesego, 3, to live in their Greenhills home.
Transvaal will spend R7,7m on hostel upgrading project

MOVES were afoot to upgrade 38 Transvaal hostels, Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) spokesman Magda du Trott said at the weekend.

Du Trott said although no upgrading had yet taken place, TPA and Provincial Affairs and Planning officials were touring all the hostels to see for themselves what the state of the hostels is.

"As soon as the needs of the hostels have been assessed, the TPA will put its upgrading strategy in place," she said, adding that some of the hostels would be converted into family units.

The upgrading of hostels is part of government's scheme to inject R1bn into socio-economic projects.

Economic Co-ordination Minister Davie de Villiers recently announced that R81m of the money would be allocated to the upgrading of the hostels.

The Provincial Affairs and Planning Department confirmed at the weekend that the plan to upgrade hostels had been endorsed by the cabinet.

In terms of the plan, Reef and Vaal Triangle hostels — the flashpoints of violence over the past 14 months — were among the Transvaal hostels which stood to be upgraded with the R7,7m received by the province.

The Cape received the biggest share — R16,68m while Natal and the Free State received R4,09m and R2,2m respectively.

Du Trott said because not all the hostels fell under the jurisdiction of the TPA, the administration would have to allocate funds to individual local authorities for the upgrading of their hostels.

She would not say how much each municipality would get, saying "that is still under discussion".

Among Reef hostels which will be upgraded are Mapella, Nhlanzane, Nancefield, Dube, Thokoza, Sebokeng, Vosloorus, Kheteng, Tembisa, Denver and George Gogh.

But Thokoza Hostel Dwellers' Association chairman Zikhele Mlambo said, all plans to upgrade hostels were doomed to failure "unless such plans are negotiated with the people concerned — the hostel dwellers".
"Civics still want power for people"

By Nomavenda Mathande

The civics are still trying to destroy local authorities and hand over power to the people. This was the message delivered by Moses Mayekiso, president of the Alexandra Civics Association (ACA), on Saturday.

Launching "Operation Khanyisa" at the second congress of the ACA held at the Alexandra arts centre, Mr Mayekiso outlined what "Operation Khanyisa" would involve:

- Intensifying the fight against black local authorities
- Addressing homelessness and land development
- Health issues
- Transport and developing a culture for liberation
- Combating crime

He hailed Alexandra's people's courts, blaming the Government for not protecting the residents and said Alexandra people had no choice but to protect themselves.

"We had to devise a system to combat crime in the townships. We had to create an Alexandra justice system."

Residents must look to the ANC and MK for defence, as well as creating their own defence structures, he said.

In a democratically-run meeting conducted mainly in African languages, as well as English, delegates from the 12 areas of Alexandra township were active at question time. Dominant issues were violence and homelessness.

Reminding the meeting of Alexandra's culture of resistance, Mr Mayekiso said even though the Government had responded to the ACA by incarcerating the leadership, residents did not give up.

Taking the meeting back to 1986 and the six-day war where over 44 people died, he said, "The Government then introduced the state of emergency because it could not deal with people's power."

Mr Mayekiso was confident that "Operation Khanyisa" would soon go national.
Land and rental values are going up

The latest Russell Marriott & Boyd Trust (RMBT) industrial review indicates a rise in land and rental values, but mainly in the Johannesburg northern areas.

This compares with virtually no movement in the previous quarter, says RMBT industrial manager Simon Noyes-Lewis.

“Average rentals for areas such as Eastgate and Wynberg have risen by about 4% to R11,50/m² and R11,00/m² respectively, with land values increasing about 2% to R215/m² and R210/m².”

Other industrial areas had remained fairly static except for Isando, where increasing demand had pushed values up to more than R100/m².

“The review may mislead those who are still not aware of the inclusion of VAT for land sales and rentals. VAT may be deducted where buyers or tenants are registered for VAT and, because most are, the effect of VAT on these values is negligible,” Noyes-Lewis says.

Optimism in the market is spreading as demand improves, with the feeling that values will start rising considerably by the middle of 1992, he adds.

Propco director Grant McLeod says prime industrial properties in Durban are in good demand, with investors seeking opportunities to place “abundant funds”.

“Institutions and private investors still have an enormous amount of money to invest, but prime properties are in short supply and those that come on the market are quickly taken,” he says.

The RMBT survey shows land values in the Durban region vary from R5,50/m² in Hambarsdale to R230/m² in Springfield Park.

A modern, purpose-built factory at Springfield Park was recently sold by Durban-based industrial property brokers Propco to a McWilliam-Murray investment syndicate for R1,8m.

“Terms include a leaseback over five years with escalation at 12% and an option for a further five years. The factory has 1,700m² under cover with 240m² of carpeted, air-conditioned offices,” McLeod says.

In another sale, a 1,5ha property with two road frontages at Mkondeni in Maritzburg was sold for R1,15m to a local industrial developer.
Staff homes are going up.

At...
**Iranian calls for ties with SA, Egypt**

**Nicosia** – A prominent Iranian parliamentarian yesterday called for restoration of ties with SA, Egypt and Morocco, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported.

Saeed Rajane, Khorasan’s call for restoration of ties with Egypt and Morocco was not unprecedented.

However, SA, along with Israel and the US, is a country with which Tehran had pledged never to restore ties.

IRNA reported Khorasan as saying Iran’s objection to Egypt’s relations with Israel concerned the late President Anwar Sadat.

He said the government of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak could not be held responsible for Sadat’s actions.

Rajane’s opinions did not reflect parliament’s views. Nonetheless, restoration of Tehran’s ties with Cairo and Rabat was considered imminent.

Under President Hashemi Rafsanjani, Tehran has been moving to reverse the late Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini’s isolationist policies – Sapa-AP.

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**DP faces rift in motion of no confidence debate**

**Billy Paddock**

THE DP faces another crisis within its ranks when the caucus meets today at Jan Smuts Airport to discuss a motion of no confidence in its chief whip, Dave Dalling, for not cohesively identifying himself with the ANC.

The latest threat to the party between the pro-ANC, the anti-ANC and the independent group is the third this year in a clear depiction that politicians in the DP are increasingly feeling that they are being sidelined by the political process, one source said.

Dalling disputed the caucus meeting agenda except to confirm that there was a motion of no confidence in Dalling up for discussion.

Sandton MP Dalling, whose wife Zelda is an ANC member, said it was clear that the motion was being submitted by Wynnberg MP Robin Carlisle because of Dalling’s presence at an ANC fundraising dinner held at the home of DP MP for Samora Machel’s Taur Matzborne.

The source said the dispute was likely to be patched up today, but strains would persist over the continuing debate within the party about its members’ support for other political parties and organisations.

It does also mean that the pro-ANC group, which is launching a counter-strike to ensure that Mr Momba’s bid to wrestle the DP’s chairmanship from C. Andrew, has bided its time.

The first time the ANC issue raised its head publicly was at the Johannesburg congress last year when it decided to withdraw membership under special circumstances determined by the DP’s National Council.

Constanza MP Roger Hulley was the first to take advantage of this when he proposed that the DP enter into a working coalition with the NP.

**Proposal**

He wanted leader Zach de Beer and caucus chairman Colin Eglint to negotiate a parliamentary pact with the NP so key members of the DP could serve on the Cabinet.

His proposal was strongly supported, and, to a large extent driven by, Houghton MP Tony Leon.

Other MPs supporting the pact were Lester Fuchs (Hillbrow), Mike Tarr (Maritzburg North), Mike Ellis (Durban North) and Brian Goddall (Edenvale).

However, the strong pro-ANC group of Janie Momba, Jan van Eck (Clarendon), Pierre Cronje (Greytown) and Bob Haswell (Maritzburg South) was hurt by the proposal and ensured that the DP caucus discussing it terminated its meetings and suggested that a task group instead be set up to look at contacts with other parties.

Adding to the strain during the debate was speculation that could not be confirmed, that various Natal-DP MPs were holding secret discussions with Inkatha to look at an alliance.

Stock in the middle of the DP are those MPs holding firmly to their belief of what the DP’s role, and that of its predecessors, had always been — to be the liberal opposition performing a watchdog role and fighting for a middle ground.

Leon’s strong motivation for the Hulley option was in part influenced by developments in the Johannesburg City Council and its management committee where a DP/NP pact was tactically agreed upon, the source said.

He said there were many frustrations among MPs that the police they had been developing over the years and striving to have implemented had been taken over by the Johannesburg City Council and its management committee.

