INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS - STRIKES

1982 AUG - DEC
Go-Slow Brings VW to Virtual Standstill

By SANDY SMITH

2/18/82
Firms provoking strikes — claim

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — There was strong evidence that employers were provoking strike action to retrench workers, reorganize employment conditions and smash union organizations, Fasatu's Natal regional congress said yesterday.

The congress, which consists of 70 shop stewards from Natal factories and represented by six Fasatu affiliated unions, met to discuss recent labour disputes in the region.

In a statement after the meeting, the congress said it particularly condemned "the Tongaat/Heilets group for the action of one of its subsidiaries, David Whitehead's" after a strike last month.

"Workers were required to sign new and worsening contracts of employment after the stoppage, shop stewards were dismissed and over 100 workers were not taken back."

The delegates also condemned the recent dismissal of shop stewards of the Swvet, Food and Allied Workers' Union from Vleis' Sentaal at Cato Ridge and the company's refusal to talk to the union on the matter, as well as "provocative" actions of SA Fabrics "in seriously jeopardizing retrenchment negotiations".

"Such actions are rapidly destroying the prospect of establishing new and more stable forms of collective bargaining in South Africa."

A resolution condemning the proposed land transfer of Ingwavuma and Kangwane to Swaziland was also adopted, and the congress stated its total opposition to all land transfers till a "truly democratic" South African government decided such issues.
'Employers provoking strikes' claim

Mercury Reporter

There was strong evidence that employers were provoking strikes in order to restructure workforces, reorganise employment conditions and smash union organisations, Posatu's Natal Regional Congress said yesterday.

The congress, which consists of 70 shop stewards from Natal factories represented by six Posatu-affiliated unions, met to discuss recent labour disputes in the region.

In a statement released after the meeting the congress said it particularly condemned 'the Tongaat Hulett group for the action of one of its subsidiaries, David Whiteheads', following a strike last month.

'Workers were required to sign new and worse contracts of employment after the stoppage, shop stewards were dismissed and over 100 workers were not taken back,' it said.

Reacting to argument put forward by the company's counsel in Friday's Supreme Court hearing that it was never David Whiteheads' intention that the recognition agreement would be binding in law, the congress said 'such a stand by a major company seriously jeopardises all recognition agreements'.

The whole approach of the independent union movement to industrial relations may be altered by this,' the statement added.

Destroying

The delegates also condemned the recent dismissal of shop stewards of the Sweet, Food and Allied Workers' Union from Vleissentraal at Cato Ridge and the company's refusal to talk to the union about the matter, as well as 'provocative actions' of SA Fabres 'in seriously jeopardising retrenchment negotiations'.

'Such actions are rapidly destroying the prospect of establishing new and more stable forms of collective bargaining in South Africa,' it said.

A resolution condemning the proposed land transfer of Ingwavuma and Xhahlwane to Swaziland was also adopted and the congress stated its total opposition to all land transfers until such time as a truly democratic South African government decided on such issues.
Meat company sacks all its workers after strike

Labour Reporter

THE entire workforce at the Cato Ridge meat company, Velesentraal, has been fired after a strike over the dismissal of five fellow workers.

The Fosatu-affiliated Sweet, Food and Allied Workers Union yesterday claimed the five workers—excluding two shop stewards—were dismissed because they had been organising for the union in the factory.

The company has denied this saying the workers were dismissed because business was ‘slack’ and it needed to retrain a certain number.

On Friday the workers watched the five being marched off the premises by company security guards and demanded to know what had happened, a union spokesman said.

He claimed the company told them the workers had been dismissed for organising for the union and had added that if anyone wished to remain a member of the union they should leave with them. The workers then stopped work.

When workers later that day asked the company whether they could return to work, they were told they had all been dismissed and would only be re-employed selectively, the spokesman said.

He said the company had brought in a truckload of new workers on Friday and yesterday, but workers from the nearby abattoir had refused to work at Velesentraal when approached.

VELESENTRAAL'S manager, Mr H E Hart, denied the workers had been fired because they belonged to the union.

He said the company had never negotiated with the union and did not even know if any of the workers were union members.

The strikers, he said, had been given plenty of opportunity to come back to work.

Mr Hart said previous employees would be re-employed selectively but the company was ‘busy bringing in new workers’.

Degree/Diploma/Certificate for which you are registered (e.g. B.A., B.Sc.)

Subject

(to be copied from the heading on the Examination Paper)

Paper No

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Claims by labour congress are denied

Labour Reporter

No responsible employer would deliberately foster strike action in order to retrench workers, the executive director of the Natal Federated Chamber of Industries, Mr Roland Freakes said yesterday.

He was responding to a claim by Fosatu's Natal regional congress that there was strong evidence to suggest that employers were provoking strikes to retrench workers, re-organise employment conditions and smash union organisation.

The claim followed discussions on recent labour disputes last weekend, by the 70 shop stewards who form the congress.

Mr Freakes added that employers were rather looking for stability in industrial relations.

The fact of the matter is that the economic downturn is beginning to bite and an increasing number of companies are reducing staff.

Mr Freakes was backed by the national chairman of the Textile Yarn and Fabric Manufacturers Association, Mr Lawrence Lurie, who said the congress's claims were 'absolute nonsense'.
VW plant is closed
‘until further notice’

By SANDRA SMITH

ALMOST the entire workforce at the Volkswagen plant in Uitenhage was sent home today as a result of a week-long go-slow by workers in certain sections of the factory.

VW’s public affairs manager, Mr Ruben Ets, said 2 500 hourly-paid workers were affected by the shut-down.

A shop steward said the workforce was sent home at 8:30am after a notice was circulated saying all production and production-related areas would be closed until further notice.

The notice, signed by labour relations manager Mr Jan Louw, said “Management regrets to advise all employees that all production and production-related areas of the plant will be closed till further notice.

“This has become necessary due to the current go-slow strike which is in progress in certain areas and is causing the whole factory operation to operate on a completely uneconomical basis.”

Employees would be advised of “any developments which may take place which will enable us to re-open the plant”, the notice said.

Production slowed at the plant last week after workers mounted a go-slow in protest against a deadlock — which led to the declaration of a formal dispute.

VW workers are now demanding plant negotiations because the resolution of the dispute could be protracted.

Yesterday, only VW's press shop was in operation after about 1 200 employees in the body shop were sent home and 2 000 in the assembly and machine sections had been told to return tomorrow.

Ford and GM spokesmen have said production was normal this week. However, shop stewards insisted workers in these plants were also involved in a go-slow.

The last Industrial Council meeting was adjourned till Thursday to allow the parties to decide what form the dispute would take.

While the employers are said to favour arbitration, Naawu feels this would take the dispute out of the union’s hands.
Textile
firm

tells 60

workers
to go

Post Reporter

ABOUT 60 workers at the
Voldepun International tex-
tile company in Uitenhage
were told to leave after re-
using to do the work of 25
of their colleagues who
were retrenched last
month, according to a union
spokesman.

The local secretary of the
Federation of SA Trade
Unions (Fosatu), Mr
Makaya Sam, said today
the workers had refused to
move from the knotting to
the picking sections last
week in protest against the
retrenchment of 25 "pick-
er" a fortnight ago.

On Monday, manage-
ment warned four of the
workers in the knotting sec-
tion they would be sacked if
they continued to refuse to
do picking work.

The four were laid off,
and workers in the rest of
the department refused to
do picking work. They were
then told to leave and re-
turn for their pay today.

Officials of the National
Union of Textile Workers, a
Fosatu affiliate, hold talks
with management on the is-
 sue yesterday. Mr Sam

They were told the com-
pany would reach a final
decision today.

The dismissed workers
have decided not to collect
their pay packets until the
outcome of the union's talks
with management are

As asked for comment to-
day, a company spokesman
said "We do not deal with
the Press. Whatever we do
here is our business."
VW closes plant – 6000 sent home

PORT ELIZABETH – Continued work disruptions at the giant Volkswagen plant in Uitenhage today led to the company sending home its workforce of about 6000 and closing the plant until further notice.

Workers streamed out of the plant's gates shortly after 9 am. In a statement afterwards, the company said it was closing all production until further notice.

"This has become necessary due to the continued go-slow strike in progress in certain areas and which is causing the whole factory to operate on a complete unproductive basis," the statement said.

"Employees will be advised of any developments which may take place which will enable us to reopen the plant."

The public affairs manager, Mr Ruben Els, said the company was today still hoping to have discussions with shop stewards on the production problems.

"Early today, about 2000 workers were sent home by the company when arriving for work as the assembly and machinery sections remained closed for the third consecutive day because of the go-slow."

"The rest of the workers were sent home later when production remained slow in the body shop, where a go-slow strike since early last week has caused major disruptions."

"Yesterday, the 1200 workers in the body shop were sent home while 2000 other workers were idle because their work was hampered by the slow production in the body shop."

Mr Els said it was not clear if there had been an intentional go-slow in other departments because they were hampered by the limited production in the body shop.

The company had not been informed officially of the reason for the go-slow strike, Mr Els said.

Volkswagen shop stewards have said, however, that the workers wanted in-plant wage talks to replace the Industrial Council wage talks, which have been formally declared to be in dispute after a series of deadlocked meetings.

The last wage agreement expired at the end of last month and it could now take months before a new settlement is reached.

The president of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (NAAWU), Mr Jury Harris, a VW shop steward, said today that he had informed the company of the workers' demand and was awaiting its response.
City attorney suspended

Staff Reporter

A 27-year-old Cape Town attorney, Mr Julian Horak, was suspended in the Supreme Court yesterday from practise as an attorney for three years as from November 30, 1980.

This follows an application brought by the Law Society of the Cape of Good Hope which application was unopposed.

Mr Horak, who voluntarily stopped practising in November 1980, was implicated in the criminal trial of John Rayment on February 1961. According to the affidavit of Mr Louis van Zyl, president of the Law Society, Mr Horak was charged with theft in a case where he was charged with theft dealing in uncut diamonds.

Rewarded

Mr Van Zyl said Mr Horak acted as a go-between for the diamond buyer and the man who arranged the purchase of the diamonds, and that Mr Horak was paid for this by Mr Van Zyl. Mr Horak was paid R2,500 and later handed the money to the police.

Mr Van Zyl submitted that Mr Horak had been guilty of unprofessional conduct and was not a fit and proper person to continue practising as an attorney.

The Jews greatest threat

Britain waslover.

Mr Horak had been admitted as an attorney on May 20, 1978. He had then practised as a professional at the firm of Oppenheimer, Bloom and Company until he resigned in 1980.

Mr Horak stated in an affidavit that he intended to withdraw from the legal profession to try to avoid the adverse publicity which might result from his involvement in Friedman’s conviction.

‘Ashamed’

“I am acutely aware of the seriousness of my misconduct and deeply ashamed of what I have done,” he said. He asked the council to consider the circumstances in which he had committed the wrong.

He first met Friedman, who was in a wheelchair, when he was an in-experienced articled clerk. He said:

“Mr Friedman coupled with his ability to evoke my sympathy, and the fact that he was a man who had suffered from a tragic accident, when he was an in-experienced articled clerk, he said.

My sympathy for Mr Friedman coupled with his ability to evoke my sympathy, and the fact that he was a man who had suffered from a tragic accident, when he was an in-experienced articled clerk, he said.

Mr Van Zyl said that Mr Horak had been guilty of unprofessional conduct and was not a fit and proper person to continue practising as an attorney.

Mr Justice Grootboom sat with Mr Justice van der Merwe and Mr J M Snedden, all of whom were instructed in the application by Mr J Snedden and submitted to the evidence of the applicant, together with affidavits in support of the application.

Mr Van Zyl and Mr Snedden appeared for Mr Horak.

v npapers for daily bargaining
Mawu enters no-strike deal

A RECOGNITION agreement has been signed between the Metal and Allied Workers' Union (Mawu) and South Africa's biggest manufacturer of electrical accessories, Litemaster Products of Wadeville.

According to the agreement, signed last week and ending six months of negotiations, Mawu has agreed not to go on strike and the company has also agreed not to lock out workers while negotiations mediation or accepted procedures are in progress.

In a joint statement released after the signing of the agreement, Mr. John Houston managing director of Litemaster and Mr. Moses Mavekaka, Transvaal branch secretary of Mawu hailed the agreement as a foundation for good relations.

The agreement determines a talk-and-resolve policy for both sides in preference to industrial action.

In the agreement both parties will maintain a system of collective bargaining and negotiation as being the method of conducting industrial relations.

The company has agreed not to dismiss any worker during the first 24 hours of any work stoppage and a formula for retirement has been accepted.

Membership subscriptions to the union will be deducted by the company and rules on health and safety have also been recognised by the parties.

Disciplinary and grievance procedures will be applied fairly and justly without discrimination or victimisation.

The company committed itself to developing employees' skills maintaining open lines of communication and personal contact promoting and preserving at all times the dignity and self-esteem of employees and improving the quality of life of employees at work and at home.

Mr. Mavekaka said it was a great achievement for his union to have reached an agreement with Litemaster. He said the negotiations were tough but everyone is now happy with the outcome and we hope it will work well,
BY STEVEN FRIEDMAN

VOLKSWAGEN WORKERS AT THE WOLFSBURG PLANT WILL FIGHT ANOTHER TALENTLESS DAY TODAY AS THE STRIKE OVER PAY AND WORKING CONDITIONS CONTESTS TO GO ON.

The mood of the workers at the Volkswagen plant was one of exasperation and frustration yesterday as they continued their strike against the company's management.

Yesterday, Mr. Fred Smith, the company's general manager, announced that the strike would be extended for another 24 hours.

The workers, who have been on strike for five days, were demanding higher pay and improved working conditions. The company has offered a 10% pay increase, but the workers say this is not enough.

Yesterday, the company announced that it had received a large order for 10,000 cars, but this news did not improve the workers' mood as they continued to demand better working conditions.

The strike has caused production to be halted at the plant, and the company has been forced to cancel orders for a number of cars.

The workers say that they are determined to continue their strike until their demands are met.

The strike has also spread to other Volkswagen plants in Germany, and the company is facing a major crisis.

The company has been forced to close its plants in different countries, and the company's stock price has fallen significantly.

The government has been called in to mediate the dispute, but so far, no solution has been reached.

The workers say that they are willing to return to work if the company meets their demands, but they are not willing to accept anything less than what they have been demanding for the past five days.

The strike has caused significant disruption to the company's operations, and it is unclear how long the strike will continue.
Workers walk out at Ford in protest

By SANDRA SMITH

WORKERS at the Ford truck plant downed tools and left the plant today in protest against a company bulletin setting out the employers' wage offer made to the Industrial Council for the Motor Manufacturing Industry of the Eastern Cape.

A National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union official said a bulletin was displayed at Ford's Truck plant today outlining the employers' wage offer. The workers objected and left the plant, the official said.

And in a further development in the dispute, Nactu has demanded that Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen pay workers for the period plants were closed last month.

A statement released by the union also intimated that if a dispute in the Industrial Council was referred to arbitration, Nactu might decide to withdraw from the council. Ford's director of industrial relations, Mr. Fred Ferrera, confirmed the workers had left the plant today.

Workers at Ford and GM went on strike on July 15 after a breakdown in industrial council talks.

The two motor companies and VW then closed their plants for more than a week until a return to work could be negotiated.

In a letter to the companies, Nactu has accused them of an illegal lock-out and demanded the workers be paid out, the union's general secretary, Mr. Freddy Sauls, said today.

Mr. Ferrera said he did not wish to
Strikes continue

WORKERS at two companies, on the East Rand and in Johannesburg, yesterday downed tools in a continuation of labour unrest along the Reef.

About 93 employers at Gold Star Yeast, a member of the Premier group, in Industria, Johannesburg, went on strike, demanding R25 increases.

Meanwhile, at Rheem SA in Alrode, Germiston, management denied workers were involved in a work stoppage despite repeated telephone calls to The SOWETAN by workers. The workers said about 150 of them had downed tools yesterday because of discrimination by management.

STRIKE: Some of the workers yesterday.
Workers dispute clock cards

At least eight workers were fired from a publishing and bookbinding company, Juta and Company, following a dispute with management over the use of clock-card system.

The workers who refused to be identified alleged they objected to the use of clock-cards because they were victims of coming late to work when white and coloured staff were otherwise provided with company transport.

Mr J van Jaarsveld, branch secretary of the company, confirmed there had been a dispute.

But he denied that anybody had been fired over the issue. He said 12 workers had originally refused to use the clocking system as they were unhappy with their pay. Only four had remained — voluntarily and I indicated to them that by refusing to use the clocking system they were discharging themselves.

He said company transport was provided for coloured and white staff because there was no public transport for them between City Deep and the city centre.

But we could not get a licence from the Road Transport Board to ferry our own workers from the railway station to this place. We were told that Putco was operating a service in this area and there was nothing more we could do about the matter.

We compensated the workers by giving them money for bus transport from the station to here. We know there is a bus service,' Mr Van Jaarsveld said.
60 PE textile workers won't accept offer

By SANDRA SMITH

About 60 workers dismissed from the Veldspun International textile company in Uitenhage have refused a management offer to re-employ them on condition they signed a document acknowledging their jobs included picking fabrics.

The workers were dismissed on Monday after refusing to do the work of 25 of their colleagues in Veldspun International's fabric picking section who were retrenched last month.

Officials of the National Union of Textile Workers met representatives of the company's management yesterday to discuss the issue, and were told the workers would be re-employed on condition they signed the document.

At a meeting last night, the workers rejected this condition.

The local secretary of the Federation of SA Trade Unions (Fosatu), Mr Makaya Sam said: "The workers felt that if there were to be conditions, they would like to include some of their own which would be binding on the company."

Management had asked for workers in the mending section to return to the factory today and the rest on Tuesday. This was also rejected by the workers, who decided they would return to work together.

Mr Sam said union officials would attempt to meet management representatives today.