Theabcdefghijklm.png

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**Ratepayers’ chance to hit back, says Moss**

**Tania Levy**

THIS month’s Johannesburg city council by-election in Killarn and Houghton would be the first real opportunity for ratepayers to show their objections to the management committee, independent candidate Sam Moss said yesterday.

A former PFP leader in the council, Moss has squared up against DP candidate Geoff Klass to contest the by-election on November 13.

Moss said the council had become a “tyranny of the majority” since the DP and NP had formed a coalition.

They did not oppose one another in by-elections and there was no effective opposition in the council.

Moss said he was angry at the deterioration in services and “arrogant, off-handed” approach with which the council’s management committee dismissed ratepayers’ complaints.

Property values on the new valuation roll, which had pushed up assessment rates, were “extraordinarily” high compared with market values.

Ratepayers were probably in for a worse shock next year when the actual assessment rate would be lifted, he said.

The management committee was taking the “more informal and sometimes direct” course of giving handshakes, the “aesthetically dismuss” Civic spine and councillors’ unnecessary overseas trips.

Moss’s opponent, DP candidate Geoff Klass, said the management committee had had to take unpopular decisions to wipe out past mistakes.

The flank they had attracted over the rates issue was unjustified. In the past the council had used profits on services such as electricity to balance the rates account but councils were not there to make a profit.

Klass said that if he was elected he would involve himself in promoting cultural events in the city and lobby for legislation to help preserve Johannesburg’s historical buildings.

This could include incentives, such as a rates rebate, to owners of these buildings.
Water cut threat

By ISAAC MOLEDI

Residents of Ratanda in Heidelberg may have their water supply cut on Friday.

The township's mayor, Mr MH Mokonane, said in a statement yesterday that the Ratanda Council owed the Heidelberg Town Council R162 000 for water supplied in July, August and September.

He said the Heidelberg Council had threatened to cut the water supply unless the money was paid by tomorrow or an advance payment of R14 000 was made to secure an additional seven-day water supply.

This move comes after a council meeting on October 5 attended by community organisations, the African National Congress and Inkatha Freedom Party failed to resolve the issue.

A flat rate of R20 a month had been suggested as an interim measure.
Eskom to act against council

ESKOM would not suspend legal action against the Soweto City Council for unpaid debts of R131m, Eskom distribution and marketing deputy GM Allan Morgan said yesterday.

Morgan was responding to a statement by Soweto Council spokesman Mopalela Mosiki that Soweto had rejected plans for the Central Witswatersrand RSC to take over electricity supply from itself. This was because Eskom was going ahead with legal action against the council while at the same time talking to the RSC.

"We have less chance of handling this in a sober manner if we are under such pressure," Mosiki said.

Eskom could withdraw while discussions were going on, he said.

Morgan said Eskom had no intention of suspending the legal action against Soweto because it was the utility's policy to "secure its rights as a creditor" by taking legal action against debtors.

"We have taken legal action against 22 local authorities.Summons served on the Soweto City Council for unpaid debts of R131m still stand," he said.

The RSC accepted a central Wits Metropolitain Chamber proposal last month that it should assume, on an interim basis, the service from the cash-strapped councils of Soweto, Diepsloot and Dobsonville.

The RSC had appointed Eskom as a sub-agent to render the service on its behalf.

The three councils were recently reported to be in such a bad financial state that they faced "a collapse of essential services," RSC deputy CE Nantes Botha said yesterday.

Council had asked Soweto to come forward with proposals on what "the take-over contract should look like."

"We have not yet received any response," he said.

Sapa reports that rent defaulters in Soweto shangue, outside Pretoria, will have their fate decided today at a crucial meeting between the Department of Development Aid and the local civic association.

The residents, who were allowed to pay an interim flat rate of R50 for the past three months while the two parties negotiated an increased rent and service tariff, had until last Friday to pay up.

Department of Development Aid housing officer Thys Human said only 32% of residents had paid their rents for October. However, no action against the defaulters had been planned.

A decision would be taken at today's meeting, he confirmed.
Massive plan to electrify Evaton

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

EVATON township, one of the oldest locations in South Africa where blacks still enjoy freehold rights, is to be electrified at a cost of hundreds of thousands of rand.

The electrification of Evaton will mean that thousands of residents will eventually deal with Eskom, directly, with regard to all matters concerning electricity - application for new supplies, payments and faults with existing supplies.

The agreement to electrify the townships is in response to a large number of applications for supply from the residents to the local city council who approached Eskom for assistance.

Massive project (12)

In a statement, Eskom said residents who already had a supply of electricity, will remain the customers of the council until such a time as they could be phased into the Eskom electricity network.

The electrification of Evaton is a massive project, costing millions of rand. It will thus be necessary to electrify the city in phases, starting with the construction of a sub-station in the north of the city and the electrification of the adjacent Extensions Five and Six first.

This area is situated between Easton Road in the south, Hamilton Road in the east and old Golden Highway in the west.

Coupon meters

Metering will be by means of Budget Energy Controllers (coupon meters), similar to the system used in the neighbouring Palm Springs.

A temporary Eskom service centre will soon be installed next to the local council office. Thus offices will provide an information service to residents requiring to know more about the electrification programme. Full details of how the project will be executed will be made available to interested parties.

Electricity customer advisors from Eskom will shortly start canvassing the residents in the target areas. This will be done to determine who requires a supply of the commodity. All those who desire a supply will be required to pay a connection fee.

The standard Eskom tariff will eventually also be charged throughout Evaton.
Smiles as compromise bears fruit

Landlords, tenants both win

TENANTS and landlords in some parts of the Hillbrow/Berea/Joubert Park flatlands area are burying the hatchet — and are showing political leaders how to conduct the subtle art of negotiation and compromise.

Instead of the usual confrontation of eviction and lawsuit, landlords and tenants of 14 blocks have come to a practical agreement whereby tenants either buy the building — or administer it and pay landlords a monthly commission.

The arrangement has so far been very successful, with problems such as crime and overcrowding on the retreat in the relevant buildings, according to Actstop activist Moses Mashaohoe.

Tenants of Naverene Court in Esselen Street, Hillbrow, started the arrangement in February when the owner of the building made a final attempt to evict his tenants, but failure to do so brought the two parties together.

After several meetings

AL-AMEEN KAFAR

it was decided the tenants would administer the building and pay the owner a commission of R4000 a month.

But now they have got together and decided to buy the building.

The sale is already in its final stages and while tenants are paying their landlord his commission, they are also learning how to administer the property themselves.

According to David Batyawa, one of the future directors, 32 people will be shareholders after the sale has been concluded.

Pride

Mr Batyawa said that currently they were responsible for the maintenance, cleaning and security of the building.

He added that the decision to buy had given them a sense of pride, responsibility and security.

“we know the building is soon going to be ours, so now we are looking after it. Whenever something needs fixing, we do it ourselves. And no one hesitates to lend a hand whenever it is needed.”

In the process we have managed to stamp out the criminal elements from the block. Previously we had lots of shebeens but this is something of the past.

“the flats used to be very overcrowded but currently less than 60 people are staying in 32 units.”

“Our agreement has also created a few job opportunities. We are now employing two cleaners and we are hoping to employ a number of security guards soon.”

The reduction in overcrowding has also brought the rents down. Before the agreement Mr Batyawa used to pay R283 a month for the rent, water and electricity of his bachelor’s apartment. Now he is paying only R208.

“When a flat is overcrowded, people tend to use more electricity and water. With fewer people in a flat, everything becomes cheaper, even the building maintenance.”

“We are also earning a bit of money through our garages, which are in short supply in the area.”

“Most of us don’t have cars and are renting our garages out at very reasonable prices.”

FUTURE SHAREHOLDERS: Tenants of Naverene Court in Hillbrow are running the building themselves and are busy negotiating to buy it from the present owner. From left are Joseph Mabula, Fanele Matsape and David Mashaohoe.

Picture JOHN HOFMANN
City flatland has its good spots – and its bad ones

IT MAY come as a surprise to many, but the good news is that the vast Hillbrow/Joubert Park/Berea flatland is not turning into a slumland.

Although conditions there are crowded, most of the buildings are in good condition, according to a Johannesburg City Council spokesman. Of the 410 blocks of flats in the area, only 20 have been declared unsuitable for human habitation, 222 have been declared "good" and 108 "fair".

Ever since the influx of black residents into the area began in 1989, the city council has been closely monitoring the standards of premises. Any landlords guilty of neglecting their properties have been prosecuted and fined, the spokesman said.

Miller's Mansions in Joubert Park was recently described as one of the worst blocks to occupy. Situated in Quartz Street, approximately 250 people are living under very overcrowded conditions in 33 apartments.