Veldspun management was not available for comment.
The Naval Regional Secretary of Rosslare, Mr. John Mawby, yesterday at a meeting in the Union Hall, spoke about the current negotiations between the management and the workers. The workers were sub-union, and the meeting was convened to discuss the dispute over wages and working conditions.

Mr. Mawby, who had been in charge of the negotiations, said that the workers had been offered a substantial increase in wages, but they had refused to accept the proposal. The workers had been on strike for over a month, and the dispute had escalated into a serious industrial conflict.

As a result of the negotiations, Mr. Mawby said that the workers would be taken back to work at their old rates. They were told that the dispute had been settled, and they were free to return to work.

The workers were delighted with the news, and they were eager to return to their jobs. They thanked Mr. Mawby for his efforts in resolving the dispute and promised to work harder than ever to earn their wages.

Mr. Mawby said that he was pleased with the outcome of the negotiations and that he hoped that the workers would appreciate the efforts of the management in settling the dispute. He expressed his hope that the workers would continue to work harmoniously with the management, and that they would be able to resolve any future disputes through constructive dialogue.
Giant car plant still closed today

Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — The giant Volkswagen factory in Uitenhage was still closed today, with no prospect of a settlement between the company and a large section of the workers who had caused the closure yesterday by their go-slow strike.

The public affairs manager for the company, Mr Ruben Els, said today that no meeting between the company and representatives of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) was being planned before tomorrow's scheduled Industrial Council meeting in Port Elizabeth.

Mr Els announced yesterday that a week-long go-slow by workers in some areas had caused the factory to be operating on "a completely unmonitored basis" and that all production would be closed "until further notice." That means that the company is closed for the second time in less than a month, the first time being three weeks ago, when more than 10,000 motor industry workers stopped work at Volkswagen, General Motors and Ford over a wage dispute.

After a week, production at the three plants returned to normal, but Volkswagen stated experiencing a go-slow strike.

At tomorrow's meeting, the council is expected to consider the further negotiation options available.

Meanwhile, about 80 workers at the Veldspun International Textile Company in Uitenhage have reportedly been sacked for refusing to do work of about four workers who were retrenched last month because of production cutbacks.
It's All Happening...

Just tell

ROBIN STEVENSON

A REGIONAL convention is being held in the great hall of the Greemushes Motel on the old Cape Road from tomorrow till Saturday by the Full Gospel Businessmen's Fellowship International. This is not restricted to businessmen.

The main speaker will be Mr. Mel Tarra, an Indonesian who now lives in America. The other speaker is Mr. Bob Trench, of Durban. They will be teaching "What Jesus is today."

THE Algoa Bay Council for the Aged is holding a cake sale on Saturday morning at the Greenacres hypermarket and Constantia Centre. They need more cakes as well as scones, crumpets and kookoosters. If you can help, contact Mrs. Freda Krupenik at 2171.

MEMBERS of the Wards 5 and 6 Civic Association should be interested to know that the association will be holding its annual meeting at 8pm on August 12 in the North End library.

THE Wulfs family exhibition in the EP Society of Fine Arts gallery has been held over a week and will now close on Saturday. Almost all the paintings have been borrowed from places outside PE.

Workers want full wages for 'lock-out'

Naawu's national council has released a statement saying 'collective bargaining is an issue for the employees and employer parties only.'

Thus any attempt by the employers to have the dispute referred to 'a third party' would be opposed by the union, it said.

Labour analysts feel the only path then open to Naawu would be to withdraw from the industrial council.

The VW plant in Uitenhage was closed almost entirely yesterday 'until further notice' because of a go-slow by workers.

GM reported normal production, but shop stewards claim workers in these companies are also involved in a go-slow.

Big egg surplus expected

JOHANNESBURG — A large egg surplus is expected soon and the Egg Control Board is to launch a campaign to promote the sale of eggs.

SARC radio today quoted the chairman of the board, Mr. Ian Bartlett, as saying the biggest surplus was expected in the Western Cape.

The promotion campaign would therefore be concentrated in that area to begin with. Mr. Bartlett said that the eggs are of good quality.

SACC deal as

JOHANNESBURG — Leaders of major African churches declared today that the national church leaders rejected the transfer of the Cape to Swaziland.

In a statement today, the South African Council of Churches declared that "in consultation with church leaders went the transfer as illegal and immoral.

It added that South African church leaders would therefore be concentrated in that area to begin with. Mr. Bartlett said that the eggs are of good quality.
Sacked workers won't accept their dismissal

MORE than 500 workers gathered outside the Busaf bus body manufacturing plant in Port Elizabeth today for the fourth day to demonstrate a rejection of their dismissal by management last week.

They were sacked after downing tools in protest against the dismissal of members of a workers' committee and for a demand that management recognise the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu).

The workers, mostly women, claim teargas was fired by police. However, police have denied teargas was used to members of the reaction squad deployed outside Busaf today.

The workers' committee has arranged to meet Busaf management on Monday.
Workers refused entry

Alan Post Reporter

ABOUT 50 workers who arrived late at the Veldspun International textile plant in Uitenhage today were not allowed into the plant, and two night shifts were downed last night.

This follows the dismissal of 60 workers at Veldspun this week after they refused to do the work of 20 of their colleagues in the company’s fabric packing section who were retrenched last month.

The 60 have refused a management offer to re-employ them on condition that they sign a document acknowledging that their jobs include packing fabrics.

An official of the National Union of Textile Workers said the dismissed and locked-out workers would hold a meeting today.

...
Pay dispute escalates as workers down tools

BY STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

THE East Cape motor industry's pay dispute escalated again yesterday as General Motors' vehicle assembly plant and Ford's truck plant were closed after workers had downed tools.

The two closures come only a day after a worker go-slow closed Volkswagen's entire Uitenhage plant indefinitely. They follow a 10-day work stoppage involving at least 10,000 members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu).

And, although the industry's industrial council is to meet today in an attempt to settle the dispute, it appeared yesterday that protracted conflict in the factories — and the collapse of the council — was possible.

Employers are likely to call for arbitration of the dispute at the meeting. But Naawu general secretary Mr Fred Sauls said yesterday his union's national executive had decided to "firmly resist" arbitration.

"We believe collective bargaining should take place between employers and workers only and we will simply not accept involvement by third parties. There are no circumstances under which we will accept arbitration," he said.

He added that workers were increasingly demanding to negotiate directly with individual companies, rather than through the council. "They feel their wage demands will not be met through the council," he said.

Although Mr Sauls would not comment further, he believes deadlock at today's meeting could lead to Naawu's withdrawal from the council — the only council on which a Fosatru union has agreed to serve.

There are also fears that, if deadlock prevails, you are requested (e.g., B.A., B.Sc.)

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Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.
Union hopes for a new wage offer after talks

Post Reporter
THE Industrial Council for the Motor Manufacturing Industry of the Eastern Cape adjourned after two hours today with union dele-
egates hoping that employ-
eres on the council would re-
turn with a new wage offer when the meeting resumed this afternoon.

The council met amid speculation that the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union might withdraw from the council if the dispute is not res-
olved and is referred to ar-
bitration by a third party.

Union delegates con-


firmed a deadlock on wages had been discussed at to-

day's meeting and said the employees had "gone to dis-


cuss the issue".

While the parties negoti-
ated, sporadic work stop-
pages have continued to

cripple production at all three motor manufacturers in the Eastern Cape.

Volkswagen closed its Uitenhage plant "until fur-
ther notice" this week after a go-slow by workers.

At General Motors, workers in certain areas of the assembly line downed
tools, halting production in the vehicle assembly plant.

This was after bulletins of the employers' wage offers in the council were put up in the plant.

Worker representatives and the bulletin "petitioned to the workers that the em-
ployers were not prepared to budge from their offer of a minimum hourly wage of R2.19".

At the Ford truck plant yesterday, production stopped when the bulletins were displayed and work-
ers gathered in groups to discuss them, Ford shop stewards said.

An official "started pull-
ing people about and told

them to get back to work or

clock out", a shop steward said.

The official then told ev-

eyone "standing around" should leave the plant.

Spokesmen at Ford were not available for comment.
Closure of plants a 'lockout'

Argus Bureau

The closure of plants by Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen for more than a week last month after a strike by about 11,000 workers was "an illegal lockout," according to the deputy general secretary of the Steel and Allied Industries Union, Mr H. Ferreira.

"We will go all the way if necessary to get payment for our members," Mr Ferreira said.

The union supported NAWU's demand for severance pay of one month's wages, for every completed year of service.

The union, one of the more conservative white unions, is negotiating on wages and working conditions at the industrial council for the motor manufacturing industry of the Eastern Cape, which meets today.

Also represented are the three companies and the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (NAWU).

Mr Ferreira said his union had asked the employers to pay its members for the period the plants were closed. Its members did not take part in the strike on July 15 by members of NAWU.

NAWU has also demanded payment for the period the plants were closed.

The manufacturers refused to pay the steel union's members for time not worked. The union has demanded that the matter be discussed at today's meeting.
More E Cape motor plants hit by strikes

PORT ELIZABETH — The current wage dispute in the motor industry in the Eastern Cape was further highlighted yesterday with the assembly section of the General Motors plant the truck plant at Ford and the whole of the Volkswagen plant closed.

And a statement issued by the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Nawu) yesterday indicated that the union might withdraw from the Industrial Council if the dispute was referred to arbitration.

The council meets today to discuss the procedure it will adopt to resolve the deadlock in negotiations.

At Ford yesterday the truck plant was closed after workers downed tools in protest of a company bulletin which was posted in the plant detailing management's counter offer of a 12.15% minimum hours wage offer at the I.C. talks.

A shop steward said the workers saw this as proof that management had not taken the talks seriously and believed it indicated that the company would insist again on its offer of a 12.15% minimum hourly wage when the I.C. talks resumed today.

Volkswagen was closed until further notice on Tuesday after a week-long slow motion production stoppage that the company announced it was no longer able to operate economically.

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White Union Leader Joins

B Y S A N D R A S H I T T

The media manipulation reference to payserv

The door was closed, the screen was shut and the buyer was forced to pay the price set by MacDonald. He then read and understood the conditions, and acted accordingly. The Federation of General Workers was upon him from that moment. It was the moment of the most complete closure of minds and mouths, the moment of the most complete control of thought and action. The Federation of General Workers was upon him from that moment. It was the moment of the most complete closure of minds and mouths, the moment of the most complete control of thought and action.
Talks go on in bid to end strike

Labour Correspondent

WORKERS at Woolworths' City Deep warehouse downed tools yesterday in support of wage and union recognition demands and in protest at the firing of a colleague, according to the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Coswusa).

Late yesterday afternoon a management source confirmed the strike and said negotiations were continuing.

Meanwhile Sapa reports that about 900 workers at a Port Elizabeth bus body manufacturing plant, Besuf, were refused entry to the factory yesterday after downing tools on Wednesday in protest at dismissals.

The workers were also demanding the recognition of Fosat's National Automobile and Allied Workers Union. They say they have resigned from Tusca's Motor Industry Combined Workers Union, which has a closed shop agreement at the plant. Naawu began recruiting at the plant a month ago.

Workers said the dismissal of two members of a recently elected worker committee was "victimisation".

The company would not comment.

And two night shifts at Barlow Rand subsidiary Veldkamp Textiles, in Uitenhage downed tools on Wednesday night in protest of a dispute over the firing of workers who refused to do the jobs of retrenched colleagues.

According to Sapa, 90 workers who arrived late at the plant yesterday were not allowed in and they, with workers fired earlier in the week, are to hold a meeting today, a National Union of Textile Workers official said.

At Woolworths, a Coswusa spokesman said about 109 workers, "95% of the workforce at the warehouse, were on strike.

They were demanding a R10 a month pay increase and recognition of Coswusa, recognised by most chain stores but not by Woolworths, he said.

A Woolworths director, Mr R W Stern, agreed to fly from the company's Cape Town head office to Johannesburg to negotiate on workers' demands. He met union representatives in Coswusa's city centre office yesterday.

"The company wanted us to fly to Cape Town to negotiate, but we rejected this," the spokesman said.

Official company comment was not available.
more than 3000 textile workers in the state today have been sacked.

The TWU's general secretary, Mr. N. Daniels, said today that members of the TWU, who had voted to continue a strike, were demanding the reinstatement of those workers who had been dismissed last month.

A spokesman for the TWU said: "We are not satisfied with the outcome of the meeting. We will continue our strike until our demands are met."
THE senior regional secretary of the SA Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union, Mr Lieb Pretorius, has described the new Eastern Cape motor employers' offer on lay-off pay as a move which could lead to greater stability in the industry.

Mr Pretorius said the effect would be to give substantially greater benefits.

Under the present system, a person in one of the top categories with more than 10 years service would contribute R52 during the year in order to qualify for a maximum benefit of R104.

Under the proposed new system an employee on the same grade and with the same number of years of service would qualify for R113 with no contributions.

At the lowest grade a person presently contributing R17.84 has a maximum benefit per year of R36. Under the new system he would qualify for R48.6 with no contributions.

The lay-off schedule as presented by the employers offers workers with fewer than two years service four days basic pay lay-off compensation, those with between two and five years service five days pay, those with more than five years seven days pay, and those with more than 10 years service 10 days.

Another management offer introduces the idea of a separation allowance to be payable by employees in the event of permanent lay-off (retrenchment).

The allowance varies from 10 days at basic rates to 35 days pay depending on years of continuous service.

Mr Pretorius will be holding a report back meeting to union members this evening. The union represents more than 2,000 members on the Industrial Council.

Ford truck plant is closed

By SANDRA SMITH

THE Ford truck plant ceased production today when about 300 workers were sent home after refusing to work. Some workers in the Neave plant also downed tools and left the plant.

This follows a rejection by thousands of Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen workers at meetings last night of new wage proposals made by employers at yesterday's sitting of the Industrial Council for the Motor Manufacturing Industry in the Eastern Cape.

Ford spokesman Mr Fred Ferreira confirmed the stoppages but said the Neave plant was still in operation.

The Industrial Council declared a formal dispute in wage talks last month, but after sporadic stoppages at the motor plants and a shut-down of Volkswagen in Uitenhage, the employers upped their offer.

In terms of their new offer, while the hourly minimum wage for grade one workers already in the employ of all three companies will be R2.15, they will receive a 3c increase this month to R2.20.

This will increase by 10c in February and August next year and in February 1985, bringing the hourly minimum to R2.40.

The employers' previous offer was for an increase from R2 to R2.15, increasing to R2.25 in February next year.

Members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Neawa) have demanded a minimum hourly wage of R2.50, increasing by 25c every six months to R3.25 in February 1984.
**PORT ELIZABETH** - After three weeks of major disruptions in the Eastern Cape motor industry, the peaceful strikes took an ugly turn today when fighting broke out between workers at the giant Ford Neave plant.

Authoritative sources reported that striking Ford workers were involved in brawls with workers who wanted to continue their jobs. A later report said knives were used in the fighting, and that 11 people were injured, not seriously, and that they were being treated at the company's first aid department.

The police liaison officer for the Eastern Cape, Major Gerrie van Rooyen, confirmed that police were on standby outside the Neave plant, including a contingent of the riot unit (riot squad).

Meanwhile, in the Neave plant, it was said to be on the point of closing because of walkouts there today. The Ford truck plant was closed early, and the General Motors plant at noon today.

With the Volkswagen plant closed since Tuesday, this brings the number of closed motor industry plants in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage to a confirmed three, with another pending. Walkouts of numbers of workers were also reported at a Ford plant at Strandfontein.

**EVADED**

An authoritative spokesman said that shortly before noon, a group of workers who had walked out at Ford's Neave assembly plant, had evaded security personnel by climbing over a fence. Inside the premises, they argued with workers who would not leave their jobs and fighting broke out, resulting in five people being injured and treated in the first-aid department.

All Ford's top executives were said to be at the Neave plant in an attempt to "sort things out." A spokesman for General Motors confirmed that the company has closed its production section when workers walking off their jobs "made it impossible to continue.

The workers had collected their pay before noon, when downing tools.

At three report-back meetings last night, several thousand members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (NAAWU) employed at three motor companies rejected outright the new wage offer made by the companies at yesterday's Industrial Council talks.

The council, which is negotiating an agreement for the motor industry in the Eastern Cape, formally in dispute over the talks, adjourned until Monday for the union to take the offer to members.

Workers were told that the employers had offered R2.20 minimum wages — 5c more than their previous offer.

The national secretary of NAAWU, Mr. Fred Sauls, said today that the union would not accept arbitration or mediation as a further procedure to try to resolve the issue as it did not want another party to decide on the issue, which was being handled by collective bargaining.

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.
PORT ELIZABETH — Several thousand members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) employed at Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen last night rejected outright the new wage offer made by the companies at yesterday's Industrial Council talks.

The council, which is negotiating an agreement for the motor industry in the Eastern Cape and is formally in dispute over the wage talks, was adjourned until Monday for the union to take the offer to its members.

At the three Naawu report-back meetings on the talks, workers were told that the companies had offered a R2.20 minimum hourly wage — five cents more than their previous offer.

The union is demanding an immediate R2.50 hourly minimum with six-monthly increments of 25 cents to an eventual R3.25 hourly minimum at the end of two years.

A severance pay offer was rejected by all three meetings on the grounds that it did not make provision for workers with less than two years' service to the companies.

At the General Motors and Volkswagen meetings, workers accepted a management proposal for "lay-off" pay which would provide workers with scaled guaranteed annual payment if they should have to work short-time during the year.

Ford workers rejected this proposal.
Collapse averted as motor bosses offer an extra 5c

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

AN IMMEDIATE collapse in negotiations between warring East Cape motor employers and worker leaders was averted yesterday as employers made a fresh wage offer — an extra 5c an hour — at a meeting of the motor industry's industrial council.

And yesterday Ford's truck plant and General Motors' vehicle assembly plant resumed production after being closed on Wednesday by a worker walk-out, company spokesmen said. The Volkswagen plant is still closed.