The plight of tenants at Miller's Mansions came under the spotlight about two weeks ago when a broken pipe discharged raw sewage into the courtyard.

On a visit to the block this week, the Saturday Star was met by the stench of human excrement and the sight of children playing in a courtyard filled with human waste.

In the corner of the ground floor was a pile of refuse. This is where tenants periodically empty their dustbins.

Music blared from several flats.

ASHAMED

Tenants did not hesitate to express dissatisfaction with the conditions at Miller's Mansions.

Zack Mangaise, a porter who recently lost his job, said he was ashamed to invite his friends over.

He stays in a bachelor flat, no bigger than 16 square metres, with two other people.

"I had nowhere else to go. To find a decent flat in this area is very difficult. Conditions at Miller's Mansions are appalling. Our toilet is not working, we haven't had hot water since we moved in, and now we are faced with this horrid smell."

Catherine Bokveld and seven others have been occupying a two-bedroom flat in the block since April 1990.

Since moving into Miller's Mansions, no maintenance has been done to her flat. Although the flat was very neat, she said it had "more than a hundred shortcomings."

"The flat has never been painted. We have had a leaking roof and taps since we moved in, all the doors in the flat are missing, and we have been without hot water for months."

"The flats are also infested with shebeen owners. Of the 33 units, 11 are selling liquor," Ms Bokveld said.

Two health inspectors at the premises refused to comment.

AL-AMEEN KAFAR

Miller's Mansions are the subject of a grand jury inquest into the death of 14-year-old boy who starved to death in a flat in the block.

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Munsieville switched off

MUNSIVILLE, near Krugersdorp, was plunged into darkness on Thursday night after some residents failed to settle services arrears.

Township administrator WA Greyvenstein said in a statement on Friday that the electricity supply was disconnected after repeated attempts by the local authority and Krugersdorp Town Council to find a way out of the impasse.

The talks collapsed after the local civic association decided to allow Eskom to take over bulk power supply on condition that it rewired all township houses.

Greyvenstein said the authorities regretted the inconvenience to those who were up to date with their accounts.

"We hope the residents of Munsieville will urge the civic association to resume negotiations with the council," he said.

Sapa
DESPERATE LOT... Furniture heaped on the pavement outside the Red Cross building (above right). Fifteen-year-old Ntombifuthi Nyawuza with her eight-month-old baby sister, Nkuuleko, on her back, does family washing on the street.

© Siphiwe Mhlambi
Group will represent hostel dwellers

HOSTEL dwellers on the East Rand have to form a single representative association to conduct negotiations.

The new body will resist the planned upgrading of urban hostels.

Thokoza Hostel Dwellers' Association chairperson Zakhele Mlambo said at the weekend that a recent announcement by the Transvaal Provincial Administration (TPA) that it would spend R7.7m on upgrading was of "grave concern".

"We reject the plans by the administration or anyone to upgrade hostels without consulting us," he said.

The Thokoza Hostel Dwellers' Association would facilitate the formation of the association.

The hostels which will be represented include Thokoza, Katlehong, Watville, Tembisa and Vosloorus.
Rand hostels to form body

Johannesburg — Hostel-dwellers on the East Rand are to form a single representative association to conduct negotiations.

The new body will resist the planned upgrading of urban hostels.

Thokoza Hostel-Dwellers’ Association chairman Mr Zakhele Mlambo said at the weekend that a recent announcement by the Transvaal Provincial Administration that it would spend R7.7 million on upgrading was of “grave concern.”

He said “we reject the plans by the administration or anyone to upgrade hostels without consulting us.”
PHALABORWA — The Afrikaner Weerstands-beweging has blamed the Phalaborwa Mining Company’s mixed housing policy for the burning of a black employee’s luxury car.

The AWB said the company settled black families in white suburbs against the will of the townspeople.

Police are investigating charges of arson and malicious damage to property after mine foreman Tennyson Pilusa’s car was gutted early yesterday.

Local AWB leader Fritz Meyer said he was not surprised.

"Regrettably, there will be many more such incidents if the mining company persists with its provocative action."

"I have tried to persuade our people not to act irresponsibly while moves to impose the new South Africa on us go ahead, but they feel threatened, and will not accept integrated residential areas and schools," he said.

Referring to an opinion poll on mixed housing, organised earlier this year by the Phalaborwa Town Council, Mr. Meyer said the mining company had to note that 98 percent of those who voted were against the idea.

Mr. Pilusa said he moved into Phalaborwa from Namakgale Township on October 15. Three other black families had also settled there and all were on good terms with their neighbours.

No comment could be obtained from the mining company.
Ratanda still without water

About 50 000 residents at Ratanda, Heidelberg, were without water for the third day yesterday.

The Heidelberg Town Council cut the township’s water supply last Friday because residents had not paid their accounts.

Residents are now getting water from two tankers on a local farmer’s borehole.

A spokesman for the town council said the local civic association had insisted on a monthly payment of R10 for all services. Not all residents were, however, paying this amount and only about 22 percent of the town’s projected income was being generated every month.

The spokesman said Ratanda owed Heidelberg about R113 000.

Meanwhile, the township was still receiving electricity from Eskom despite an arrears account of nearly R2 million.

The spokesman said nearly 4 000 people had settled in Ratanda during the past year and many were unemployed.

Meanwhile, the mayor of Mpeekwen near Paarl in the Cape, Mr Mzinkhulu Myataza, says the Paarl municipality had to cut the electricity supply to the entire township for the second time this year because residents had failed to pay their accounts.

He said his council owed the Paarl municipality more than R300 000 and the municipality had no alternative as the residents had failed to keep their promise to pay arrears.

Myataza said switching off the electricity had come at a time when his council was busy repairing vandalised meter boxes in preparation for a switch-on if residents decided to negotiate. - Sapa
Heidelberg farmer helps township after water cut off

Local farmer Piet Pienaar has come to the help of Heidelberg's Ratanda township's 50,000 residents, who have been without water for the past five days.

Mr Pienaar has donated two water tankers to the Ratanda Town Committee and made available the borehole water on his farm.

Yesterday hundreds of residents queued with buckets, drums, dishes and plastic containers at Mr Pienaar's farm and at the Ratanda Town Committee offices — pushing and shoving for their share.

The Heidelberg Town Council cut water to the township on Friday because it has been R14,000 in arrears since July.

Heidelberg town clerk Dawie Scholtz maintained that it was not a political decision but the fault of the Ratanda Town Committee.

"A contract is a contract. The town committee failed to meet its obligations and that's it." Ratanda town clerk Dawie van Rensburg blamed the impasse on the civic association, which had insisted on paying a R10 flat rate that could not meet the expenses.

Mr van Rensburg said the flat rate was not feasible as it meant the poor subsidising the rich, which was unfair.

He added that the civic association had reneged on its undertaking to persuade residents to start paying the rates on November 1. Until yesterday only R12,000 had been collected.

Mayor Michael Mokonane urged residents to pay for services as his committee had tried to persuade the Transvaal Provincial Administration to come to their rescue, but to no avail.

The association's publicity secretary, Zakes Machti, condemned the heavy-handedness of the CP-dominated Heidelberg Town Council (despite residents' attempts to resolve the problem).

Mr Machti described the council's action as a slap in the face for the community that called for the resignation of the town committee and for it to be replaced by the administrator, who was appointed by the TPA and the community.

Mr Machti urged the Heidelberg business community to pressure the town council into having a change of heart.

He added that if all else failed, the community would embark on mass action including a consumer boycott and stayaways.
Electricity cut off in Munsieville

By ISAAC MOLEDI

RESIDENTS in Munsieville have been without electricity since last Thursday, after the council failed to pay its debts to Krugersdorp.

The electricity supply was previously cut in February due to a services boycott. It was reconnected for a month on July 4 after the West Rand Regional Services Council made a guarantee to Krugersdorp and after the Munsieville Civic Association made an assurance that all consumers would regularly pay an interim flat rate for electricity based on average household consumption.

Residents

A statement issued by the Munsieville council disclosed that between July and October it only managed to pay R77 250 of the R172 926 owed for electricity consumed by residents.

"Since the community has not endorsed Eskom’s decision to take over the bulk electricity supply, Krugersdorp Council resolved to terminate the supply," Munsieville town council administrator Mr WA Greyvenstein said.
RSC to take over Soweto electricity supply

THE Soweto City Council had finally agreed to the takeover of electricity supply by the Central Wits RSC, the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber's monthly meeting was told in Johannesburg last night.

The proposal came from the chamber four months ago when it was disclosed that the finances of the three greater Soweto councils — Diepkloof, Dobsonville and Soweto — were in a state of crisis and essential services were on the point of collapse.

Soweto was the only council that was still objecting to the takeover, the others having consented to it last month. The Soweto council, a bulk-buyer from Eskom which in turn supplied the other two councils, was reported recently to be facing court action from the utility because it owed it R13m.

Metro chamber CE Vic Milne said last night Soweto had agreed to the handover of the running of electricity, on condition that the RSC took over all its electrical department employees.

Milne said after the meeting that a meeting of the Greater Soweto Principal Parties would meet "soon" on the question of the RSC absorbing Soweto employees.

About 30 placard-carrying residents of Emmerdale coloured township caused a stir when they walked into the chamber while the meeting was in progress yesterday.

The members of the Emmerdale and Surrounding Civic Association, who are engaged in a dispute with the Johannesburg City Council over the "poor state of the houses" in their township, requested to read a statement to the meeting.

Metro chamber chairman Van Zyl Slabbert refused to let them do so, saying the meeting was not a Johannesburg council meeting.

He allowed the protesters to leave their memorandum with chamber officials and they left quietly.

The memo requested the chamber to mediate on Emmerdale's behalf and get the Johannesburg council to meet its residents within 48 hours.
A worker operates a brick-making machine which can be used to manufacture bricks cheaply.

**White Ironside opens up for black occupation**

**IRONSIDE,** a formerly whites-only suburb outside Evaton township, has been opened for black occupation.

More than 90 percent of the residents in Ironside were government employees. About 100 upper-class houses have been built.

The situation in the town, however, has drastically changed since the Group Areas Act fell away and an open township was introduced early this year.

Presently the area is completely mixed and there are 100 black families and 20 white people staying harmoniously in the same township.

Developer Mr Mark Seymour said: "This town is made unique by the fact that it is quiet and because the stands are big enough."

"The average size of a plot is 900m² - a story unheard of in the neighbouring Evaton and Sebokeng black townships."

He added that the area was still managed by the peri-Urban Areas Board and this ensured the town was managed in an orderly way.

It was estimated that development would have a boom in the area next year because stands were being sold to the public at a very reasonable price.
INVISIBLE BARS?

Security is the name of the game. With violent crime soaring, the security of property now often takes precedence over almost all other considerations for many home buyers, hence the popularity of cluster housing.

For those who have this view, it would seem that The Waldorf cluster development in Morningside, Sandton, could be the ultimate answer. Developers of The Waldorf have received a vote of confidence from PFV Insurance Brokers for its custom-designed, hi-tech security system.

New owners, spending up to R2m for a property, can expect sizeable reductions in property insurance premiums because of the all-encompassing system described as "the ultimate in protection of life and property." That is in addition to the high protective walls pictured.

PFV's David van Heerden says: "Clients will automatically receive discounts of up to 45%.”

But what is it that makes the system so special? Developer Ezra Silosky points out that the protection for The Waldorf cluster homes will embrace electronic sensors, beams and intercoms. Though sophisticated, it will never be obvious. "Our clients would never tolerate razor wire and gun-toting guards," he says.

He adds that input for the design of the system was received from architects, conservationalists, landscapers and engineers. "Their ideas and recommendations were given serious consideration by the team of local and international security specialists. The result is that it fulfills the original brief: To produce the ultimate in unobtrusive security."
Rescue plan for Soweto

THEO RAWANA

PLANS to save the Greater Soweto area from financial run were boosted this week when the Central Wits Metropolitan Chamber said it was making progress in negotiations on the issue.

An announcement on a rescue scheme was likely to be made at a special meeting of the chamber on December 4, said chamber CEO Vic Milne.

Four months ago the finances of the three Greater Soweto councils — Dobsonville, Diepmeadow and Soweto — were reported to be in a crisis state.

Basic points of departure for an interim local authority in the area were approved at Wednesday's meeting.

Among these was that "means of giving immediate attention to the financial and administrative crises in the region be determined in conjunction with interim structures and arrangements necessary to give effect thereto".
Squatters move to plush suburb

By Shirley Woodgate

Ivory Park squatters have been settled within 500 m of the upmarket Midrand suburb of President Park and angry residents claim to have been betrayed by the Transvaal Provincial Administration.

Smallholders living on the 4 ha plots priced between R250 000 and R500 000 complain that the TPA is intent on "chasing the whites" out of the area.

They say the TPA assured them in writing that a buffer zone consisting of more expensive houses and schools would be developed between Ivory Park and President Park.

But, despite alleged promises two years ago, squatters have been settled up to the Republic Road eastern border which residents claim would further depreciate the value of their homes.

Headed by the residents' association chairman Ron Smith, the residents are planning a strong protest to the TPA.

Mr Smith said they were in possession of a letter from President de Klerk saying he would like to believe the TPA had made arrangements to protect the affected area.

TPA spokesman Magda du Toit confirmed that squatters had been moved on to 1 500 500 sq m stands in the area on Saturday.

Although there was a gentleman's agreement with the Midrand Town Council about the buffer zone, it was decided that there was a greater need for low-cost housing than for schools and better-class homes.

"If we are being criticized then we stand accused of providing homes for poor people who have nowhere else to go," she said.

Squatter spokesman Esther Chawuke, who was yesterday digging out vlei grass to make a garden outside a shack within sight of mansions across the veld, said the squatters were delighted to be there. The TPA had supplied toilets and water tanks, and residents paid R150 rent a month.

President Park resident Ann van Rensburg said the 95 000 population of Ivory Park on 13 000 stands was already double that of Halfway House. She said there was written proof that the area would be reserved as a buffer zone.
These black leaders forsake townships for life in the city

WHILE their followers stay in the townships, some leaders of the liberation movements have moved into some of Johannesburg's relatively affluent suburbs.

Activists, many of whom are former political prisoners, seem to be enjoying having swooped prison cells for luxury apartments.

Before February 1990, anti-apartheid leaders who lived in the "white" sections of Johannesburg were mostly those on the run from the police. But now it has become fashionable for activists to meet in yuppie pubs and enjoy dinners in exclusive restaurants while their followers have to contend with crowded township shebeens.

Among prominent anti-apartheid leaders who have moved to the suburbs are:

- Dr Pallo Jordan, head of the ANC's information department, who is understood to live in Ponte City.
- Themba Khoza, Inkatha's Youth Brigade leader in the Transvaal, who lives in Hillbrow.
- Pandelani Nefolohodwe, president of Azapo, who lives in a flat in central Johannesburg.

The ANC supports political leaders leaving the townships to start new lives in town. Said PWV spokesman Ronnie Mamoepa: "After all, we have long been deprived and this is what we have always fought for — to live where we please, without restrictions."

Dr Jordan said the whole question depended on affordability. "If I have money and there is no Group Areas Act, I will live where I choose to. There's no reason blacks cannot live in Sandton if they can afford it," he said.

He was not happy when asked where exactly he lived. "You journalists should be writing about the scandalous, criminal shortage of housing for black people and not inquiring about where the ANC leaders live."

Inkatha's West Rand leader Humphrey Nolovu said: "I find nothing wrong in my colleague Themba (Khoza) living in town."

Another Inkatha official, Suzanne Vos, said she had nothing against anti-apartheid leaders living where they chose, including in the suburbs. But whether that is politically sound is another thing," she said.

Mr Nefolohodwe left the township after the four-roomed house he had rented was put on sale. He too would not say where he lived in town. "I am hiring a flat. I cannot afford to buy a property," he said.

But not everybody is so accepting of political leaders living in greater comfort than their followers. Azapo education secretary head Dr Gomo-lemo Mokae said he could not support activists "pre-occupied with integration euphoria."

"Leadership by remote control from the rarified atmosphere of Waterkloof, Lower Houghton or Durban North can only go against the grain of liberation aspirations," he said.

Dr Mokae added that people in leadership "should serve as beacons of hope by being literally in the thick of things with the oppressed."

Dr Mokae lives in Mabopane, outside Pretoria.
Bond boycott is planned

ABOUT 240 households in the Vaal would this month embark on a bond payment boycott, it was announced at a news conference on Friday.

Civic Association of the Transvaal (Casa) official Tsopo Sebudi told reporters the boycott would be undertaken by 241 bondholders from Zone 16 in the Vaal Triangle township of Sebokeng, to press for reduction of the interest rate to a "reasonable amount."

Sebudi said residents resorted to the bond boycott as a result of the failure on the part of Khayalethu Agency, a subsidiary of the South African Housing Trust, to address their complaints.

"Whereas we have not yet formulated any policy on bonds, or arrived at a position on a bond boycott, we are bound to render whatever assistance we may to any of our affiliates engaged in any action," said Sebudi.