Last night, Fosatu's National Automobile and Allied Workers Union was putting the new offer to workers at Volkswagen, Ford and General Motors, but the odds appeared against them agreeing to accept it.

The industrial council is to meet again on Monday to continue discussions.

It is understood employers have offered a R2.90 an hour minimum wage — 5c more than their previous offer. This is the first change in their offer since a 10-day work stoppage halted production at all three plants last month.

They also offered yesterday to replace a four-year-old supplementary unemployment benefit scheme — which is funded jointly by workers and management — with benefits for laid-off workers funded by management only.

Naawu originally demanded a R3.30 an hour minimum, but has since substantially scaled down its demands.

This week the other union on the council, the all-white SA Iron, Steel and Allied Workers Union, revealed for the first time it was demanding increases averaging 26% for its members, most of whom are in the highest job grades.

Its deputy general secretary, Mr H. Ferreira, said the union supported Naawu on some issues raised in the dispute but not on others. Its demands aimed at compensating for inflation "and what we have lost in previous agreements".

Yesterday, the industrial council met against a background of continued worker action on the wage dispute and signs that Naawu could quit the council — the only one on which a Fosatu union has agreed to serve.

Employers were expected to push for arbitration of the dispute and Naawu indicated it would reject this and possibly leave the council as a result.

The council's chairman, Mr Fred Ferreira, said after a lengthy meeting that it had been agreed to continue talks on Monday.

The Iron and Steel union has backed Naawu's demand that workers be paid for the period of last month's stoppage and raised the issue at yesterday's meeting, informed sources said.
STRIKE Some of the workers leaving Woolworth premises yesterday.

200 on strike

MORE than 200 Woolworths workers from various depots held a meeting at Khotso House, Johannesburg after downing tools yesterday morning.

A few hours after the meeting started more workers from different branches arrived to join the strike. Most of the speakers said if no settlement was reached that day, more branches would be called out.

This would spread throughout the country, they warned.

The strike started in Civic Deep when drivers demanded the reinstatement of two of their colleagues. When most of the workers joined the strike in solidarity the demands increased.

They are now demanding a R50-a-month increase recognition of their union — the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Cecawa) — and shop stewards and the dismissal of their manager.

At the meeting yesterday, workers were told one of the fired men was a union shop steward.

A meeting was held between union officials and management in the morning but no agreement was reached. Another meeting was due to be held in the afternoon with one of the company's directors.

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A national company has dropped a plan to buy a R1 million site in the region and told its agent it feels it is more secure in South West Africa/Namibia (where it already has holdings) than it would be in the Eastern Cape.

Another company's proposal to establish a subsidiary serving the tyre industry — and providing employment for 1500 people in a large plant — has been dropped for fear of "militant black unions." The company has switched its project to Durban.

Even the Government's decentralization concessions for the Eastern Cape — offering among other things cheaper electricity and rental — will have no appeal if fears of persistent labour unrest take hold, industrialists say.

An industrial property consultant, Mr. Leon Hafner, told Weekend Post "I had a national company interested to expand their operations here. They are already established here, but they wanted to expand and were talking in terms of a R1 million site.

"Now they have told me they want to change their intention to buy to leasing. They said what was going on in the Eastern Cape was quite unreal and they would sooner invest their money in South West Africa." Mr. Hafner pointed out "If they lease they will be committed to paying a rental, but they will not be risking capital.

"I agree with people who think industrialists will be scared away. Obviously there's a lot going on that things aren't right." A property consultant, Mr. Chris Bartlett, said he was approached to find a large site for manufacturing work allied to the tyre industry.

"At the last minute a few weeks ago the businessmen involved told me they would not open in Port Elizabeth — they were going to Durban instead — and they cited the militant black unions as the reason.

"Until recently we were still under the Physical Planning Act and there was a preference among industrialists to problems employing labour here and may would sooner go to Durban."

"Now we have a different problem because industrialists are aware of the militant unions' activities here, and that is doing a lot of damage to Port Elizabeth."

Yesterday, more than 15,000 men were idle in the region. Two major factories were closed and at least three other plants were working below half capacity.

"The windy city is becoming known as the unruly city," said Mr. Peter van der Merwe, president of the Midland Chamber of Industries. "This could soon discourage other industries moving to the Eastern Cape.

"Wherever the Eastern Cape is mentioned amongst industrialists they say 'Oh, that's the place that's having all the trouble.'" And it's hard to live that reputation down," he said.

Mr. Van der Merwe said Port Elizabeth was always in the forefront of labour unrest in the country because of the many big multinational companies in the area.

"These companies have a high visibility overseas and this is why they have been singled out.

"He said, however, that al-
Unrest scaring industry away

"Industry in the Eastern Cape has not expanded in the past few years — in fact there has been a slight shrinkage."

Short term considerations could be overcome by a realistic approach to the question of labour unrest which was presently based on "unrealistic demands."

"The entire economy of the Eastern Cape, being heavily dependent on the motor manufacturing industry, is now at risk. Of course that involves employment, the creation of new jobs, and the well-being of the region's entire economic structure," Mr Ironside said.

He agreed that there could be an "Eastern Cape labour situation syndrome" developing which could be to the detriment of the entire area.

Mr Rocky Ridgeway, chairman of the Greater Algoa Bay Development Committee (GABDeC), whose main aim is to attract industry to the area, said, "The current labour unrest will obviously be a factor in the minds of industrialists planning expansion or establishing new industries in the area."

"But in considering the labour factor, one hopes industrialists will bear in mind that although the Eastern Cape has become traditionally the area in which this type of thing begins, it's highly unlikely that strikes will be confined to this part of the Republic."

"So that in the long term, I think industrialists should discount the negative impact of strikes in the Eastern Cape," said Mr Ridgeway.

Mr Brian Matthew, director of the Midland Chamber of Industries said, "Labour unrest occurs from time to time in many parts of the country."

"But in the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage area, we have got companies with very high profiles."

"Therefore whatever happens in these companies is news because they dominate the economy of this region."

"We tend to take the happenings in these companies as something which is extraordinary, whereas if there is a strike at a non-multinational company elsewhere it doesn't have the same impact."

"We have really been going through a period of readjustment. What has been happening is that the unions are now exercising the full rights made available to them through the new labour dispensations flowing out of the Wiehahn recommendations."

"I think the three major companies concerned have the expertise to handle the issues involved," said Mr Matthew.

The general secretary of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (NAAWU), Mr Freddie Sauls, said he did not think the current labour disputes in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage would make people reluctant to invest in the area.

"I believe industry will establish itself where resources are — where there is a sound infrastructure and ample labour resources," he said.
Labour dispute still crippling production

Post Reporters

AS wage negotiations entered their fourth week of deadlock between workers and the Eastern Cape's top three motor plants — Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen — fresh labour unrest occurred at Basaf and Veldspun this week.

The latest situation is

- General Motors Thousands of workers left the plant midday yesterday after being paid. Some said there had been hints of violence.

The company's assistant managing director, Mr Rod Ironside, said the current motor industry unrest had kept more than R1 million out of the economy.

- Ford At the company's Neave plant yesterday, which shut down along with their truck plant, fighting broke out between workers who wanted to down tools and those who wished to carry on working. Reports received indicated that at least 11 people were injured, some by knives.

A police spokesman confirmed that members of the reaction unit had been deployed at the Neave plant, but not at the request of Ford.

A number of workers at the Cortina and engine plants downed tools, but according to a company spokesman, Mr Fred Ferrera, work was continuing and a skeleton staff would be brought in.

- Volkswagen According to the managing director, Mr Peter Searle, the company hopes to be on limited production on Monday.

In Johannesburg yesterday, Mr Searle appealed for a meeting between government, business and workers to establish common ground and mutual objectives.

- Basaf About 900 workers were refused entry to the company's Port Elizabeth premises on Thursday.

Yesterday they were told to collect their termination pay, which they refused to do. The workers intend returning to the factory again on Monday.

The executive director of the company, Mr John Herdman, said the company regarded those who had downed tools during the week and who declined a request to return to work, as having dismissed themselves.

According to workers, a dispute arose at the plant when management refused to allow their workers to join the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Nawau) which they support.

- Veldspun More than 1,000 employees — 1,500, say unions — regarded by the company as having dismissed themselves, refused to collect their termination pay yesterday.

Dispute arose early this week when 80 workers, refusing to do the work of 25 colleagues retrenched last month, were fired.

They were offered re-employment on condition they acknowledged the work they had earlier refused to do was now part of their "new" job. They refused to do so.

On Thursday, workers who had downed tools in sympathy were given an ultimatum to start work by 9am. When this was not met, the factory was closed and the workers were regarded as having dismissed themselves.
VW may bring in robot workers.

Labour Correspondent

THE managing director of Volkswagen SA, Mr Peter Searle, yesterday attacked the trade union stance in the East Cape motor industry's wage dispute and said employers might introduce robots into plants if the labour situation remained unchanged.

Volkswagen's plant has been closed for much of this week after continuing go-slow over wage demands and further unrest had led to the closure of one Ford and one General Motors plant yesterday as workers rejected a fresh wage offer which would raise minimum pay to R2.20 an hour.

Mr Searle was speaking at a seminar organised by his company in Johannesburg.

The East Cape motor industry has been hit by continuing unrest as employers and the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union remained deadlocked on the wage dispute.

The union initially demanded a R3.50 an hour minimum, but now wants R1.90.

Mr Searle said the union's demand was 'totally unrealistic relative to current wage levels, the state of the economy and the state of the businesses on whom the demands are made.'

See Page 2
FOR MOTOR INDUSTRY
CRUCIAL WEEK AHEAD
Kaplan: Student bodies shocked

Staff Reporter

STUDENT organizations have expressed their shock and condemnation of the deportation on Wednesdays of UCT postgraduate student Mark Kaplan.

Immigration officials and members of the security police told Mr Kaplan that he had been detained for 51 days last year as a result of putting him on an aircraft to Zimbabwe.

The UCT Community Video Resource Association (CVRA) of which Mr Kaplan was co-ordinator released a statement yesterday protesting in strongest possible form.

His deportation amounts to a violation of international law. It violates the rights of an officer of which the State has no name after imprisonment for no reason.

Video shows

His only crime had been to help produce video documentaries in Cape Town on such issues as poverty, depression and education.

The N/us haas head office called the deportation underhand means by which the State removed its "so-called undesirables". It was a method that was not just damaging and shown by the South African Society of Journalists yesterday condemned the deportation as a "sinister attack on the media and the free flow of information.

- and reading article, page 8

Motor Plants close as men down tools

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH - At least 140 workers at Ford's East Cape and engine plant downed tools today. The company announced the temporary closure of the plant.

A number of workers at the East Cape plant and engine plant also downed tools, but Mr Fred Ferreira, director of industrial relations, said production in the engine plant continued and that a skeleton staff would be brought into the running of the factories.

The closure of the plant follows widespread disruption at the three four-year-old factories. The company announced the temporary closure of the plant.

Ford GM and Volkswagen - which have been closed since Monday - are trying to reach an agreement with the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union. The board is investigating the situation expected at the beginning of this month.

Fighting

At report back meetings on the Industrial Statical talks on Thursday thousands of effect union supporters rejected the companies' new contract.

At the Beave plant yesterday fighting broke out between workers who were counting tools and those who were coming to work. A reliable source said 11 workers were injured some with knife wounds.

However neither Mr Ferreira nor the senior manager of the estate was able to confirm the closure.

Major Gerrie van Rooven, deputy police for the Eastern Cape, said it was not at the request of Ford but the police that the workers were dispersed.

The police were present with the workers at the estate, but the situation is under control and there is no disturbance.

"Compelled to close"

At GM, thousands of workers left the plant after being paid and went home.

Mr Peter Sullivan, public relations manager of the company, said the company was compelled to close when workers walked off the job and made it impossible to continue normal production.

He said the company was not in a position to give details of the number of people who walked out.

Meanwhile Volkswagen announced yesterday that they would reopen most of the Umgeni plant on Tuesday.

A company spokesman said more than 75 percent of the workforce would start on Tuesday in order to enable full production to begin on Wednesday.

A union spokesman confirmed the decision had been reached after discussions with management.

STILL WAITING TO BE WRAPPED!
300 out at Woolworth's

Labour Correspondent

The strike by workers at Woolworth's City Deep warehouse yesterday spread to all the company's Johannesburg branches and about 300 workers have now downed tools, a spokesman for the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Craveusa) said yesterday.

The workers are striking in protest against the firing of a colleague and in support of wage and union recognition demands. They also want the transfer of warehouse operations of a service office at the warehouse according to Craveusa.

Negotiations between the union and the company's Cape Town-based personnel director Mr P. Steyn continued yesterday and further talks are likely over the weekend. But a return to work tost is unlikely, the union said.

According to the union management has agreed to reinstate the fired worker and to recognise the union. But there is still deadlock on other demands.

Comment from Woolworths management representatives was not available.

About 100 workers at City Deep downed tools on Thursday and Mr Steyn flew to Johannesburg to negotiate with the union.

But the talks failed to resolve the dispute and a sympathy strike spread to Woolworth's stores.

Craveusa's spokesman said the talks had continued yesterday and further discussions were possible.

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1200pm Tea Time Service
5:30pm Worship Service
A LL WELCOME

For church service

announcements and all religious meetings see page 2 of the R.D.M every Saturday. FOR MORE DETAILS KINDLY CONTACT Shena Hoy at 710-2710
PORT ELIZABETH — Most of the giant Eastern Cape motor industry was still idle today, following go-slow strikes and walk-outs last week, and there was little prospect of the wage dispute being resolved at another Industrial Council meeting.

It has been learnt that the three employer companies — Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen — would not improve their latest wage offer. This offer made on Thursday after a series of deadlocked council meetings and major work disruptions, has been rejected by the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu).

More than 10,000 Naawu members have sporadically disrupted the industry here in the past three weeks.

On Friday, after reports from meetings, thousands of them walked out again at General Motors and Ford. Volkswagen which closed its Lithenbege plant early last week announced today that after consultation with worker representatives it intended to open partially tomorrow and fully Wednesday.

General Motors announced today that it would reopen on Wednesday after being advised by shop stewards that workers who had walked out at noon on Friday would return.

Ford's four plants were open today but there was high absenteeism and a vital department out-and-sea was at a standstill because none of the staff had arrived.

The director of industrial relations Mr Fred Ferrera said staff would be brought from other sections to get production going again if this was not successful. Large sections of Ford would have to close.
Union pulls out of council over arbitration

BY SANDRA SMITH

IN a move which will have far-reaching effects on the motor manufacturing industry in the Eastern Cape, the nine-man National Automobile and Allied Workers’ Union (Naawu) delegation today withdrew permanently from the industrial council for the industry.

Leaving the council meeting after two hours of talks, Naawu’s general secretary, Mr Freddy Sauls, said the union had decided to withdraw because the dispute was to be referred to arbitration.

The union is opposed to the resolution of the wage dispute through a third party, believing this would take control of the situation out of the workers’ hands.

Mr Sauls said the employers on the council – Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen – did not come forward with a new wage offer at today’s sitting.

Naawu reported to the council that its members had rejected a new package offered by the employers last week.

“Before we can indicate where we will go from here we will have to report back to our workers’ committee,” Mr Sauls said.

The employers had indicated that they did not favour individual in-plant bargaining.

The Naawu delegation refused an employer request to extend the existing agreement – which expired on July 31 – for six months.

Last week’s work stoppages at all three motor manufacturing plants were raised at today’s meeting.

The Naawu delegation said employers should discuss the matter with shop stewards.

After the Naawu delegation had left, the employers and the SA Iron, Steel and Allied Workers’ Union continued talks.

GM and VW spokesman said production at the two companies would return to normal on Wednesday after both plants closed last week.

Workers at GM downed tools on Friday and VW closed on Tuesday after a go-slow by workers following the dispute in the industrial council.

Workers at GM and Ford plants were also reported to have been involved in go-slow last week.

Workers at Ford’s cut-and-sew seat section and parts and accessories area refused to return to work today and there was a high rate of absenteeism at the Neave plant.

The company would attempt to staff the cut-and-sew seat section with a skeleton staff, but if production was not at an acceptable level the section would have to be closed, said Mr Fred Ferreira.

GM’s manager of public relations, Mr Peter Sullivan, said, “We have been informed by shop stewards that the workforce will not return until Wednesday.”

However, Naawu’s regional secretary, Mr Les Kettledas, said as far as the union was aware, GM workers planned to return to work tomorrow.

VW’s public affairs manager, Mr Ruben Eln, said, “After discussions with employee representatives it has been agreed to recommence production in certain areas from Tuesday. Full production is planned from Wednesday, depending on output achieved tomorrow,” he said.

Sections where production would resume tomorrow were the press and body shops, sections of the paint shop and of the final assembly area, trim manufacturing areas, seats, assembly and full machining sections, and the axle and engine assembling areas.
Textile union hits at actions of rival

THE union which claims to represent the majority of workers at Veldspun International in Uitenhage, the National Union of Textile Workers, today strongly criticised the actions of a rival union, the Textile Workers' Industrial Union.

Mr Obed Zuma, general secretary of the NUTW, said Veldspun management was refusing to talk to his union.

He claimed the TWIU was collaborating with the company and union organisers were recruiting for the company at their union offices.

Workers from Veldspun International today went into the sixth day of their strike.

They went out on Wednesday afternoon last week in sympathy with 60 colleagues who were dismissed last Monday.

Mr Zuma said Veldspun workers at a meeting today branded the actions of the TWIU a "pure sellout."

"We condemn the actions of the TWIU. We wonder what type of trade unionists they are."

"We call upon Norman Daniels, general secretary of the TWIU, to tell the world what type of union he is running."