In Sebokeng's Zone 16 the residents' action was sparked off by several complaints about workmanship.

Houses were not built to specification, roofs leaked, walls were cracking, and interior walls and ceilings were not painted.

Casa said they were confident all the residents were committed to the bond boycott, and 78 percent of the total households with stop-order facilities had arranged payment be redirected into a contingency trust account.

This arrangement, said Sebudi, would enable residents to pay their bonds without difficulty, should an amicable agreement be reached between affected parties.

"It was one of the residents' conditions that such payments would not accrue additional interest."

Charles Kemp of the South African Housing Trust did not know about the boycott and said as far as he was concerned the company had always addressed all the residents' grievances "within our power." - Sapa
THEO RAWANA

THE SA Housing Trust (SAHT) was trying to contact Vaal cvc leaders at the weekend following a threat by the Cvcx Association of the Transvaal (Cast) that about 240 Sebokeng households would boycott bond repayments.

Cast assistant general secretary Tsepo Sebutse said on Friday that Sebokeng Cvcx Association had begun boycotting bond repayments because of the unwillingness of SAHT subsidiary Khayalethu Agency to address complaints raised by residents of Sebokeng Zone 16.

"As from the end of this month, the residents will not be paying anything to Khayalethu towards their bonds," Sebutse said in a statement.

He said there were complaints that the houses built for the residents were inferior and repayments "very high".

Other complaints were that:
- Houses were not built to specifications;
- Foundations were shallower than specified on architectural plans;
- Roofs were leaking;
- Interior walls and ceilings were unpainted;
- Walls cracked within 10 months of the residents occupying the houses;
- Promises that monthly rates would be reduced on payment of deposits higher than required were never honoured.

Residents were demanding that their houses be repaired and interest rates reduced to a reasonable level.

SAHT head of corporate marketing Mike Fowlds said he could not comment because there had been no official contact with the local cvcs yet.

"The project managers were taken by surprise and we are not sure what is happening there yet," he said.
Lenasia groups join hands

Organisations with diverse ideological views in Lenasia, Johannesburg, have formed a community forum to represent the interests of residents.

Forty-three organisations, including major religious groups, health groups, sports organisations, various political groups, traders' associations, women's organisations and parent-teacher associations held a joint meeting for the first time on Sunday.

Among the tasks to which they have pledged themselves are to facilitate local participation in the drawing up of the country's new constitution, ensure community involvement and control over development and to contribute to negotiations for a democratic, non-racial local authority - Sapa.
Financial aid to black local authorities to keep essential services running would be cut off after March if communities did not act responsibly and pay their electricity bills. Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council chairman John Griffiths said last night.

The four black local authorities of Soweto, Dobsonville, Diepmeadow and Alexandra will owe the RSC and Johannesburg City Council a total of R106 million for bulk services by June 30.

Last night, the city council asked the RSC to act against the four councils to force them to pay R25 million owed to the council for the provision of certain services and assistance.

"This will now be the last chance for people to act responsibly. If the residents of the areas are not prepared to pay for services, then at the end of March, we will re-evaluate the situation," Mr Griffiths said.

"These are harsh words. I know, but once and for all, we have to face up to it and steps will be taken."

The RSC agreed last night to reschedule projects to enable some of the debt to be paid.
Joint effort to combat city crime

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A major conference to address urban decay and crime in Johannesburg and to create a structure to deal with central city problems, gets under way on Sunday.

Business leaders, community representatives, civic associations and the Johannesburg City Council will participate.

The main issues to be dealt with by delegates include plans for Johannesburg 2000, economic and social strategies, determining who is responsible for what, a look at future resources and addressing immediate problems such as security.

To make sure things run smoothly at the conference which is a first of its kind, a facilitator from the United States, Richard Bradley, has been brought in for the two days.

Mr. Bradley heads the International Downtown Association based in Washington DC, of which the Johannesburg Central Business District Association is a member.

Mr. Bradley, who has visited Johannesburg before, said the city was large by international standards. "It must accommodate and serve as the centre for Johannesburg, but at the same time it is in competition with 'edge' cities (Midrand, Randburg and Sandton)," he said.

The conference will be opened by community leader Dr. Nihato Motlana on Sunday and the closing-address will be delivered by Dr. Frederick Van Zyl Slabbert, Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber chairman, on Monday.

> Other papers will be delivered by consultant Nigel Mandy, Actstop chairman Mohammed Dangor, Professor Michael Katz, Mr. Bradley, Anglo's Gerald Leusner, Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson, civic spokesman Cas Cowdace and the Mayor of Johannesburg, Elliot Kretzmer.

Call for power to all Rand

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

A task group to formulate strategies for the creation of a regional electricity supply system on the Witwatersrand should be formed as soon as possible, according to a report tabled at the Central Witwatersrand Regional Services Council on Tuesday.

The investigation into the provision of services on a regional basis was commissioned by the RSC, which last night called for comment on the report from the relevant local authorities, Eskom and the Central Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber by January 31.

The present fragmented electricity supply within the Central Witwatersrand RSC's region had created numerous problems regarding the standards and maintenance of the service, especially in the black communities, due to a lack of expertise, manpower and capital.

The reorganisation of the electricity supply within the region could lead to major savings and the effective utilisation of available financial, human and other resources.
Blasts as SA, police flags torn down

Staff Reporters

A special constable was slightly injured yesterday when about 1,600 angry Munseville residents gathered at the Krugersdorp township’s municipal offices to protest against electricity cut-offs 15 days ago because of non-payment of accounts.

Protestors tore down the South African and police flags and riot squad members used rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

A man-limpet mine and hand grenade explosion occurred at the nearby police station.

A man and a woman were arrested after allegedly assaulting the special constable. They are expected to appear in court tomorrow.

Munseville owes the Krugersdorp Town Council hundreds of thousands of rand in outstanding electricity payments.

The violence seems to have been partially triggered by residents’ desire to hand a letter of demands to township administrator Bill Greyvenstein, including a complaint about the supply of electricity to the municipal offices and the nearby police station while the rest of the Krugersdorp township has been left without electricity.

West Rand police spokesman Captain Henriette Bester said about 1,600 placard-wielding residents gathered at the municipal offices and tried to kick open the doors. They moved to the adjacent police station and tried to break open doors there.

The crowd was warned to disperse.

The group then tore down the police and South African flags and tore up the national flag.

An explosion was then heard behind the police station. Police determined that an 8-lb hand grenade and a 158-mm limpet mine had been detonated.

Mr Greyvenstein last night said Munseville’s court association — the Civics — had held meetings with residents nearly every second night since the power cut. Residents had formulated a list of grievances and demands and wanted to hand it to him yesterday.

Mr Greyvenstein said the situation was “fairly volatile” and that residents were upset that the police station, municipal clinic, hall and offices had electricity while they did not.

These two buildings, where the two blasts took place, are supplied with a power plant.

The Civics proposed that the flat rate for electricity be increased by R10 to R40 a month and that the additional money needed be obtained from the Munseville business sector.

The Krugersdorp council responded by saying it would reconsider its decision to cut the power supply once residents had addressed the matter of arrears. Until such time, the council could not supply power as Munseville was deep in debt.

Mr Greyvenstein said 100 of the 1,600 houses now had individual meters. He was hard at work arranging for the other 500 houses to be metered as soon as possible.

When The Star visited the scene yesterday, the situation was tense. Doors were broken, and broken glass lay scattered at the entrance to the municipal offices.
Dark day Mamelodi will never forget

ON November 21 1985 Mamelodi residents staged a march to the local town council offices to protest against, among other things, rent increases and restrictions placed on funerals.

But what started out as a non-violent demonstration ended in a bloodbath.

Thousands of residents who had marched to and gathered outside the local town council offices that morning were confronted by security forces who opened fire on the crowd - estimated at more than 50 000.

Wounds

Pandemonium broke out. Teargas and rubber bullets were fired at the people, mostly elderly.

At the end of that day 13 people, including two-month-old Trocia Ndlovu, had been killed. Some of them died of heart failure, others of gunshot wounds.

Those who died were: Trocia Ndlovu, (2 months), Mrs Miriam Mello (65), Mrs Sarah Tefo (63), Mrs Anna Gomba (54), Mrs Elizabeth Maza (45), Mrs Salome Mabasa (48), Mr Jacob Buti Masanabo (32), Mrs Thoko Beauty Malaza (24), Mr Dipuo Masonhuka (19), Mr Jerry Shikwane Ngwathe (19), Mr Jacob Songo (19), Mr Jacob Mavumbela and Mrs Magdalene Mlambo (69).

Hundreds were injured, scores were maimed.

The police version was that the crowd had displayed open hostility.

They said abuse was hurled at them and the mayor at the time, Mr Zikhali Ndizani, who tried to address the crowd from a Casspir.

Political and community-based organisations rejected the police version and said no threats were made to any of the security forces members or Ndizani. The local civic association condemned the "unprovoked action" and immediately called for a rent boycott in protest against the killings.

After a lengthy inquest hearing at the Pretoria North Magistrate's Court, the presiding magistrate, Mr JN Pretorius, ruled on June 23 last year that he was unable to make a finding and referred the evidence to the Attorney-General.

Pretorius said it was difficult to determine whether the deaths were brought about by any act or omission amounting to an offence on the part of any person.

Tragic

Those of us who remember the aftermath of that tragic day think of the pile of clothes and shoes next to the council office's fence.

The pile told a story. A story of defenceless people who had enough of this country's apartheid laws - laws that even barred you from burying your loved one with dignity. Laws that ordered you when and how to bury your dead.

Struggle

It was the worst of times. Those who died that day - November 21 1985 - will always be remembered as martyrs in the struggle for justice and equality in this country.
Black commando platoon is slammed by the ANC

PLANS to create a black commando platoon to be based in townships at Vanderbijlpark in the Vaal Triangle have been condemned by the African National Congress as "irresponsible and provocative".

The South African Defence Force expects to sign up about 40 black volunteers to form the core of a "hearth and home" unit following a recruitment drive begun several weeks ago.

The men, about 20 of whom live at Iscor hostels at Sebokeng, are mostly Zulus. South Sothos, Xhosas and Tswanas are also represented, according to Major Andreas Jordan of Witwatersrand Command, to protect their own residential areas as well as national key points and industrial installations.

In a statement yesterday, the ANC said the recruitment programme "can only contribute to further tension and violence in these communities". The SADF, it said, should stop the recruitment campaign immediately. - Sapa
Impala to phase out hostels

A MAJOR housing project in the pipeline for Impala Platinum Mine is to construct 270 housing units for its employees at Thabane near Rustenburg before the end of the year.

Employees will have the opportunity to buy or rent the houses, the managing director Mr Michael McMahon, said at a ceremony where an employee was handed the keys to his new home.

For Mr Thomas Khunou, his wife Pauline and their three children, it was a dream come true when the keys were handed to them.

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

Khunou (73) who started work at Impala mine complex in 1979, said it was one of the greatest moments of his life to swap his small dwelling with its corrugated roof for a spanking new home.

"For my entire family the Parabolic home has been a godsend. I have no words to express my gratitude for the first decent place I have owned in the course of my whole life."

His home was offered at no cost on condition that he makes it available as a show house. This would enable his fellow employees to familiarize themselves with this type of housing unit. Parabolic is the term used to describe the construction method used.

McMahon said it was the company's objective to move away from the migratory labour system whereby people were accommodated in hostels away from their families.

Instead, he added, Impala wanted to place employees in a position to acquire their own family accommodation by means of home ownership schemes. The idea was to move as fast as possible in order to achieve this objective by the end of the century.

One of the biggest constraints facing the company is the availability and affordability of land. He said that, despite these constraints, they had taken a leadership role in acquiring land by existing the help of Government, housing companies and building societies.
Blast rocks Munsieville police station

A BLAST rocked the Munsieville, Krugersdorp, police station yesterday as members of the local unit fired rubber bullets to disperse about 4000 demonstrators.

The group were demonstrating against electricity cuts in the township.

West Rand police liaison officer Captain Henriette Bester said the protestors tore up the national and police flags as temps flared during the demonstration at the township's offices, adjacent to the police station.

No one was reported injured in the explosion. Explosives specialists immediately combed the scene to establish the type of device used in the blast.

Bester also reported no casualties during the police action to halt the demonstration. An activist who took part in the protest confirmed that no one had been injured.

The activist, Ms Nkaki Mokowe, said 4000 people took part in the demonstration to back demands that electricity be restored to the township.

Non-payment of services

Power was cut about two weeks ago because of non-payment of services.

Mokowe said protestors fled and others jumped over the fence to escape the rubber bullets and tear gas. Other protestors fell down and scrambled up to safety, she added.

Bester said police fired rubber bullets moments after the

Demonstrators tear up flags

Demonstrators tore down the flags and the explosive device blew up.

"The group tore down the SAP flag and the national flag from the flag poles and destroyed the national flag by tearing it to pieces.

"Shortly thereafter an explosion was heard behind the police station," she said.

In the ensuing clash, the residents hurled stones at police vehicles, damaging one slightly, she said.

Mokowe, a local civic association official, said scores of policemen arrived at the scene in vans, minibuses and cars soon after the demonstration began about 8am.

"She said the singing and placard-carrying protestors marched on the council premises to meet the administrator.

"The police came inside the yard and started shooting rubber bullets and tear gas as we sang and waited for the administrator," Mokowe said.

The administrator could not be reached for comment.

Bester claimed protest organisers had intimidated residents to stay away from work. Sapa.
DEVELOPMENTS

Fairway drive

JCI Properties has teed off to a cracking start with Damfern, its integrated golf course, country club and residential estate near Fourways, north-west of Johannesburg.

The developer still needs formal proclamation of the estate but says 70%, representing 106 stands, of the first phase has been sold. Of these 18 have been sold since the official launch at the beginning of September. There was expected to be a noticeable decline in buying after the introduction of VAT but, according to JCI, this has not happened.

In view of this the developer is putting plans in motion to launch phase two which could come on to the market by June.

JCI Properties' Chris Spiers says the possibility of including some corporate lodges for companies wanting their own hospitality or staff facilities in the Reef area is also being investigated.

"The lodges, similar to those at Natal's Selborne Estate, will provide guest accommodation and access to the country club facilities," Spiers says.

Building begins

However, unlike Selborne, which is aimed at second (holiday) homes for the affluent, Damfern, though also targeted at the upper end of the market, with serviced stand prices averaging R143,000, is aimed at primary dwellings and will include conventional houses, cluster homes and what JCI calls gentlemen's estates of 1 ha.

Spiers says the development hasn’t been officially proclaimed but some buyers have already begun building homes.

"We will be in a position to open the township register within days rather than weeks. So we hope to have proclamation either towards the end of the month or some time in December, so I don't think those who are jumping the gun are taking much of a risk."

Though one might tend to agree it shouldn’t be forgotten that Damfern is on land that included the Fourways golf course developed by the ill-fated Glenamul organisation which went to the wall, along with some other major building companies with household names, in the Seventies.
‘Kick in pants’ forces DP to polish image

By Louise Burgers
Municipal Reporter

The “kick in the pants” the Democratic Party received from ratepayers in Johannesburg has forced the party to immediately introduce steps to repair its tarnished image, Johannesburg management committee chairman Ian Davidson said yesterday.

At a crisis caucus meeting of DP councillors on Wednesday night, Mr Davidson was given an unanimous vote of confidence in his leadership of the party and as management committee chairman.

Mr Davidson said the party recognised that a serious lack of communication had led to the backlash against the DP in the Houghton/Killarney municipal by-election last week in which independent Sam Moss won the seat with an overwhelming majority.

Reasons given by ratepayers for their dissatisfaction with the management committee were escalating crime, rates increases, the John Pearce affair, the Civic Spine, and Civic Theatre expenditure.

To try and win back the “faith and trust” of residents, Mr Davidson has set up a committee to investigate methods to curb crime and has also promised better communication channels.

“Our image became tarnished because of a lack of communication. There is absolute agreement in the NP and DP caucuses in the council that what we are doing is right, but the how — our style — is wrong,” Mr Davidson said.

Mr Davidson said the party had to come up with initiatives to bring people back into the mainstream of government after the shock election defeat.

Security would be an absolute priority.

The DP had taken note of the clear message sent out by voters. “We did what we believed was necessary — possibly we were a little insensitive,” he said.

“When we took over the management committee, we were faced with raised expectations. What we inherited was an enormous mess and we realised we had to take a number of unpopular decisions.

“This is a typical midterm situation where the governing party gets a kick in the pants. It’s to our credit that we took our eye off the political ball and did the right thing, despite knowing that our decision would be resented,” he said.

“We have come from a position where we were following, floundering, reeling by aresinous political debate — to a city which has taken the lead in local government. Now we must not be seen to falter.”
Council ordered to repay interest to man in arrears

By Jo-Anne Collinge
and Mckeed Kotolo

In an unusual twist to the tale of unpaid service bills, the Appeal Court recently ruled that the Mamelodi Town Council should pay R105,36 to a man whose service payments had fallen substantially into arrears.