Mr Zuma said his union was still trying to find some means of talking to Veldspun.
Jockeys weigh up pros of strike action

By Andrew Davidson
The Battle of the Bulge was taking place in racing circles in the Transvaal today as more than 20 jockeys made themselves "unavailable" for Saturday's race meeting at Turffontein over a "fatuity" dispute with the Jockey Club.

And the weight watchers' problem could put the major Nomads meeting in jeopardy and spark off the first "strike" — albeit unofficial — by the masters of the turf.

The Jockeys' Association on the Rand has long been concerned about the weights to which certain of their members have had to ride.

They believe that the maximum mass, under rules of 57 kg stop some riders getting mounts because they have difficulty making the weight.

Last week they asked the Jockey Club to

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Jockeys set to strike

But, said Mr Sandy Christie, Turffontein's chief executive and general manager. "We had calls from more than 20 jockeys saying that they were unavailable for Saturday.

"This is, however, not a dispute between them and Turffontein.

"Meanwhile we have, within the rules, postponed scratchings for the meeting until 10 am tomorrow.

Mr Michael Tillett, Chief Stipendiary Steward of the Transvaal, said today that should any of the jockeys refuse to ride on Saturday after being "engaged by a trainer" they "would not be in breach of contract" and "in trouble."

Another Turffontein spokesman said: "If they don't declare themselves able to ride we will be hard pressed to accommodate those who have horses down to run."

NOTE CAREFULLY

1. Enter at the top of each page and in column (1) of the block on this cover the number of the question you are answering.

2. Blue or black ink must be used for written answers. The use of a ball point pen is acceptable. Red or green ink may be used only for underlining, emphasis or for diagrams, for which pencil may also be used.

3. Names must be printed on each separate sheet (e.g. graph paper) where sheets additional to examination book(s) are used.

4. Do not write in the left hand margin.

WARNING

1. No books, notes, pieces of paper or other material may be brought into the examination room unless candidates are so instructed.

2. Candidates are not to communicate with other candidates or with any person except the invigilator.

3. No part of an answer book is to be torn out.

4. All answer books must be handed to the commissioner or to an invigilator before leaving the examination.

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.
Sacked workers gather again

Post Reporter
WORKERS at Busaf bus body manufacturers sacked after a work stoppage gathered outside the Port Elizabeth factory gates for the third day today.

The workers, about 25% of Busaf's employees according to management, refused to accept their dismissal or collect their pay.

They also claimed to represent the majority of the company's work force, and not only 25%.

More than 500 workers were sacked last week after they downed tools in protest against the dismissal of members of a newly-elected workers' committee.

They are also demanding that management recognise the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu), and have resigned from the Motor Industry Combined Workers' Union, which has a closed shop agreement in the plant.

Workers outside the factory gates today said night shift employees had decided to join them in their demands for the reinstatement of the dismissed committee members and the recognition of Naawu.

Busaf's executive director, Mr J H Herdman, said the management had received a request from the union for a meeting to discuss the issue, but that no time had not been fixed.
Unions differ. whites clinch pay deal

West Reporter

THE SA Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union, representing more than 2,000 white automobile workers in the Eastern Cape, yesterday clinched an interim pay agreement with employers at the Industrial Council meeting.

The agreement was reached after the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) — one of the other parties in the council — had pulled out.

According to Mr Lub Pretorus, senior regional secretary of the union, the industrial council will meet again on August 16 to negotiate a complete agreement and to decide on the date of implementation for the increased wages.

He said the union had decided — in the interests of stabilising the labour situation — to continue with mediation over pay issues rather than to opt for arbitration.

Iron and Steel is also to push for an immediate implementation of the package agreement worked out at the Industrial Council meeting last week.

The new interim scales range from R2.15 minimum an hour on grade one (up 15c on the current minimum rate) to R4.43 an hour on grade 8 (up from R4.65).

Across the board increases range from 15c in grade one to 30c in the top grade.
Trade unions are a target of Ciskei government

By PHILLIP VAN NIEKERK, Labour Reporter

"AS OUR country has relatively few export commodities, our labour force can rightly be regarded as black gold. Ciskei's Man-
power Minister Chief Lebogang Magome told the National Assembly on June 3 that 'black gold', unlike its real thing, makes demands and some trade unions sometimes even go on strike. Since 1976 the Ciskei government has acted against opposition politicians, students, sports administrators and anybody who else has trodden on its toes but the independent trade unions, based in East London, have drawn special attention. Hundreds of union officials and members have been detained, while verbal attacks have been launched against the unions and the Ciskei government itself has intervened in labour disputes to break strikes.

Political threat

Cape Town University lecturer, Johannes Maree, believes the Ciskei's opposition to independent trade unions is based on a desire for a cheap and docile labour force. He also sees the unions, particularly the SA Alled Workers Union (Sawwu), as a political threat.

During the run-up to independence last year, Sawwu actively campaigned against Ciskei and it was clear that in Mdantsane anyway, they had a lot of popular support. But the union replied that it could not keep quiet when its members were being stripped of their South African citizenship and their benefits at the workplace and while the Ciskei insisted on attacking the unions.

Commutes

The vast majority of East London's workers commute daily from Mdantsane, which is on the outskirts of East Lon-
don but within the bound-
aries of Ciskei. Twenty years ago it was virgin farmland, but through resettlement, mainly from Duncan Village in East London and from the Western Cape, and the influx of people from rural areas, Mdantsane has become southern Africa's second largest black city. But Ciskei and the Border region are not well developed industrially and there is massive unemployment, a problem exacerbated by the exporting of unemploy-
ment from other areas through resettlement and influx control.

Vested interests

Two years ago Sawwu's phenomenal growth in this region earned East London the title "labour's city". As representa-
tive of workers as well as the community, Sawwu found itself in conflict with nearly all the vested interests in the region - the Ciskei state, the South African state and many companies who were prepared to hit back.

Sawwu's leaders have been in jail since December last year: National President, Mr. Thokozile Gqweza - who was released for a few months after suffering a psychiatric breakdown while in detention - and Vice-
President Sasa Nkkelana are in custody awaiting trial. Both men have been detained five times under Ciskei and South Afri-
can security legislation without being convicted. The local branch chairman, Eric Mtongela, has been in detention under Section Six of the Terrorism Act for more than seven months.

Thousands of workers have lost their jobs in strikes at companies such as Wilson-Rowntree and Dunlop Flooring and this had an adverse effect on morale. The union has claimed that these multinationals have acted in concert with the authori-
ties to break the union and warned workers not to strike for fear of mass dismissals. Security police raids are a regular event and the union is no longer able to find a hall in East London to hold mass meetings.

Mr. Maree says "It looks as if in the short run, the Ciskei in collaboration with the South African security police and most of the companies have succeeded in setting back Sawwu. However, this has not been a solid response and some companies - such as Chloride and Johnson and Johnson - have seen the wisdom of talking to representative unions as the only basis to build a sound industrial relations structure.

As Mr. Maree says the appalling economic conditions of the Border make it a fruitful area for worker organization and at least one other union - the African Food and Canning Workers' Union (AFCWU) - has continued to grow in spite of detentions of officials and union-bashing by the authorities. The AFCWU has recently opened offices in Mdantsane and negotiated a recognition agreement with KM Milling.

But the unions have steered away from organizing inside Ciskei where the major industrial area is Dimbaza, despite the resettlement camp which gained international notoriety with the documentary Last Grave at Dimbaza, and where one of the major factories is the Lombe-owned Dimbaza Foundries. In Dimbaza wages are reputedly very low but trade union organizers are out for fear of action by the Ciskei authorities.

Ciskei's opposition to trade unions is likely to intensify with the new National Security Bill which will grant considerable powers to the unions-enemy. Major-General Charles Sebe, Director-General of State Security, has offered to visit with the police for newspaper registrations and the banning of slogs songs salutes organi-
zations and people. It also makes it an offence for an employee to strike under certain conditions and provides for Ciskei courts to try offenders committed outside Ciskei. These provisions, in particular, could be used against the East London-based unions.

One method Ciskei has developed is to make its "black gold" as the Ciskei Manpower Training Centre which computerizes the work records of workers and provides for 'disciplinary action' against those who might have by, for instance, going on strike. In this scenario the promise by Mr. Fanoe Botha, the South African Minister of Manpower that workers would be allowed to join the unions of their choice is gravely undermined.

And the recent words of Professor Nie Wiehahn that labour reforms help defuse revolution have particular relevance for the Ciskei-Border area where there has been little evidence of reforms.
Naawu pulls out of negotiations

DURBAN - The National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) delegation yesterday walked out of the Eastern Cape motor industry's Industrial Council meeting and the union has withdrawn from present negotiations.

Naawu organizer Mr Les Kettle was said "As talk turned to whether the council should now apply for arbitration we made our position clear that we would not be part of such a decision"

Volkswagen and General Motors remain closed yesterday and Naawu members at Ford did not report for work.

New offer
A formal dispute was declared last month and the resulting Industrial Council meeting adjourned last Thursday when employers made a new offer of R2.20 an hour, 6c up on their previous offer.

Naawu has demanded an immediate R2.50-an-hour minimum wage which six-monthly increases up to an eventual R3.25.

When the council reconvened, the union reported its members' rejection of the employers' new offer.

"Employers said they were not in a position to increase the offer and no further negotiation took place on the issue," Mr Kettle was said.

"The employers and the SA Iron and Steel Workers Union then decided to settle for arbitration and the Naawu union delegation withdrew from the council he said."

Mr Kettle said the union had withdrawn because "we felt this was not the proper course of action to take, as it should have been settled between the parties concerned."

General Motors announced that its plant would not re-open till tomorrow. This followed Friday's walkout by the entire workforce.

At Volkswagen preparations were being made to open certain departments today. The Uitenhage plant shut down early last week following a go-slow by workers.

A company spokesman said the decision to re-open the plant had followed discussions with employee representatives. Production should be back to normal tomorrow, he said.

At Ford, the industrial relations manager, Mr Fred Ferreira, said all the plants were open but there was a "very high" worker absenteeism.

According to worker report, only Ford's Cortina and engine plant were in full production.
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New offer

A formal dispute was declared last month and the resulting Industrial Council meeting adjourned last Thursday when employers made a new offer of R2.30 an hour — 50c up on their previous offer. Naawu has demanded an immediate R3.25 an hour minimum wage with six-monthly increases up to an eventual R3.75.

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Naawu calls on PE motor companies to show balance sheets

By SANDRA SMITH
THE National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) has called on the three Eastern Province motor manufacturing companies to make available their balance sheets "so that workers can see whether their wage demand is unreasonable."

The union, which has been involved in a dispute with Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen, and yesterday withdrew from the industry's industrial council, has also released a statement condemning "violence or intimidation in any form."

At a meeting last night shop stewards said "we totally reject statements by the company's management that the wage demand by the auto-workers is unrealistic."

The union therefore called on the companies to:
- Make available their balance sheets "so that employees can see whether their demand is unreasonable along with the profits made."
- Make available the salary scales of salaried staff.
- State clearly what percentage of the companies' total wage cost is paid to salaried personnel and what percentage to hourly personnel.
- "It is high time that the real issues affecting our wage dispute were highlighted," the statement said.

By refusing to make known these things the companies would "clearly illustrate their strategy to keep on ripping off the workers and the consumer."

The South African consumer paid higher prices for motor vehicles than those in the United States, the United Kingdom and West Germany, workers in South Africa are earning poverty wages in comparison with workers in the auto factories in those countries."

VW's public relations manager, Mr Ruben Els, said the company was "not prepared to respond" to the Naawu statement.

Ford and GM had not commented at the time of going to press.

Naawu's President, Mr M Harris, also said "the union has noted reports of alleged assaults by workers on others at Ford's Neave plant on Friday."

"While the union has received no reports from members or shop stewards who witnessed or were the victims of the alleged attacks, we want to clearly state our position on such occurrences," Mr Harris said.

"Naawu cannot condone violence or intimidation in any form, and we believe the interests of workers should be achieved through their commitment to the workers' struggle, and not through acts of thuggery."

Police spokesmen said no charges had been laid in connection with the alleged assaults at the Neave plant on Friday.

However, three men, Mr D Mombaere, a former, Mr P A Slabbert and Mr L Slabbert, claim they were assaulted.

Traffic island to be removed

Municipal Reporter
THE island in Baakens Street between Military Road and White Road will be removed to ease the traffic flow, the Port Elizabeth City Council's Works and Traffic committee decided yesterday.

This will provide four traffic lanes for motorist turning left into White Road keep in the left lane, eliminating the present bottleneck.

Another improvement in the area will be the creation of 11 parking/loading bays adjacent to the Feather Market Hall.

No action was taken at the meeting on a proposal to recruit staff for the City Engineer's Department in an overseas campaign.

The committee's chairman, Mr Bill Hayward, said the vacancies would again be advertised locally.

Mr Hayward said other municipal departments were also in need of competent trained staff.

If the campaign was undertaken overseas, it should be a "good one to sell." "The British Isles are the best places to sell," he added.

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Bosses want more strikes, says Fosatu

By Hugh Poulter

AT A RECENT congress in Natal, Fosatu, the massive umbrella union representing black workers, alleged that employers are prompting strike action in order to retrench workers, re-organise employment conditions and smash union organisation.

John Mawby, Natal regional secretary for Fosatu, told Industrial Week that management had been taking advantage of the recession that is now more difficult for workers to hit back.

A statement issued by Fosatu at the congress warned that such action is rapidly destroying the prospect of new and more stable forms of collective bargaining in SA.

Carte blanche

Dr Anne Scheepers, President of the Trade Union Congress of SA (Tucsa), said she has never heard of an employer provoking a strike in order to retrench workers.

"Fosatu should examine themselves. They seem to feel that they have carte blanche to strike at the smallest thing and they don't appear to believe that working through an industrial council is the way to settle disputes."

The Natal Supreme Court is to decide a test case on whether a recognition agreement between Fosatu and David Whiteheads and the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) is legally binding.

Repercussions

The court's decision will affect at least 200 similar agreements throughout the country.

The National Union of Textile Workers charges that David Whiteheads fired a union shop stewards following the procedure laid down in its recognition agreement with the union.

"Such a stand by a major company would paralyse all recognition agreements and the whole approach of the independent union movement to industrial relations may be altered by this," said Fosatu's John Mawby.

A spokesman for David Whiteheads said he could not comment as he considered the matter sub judice.

Huge computer potential going to waste

LESS THAN 10% of the computers in SA are used in manufacturing yet tremendous potential exists for planning and control by a computer during production.

Many companies are also aware of the problems and expense involved in recruiting and retaining skilled data processing personnel to run the systems.

"Because manufacturers are generally unfamiliar with computers, they tend to ignore the bone fits and retain manual systems with which they feel more comfortable," said Lindeque.

Ben Lindeque
Alarm rings at Chubbs: many stage a walkout

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

WORKERS at Chubb Alarms, a British-owned Johannesburg plant, walked out yesterday in protest at the searching of their lockers and other grievances.

The workers, a group of whom arrived at the Rand Daily Mail offices, said they would return today to attempt to settle up grievances with management if the company did not meet their demands, they would seek work elsewhere.

Workers said about 20 had walked out, but a company source said only 10 worked in the plant.

"Worker spokesmen said their grievances began when new managers took over recently and imposed new rules.

"We are no longer allowed to go to the toilet. We are not allowed to talk to each other during working hours, even about our work. We no longer get sick pay and if we are five minutes late we get fined R1.20," a spokesman said.

Last week workers were searched and their lockers were searched yesterday morning. This prompted the walk-out.

"We do not expect to be treated this way at a British company," the spokesman said.

A company spokesman confirmed discipline had been tightened and that a search had been carried out, but added "Workers were coming and going as they pleased and arriving late for work. No company can permit that."

Ford orders shutdown as wage unrest simmers

Post Reporter

THE Ford motor manufacturing company has closed down all its Port Elizabeth operations until August 20 after continued disruptions in production over a wage dispute.

The firm's director of industrial relations, Mr Fred Ferreira, said the four Ford plants would be closed from tomorrow "because of continued disruptions".

Workers would receive a "holiday allowance to a certain degree" during the closure. Details still had to be worked out.

Mr Ferreira said workers at the Neave plant had walked out today and the plant had been closed. This followed the sacking yesterday of six workers, one a shop steward.

Mr Ferreira said the men had been dismissed "for molesting other workers".

Workers at Ford's cut-and-sew and parts-and-accessories sections returned to work today after downing tools yesterday, and attendance at the Neave plant before workers downed tools was up on yesterday.

At Volkswagen in Uitenhage production was partially resumed after the plant was closed last Tuesday because of a go-slow.

And at General Motors hundreds of workers gathered at the gates but were told to return to work tomorrow.

Three police vehicles were outside GM, and two at the gates of Ford's Neave plant.

A VW spokesman said production was satisfactory, but it was possible a number of workers in part of the final assembly area would be sent home. Some had indicated they would prefer to work when the entire workforce returned tomorrow.

GM's public relations manager, Mr Peter Sullivan, said some workers returned to the plant today "but we had not been notified of their intention to return." The firm expected to resume normal production tomorrow.

The three motor manufacturers have been hit by work stoppages and go-slow since deadlock was reached in the Industrial Council for the Motor Manufacturing Industry of the Eastern Cape last month.

See Page 2
Union opts for war on the floor

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

A LABOUR relations crisis hit the Eastern Cape motor industry yesterday as Fosatu's National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) withdrew from the industry's industrial council and a drawn-out shop floor battle loomed between workers and employers over wage demands.

The council is the only one on which a Fosatu union has agreed to sit.

Meanwhile, labour unrest continued to keep about 10,000 workers off work and the Volkswagen and General Motors plants were closed yesterday. Ford's plants are producing partially, with a stayaway of about 25%.

Volkswagen is planning to resume limited production today and General Motors will re-open tomorrow, company spokesmen said.

Despite this, Port Elizabeth sources predicted continued conflict in the factories. "Things will get worse before they get better," said one source.