The amount pertained to interest which had been charged by the council on the overdue service bills owed by Modrjdi Johannes Sotsele, the appellant in the case.

Mr Justice HJ van Heerden found that the council was bound by law to fix interest at a level approved by the Administrator.

Since the Mamelodi council had not obtained the specified approval, it was not entitled to charge interest at all.

Now, according to a council spokesman, about 70 percent of householders in Pretoria's largest township will be entitled to claim the same treatment as Mr Sotsele.

He said residents would not be paid out, but would be credited with the relevant amount.

Overall, residents still owed the council about R20 million for services.

The question nobody can answer is how many other residents in other townships are affected.

Transvaal Provincial Administration spokesman Magda du Toit said she believed only "a few" other councils had made the same mistake as Mamelodi.

Most had applied for their interest rates to be approved by the Administrator.

In any event, from early 1990 a general ruling had been made which covered the entire province, she said.

But lawyers at the Pretoria Legal Resources Centre, which assisted Mr Sotsele in bringing his case, believe thousands of householders in various townships might be in line for repayment for service charges over a substantial period.

In his judgment, Mr Justice van Heerden made it clear that there was a distinction between commercial interests and ordinary residents when it came to determining interest.

"There is much to be said for the argument put forward by counsel for the appellant that there is a perfectly good reason why the legislature intended that a local authority should charge interest on arrears at the rate approved by the Administrator, and only at that rate, the reason being that such an authority is established for the benefit of residents of its area and that it is not a commercial institution."

In addition to ordering the council to pay the R105,36, the judge also ordered it to pay costs.
Campaign to cut rates

Philip Zoef (2"

Representatives of Johannesburg ratepayers' associations last night agreed to launch a campaign to force the Johannesburg City Council to revise its recent rate evaluations.

At a meeting in Highlands North, representatives of ratepayers' associations agreed to demand the resignation of the council's management committee should it fail to respond appropriately to their proposals.

They agreed on the following proposals, to be put to the council on Tuesday:

- The current valuation roll must be scrapped and replaced by a valuation based on realistic property values.
- The proposed valuation roll must be properly published and the ratepayers must be given the opportunity to voice their complaints.
- Pending the formulation of an approved valuation roll, the levy of assessment rates should be based on the valuation roll that was effective until July this year, but should include an increase in rates of 10 percent.
- The council should obtain a maximum profit of 10 percent on the provision of electricity.

The proposals were initiated after public meetings with city councillors had failed to resolve the controversy over the rates increases which came into effect with the new valuation roll on July 1.

According to the representatives, the property values reflected in the valuation roll are excessive.

Former city valuer Dr John McCullough, who compiled the initial proposals, said the valuations were based on "astronomical" market prices for scarce individual stands.

The representatives, including chairmen and committee members of ratepayers' associations of the city's east, west and north suburbs, will put the proposals to their members in the near future for ratification.
Tembisa down in the dumps

The collapse of refuse removal services in Tembisa due to the rent boycott has led to a marked increase in diarrhoea and dysentry in the township, Germiston's chief medical officer of health, Dr Cora Erasmus, warned.

She said a clean-up campaign would be launched in the township tomorrow—helped by members of the business community—and appealed to residents to give their full support.

Staff Reporter
Water-deprived Ratanda plans mass action

THE Heidelberg Mass Movement yesterday called for a two-day stayaway from Monday in protest against water cuts in Ratanda which have left the East Rand township dry for the past 15 days.

The mass action, which includes a protest march to the Heidelberg Magistrate's offices on Tuesday and a two-month consumer boycott, has been spearheaded by the local ANC branch, ANC Youth League, Ratanda Civic Association, Cosatu and South African Democratic Teachers Union.

The Mass Movement has also called for the resignation of the councillors, Ratanda Town clerk, and the immediate restoration of the water supply.

ANC branch chairman Obed Nkosi said it was a crime against humanity to deprive people of water "which is a necessity not a privilege". Mr Nkosi said the community was faced with a health hazard and diseases.

Mr Nkosi added that other demands include one tax base for Ratanda and Heidelberg town councils, a commission of inquiry, intervention by Minister of Health Dr Rina Venter, and a lowering of the high crime rate.

The civic association's general secretary Zachus Machtjje said they had noted with shock the "inhuman" water cut-off for the past two weeks by the Heidelberg Town Council.

Mr Machtjje said numerous efforts had been made by RCA to get water supplies restored in the area to no avail.
CAST opposes call for Vaal bond boycott

THE Vaal Civic Association is at loggerheads with its parent body, the Civic Association of Southern Transvaal (CAST), over its call for a bond boycott.

The VCA this week confirmed that the bond boycott, due to start at the end of the month, would go ahead despite CAST president Moses Mayekiso saying his organisation had no plans for such a boycott.

He said a bond boycott would be a last option because it was not viable. "Such a strategy could be detrimental to the people and we would not encourage it," he said.

The boycott call by the VCA follows complaints by residents of Zone 16 Sebokeng about the poor quality of their newly built homes.

VCA spokesman Tsepo Sibuse said a demand would be made to the South African Housing Trust and Khayalethu Home Loans at a meeting today that interest not be charged while the boycott was on.

The general manager of Khayalethu Home Loans, Ben Peters, confirmed that his company would have a meeting with VCA today. He said he was optimistic that an agreement with VCA would be reached.
Hard times in heavy territory

By MONWABISI NOMADOLO

WELL-KNOWN herbalist John Mxesibe, 54, says white racists are intimidating and harassing him.

The flamboyant Mxesibe says rightwingers are trying to force him out of his plot in the conservative area of De Deur in the Vaal.

Mxesibe, from Rockville in Soweto, told City Press he was told by police that the area belonged to the AWB.

The herbalist, who bought the plot for R70 000 from an estate agent five months ago, blamed a neighbour for orchestrating harassment.

"The man is a policeman and I don't understand his behaviour," he said.

Mxesibe, who runs a tuckshop and sorghum beer outlet, said the police demanded to see his licences. They took the sorghum licence, he said.

Two days later another group of policemen returned in three cars but did nothing, he said.

In a subsequent incident, police told him not to continue with the roofing of his house "because I would be in trouble".

Mxesibe also said he suspected the CP-controlled Vereeniging council was harassing him.

"I've been paying R150 for three months but since trouble started, I received an account of R800," he said.

Mxesibe's aide, Richard Kalongau, said on November 8 police arrived and found the workers drinking in a garage.

They ordered everybody to leave and, later, returned.

"Workers were beaten and others got injured while a number of them were arrested," he said.

Witwatersrand police liaison officer, Captain Henrietta Bester, could not confirm the alleged incident.
ANC man slams threats

By Themba Khumalo

ANC, ANC official in Klerksdorp has been singled out as a rightwing target -- not because he's with the ANC, but because he lives in the white town.

Pamphlets bearing the AWB and calling up 'Nazi White' Protest, 'Keep Klerksdorp Clean', have been distributed in town.

Trained MK cadre Isaac Moroe said he was prepared to defend himself at all costs, and would also take the matter to the Commission on Violence.

The pamphlets described Moroe as a 'nigger' and expressed indignation that whites should live near blacks.

Moroe said the clash started when a friend of his, a Vrykaner neighbour, came over and asked to speak to the 'Nazi'.

"When I told him there was no such animal here he promised to fix me up.

On another occasion Moroe was visited by his ANC comrades and local rightwingers threatened to assault them.

A WB leader, Eugene Terre Blanche denied issuing the pamphlet.

"I never bomb and threaten (beat) any man with a stinking community," he said.
'Legal' marchers arrested

BY KURT SWART

Forty-seven people have been arrested in Vilersdorp during a march to protest against high rents and service charges in the Boland town.

Spokesmen for the community claimed they had gained magisterial permission for the march yesterday but police denied this and said most of those arrested would be charged with taking part in an illegal gathering.

An African National Congress activist said there had been a misunderstanding and he believed the reason was that lawyers had not given the marchers a copy of the magistrate's written permission.

The secretary of the Vilersdorp Civic Association, Mr. Peter de Wet, said the march had followed community dissatisfaction with the municipality.

Police spokesman Captain Alfie Laubscher said 47 people had been arrested.
Boycott

Malloch, chairman of the MCA, called a public meeting attended by about 300 people demanding an eight per cent rate rise, and said that he hoped for negotiations within the next few weeks. He also pointed out that the rate rise to pay for the property was not to be used to repay a $2,000 overdraft, as some residents claimed. The MCA was later asked to explain the $2,000 as a rate rise, and the council was questioned by the residents.