Naawu general secretary Mr Fred Sauls said yesterday the union had left the council chiefly to avoid arbitration of its wage dispute with employers and would probably resign it after the dispute.

"We believe it is impossible for us to resolve the dispute on the council. The only way we can achieve this is to bargain plant by plant. But employers insist they will not bargain with us individually," he said.

The council's constitution meant arbitration was inevitable if the deadlock continued and the union would not accept a solution dictated by a third party, Mr Sauls said.

The dispute would now probably be settled by the degree of unity workers showed on the shop floor and the union believed that employers would now "take a very tough line", Mr Sauls said.

The council's chairman, Mr Fred Ferrera, confirmed that employers had suggested arbitration to settle the dispute.

But if it remained deadlocked, the Minister of Manpower could appoint his own arbitrator to settle it. "We felt it would make more sense for the two parties to appoint their own arbitrator rather than accept one appointed by the Government," he said.

Because the all-white Iron, Steel and Allied Workers' Union is still on the council, it will continue to operate and will meet again on Monday.

Now that Naawu has left the council, employers could decide to conclude a wage agreement with Iron and Steel, and extend it to all workers.

They could also try to re-open talks with Naawu through their employer association outside the council or to bargain plant by plant with the union.

Mr Ferrera said it was too early to say what option employers would choose, but it is understood that they are against plant-by-plant bargaining.

* Naawu and employers are deadlocked on the union's demand for a R2.50-an-hour minimum wage - originally R3.50.

Employers are offering R2.50 an hour.
Woolworths strike goes on despite dismissal threat

By STEVEN FRIEDRAN
Labour Correspondent

ABOUT 300 Woolworths stores workers, who have been on strike since last week, were given an ultimatum yesterday — return to work or be fired.

A spokesman for the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union said the workers were told that unless they reported for work yesterday afternoon, they would have to re-apply for their jobs.

Despite this, they were determined to "continue the struggle" and none of them would return, the spokesman added.

The company's personnel director, Mr R W Stern, said, "We are trying to find a quick and peaceful solution to the dispute and would prefer not to say anything at this point."

The strike began last Thursday at Woolworths City, Deep, warehouse and spread to all the company's Johannesburg stores on Friday, the union spokesman said.

Workers downed tools over the dismissal of a colleague and also demanded union recognition, a R50-a-month wage increase and the removal of a senior official from the City Deep warehouse.

The union spokesman and management had agreed to recognise the union and restate the dismissed man. Over the weekend the workers agreed to leave any action regarding the warehouse official to management, but there was still no agreement over the wage issue.

According to the union, worker demands would raise wages by 25.7% for the lowest paid and by smaller percentages for the higher categories.

"The company offered 12% but has since changed that to 12.5%. The workers have said they are now prepared to settle for 15% but will not accept anything less," the spokesman said.
Production at GM at a standstill

Production was again brought to a standstill at General Motors today when workers downed tools.

The plant resumed normal production today after it closed on Friday when workers refused to work.

Today's stoppage followed the sacking of 18 workers, one a shop steward, in connection with incidents when some workers allegedly assaulted others and destroyed company property on Friday.

GM's public relations manager, Mr Peter Sullivan, said the company anticipated normal production tomorrow.

Production returned to normal at Volkswagen today after it closed last week when workers mounted a go-slow.

Meanwhile, the Ford company today closed all its Fort Elizabet operations until August 20 after work stoppages last week and yesterday.

About 1,000 workers gathered at the gates of the Neave plant in Henry Ford Road today. The plant closed yesterday afternoon when employees downed tools after the sacking of six workers, one a shop steward.

Ford's director of industrial relations, Mr Fred Ferrera, said the four plants were being closed "as a result of the work stoppages."

The National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu), which withdrew from the Industrial Council for the Motor Manufacturing Industry this week when it was decided to refer a dispute to arbitration, will approach the three employers to negotiate individual plant agreements.

The International Union of Automobile Workers (UAW) has written to GM and Ford in the United States calling on the companies to "use your personal influence to resolve as soon as possible" the "critical situation" in the Eastern Province motor-manufacturing industry.

The letter to GM said, "The wage proposals presented by the union to GM in South Africa are fair and responsible."

"Letters to both companies said Naawu's wage demands were based on "solid and sound economic reasoning."

"In the face of 16.5% inflation, it is extremely important that the unions secure for their members significantly more than the 7.5% offered by your subsidiary," the letter said.
Chubb workers go back after discussions

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent
A LABOUR dispute at the Johannesburg plant of British-owned Chubb Alarms which prompted workers to walk out on Monday has been settled.

A company spokesman said yesterday the workers had agreed to return after the management had investigated their grievances and found there was no substance to them.

The company said that R7,50 was deducted from their pay if they were five minutes late that they were not allowed to talk to each other or visit the toilet during work hours and that they did not receive sick pay.

They said they would seek other jobs if their demands were not met.

Chubb's spokesman said the workers and the management held discussions yesterday.

"We explained to them that R7,50 was a bonus when workers forfended if they arrived late. The money was not being deducted from their pay - they were simply losing a bonus. We obviously can't pay people extra for arriving on time if they arrive late," he said.

He said searches were carried out on all employees regardless of race - from the factory manager down - to combat theft and that the other measures had been introduced because workers were coming and going as they pleased.

Helen Joseph to address students

Mrs Helen Joseph, 77, the veteran political campaigner whose banning order was lifted recently but who remains listed as a communist, will deliver the 8th annual Richard Feetham Memorial Lecture at the University of the Witwatersrand on August 12.

The lecture is advertised by the university as reaffirming its declaration on academic freedom in 1950 in the year in which the Government enforced university segregation by barring blacks from attending white universities unless they had Ministerial approval.

A statement released by the university yesterday said "Mrs Joseph, an ardent South African, propounds the case for a mixed economic, social and political democracy was considered well-suited to the task of delivering the lecture."

"Since her entry into the arena of South African resistance politics Mrs Joseph has been detained, convicted, jailed, house arrested, banned, listed, shot at and threatened," - Sapa

Labour Bill may ease settlements

Labour Correspondent

CHANGES to labour laws aimed at speeding up legalisation of strikes and other labour disputes are to form part of a draft labour relations Bill to be released by the Government later this week, it was learned yesterday.

The Bill will also seek to make available aspects of official disputes machinery to unregistered trade unions.

A strike procedures in labour law have been sharply attacked by emerging unions and labour lawyers, who argue that they are too slow and cumbersome.

They say this is why only one strike by black workers in the past five years has been legal.

The Director-General of Manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe, said at a seminar last week that the Department would release for comment later this week a draft legalisation of important labour relations issues.

The Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, will announce details of the draft.

Dr Van der Merwe would not comment on the contents of the new Bill yesterday, except to say that it dealt with a number of labour relations matters and was not restricted to one issue.

However, it was learned yesterday that a key element of the new Bill deals with the handling of labour disputes.

It will seek to enable workers in dispute with their employers to have the dispute settled speedily through official machinery.

Another aspect will be a change allowing unregistered unions who have thus far been barred from using official disputes-settling machinery, to apply for an official conciliation board.

Although recent changes to the law have allowed members of unregistered unions, at their individual capacity, to apply for the board, the new Bill will seek to allow the union itself to do so.

SPECIAL OFFERS
Thumbs down for Cato Ridge union's bid for recognition

Labour Reporter

VLEISSENTRAAL has turned down the Powatu affiliated Sweet Food and Allied Workers Union's application for recognition at its Cato Ridge skin and hide factory because it was not necessarily in the interests of the workers.

According to a letter received by the union this week from the company's head office in Pretoria, the decision was made at a recent senior management meeting where 'all the arguments for and against union recognition were taken into account.'

He said the company had formal and informal structures to negotiate with their workers and did not feel it necessary to introduce another bargaining situation.

A union spokesman said workers did not feel they had a workable relationship with the management which is why they joined the union.

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Plans to step up boycott

A national convention to intensify a boycott of SA Bottling products, called after the dismissal of 250 striking workers at the plant in Port Elizabeth, will take place in Johannesburg at the weekend.

The dismissed workers went on strike in October for higher salaries and better working conditions.

When SA Bottling refused to re-employ them, the General Workers' Union of SA (Gwusa) organised a boycott of the company's products.

The union decided to call a convention of trade union church, civic, student and sporting bodies to launch the boycott nationally after talks with SA Bottling broke down in June.

Trade unions, the South African Council on Sport, the South African Council of Churches and the Congress of South African Students are among the bodies who have been invited to the convention.

It was originally to have been held in Port Elizabeth but delegates recommended that the venue be changed because of financial considerations.

Gwusa's organising secretary, Mr Government Zimi, said today regional committees would be set up to co-ordinate the boycott of companies bottling Coke products at this weekend's convention.

A Gwusa delegation is to hold talks with SA Bottling management tomorrow. Mr Zimi said if an agreement on re-employing the dismissed workers was not reached, a door-to-door campaign would be launched in Port Elizabeth.
Textile firm sacks 300 employees after strike

Post Reporter

ABOUT 300 workers at a Port Elizabeth textile company, Union Spinning Mills, have been sacked after a strike yesterday.

The workers, members of the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW), downed tools yesterday when a list of grievances presented to management was ignored.

The union's president, Mr G Ngqawana, said the workers' grievances included low pay and the recent dismissal of 22 of their colleagues.

The strikers demanded a minimum wage of R2.50 an hour and the reinstatement of those dismissed.

Mr Ngqawana said union officials had been told by management those who downed tools yesterday had dismissed themselves.

A management representative also said it did not recognize the NUTW, and only dealt with the Textile Workers' Industrial Union, a Tucso affiliate.

The dismissed workers gathered at the factory gates today, and were told to disperse by police in camouflage uniform. Mr Ngqawana said a secretary at Union Spinning Mills today told the Evening Post management did not wish to comment.
THE entire economic structure of the Eastern Cape is threatened by the labour unrest which has crippled the vital motor industry over the past several weeks leading Eastern Cape industrialists and economists said this week.

Describing the deadlock wage dispute as "cause for great concern", they said they foresaw "very grave consequences" to the area's economy.

"When the motor firms catch a cold, the rest of the Eastern Cape catches pneumonia," said Mr Brian Matthew, executive director of the Midland Chamber of Industries. "Without the motor industry there would be no Eastern Cape economy."

He said the fact that the three motor firms were not at full production and that their workers were forgoing their wages would have a ripple effect and would filter right through the economy.

The three motor industries employ a workforce of more than 15,000 people, while industries which supply the motor firms provide employment to many thousands more.

Directly or indirectly, these people and their families rely on the motor industries.

Mr Dennis Creighton, president of the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, said it was important for the community to acknowledge the dependence of everyone in the Greater Algoa Bay area on the motor industry.

"They must realise that the livelihood of at least half of the population is dependent on a healthy and thriving motor industry," he said.

He said he felt the wage levels paid within the motor industry would also have a ripple effect throughout commerce and industry in the region.

"Unrealistic demands may have the effect of greater mechanisation within the existing industries and the switch over to labour-saving methods," Mr Creighton said.

It was ironic that the current labour issues occurred against a background of an extremely high unemployment rate, Mr Creighton said.

Dr C Wait, senior lecturer in economics at the University of Port Elizabeth, saw the role of the motor industry in the Eastern Cape economy as "the goose that lays the golden eggs".

Dr Wait said the current deadlock wage dispute could severely hamper the competitiveness of Eastern Cape industries on local and foreign markets.

"For example, there is potential for exporting motor components from this area and I fear excessive wage increases will price these component manufacturers out of the foreign market," he said.

He said extensive wage increases would set a wage spiral in motion which would increase the cost structure of all Eastern Cape industries.

"If wages go up in the motor industry then it syphons right through to everyone. This would nullify the economic benefits which could have been gained from the recently announced Government incentives for the promotion of development in this region," Dr Wait said.

All sectors which relied on the purchasing power of employees of the motor firms would be economically affected.

"This could go all the way to the farmers of the region, he said.

While the goose is alive well and laying then all is well in the economy of the region. But what if the goose should decide to move to another region to lay its eggs?"

Expensive and unstable Eastern Cape labour could make the lucrative Witwatersrand seem more and more attractive to Ford, GM and Volkswagen.

"It will be a major catastrophe to the local economy. There could even be a famine in the area," was the pessimistic view of Port Elizabeth's Mayor, Mr Hendrik van Zyl Coliene.

These unions don't realise that if they continue downing tools, the motor industries may decide to move away and that they will be the losers.

Of major concern to economists and businessmen spoke to, was the possibility that prospective developers for the region would be frightened away by sporadic industrial unrest and that this would be a major setback to the region's economy.

The actions of the unions and their members have now reached a stage where they are seriously harming efforts by public bodies in this area to promote industrial development and the consequent provision of more job opportunities," Mr Ronnie Kruger, chairman of the Port Elizabeth Afrikaanse Sakekamers said.

He said that although the sakekamers acknowledged the right of the worker corps to negotiate for the best possible conditions of employment, they could allow labour intimidation to disrupt production and harm the economy.

"All in the Eastern Cape are the losers in the present dispute, but the workers have more to lose than anybody else," he said.

Already, as was reported in the Weekend Post on Saturday, several industrialists have changed their minds about investing in the Eastern Cape and have cited the labour unrest as a reason for their decision.

The economic effect this "sowing away" of developers will have on the economy of the area, is "incalculable", according to economists.

The general feeling among those interviewed was that in the present economic climate, the Eastern Cape could not afford the problems of labour unrest - a situation that could irreparably harm economic stability and development in the region.

The Eastern Cape and Border region is known to have the highest unemployment figure in the country and a withdrawal by the motor firms would leave further thousands without work.

The prolonged wage dispute between the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union and the motor companies has already cost the Eastern Cape economy several million rands.

At the Volkswagen plant alone, striking workers have forfeited more than R1 million. Workers at GM and Ford are believed to have lost similar amounts in wages.

"The loss of this money clamps down on the purchasing power of the region," Mr Ruben Elias, public affairs manager for Volkswagen said.

Mr Rod Ironside, assistant managing director of General Motors South Africa, said that from an industrial point of view, the inevitable consequences of the dispute were the curtailment of manufacturers' products and a loss of sales.

"The total economic effect on the area can only be detrimental," Mr Ironside said.

Another important matter was the effect the work stoppage was having on families who have had to lose earnings.

Mr Freddie Sauls, general secretary of Nasu, which has been at the centre of the wage dispute, declined to comment on the effect the wage dispute was having on the economy.
10-day closing for Ford plants

PORT ELIZABETH — The Ford Motor Company yesterday announced that all its Port Elizabeth plants would be closed until August 20 after workers at the company's Neave plant had downed tools and walked out at midday.

A Reaction Unit police in camouflage uniforms were stationed at both Ford and General Motors yesterday and workers emerging from the Neave plant were told their gathering on the pavement outside the plant was illegal. They were given minutes to disperse.

Workers said they walked out yesterday in protest at the firing of six of their colleagues and the suspension of a seventh man.

Ford's director of industrial relations Mr Fred Ferreira confirmed that the dismissals made six had been fired for "their participation in the hoohaism at the plant on Monday.

He could not confirm the suspension of the seventh man.

It was reported on Friday that fighting between workers who downed tools and those who worked to continue their shifts had resulted in 11 people being injured.

However, the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) said earlier this week that efforts to confirm the alleged acts of violence and intimidation had been unsuccessful.

'Saw no acts' Workers interviewed said they did not know of anyone who had been injured on Friday and said they had not witnessed acts of violence.

The whole factory was closed last month after deadlock in wage negotiations in the Industrial Council for the motor manufacturing industry in the Eastern Cape had sparked off a strike by more than 10,000 Naawu members.

The Volkswagen and General Motors plants were also closed.

Production has repeatedly been disrupted since the three companies reopened.

Mr Ferreira said Ford would be closed today "as a result of work stoppage. It would reopen on August 20.

Holiday pay About 5,000 hourly workers affected by the closure would receive three days' holiday pay, he said.

At General Motors yesterday, several hundred people arrived for work to find the gate closed.

A Naawu spokesman said there was confusion about the reopening of the plant, which closed on Friday, because the company had not had time to contact all its members after being informed by management on Friday that the plant would reopen only today.
By SIMON BLOCH

ALTHOUGH striking workers in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage have lost out on their wages during the past few weeks, turnovers at supermarkets do not appear to have been affected by the lesser spending power of the workless.

But it seems that the luxury of liquor, often regarded as the panacea of the working class, has been relegated on the list of priorities of the new wageless.

Supermarket spokesmen have reported that their businesses "are running normally without any noticeable drop in turnover".

They said the buying power of the out-of-work employees was too scattered to notice any effect.

However, liquor stores in the area today reported that their turnovers had taken a dive and they were feeling the pinch.

The manager of a bottle store near the General Motors plant in Kempton Road, Mr Piet Louwrens, said business was "definitely down and the turnover had dropped considerably — by about 20% to 30%".

He said workers at General Motors were the biggest source of income to his store, but they had not been spending as much since the unrest began.

In Uitenhage, near the Volkswagen plant, and in Despatch, liquor outlets are also laying out as a result of the strikes.

A spokesman for a large retail chain liquor store said that he had noticed a downswing in the spending power of black and coloured workers in the last two months.

"They're still coming in, but they are spending far less than previously," he said.

"Instead of buying cases of bottles, they are rather buying loose bottles.

"And they are also changing to cheaper brands".

The manageress of another large liquor store confirmed the downswing.

"I would say our figures are down by about 15%. We usually have to fill our shelves about five times a week, but this week we have not done so once," she said.
Chaos if motor firms pull out, Rive warns

By JERRY McCABE

A DECISION by the Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage motor firms to move their operations elsewhere would bring "chaos to this area," Mr. Louis Rive, special adviser to the Government, said today.

"It is a matter of great concern to me," Mr. Rive, who is on a two-week visit to the Eastern Cape, said today.

He said he realised that the area's basic problem was a lack of job opportunities and that there was a major unemployment problem.

"What really worries me is whether this industry's reaction with regard to the situation is going to be," he said.

"They are competing against other motor companies and should they find themselves behind the other companies and facing losses they may later be forced to move elsewhere because of the unstable labour situation here."

Mr. Rive who is investigating the life of urban blacks in the Eastern Cape, said a move away by motor firms would make his job all the more difficult.

"I am trying for an improvement in conditions for urban blacks and a further unemployment problem would make my task all but impossible," he said.

He said he did not know the issues at stake in the wage dispute and would like to hear both sides of the story.

"I don't know what is in their minds and have not got a full understanding of the conditions, but if I can play a role in finding a solution I would certainly be willing to help," he said.

Mr. Rive said that, in his opinion, the wage dispute would benefit neither party involved.

With regard to his work on the urban black situation, Mr. Rive said he would be reporting to the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr. Piet Koornhof, soon on his findings.
Sackings: GM plant shut again

Own Correspondent
PORT ELIZABETH — General Motors again closed its Port Elizabeth plant yesterday after workers downed tools in protest at the firing of 17 colleagues.

It had reopened yesterday morning after three days of closure following the downing of tools on Friday.

Mr Peter Sullivan, the firm's manager of public relations, said the company had taken "disciplinary steps against certain employees" following incidents of intimidation and violence, and damage to company property. The incident occurred on Friday.

It was anticipated that production would be normal again today.

Mr Sullivan, the week before, spoke for the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, said that the union had tried to get confirmation of the acts of intimidation and violence reported to have occurred at Ford and General Motors on Friday. It had been unsuccessful.

Mr Fred Sauls, the general secretary of the union, said it appeared the union's role in the formal grievance procedure had not been adhered to in that the dismissed workers had not been given access to shop stewards.

If it was found that some of the dismissed workers were not union members, Naawu would seek power of attorney to act on their behalf.

The four Ford plants were closed yesterday after workers at the another PPF target, King William's Town's the only Cape seat held by the NRP. Both the NRP and the NP had polled nearly double the number of PFP votes.

The PFP claimed that Cape Nationalist seats like Algoa or Humansdorp were within its reach. It went "from the sublime to the ridiculous", the leader of the Opposition, Dr Van Zyl Slabbert, that the PFP had increased its 26 seats to a minimum of 45 at the next election. The PFP has since named the NP as its main target and believes it can be brought within its range.

Mr Van Wyk said that last year's general election results showed how far-fetched Dr Slabbert's predictions were. The NRP had polled more than twice the number of votes drawn by the PFP and in many of the seats the PFP now believes it could win, with the PFP generally coming third behind the National Party.

He rejected in particular the PFP suggestion that it could capture the Durban Point seat of the NRP leader, Mr Vause Raw, or other NRP Natal bases like Umlithi, South Coast or Umqumin. Another PFP target was King William's Town, the only Cape seat held by the NRP. Both the NRP and the NP had polled nearly double the number of PFP votes.

For the PFP to claim that Cape Nationalist seats like Algoa or Humansdorp were within its reach went "from the sublime to the ridiculous", he said.

In Rosettenville and Turffontein, two Transvaal Nationalist seats earmarked by the PFP for the NRP, the NRP had beaten the PFP.

Accusing Dr Slabbert of having "a rush of blood to the head", he said the NRP had increased its number of public representatives in the last year's election after the PFP had predicted its demise with equal confidence.

Whoops of joy and congratulations from election results greeted Mr Stuart Collins in Hampshire. The first to hug Mr Collins was the by Jane Arbois Municipal Reporter. Two long-standing Divisions, Mr Collins and Mr Ronald Johnstone, suffered resounding defeats in yesterday's election while two newcomers, Mr Tony Powell and Mr Willie Schultz scraped home.

One councillor Miss Mary Olsen, lost her seat while another, Mr Dennis Lambert, kept his.

A large crowd of supporters greeted last night's election results with roars of approval and blowing of motor car horns at the council's headquarters in Waite Street.

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Sackings bring GM plant to standstill

PORT ELIZABETH Production was brought to a standstill again at General Motors yesterday when workers downed tools in protest at the sacking of colleagues. The plant had resumed normal production in the morning after its closure last Friday when workers refused to work.

Yesterday's stoppage followed the sacking of 18 workers, one a shop steward, in connection with incidents on Friday when some workers allegedly assaulted others and damaged company property.

GM's public relations manager, Mr Peter Sullivan, said the company 'expected normal production tomorrow'.

Production returned to normal at Volkswagen yesterday following the plant's closure last week in the face of a workers' go-slow.

Ford closed all its Port Elizabeth operations until Friday next week after work stoppages last week and Tuesday.

About 1 000 workers gathered at the gates of Ford's Yeave plant yesterday. The plant had closed the previous day after employees downed tools in protest at the sacking of six workers, one a shop steward.

After waiting outside the factory under the watchful eyes of police the workers were taken by bus to a meeting at a nearby community centre.

Ford's director of industrial relations, Mr Fred Ferreira, said the company's four plants were being closed "as a result of work stoppages".

The closures would enable the company to "realign stocking levels and refocus forward production schedules."

About 5 000 hourly-paid workers would be affected, he said. They would receive three days' leave pay during the closure.

The National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu), which withdrew from the motor industry's industrial council this week when it was decided to refer the dispute to arbitration, will approach the three employers to negotiate individual in-plant agreements.

The International Union of Automobile Workers (UAW), meanwhile, has written to GM and Ford in "Union Stat" calling on the companies there to help resolve the "critical situation" in the Eastern Cape motor industry.

The letter to GM said "The wage proposals presented by the union to GM in South Africa are fair and reasonable".

Letters to both companies said Naawu's wage demand was based on "solid and sound economic reasoning."

"In the face of 15.5% inflation, it is extremely important that the unions secure for their members significantly more than the 7.5% offered by your subsidiary," the letter said. - Sapa

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Verwyder in Suid Afrika
Liquor workers close the taps

ABOUT 570 workers of the Distillers Corporation in Wadeville yesterday entered their second day of work stoppage with management promising to consider their demand to transfer a supervisor to another department.

The corporation's PRO, Mr. P J Relief, yesterday told The SOWETAN that management was negotiating with the National Union of Wine and Spirits Workers which is representing the workers.

He said the workers were demanding that another supervisor, who had been transferred to another department, be returned to the original plant.

This was done because "we feel workers have to gain experience by being changed from one department to another," he said.

The workers were not happy about the transfer but did not make representations to management until Tuesday when they decided to stop work, he said.

The workers were told when they arrived at the plant yesterday that those who wanted to work should go into the plant and those who did not want to could remain outside.

They were advised to resume work and negotiate later, but most decided not to work.

"We are prepared to take all the workers back if they show interest," he said.
Back to work for
store workers
strikers

Labour Correspondent

The week-long strike by about 300 black workers at Johannesburg Woolworths stores was settled yesterday, a spokesman for the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union announced.

Earlier this week, the company said all strikers had been fired and that they would have to reapply.

Ccawusa said yesterday the company had now agreed that all workers could return and no action would be taken against them. They would also be paid for the first three days of the stoppage which was triggered by the sacking of a worker.

They also demanded a R50 a week minimum wage — a 33.3% increase for the lowest-paid, the recognition of Ccawusa, and the removal of a senior official at the company's City Deep warehouse.

During the negotiations, the company agreed to reinstate the fired workers and said it had never opposed recognition for the union.

Ccawusa members dropped their demand for the removal of the official, agreeing to leave that to management, but deadlock persisted on the wage issue.

Yesterday, a union spokesman announced that the company had agreed to grant all workers earning up to R300 a month a R40 increase which would come into effect from the beginning of September.

 Those earning R300 or above would get a 12.5% increase from the same date.

The company has refused to comment on the strike.
Trade unions workers, the latest car sales figures have been released. The local manufacturers have again lost ground in the domestic market. Competitive prices, low wages and a lack of investment in new models are said to be the main reasons for the decline.

"And if the falling fortunes continue, the very future of the public companies is at stake," says the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Gohne comments, "while the car manufacturers have lost market share, this might be the time to review the strategy and focus on improving quality and customer service."

"We need to be persuaded that we can do better," said Mr. Gohne. "But if not, there is a real risk of losing more workers to foreign manufacturers who offer better conditions and more secure jobs."

Mr. Gohne also welcomed the recent announcement by the government to introduce new incentive schemes for local manufacturers to boost production. "We are happy to see the government taking action," he said. "But we need to see real results and not just empty promises."
GM opens again after walkout

By SANDRA SMITH

PRODUCTION resumed at General Motors today, leaving only Ford's Port Elizabeth plants closed after a strike, go-slow and walkouts in the Eastern Province motor manufacturing industry during the past month.

GM closed yesterday after workers downed tools when 18 employees were dismissed in connection with alleged assaults and damage to company property on Friday.

Ford has closed its Port Elizabeth operations until August 20, after repeated work stoppages.

At Volkswagen, production returned to normal yesterday, after the Witbank plant closed last week when workers started a go-slow.

The disruptions in production came after a dispute was declared in the Industrial Council for the local motor industry on the issue of minimum wages.

The National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu), which represents about 10,000 workers in the Eastern Province motor manufacturing industry, withdrew from the council this week when the dispute was referred to arbitration.

The union intends pressing ahead with individual bargaining with the three manufacturers, who have not indicated whether they will be prepared to conclude in-plant agreements.
R42-million lost in motor strikes

OWN CORRESPONDENT

PORT ELIZABETH — Two of the three strike-ridden Eastern Cape motor manufacturing giants have together lost about R42 million in revenue and production and 11,400 workers have lost about R5 million in unpaid wages since the start of the troubles on July 15.

These figures were released by spokesmen for Ford in Port Elizabeth and Volkswagen in Uitenhage yesterday.

General Motors, which has 4,000 hourly-paid workers, declined to supply figures but said that the effect on families in loss of earnings through work stoppages was of particular concern to the employers.

GM's assistant managing director, Mr Rod Ironside, said that despite repeated appeals for responsible action and a realistic approach compensation, the economics of the situation were not being viewed on a rational basis.

Volkswagen's public affairs manager, Mr Ruben Els, said that with R96,000 as the daily pay packet for the company's 6,000 hourly-paid workers, unpaid wages totalled more than R1 million in 12 working days lost from July 15 to Tuesday this week.

Mr Els said that over the 12 days the company had lost R24 million in production turnover.

Ford's public relations officer, Mr Harry Hill, said the company was working on a figure of R100,000 a day for its 5,400 hourly-paid workers.

In nine lost working days and six days of interrupted production workers had lost about R1 million in wages.

The figure did not include Ford's present closure from Wednesday this week to August 20 during which workers would get three days' holiday pay.

With daily revenue losses estimated at about R2 million, the company had lost R18 million in the nine days' shutdown.

He expressed particular concern for the large number of workers who were compelled to lose earnings because of the actions of others.

Inevitable industrial consequences were that manufactured products had been curtailed and sales lost.

Production resumed at General Motors yesterday, Sapa reports, leaving only Ford's Port Elizabeth plants closed after a strike, go-slow and walkouts in the Eastern Province motor manufacturing industry during the past month.

General Motors closed on Wednesday after workers downed tools when 18 employees were dismissed in connection with allegations of assaults and damage to company property on Friday.

At Volkswagen, production returned to normal yesterday after the Uitenhage plant had closed last week when workers started a go-slow
THE Ford Motor Company today laid off 507 hourly paid workers because of the slump in the South African economy.

Those affected were told of the move in a letter when they collected their pay packets.

At the Neave plant, where 330 are believed to have been laid off, workers were paid through the fence instead of inside the plant.

Five police vehicles were parked opposite the plant, and reaction squad police in camouflage uniform watched the payout. There were no incidents.

Ford's Port Elizabeth operations have been closed down until August 30 after repeated work stoppages in the wake of a dispute in the industry's Industrial Council.

In a statement today, Ford's director of industrial relations, Mr. Fred Ferrera, said: "The need to reduce our work force has been occasioned by the worsening economic situation."

"As shown by July sales results, the economy is now firmly set on a downward phase of a cyclical adjustment, which is not expected to show any relief in the near term."

The high sales in the industry in recent months had largely been due to the market having been artificially stimulated.

Ford now expected a marked decline in the demand for new vehicles, and had accordingly found it necessary to align labour requirements with lower production levels.

The company had delayed laying off workers for as long as possible through shorter shifts and working weeks and the non-replacement of staff leaving.

"This latest action, combined with the three days paid leave being taken by hourly paid employees during the current shutdown, should stabilise production and minimise any effect that future sales fall below current projections," Mr. Ferrera said.

The trade unions were kept apprised over the past three months of the possible need to observe a mid-year shutdown and to effect lay-offs, he said.

"We regret this action, but the alternative of continued excessive short-time can no longer be considered because of the impact on workers' income."

General Motors and Volkswagen said today they did not expect to retrench workers in the near future.

VW's manager of public affairs, Mr. Ruben Els, said, "VW did not have plans to retrench staff at present."

"In the current economic climate the position will have to be reviewed on a continuing basis in relation to the vehicle market and the company's overall performance," he said.

VW laid off 316 workers in April.

The director of the Medium Chamber of Industries, Mr. Bryan Matthew, said the lay-offs were not unexpected.

He said it was forecast last year that the passenger car market would be below last year's record in 1982.

During the first six months of this year, car sales had held up well. If the market was down by a predicted 10 to 12% at the end of the year, it meant that there had been a big downturn during the second half of the year.

"Taken together with the local motor industry's declining share of the market, lay-offs are not really unexpected," Mr. Matthew said.

The National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union was unable to comment as it was holding urgent meetings to discuss the matter.
Polling stations announced

Municipal Reporter

The polling stations in the four wards in Port Elizabeth which will be contested in the City Council elections in September have been officially announced by the Town Clerk Mr P K Botha.

The booths, which will open on September 1 at 8am and close at 7pm, are:
- Ward 2: The University of Port Elizabeth Building (behind the UPEE Auditorium), Bird Street, Central
- Ward 3: Newton Park Methodist Church Hall, Third Avenue, Newton Park, NG Kerk Hall, Boulevard Avenue, Sunnridge Park
- Ward 4: Sacred Heart Church Hall, 512 Cape Road, Kebega Park
- Ward 10: Walmer Town Hall, Main Road, Walmer

Mayor calls for unions to weigh up the consequences of strikes

Municipal Reporter

THE Mayor of Port Elizabeth, Mr H van Zyl Colie, called on trade union leaders to “weigh up carefully” the possible consequences of the present strikes.

He said it would be difficult to increase job opportunities and existing job opportunities might even be decreased.

If excessive demands for increased wages were granted, Port Elizabeth products would be priced out of the market.

The city had the finest facilities for training artisans in various fields of labour and industrialists elsewhere considered that the pool of trained labour here was overstripped that of many other centres.

Since the publication of the Louis Hey report on the potential for economic development in the area, the Greater Algos Bay Development Committee, the City Council and other bodies had gone out of their way to attract additional industries.

They had also done everything possible to persuade existing industries not to leave Port Elizabeth.

Labour troubles could permeate throughout the country and labour leaders should ask themselves who would be the losers in the long term he said.

Latest detainee death opens old wounds

DURBAN — Dr Neil Aggett’s sister told a packed church in Durban last night that the latest death in detention had opened up old wounds and had shown the Government did not care about detainees.

Addressing a singing, arm-waving crowd of more than 400 people in St Anthony’s Church, Mrs Jill Berger said she had been comforted when her brother died “by the hope that his death would change the state of affairs and would not be in vain.”

But it was clear through the death in detention of Mr Ernest Dipale that things had not changed.

All the hurt and anger returned when she heard about his death six months after his cell at John Vorster Square.

Another speaker, Detainee Support Man Mr Zach Yacoob, criticised Order, Mr Louis le Grange, for his death.

“We are not asking for detente hotels It is the deprivation of liberty,” Mr Yacoob said. The Minister had the latest death and his attitude toward the people.

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Weather

FORECAST for the coastal belt from Port Alfred to Port Elizabeth for the period ending 8am tomorrow:

CONDITIONS: Fine and warm

WIND: Light to moderate north-easterly to north-westerly

EXPECTED TEMPERATURES:
- Maximum: 21°C
- Minimum: 8°C

TODAY’S CONDITIONS (1pm):
- Sea Temperature: 18°C
- Temperature: 27°C
- Pressure: 1029 mbar
- Humidity: 35%
- Wind: Calm

THE MOON:
- New Moon: August 19
- First Quarter: August 26
- Full Moon: September 10
- Last Quarter: September 17

THE SUN:
- Rise today: 6:45am
- Set today: 8:45pm
- Daylight yesterday: 10:10am 4:55pm

THE TIDES:
- High Water:
  - Today: 9:41am
  - Tomorrow: 11:03pm
- Low Water:
  - Today: 3:22am
  - Tomorrow: 3:45am 5:15am

THE WORLD:

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Jackpot stands at R450

Post Reporter

THIS WEEK’S Evening Post-Checkers Checkers Hypermarket Jackpot offers a prize of R450 after last week’s bumper prize of R1659 was won by Mr Anthony Crane, of Schaufield.

To put yourself in line to win the jackpot simply forecast the winners of races THREE to EIGHT at Arlington tomorrow.

Listen to Despatch entries will be accepted throughout.

East London entries close at 4pm.

Grahamstown entries have already closed.

In Port Elizabeth entries can still be deposited up to 11am tomorrow.

The following rules apply:
- Only entry forms carrying the date of the current race will be scrutinised.
- Entries must be posted on the back of an envelope or card.
- Entry is free and you may send as many entries as you wish, but only the official entry is valid.
Labour disputes: New Bill

Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG. — Far-reaching proposals aimed at resolving labour disputes were published in today's Government Gazette. They are intended to streamline mediation and arbitration.