The decision to stage a protest was met with a mixed reaction. Some residents supported the boycott, while others believed it was an unnecessary action. The council eventually agreed to meet with the MCA to discuss the rate rise and the terms of the protest. The meeting was held in a local hall and was attended by representatives of both sides. The council agreed to consider the residents' demands, and the protest was called off.

According to the MCA chairman, the decision to stage a protest was made after the council refused to negotiate on the rate rise. He said that the residents were acting in self-defense against what they perceived as unfair treatment. The council, on the other hand, argued that the rate rise was necessary to maintain the services provided by the council.

The residents' reaction was varied. Some were satisfied with the outcome of the meeting, while others were disappointed. The council has since apologized for the hardship caused by the rate rise and has announced that it will hold further meetings with the MCA to address the residents' concerns.
Dead Group Areas Act lives on

JOHANNESBURG
Nel in a bid to resolve Atteridgeville crisis

The new Attendgeville administrator, Mr Martiens Nel, met with the management committee of the Pretoria City Council to try and resolve the rent crisis in the township.

Nel and the deputy chairman of the management committee of the council, Mr Cor Uys, announced yesterday that a firm of consultants would assist the administrator to develop a new strategic management plan with events to date and to discuss a possible new approach in order to resolve the ongoing refusal of the majority of Atteridgeville residents to pay their accounts, which resulted in the local council being unable to meet its financial responsibilities," the statement said.

The Pretoria council said it would only consider restoring power, when the township had paid the account in full or came
Alex is dump site, health chief is told
By Carla de Graaf

Health education was the answer to environmental problems threatening health care services, the director-general of the Department of National Health and Population Development, Dr Coen Slabber, said in Alexandra yesterday.

Dr Slabber wanted to acquaint himself with health care services and the environment in the township.

He said health care workers in the area were coping with tremendous problems but were doing very good work. He said he was specifically concerned about "environmental factors" such as refuse, the lack of clean water and sanitation.

He said health education was the answer to these problems and that the work of health educators was becoming more and more important.

Dr Slabber was shown a recorded-over tape by members of his department which claimed the township was being used by outside agents for the dumping of refuse and rubble.
Drama in a Sleepy Dorpville

Lunch Mobs Out of Town
Keep Blocks May Turn To

Violence

In Progressive Movement

The mother figure in the poem, also a victim of violence, reflects on her experience and the impact it has on her life. The poem discusses the themes of violence, power dynamics, and resilience.

The mother figure, who was previously a victim of violence, has now turned to violence herself. This change in behavior is influenced by her experiences and the environment in which she lives.

The poem contrasts the mother's experience with that of the daughter figure, who is struggling to escape the cycle of violence.

The poem highlights the impact of violence on the individual and the community, and the need for intervention and support to break the cycle.

The mother figure's transformation from victim to perpetrator is a powerful statement on the devastating effects of violence and the need for collective action to address these issues.

The poem serves as a call to action, urging individuals and communities to work together to create a safer and more just society.

The mother figure's journey is a reminder of the resilience and strength of the human spirit in the face of adversity.

The poem is a powerful reflection on the reality of violence in South Africa and the need for a collective response to address these issues.
CAST steps up efforts to isolate councillors

By Kaizer Nyatsumba
Political Staff

The Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal (CAST) has decided to double its efforts to “eradicate” black local authorities and management committees.

CAST president Moses Mayekiso and publicity secretary Sam Ntuli told a press conference yesterday that CAST’s conference on local government and housing at the weekend had resolved to call on community members to intensify campaigns for the resignation of black councillors and management committee members.

The conference called for the isolation of town councillors “in all spheres of life”.

Mr Ntuli said the conference came out strongly in support of negotiations on local government, land allocation for development, housing development, the supply of electricity and public transport.

The conference recommended that white local authorities take over the supply, of social services to adjacent townships and the administration of these townships until nonracial local governments had been formed.

CAST said white municipalities, which had a sound fiscal base and “efficient administrative capacities”, should take the blame for the deterioration of services in adjacent townships.
Blacks apply for houses
despite threats by AWB

TWO more black employees of Phalaborwa Mining Company have applied for houses in the town amid rising tension and threats by rightwingers to stop blacks from moving in.

This brings to three the number of employees who have applied for houses in the Conservative Party-controlled town over the past months.

PMC estate manager Mr Tonny Moore also disclosed yesterday that a coloured mechanic would this week move into a previously whites-only flat block.

The applications followed the desegregation of the company’s housing policy.

Following the company’s announcement of the new policy in July, the town council passed a resolution by five votes to three on July 30 calling on white residents to reject integration and defend “First World standards and good order”.

An opinion poll by the council last month had a poll percentage under 20 percent. Of the 6 700 registered voters in the town, only 1 328 participated, 1 280 voting against blacks moving in.

The AWB interpreted the result as a mandate to stop blacks from moving into PMC houses and has threatened that “blood will flow” if attempts were made to disregard the poll outcome.
Open purses to halt housing crisis, urges Mayekiso

By Jo-Anne Collinge

Financial institutions, employers and the Government had to share the blame for the mammoth housing shortage and had to begin to "open their purses" to alleviate the crisis, according to Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal chairman Moses Mayekiso.

He was speaking at a two-day conference on housing, organised by CAST and Operation Masakane for the Homeless, co-sponsored by City Press and the SA Lumber Millers Association (Salma) and held near Johannesburg at the weekend.

Mr Mayekiso stressed that the civic associations were involving themselves increasingly in the development process and the structural changes necessary to promote development.

He said their campaign against the black local authorities would be pursued, not as simple "trouble-making" but because their demise would eliminate an obstacle to development.

Mr Mayekiso said the profits from the recent Government sale of oil reserves should go partly towards housing the homeless - but if it went via the black local authorities as intended, "we won't see any development".

He emphasised that there was an ongoing need for a rental sector to house those without any form of capital or security - like hostel residents and shack-dwellers.

A later speaker put the number of unemployed at about 4 million out of a possible workforce of 12 million.

Salma executive director Andries Swart emphasised that the necessary resources existed in South Africa to meet the challenge of housing.

He said Salma research had shown that even shack dwellers spent hundreds of rands in erecting their shelters - and that they were poorly serviced, often depending on informal sources to supply materials at exorbitant rates.

With decent materials, provided at cheaper rates, and with training, there was no reason why people should continue to create perpetual slums, he argued.
Police presence deters takeover

The planned takeover of 150 houses at Lotus Garden did not materialise yesterday as police were seen combing the outskirts of the township.

The Atteridgeville/Sealsville Residents Organisation had planned to let homeless people occupy houses built for the Indian community in Lotus Garden as well as have people set up shacks there.

Asro planned a march from the local Mbolckwa ground to the neighbouring township, where some people would occupy the empty houses while others would put up shacks.

People interviewed said the march could not take place because the police were out in force and it was too risky.

Asro officials could not be contacted for comment.

Sapa.
Wraps off municipal models

By EDITH RULBERG

THE Civic Associations of the Southern Transvaal will meet behind closed doors in Johannesburg today to formulate policy on non-racial local government and a model for interim metropolitan chambers.

Chairman Moses Mayekiso is expected to present cast's proposed model to restructure the existing Witwatersrand Metropolitan Chamber. He believes the Chamber needs to be revamped to ensure grassroots community participation.

Addressing a policy conference on local government and affordable housing yesterday, Mr. Mayekiso said, existing boundaries of local authorities had to be reassessed, in order to establish viable tax bases.
Cops to block squatter plan

Police will be out in force this morning to prevent blacks occupying empty houses in an Indian township. (28)

Atteridgeville residents are reportedly planning to march to nearby Lotus Gardens in Pretoria to take over unoccupied houses and vacant land (28).

This follows a decision at a public meeting last week convened by the Atteridgeville/Siokville Residents' Organisation.

A strong police contingent will be at Lotus Gardens, but the residents' body is determined to go ahead with the squat.
Protest action 'on hold'

INSTEAD of participating in protest actions, civic associations were now working on development of processes for a new society. Civic Association of the Southern Transvaal chairman Moses Mayekiso said on Saturday.

Speaking at a two-day symposium on affordable housing and CAST's first policy conference, Mayekiso said although civic associations were no longer involved in protest action, it did not mean they would refrain from taking mass action for social and economic development.

Public transport, he said, could not be privatised but had to be subsidised as it was government which had put the workforce far from towns and industries.

"The crisis in housing was caused by the government's failure to curb the influx of people to the cities. We need a national policy on housing, transport infrastructure and local government." "There should be a negotiating forum on housing in which government was an equal partner and did not dictate what had to be done, he said." — Sapa