- The significant proposed amendments to the Labour Relations Bill are:
  - Allowing unregistered trade unions and employer bodies access to machinery to settle disputes
  - The Minister would have the authority after consultation with involved parties to appoint a mediator to arbitrate in a dispute
  - The Minister could establish conciliation boards to resolve a dispute if he thought a speedy settlement was in the national interest.
  - The Draft Labour Relations Amendment Bill, 1982, is published for comment.

Trade unions see the amendments as a positive response by the department to labour unrest.

"SCOPE"

At present, a registered union must apply for an extension of scope if it wishes to organise members in any area outside the bounds defined in its registration certificate. Under the new scheme, unions would have to prove representivity of workers in an area.

The scope issue has been a sore one for affiliates of the Federation of SA Trade Unions (Foaatu), because appeals for the appointment of a board to mediate have been turned down on the basis that the unions did not have the extended scope to organise in certain regions.

A Foaatu spokesman said: "The Government answers to have been responsive to the kind of problems our unions have faced, and we hope they are moving away from the formalities imposed in the registration system."

RESISTANCE"

However, there is likely to be some resistance to the proposal from unregistered unions.

Largely black unregistered unions have been critical of any involvement in Government-created institutions, rejecting outside arbitration and preferring collective bargaining on the shop floor.

Under the proposed amendments, an unregistered union would have to prove more than 50 percent membership of workers at a plant to establish representivity to be able to apply for a conciliation board.
LABOUR MATTERS

Strikes up

Statistics gathered by the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce show that SA employers have been hit by a rising number of strikes and work stoppages this year.

About 200 strikes and stoppages occurred in the first five months of this year, compared with 342 during the whole of last year, says Martin Keyser, the chamber's outgoing president.

When he addressed the chamber's agm this week, he pointed out that strike action is increasing, despite the downturn in the economy, which will cause some workers to lose their jobs.

"This factor, coupled with the lack of job opportunities for new entrants to the labour market, introduces an additional element likely to cause further unrest. The challenge presented to South African management is a demanding one which calls for effective communication between unions and management to ensure stability and cooperation."

Keyser expressed concern about black unemployment resulting from the deepening recession over the next 18 months. Hardship and the decline in living standards will be exacerbated by rising food prices, he said.

He pointed out that the flow of unskilled workers from rural to urban areas continues unabated, despite influx control. He said this is causing increasing unemployment, aggravating the housing shortage and placing severe strains on the provision of services to urban black communities.

"If influx control cannot be effectively applied then alternative solutions should be found to encourage workers to remain in the rural areas. It is distressing me that proposals contained in the new Orderly Movement and Settlement of Black Persons Bill appear to be a step backward."

He emphasised the need for better conditions of employment for farmworkers.
Labour disputes: New legislation

Own Correspondent
PRETORIA — New legislation to streamline the machinery and procedures for settling labour disputes would be published in today's Government Gazette, the Minister of Manpower, Mr. Fanie Botha announced last night.

The changes would be contained in the draft amending the Labour Relations Bill, 1963 which would be published today for general comment and information, he said.

The bill was first published in January this year, but had to be published again because of certain changes made to it.

The amendments relate to Section 33 of the Act which deals with the appointment of conciliation boards, and are aimed at providing an official forum for the settlement of disputes in industries and areas where no industrial council has jurisdiction and where one of the parties is an unregistered trade union or unregistered employer's organization.

The members of such a body can, under the present system, apply for a conciliation board in their own right, but the union or organization is legally excluded from doing so.

Proof

"The amendments and the publication of the bill for comment are further proof of the government's declared policy of consultation with all interested parties," said Mr. Botha.

"It is also proof of the government's policy of helping to maintain sound labour relations and to bring about the settlement of disputes which can disrupt the country's economy."
Lay-off strikes hit firms as union advises talks

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

THREE strikes over threatened retrenchment of workers were reported yesterday as a major trade union urged employers to consult their workers about lay-offs.

About 200 workers at a Rosslyn firm Auto Plastics downed tools on Thursday in protest at the planned retrenchment of 6 workers and "automated" processes after management refused to begin negotiations with the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (NAAWU).

Another retrenchment strike was reported at a Roodepoort firm Lucas Batteries. The company's managing director, Mr R. I. Henshaw, said the strike had been settled.

Unions also reported a recent retrenchment strike at B and S Engineering in Brits which was settled after the firm agreed not to retrench.

At Auto Plastics, the planned retrenchments followed a decision by the company's Port Elizabeth branch to work short time. A NAAWU spokesman said:

"We had no alternative because of the nature of our business and the state of the economy. There are a growing number of strikes over this issue, which seems inevitable as the economic downturn continues," Mr Henshaw said.

NAAWU's spokesman said in both the other strikes management planned to inform workers that they were to lose their jobs only on the day they were expected to leave.

"This is not only traumatic for the workers concerned but it angers colleagues because they are not consulted," he said.

And in both cases management, when challenged by workers, seemed to find it "relatively easy" to find alternatives, he said.
Union says sackings raise conflict chance

Weekend Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — The main retrenchment at Ford this week is seen by workers as an attempt to frighten them of calling further strikes but it has raised the conflict potential.

This was said today by the secretary of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (NAAWU), Mr M. Sauls.

His union's members have in the past month been responsible for an unprecedented wave of strikes in the Eastern Cape motor industry, related to a protracted wage dispute.

Mr Sauls said in an interview that a further line of action would be decided at a series of union-worker meetings early next week.

Ford announced yesterday that 507 workers were being laid off because of hard times in the industry. The company has already this year implemented shorter weeks and short time.

The reaction of workers to their retrenchments could not be expected to be passive, and without resistance, Mr Sauls said.

MANUFACTURERS

Contrary to frequent claims that the motor manufacturers in the Eastern Cape were there for the well-being of the community, Ford had shown it protected the interests of its shareholders irrespective of the repercussions on human life or the effect on any community in operation.

Inevitably, the worker decision NAWU would take up with management the lay-offs and the sackings of Ford workers, and the General Motors workers for alleged "malfeasance" of other workers, he said.

The sackings led to walkouts at both plants early this week.

Ford then caused its operations until August but General Motors has remained open.

NOTE CAREFULLY

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Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.

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Ford lays off 507 workers

Own Correspondent
PORT ELIZABETH - Ford South Africa retrenched 507 hourly-paid workers yesterday - approximately 11 percent of its hourly workforce - because of South Africa's "worsening economic situation."

The workers knew only yesterday of the retrenchments when they received letters thanking them for their services to the company with their pay packets.

The letters told them all money owed to them would be included in the packet as well as a day's payment in lieu of notice.

While the retrenchments affect workers in all the company's plants, the majorities are from the Neave plant which has the greatest number of employees.

Police
At Neave yesterday morning workers were paid through the fence while several police vans with Reaction Unit policemen in camouflage gear were parked outside.
No incidents were reported at any plant.

Last night the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) warned that the reaction of workers to the retrenchments "could not be expected to be passive and without resistance."

Shareholders
A statement issued by the union said that Ford had shown it protected the interests of its shareholders "irrespective of the repercussions on human life or the effects on any country it operated in."

In a statement issued yesterday the company said it had put off retrenchments for "as long as possible" through working short-time and by not replacing workers who left. This could no longer be considered "because of the impact on workers' incomes."

GM, VW
Mr Peter Sullivan, manager of public relations at General Motors, said yesterday the company had "no plans for any lay-offs."

Volkswagen's manager of public affairs, Mr Ruben Eib, said the company had "no definite plans for retrenchments at this stage."

A Naawu spokesman said yesterday GM management had agreed to meet with union representatives to discuss a procedure for investigating the dismissal of 17 workers on Monday. They were fired for their alleged participation in acts of violence and intimidation.

He also said a general meeting of Ford workers would be held on Tuesday on the retrenchments.
Car workers are prepared to suffer in wages fight

BY SANDRA SMITH

DISRUPTIONS in production at the three Eastern Province motor manufacturers — Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen — by strikes, go-slow and stoppages since a deadlock in wage talks, have meant a hard time for thousands of workers.

Many workers at VW have lost about 12 days' full pay, those at GM about 11 days' pay, and when Ford re-opens on August 29, many workers will have lost about 22 days' wages.

Weekend Post interviewed workers from the three companies this week to find out how they and their families were affected by the lighter pay-packets.

The interviews were granted on the understanding that the Weekend Post would not name the workers.

One worker said he had been employed by Ford for 27 years and took home an average of R39 a week before overtime work.

He supported a wife and six children, five of them at school and one at university.

"It has, of course, been difficult to get by but we are not complaining or begging from anyone," he said.

His daughter was a nurse who had "helped out", although since the first walkout at Ford the family had eaten less than normal.

"Some wives are worried, especially when they hear about the police outside the factory gates," he said.

"However, my wife realises all of this is necessary if we are to get the wage we want."

Workers were prepared to accept the lighter pay packets they would receive if the companies went on short-time, rather than see their colleagues retrenched, he said.

Another worker who had been employed at VW for three years said he took home an average of R169 a fortnight to support his wife and two small children.

His rent was R32 a month, and he was also paying off furniture and clothing accounts.

"We were out during 1989 for three weeks, and no-one starved. People help each other and somehow we manage," he said.

Men with family responsibilities were firmer in their resolve to achieve "a living wage" than those with none, he said.

Another VW worker had seven children, all at school, and earned about R109,12 a week.

"There have been times — in April when we went out over the retrenchments, and these last few weeks — when we have eaten nothing but bread and pap," he said.

The worker's three eldest sons had been picked to attend an athletics meeting with their school in Durban in September, but the family was unable to afford the R10 each that this would cost.

A GM worker for 24 years who earned R70 a week before overtime, on which he supported a wife and six children, said:

"This morning there was nothing to eat in the house. The children had to go to school hungry. I had 30c and a loaf costs 30c, so we had to ask the neighbours for a cent."

The family ate meat only on Sundays.

"My eldest boy has gone to school this winter without shoes. It's a damned shame," he said.

"But for my children's futures, I must stick with our wage demand to the end."

All the workers interviewed who had children at high schools complained that teachers made unrealistic demands on them.

They said the children came home with repeated requests for money for stationery and donations.

At many schools children were also sent home if they did not wear the full school uniform, they said.
Ford operations in PE closed and some workers laid off

By SANDRA SMITH

THE Ford Motor Company closed down all its Port Elizabeth operations and laid off 507 hourly-paid workers this week, a move which could prolong the continuing disruptions to production in the Eastern Province motor manufacturing industry.

The industry has seen a month of go-slow work stoppages and a strike after a breakdown in talks with the Industrial Council for the Motor Manufacturing Industry.

On Tuesday, Ford announced the closure of its four Port Elizabeth plants for 10 days after repeated work stoppages.

Yesterday it laid off 507 workers because of the worsening economic situation.

The National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu), which represents about 10,000 workers, has warned that workers "cannot be expected to be passive and without resistance" to the move.

Members of a rival union, the Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union of SA (Macwusa), have also been hit by the lay-offs, and Naawu shop stewards say this will act as a unifying factor.

This week the Naawu delegation to the Industrial Council pulled out of talks when a dispute was referred to arbitration by a third party.

The union is now pushing for individual bargaining with the three motor manufacturers, who have not indicated whether they will be prepared to conclude in-plant agreements.

Workers at General Motors downed tools on Wednesday when 16 employees were sacked in connection with alleged assaults and damage to company property the previous week. The plant had just opened after closing on Friday, when workers downed tools.

Following the retrenchments at Ford, Naawu has demanded that all those paid off be re-instated unconditionally, that the union is consulted on any plans to reduce the work forces of any of the motor manufacturers, and that any retrenchments take place in consultation with employees.
507 motor workers affected

Lay-offs spark fresh fears of unrest at Ford

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

THE Ford Motor Company has laid off 507 hourly-paid production workers at its Port Elizabeth plants, sparking fears of a new confrontation between it and the National Automobile and Albedo Workers' Union.

The announcement came days after Ford closed its plants because of work stoppages by Naawu members. The stoppages were prompted by the deadlocked pay dispute which has led to repeated stoppages at Eastern Cape motor plants.

And last night Naawu sharply attacked Ford for the lay-offs, saying its members would not react "passively and without resistance". Workers would meet on Tuesday to discuss further action, it said.

The union demanded the unconditional reinstatement of laid-off workers and consultation with workers on any staff reduction.

The lay-offs come only days after the announcement of unexpectedly high July car sales. But in a statement announcing the move, Ford's industrial relations director, Mr Fred Ferreira, said the company expected a "marked decline" in the sale of new vehicles.

He said unions at Ford had been "kept apprised over the past three months of the possible need to observe a mid-year shutdown and to effect lay-offs."

Ford regretted the action but said "excessive" short-time "can no longer be considered because of the impact on workers' income."

Recent high car sales were "largely due to the market having been artificially stimulated" and the economy was now firmly set on a downward phase which is not expected to show any relief in the near term.

The company had delayed lay-offs for "as long as possible."

The lay-offs, together with the three days paid leave granted to hourly-paid workers during the shutdown, should stabilise production and minimise the effect if sales fell below current projections, Mr Ferreira said.

A Naawu statement said the lay-offs proved the union's view that Ford acted only "in the interests of its profits at the expense of workers and that management and worker interests were irreconcilable."

What was contrary, it said, to statements during the wage dispute by city councillors and businessmen that the motor companies were in the Eastern Cape "for the well-being of the community."

"Ford would do anything in the interests of its shareholders irrespective of the repercussions on human life," the statement said.

The lay-offs were "clear attempt to sow confusion among people struggling for survival and against exploitation."

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Split openings between two motor unions

Labour Correspondent

THE unregistered Motor Assemblers and Components Workers Union (Macwusa) has dropped plans to co-operate with Fosater's National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu), because Naawu refuses to reject the official industrial council system.

Naawu is engaged in a wage dispute with East Cape motor employers which has led to several major work stoppages.

It withdrew from the council to avoid arbitration of the dispute, but says it will return after the dispute has been settled.

"Macwusa, which recently walked out of a union unity meeting because of its objection to unions who register and sit on industrial councils, had welcomed Naawu's move.

But in a statement, the union said it was disappointed that Naawu "is in fact not disassociating itself from the use of the industrial council as bargaining machinery."

It claimed that Naawu members "had clearly rejected the council in favour of shop floor bargaining."

Macwusa also alleged that Naawu had not reported back to its members on decisions at successive emerging union summits which rejected registration and the industrial council system.

Macwusa is now "studying the situation" in the hope that the union will quit the council permanently.

Some Naawu members have accused Macwusa sharply for not supporting the recent wage strikes in the industry.
Whites are unpaid victims of car strikes

by Jerry McCabe

The continued wage dispute which has disrupted production at the Eastern Cape's three motor giants has also disrupted the lives of hundreds of white workers who have become the "unfortunate victims of circumstances".

Mr Henry Ferreira, deputy chief secretary of the white Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union, said white workers had found themselves in an impossible situation in which they had played no part.

"They want to work, but are prevented from doing so. They are suffering through no fault of their own," Mr Ferreira said.

These workers have remained without income during the time the factories have not been producing and this has resulted in financial hardship for many families.

Many hard-pressed families have turned to welfare organisations for aid.

Dr M H Vorster, director of Social Work Services of the Christelike Maatskaplike Raad in Port Elizabeth, said today families of motor firm employees had come to them for help.

"We have had to help these people with food, paying their lights and water bills and even in some cases their home rentals. There must certainly be an increase of people from motor firms asking for help since the start of the dispute."

He said his organisation was concerned that last week's laying off of workers by Ford would result in more requests for aid.

"When we budgetted for this year we obviously did not know there would be these problems at the motor firms. I don't know if we have budgetted sufficient funds," Dr Vorster said.

Spokesmen for two of the three Eastern Cape motor firms were reluctant to comment on the effect the prolonged dispute was having on white workers alone.

Mr Fred Ferreira, director of industrial relations for Ford, said the dispute was affecting all the workers who wanted to continue working and not only white workers.

"About 2,000 black workers as well as a few hundred coloured and a few hundred white workers are affected. It is not only the white worker who is suffering," Mr Ferreira said.

Mr Bob Kernohan, press relations manager for Volkswagen, said it was his company's policy not to practise any discrimination between workers of different races.

"When workers who wanted to continue working were affected by strikes, Volkswagen was always prepared to find alternative employment. This was done irrespective of what race the workers were," Mr Kernohan said.
THE Midland Chamber of Industries has called for a delegation comprising a City Council representative and labour relations experts to find a solution to the dispute between the South African Transport Services and Port Elizabeth dock workers.

The chamber's call comes after about 400 dockers signed a letter calling on the Port Manager to open discussions with the workers' committee by next Monday at the latest.

The letter said the efforts of the General Workers' Union (GWU) over 10 months to negotiate with SATS had failed.

"If the SATS administration does not agree to the workers' request, they will be forced to conclude that there is no point in further efforts to mediate discussions," the letter said.

While the workers were not seeking a confrontation with SATS, such a confrontation would undoubtedly draw in GWU stevedore members in all four South African ports, and would gain supportive action from members of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF).

"A conflict of this scale will inevitably spill into the already tense black townships of Port Elizabeth," the workers' letter added.

"We call upon the leaders of the city and all those concerned with Port Elizabeth's economic and political well-being to intervene urgently in this conflict to try to persuade the SATS administration to negotiate a solution to this potentially dangerous conflict."

The chamber's executive director, Mr Brian Matthew, said today, "The chamber is concerned that the entire labour situation seems to be deteriorating.

"In order to protect industrialists in this area a delegation, perhaps consisting of someone like the Mayor, assisted by experts like Professor Roux van der Merwe, head of the department of industrial relations at UPE, and the former chairman of the chamber, Mr A de Rock, should meet with SATS and the union concerned to attempt to find a solution to the problem," he said.

However, Port Elizabeth's Mayor, Mr H van Zyl Calle, said he felt the dispute was an internal SATS matter.

"I would not consider interfering in their affairs," he said.

Commenting on the chamber's letter, the head of the department of industrial psychology at UPE, Professor L Kaminer, said that if a body had the potential to take a labour force on strike one should talk to it.

He said the issue was something SATS should consider very carefully because of possible international ramifications.

"If it could lead to South Africa goods rotting in world ports," he said.

The PFP MP for Walmer, Mr Andrew Savage, today called the GWU's request for discussion on workplace issues "a moderate and conciliatory approach" as the union was not, in fact, demanding recognition.

"A strike is a dangerous attitude to take in a sphere where the stakes are very high and there is a danger of South Africa becoming isolated," he said.

SATS had to regard South Africa's harbours differently from the rest of its operations. The docks were vulnerable contact points with world trade

"Clear thinking, enlightened policy-making and diplomacy are called for - or we're going to bump our noses," Mr Savage said.

SATS confirmed receipt of the workers' letter and reiterated that approaches to its management had to be conducted "through the correct channels."
SA Bottling offer to re-employ 30 is rejected

By SANDRA SMITH

The General Workers' Union of SA (Gwusa) yesterday rejected an offer by SA Bottling to re-employ 30 of the 250 workers dismissed last year.

The workers were sacked after a strike in October for higher salaries and better working conditions.

When SA Bottling refused to re-employ them, Gwusa organised a boycott of the company's products in the Eastern Cape.

Plans are also afoot to launch the boycott nationally.

Gwusa's organizing secretary, Mr Government Zim, said a union delegation had met management representatives on Thursday.

"They had been told the Food and Beverage Workers' Union (FBWU), an affiliate of the Council of Unions of SA (Cusa), also claimed to represent the dismissed workers. The meeting was adjourned and resumed yesterday with the FBWU present. The union made it clear it was not involved in negotiations on the re-employment of those dismissed, and left the meeting, Mr Zim said.

The company then offered to re-employ 15 of the workers immediately, and another 15 in September.

"On the question of the remaining workers the company refused to commit itself, and until they present us with a re-employment schedule of the outstanding workers we cannot accept their offer," Mr Zim said.

SA Bottling's managing director, Mr P H Gutsche, said the company wanted to employ additional people and was prepared to give preference to former employees.

"We cannot simply employ all those dismissed last year and get rid of a whole lot of our present workers," he said.

"We have made an active offer and still hope the union will come back to us on it."

While the boycott of SA Bottling products was having no visible effect, "the negative publicity is alive," Mr Gutsche said.

Gwusa met representatives of the Eastern Province Council on Sport (Epos) last week to discuss the establishing of a regional boycott committee, and the Congress of SA Students (Cosas) had reaffirmed its commitment to the boycott, Mr Zim said.

The union was also considering a boycott of SA Bottling agents in black residential areas.

A national convention on the issue which was supposed to have taken place at the weekend, was postponed because of the unveiling of the tombstone of Robert Sobukwe.
Union ire at Labour attack

Labour Correspondent

A ROW with important political implications has erupted between the leader of the Labour Party, the Reverend Allan Hendrickse, and the National Automobile and Allied Workers’ Union over the deadlock over the wage dispute in the Eastern Cape motor industry.

In an interview with Rapport, an Afrikaans Sunday newspaper, Mr Hendrickse — who lives in Uitenhage, one of the areas affected by the dispute — said the East Cape community did not support the motor workers’ demands and accused the NAAWU of “misusing the strike weapon”.

Yesterday a meeting of NAAWU members at Volkswagen’s Uitenhage plant hit back, accusing Mr Hendrickse and the Labour Party of being “out of touch” with the situation in the East Cape.

It is understood the statements follow tension between worker and Labour Party leadership in the area.

A NAAWU organiser, Mr Les Kettelkamp, said yesterday’s Volkswagen workers had passed a resolution condemning the Labour Party and Rev Hendrickse’s approach to the dispute. The workers are confident that they continue to enjoy the support of the community.

Mr Kettelkamp said Mr Hendrickse’s remarks would be discussed at a meeting of Ford workers this morning.

Mr Hendrickse yesterday confirmed that he had criticised the strikers.

“I don’t want to fight with the union but I pointed out that there are two black unions operating in the motor industry and that one of them, Macwasa, had refused to join the strike.

“I am worried that the unrest is dividing the community. The unions are part of the community. If they are divided, so is the community.”

Motor employers met the all-white SAAI Iron, Steel and Allied Workers’ Union at the motor industrial council yesterday and agreed to continue talks on the deadlock over the wage dispute. It is understood that no arbitrator will be appointed this week.
PORT ELIZABETH — Hundreds of white workers have been made the "unfortunate victims of circumstances" by the continuing wage dispute which has disrupted production at the three giant motor factories in the Eastern Cape.

Mr Henry Ferreira, deputy chief secretary of the White Iron and Steel and Allied Industries Union, said white workers had found themselves in an impossible situation in which they had played no part.

"They want to work but arc prevented from doing so. They are suffering through no fault of their own," he said.

The workers have been without income while the factories have not been producing, which has resulted in financial hardship for many families. Many have had to turn to welfare organisations for aid.

Dr M.H. Vorster, director of social work services for the Christelike Maatskaplike Raad in Port Elizabeth, said yesterday that the families of motor firm employees had come to them for help. Sapa reports.

"We have had to help these people with food, pay their lights and water bills, and even — in some cases — their rent. There has certainly been an increase of people from motor firms asking for help since the start of the dispute," he said.

His organisation is concerned that the laying off of workers by Ford last week will result in more requests for aid.

"When we budgeted for this year, we obviously did not know there would be these problems at the motor firms. I don't know if we have budgeted enough money," he said.

Spokesmen for two of the three Eastern Cape motor firms were reluctant to comment on what effect the prolonged dispute was having on white workers.

Mr Fred Ferreira, director of industrial relations for Ford, said the dispute was affecting all workers who wanted to continue working — not only white workers.

"About 3,000 black workers, as well as a few hundred coloured and a few hundred white workers, are affected. It is not only the white worker who is suffering," he said.

Mr Bob Kermohan, press relations manager for Volkswagen, said it was his company's policy not to publicise discrimination between workers of different races.

When those who wished to continue working were affected by strikes, Volkswagen tried to provide them with alternative employment. This was done irrespective of race, he said.

The Star's Labour Reporter writes that the Eastern Cape Industrial Council for the motor industry met yesterday but postponed any decision to call for the appointment of an arbitrator in the wage dispute.

Since the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) withdrew from the council in protest over the deadlock, only the three major motor employers and the Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union have been taking part in the talks.

The council's chairman, Mr Fred Ferreira, said there would be informal and formal meetings in the near future to discuss negotiations.

Naawu has announced that it would seek negotiations with individual employers and has criticised the laying off of about 500 workers by Ford.

Ford plans to restart production only on Friday. General Motors and Volkswagen are still producing cars.

The recent unrest in the Port Elizabeth area has seen more than 10,000 workers on strike and numerous closures of the three auto giants.
Workers slow walk out and lose their jobs

By Tony Davis, Labour Reporter

About 200 Roodepoort workers lost their jobs yesterday following a walk-out at a machine firm.

The workers left the plant yesterday morning after management refused to meet them. They had demanded a 20c/hour across-the-board increase for all workers.

The managing director of Hawker Siddeley Switchgear, Mr P.S. Maguire, said all who had left were considered to have broken their contracts. He would be re-engaging a new workforce. Today.

Former employees could re-apply and pay packets were being made up to pay out the strikers, Mr Maguire said.

The Fosatu-affiliated Metal and Allied Workers' Union has members in the plant and last week wrote to management asking for a meeting to discuss recognition, a union spokesman said.
Questions over industrial council

THE withdrawal last week of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) from the Industrial Council for the Motor Manufacturing Industry of the Eastern Cape has raised questions over the continued effectiveness of the body and the future of negotiations in the industry.

The union withdrew last Monday when a dispute over minimum wages was referred to arbitration. Naawu is opposed to resolution of the dispute through a third party, viewing this as taking control of the situation out of workers' hands.

It intends concluding individual in-plant agreements with Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen, who have not yet indicated whether they will negotiate on this basis.

Naawu's general secretary, Mr Freddy Sauls, explained the union's withdrawal was not a matter of principle, but was "a strategy in the bargaining process".

Therefore it did not necessarily mean Naawu would not in future again participate in negotiations in the council.

Concerns that industrial councils removed the negotiating process from worker control and were undemocratic applied in particular instances, Mr Sauls said. The success of using the council depended upon a union's methods of organising.

"Our negotiations on this council were based on worker decisions at meetings, and the delegation was accountable to the members." Naawu's withdrawal did not indicate members were becoming disillusioned with this forum, Mr Sauls said. They had called for in-plant agreements only when it became clear the dispute would go to arbitration by a third party.

The union favoured industry-wide bargaining in the long run, which would be to the advantage of employees and employer parties, but this might only develop in two or three years' time.

The industrial council's chairman and director of industrial relations at Ford, Mr Fred Ferrera, agreed that the real effectiveness of the council would be lost if a major representative party did not participate.

The council, now made up of the employers and the Forestry, Steel and Allied Industries Union which represents about 2,000 workers in the local industry, could reach an agreement which would be binding on Naawu members.

However, "we want to involve the maximum all parties participating in the labour situation in our organisation. This could be accomplished more effectively outside the council," Mr Ferrera said.

While Ford was not averse to the idea of negotiating outside the council, Mr Ferrera believed the body could in the long term still perform a useful function.

Industry-wide bargaining was an inevitability, and would be in the interest of all parties concerned.

"I don't know if Naawu's withdrawal from the council is necessarily a step towards industry-wide bargaining, but I don't see it as detracting from that possibility either," Mr Ferrera said.

Industry-wide agreements, bringing about uniform conditions of employment, would mean certain competitive advantages which existed now would be eliminated.

Increasing cohesion in the labour movement would mean that employers outside the Eastern Province who were opposed to this form of bargaining would be forced to reconsider.

Asking whether, if Ford entered into in-plant bargaining with Naawu, this would affect the company's relationship with the Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union of SA (Macwusa), Mr Ferrera said, "We desire the involvement of all parties to meet on common ground to negotiate an acceptable agreement.

"However, I don't think we could jump into in-plant bargaining."

Negotiation outside the council could involve the development of a bargaining structure which would negotiate on different issues at different levels.

"But there is no way Ford could agree to in-plant bargaining and ignore significant aspects of its representative labour force," he said.

"In the longer term we would prefer a situation where the entire industry would negotiate on common issues with all representative employee parties involved," he said.
Motor workers challenge Hendrikse to back up claim

By SANDRA SMITH

FORD, General Motors and Volkswagen workers have strongly condemned statements by the leader of the Labour Party, the Reverend Allan Hendrikse, that the workers' union does not have community support for its wage demands.

And, at a meeting of Ford workers today, a decision was taken to return to work on Friday on the understanding that the company reinstates 507 workers it retrenched last week.

Mr Hendrikse was reported in Rapport on Sunday to have said the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union leadership was "abusing strikes as a weapon", and did not have community support for their "high demands."

The Evening Post was unable to contact Mr Hendrikse this week.

At workers' meetings last night and today, he was challenged to back up his statement that Naawu did not have community support for its minimum wage demand of R230 an hour.

The Ford company has closed its Port Elizabeth operations for 10 days until Friday because of repeated work stoppages after a breakdown in wage talks.

At today's meeting, workers rejected the retrenchments and demanded that those paid-off be reinstated. It was decided to return to work on Friday.

Telegrams from the International Metal Workers Federation and the British Amalgamated Engineering Union, expressing support for Naawu's demands and for those laid-off, were read out.

Naawu has demanded that the firms discuss retrenchments with employees and the union, and consider alternatives such as short-time.
Company dismisses Roodepoort strikers

SOWETAN 17/8/82

The 200 black workers employed by Hawker Siddeley Electrical Company in Roodepoort who went on strike demanding pay increases yesterday "have automatically dismissed themselves from their positions by going on strike".

This was stated by the company's general manager, Mr P S Maquire, who told The SOWETAN that the workers could regard themselves "fired because they had acted outside their rights.

The company was prepared to engage new workers from today but "we shall consider re-admitting others, depending on an agreement between workers and management", he said.

The workers, mostly members of the Metal and Allied Workers' Union (Mawu), downed tools when negotiations between their representa-

The company and management broke down yesterday. They demanded a 20 percent wage increase.

Workers said that 12 of their colleagues had been sacked by the management following their representations to management, whereupon they had decided to a walk out.

They were prepared to go back today, but would not work if their demands were not met, they told reporters.

Mr Maquire said the workers had refused to negotiate and said that they had wanted to be addressed at a mass meeting. This, unfortunately, could not be done and they had decided to leave.

Mr Maquire said the workers could fetch their money.
Fears of stay-away when Ford plant re-opens

By STEVEN SRIKRAN, Labour Correspondent.

FORD workers in Port Elizabeth yesterday sharply attacked the retrenchment of 507 colleagues and feared that they will not go back to work when the company resumes production on Friday.

"Meanwhile, it was learned yesterday that the Atomic Energy Board has been considering the establishment of a new board to meet the needs of the industry's industrial fabric," the statement said.

Employers supported the meeting and said that they were ready to meet the workers' wage claims. Employers supported the union's request to discuss the wage dispute with the Atomic Energy Board.

"Ford closed its plant until Friday after announcing that it was laying off 507 workers in reaction to the country's worsening economic situation," the statement said.

Three jailed for raping 17-year-old

Mail Reporter

THREE Hedelburg men were found guilty by the High Court yesterday of raping a 17-year-old schoolgirl who was later found murdered.

No one was found responsible for the murder of the girl, Gertrude Vilakazi.

Michael Mokoena, 22, was jailed for five years, Moses Mokoena, 20, for four years and David Selbon, 23, was sentenced to 18 months, six months of which was conditionally suspended for three years.

The three men, all from Batanda Location, were found guilty of raping the girl in a church toilet on November 21, last year. The two Mokoenas were found guilty of raping her on an ash pit, four kilometres from the church.

Mr. Acting Justice Kirk-Cohen, who sat with carthage, said that he did not find the accused guilty of murder because the evidence did not support his guilt.

Advocate and Mrs H Knopp

IN a report in the Rand Daily Mail on August 6 headed "Diamonds in the Rough" it was incorrectly stated that Mr. H Knopp, his wife Mrs H Knopp, and others were ordered by the Rand Supreme Court to hand over diamonds worth R24,000 to the deputy sheriff pending determination of their ownership.

In fact the order made by the court restricted Mr. and Mrs. Knopp and others from selling or giving away any of the diamonds and from leaving the country.

At the hearing on Thursday, August 6, counsel appeared for Mr. and Mrs. Knopp, and others, that the court which has decided that the defendant must possess the diamonds and were therefore unable to hand them over to the deputy sheriff.

Mrs H Knopp was prepared without prejudice to their rights to allow the deputy sheriff to carry out a search on the premises where she is residing.

We make it possible for you to draw and invest at any time.

Ian fined R100 for killing cat

Mail Correspondent

IAN, 21-year-old man who broke the neck of a gentle and lovable cat and drowned it was fined R100 (or 50 days) by Mr. D. Weatherald in Durban Magistrate's Court yesterday.

Peter John Smith, an apprentice electrician, was convicted of contravening the Animals Protection Act.

The cat was drowned after it was waterlogged by its owner, when he left the cat in the care of a neighbour.

The court was told that the cat had not been seen for three days and the owner had reported it missing.

The owner said that the neighbour had promised to take care of the cat, but it was later found drowned in the river.

The neighbour said that he had not seen the cat for three days and that it had not been seen since then.

The court was told that the neighbour had been sentenced to a fine of R100 for contravening the Animals Protection Act and that Smith had been ordered to pay the fine.

The court was told that the neighbour had been ordered to pay the fine of R100 for contravening the Animals Protection Act and that Smith had been ordered to pay the fine.
Trade-unionists hit out at Hendrickse

Labour Correspondent

Workers at all three Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage motor plants have adopted resolutions attacking the Rev Allan Hendrickse, leader of the Labour Party, and a key unionist said yesterday workers in the area had "totally rejected" the party.

Mr Hendrickse was also attacked yesterday in a statement by the 100,000-member Federation of SA Trade Unions and in speeches to Ford workers by the president of Fosatu Mr Chris Dlamini, and the general secretary Mr Joe Foster.

These developments -- a reaction to statements by Mr Hendrickse attacking the role of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) in the East Cape wage dispute -- come at a time when the Government is believed to be hoping for Labour support for its planned new constitutional dispensation. Grassroots coloured worker hostility to the party could hamper any deal worked out between Labour and the Government.

Mr Fred Sauls, general secretary of Naawu said yesterday the resolutions indicated that "in-called coloured workers have finally rejected the Labour Party."

The row follows statements by Mr Hendrickse that Naawu was "abusing" the strike weapon and that its demands were rejected by the community.

In its statement, Fosatu accused Mr Hendrickse of making "anti-worker statements" and said he could "no longer claim to speak for workers."

Mr Dlamini said there was nothing irresponsible in calling for a living wage.
Workers criticise Hendrickse

PORT ELIZABETH—Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen workers have condemned statements by the leader of the Labour Party, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, that their union does not have community support for its wage demands.

In another development, a meeting of Ford workers decided yesterday to return to work on

Friday as the company reinstated 507 workers it retrenched last week.

Mr Hendrickse was reported to have said the National Automobile and Allied Workers’ Union leadership was “abusing strikes as a weapon” and did not have community support for its “high demands.”

The Ford company has closed its Port Elizabeth operations for 10 days until Friday because of repeated work stoppages after a breakdown in wage talks.

At yesterday’s meeting, workers rejected the retrenchments and demanded that those put off be reinstated — Sapa
OK Bazaars workers out

Workers at the OK's Johannesburg warehouse and their two warehouses in Alrode and Alberton went on strike yesterday morning.

The OK's general manager for personnel, Mr. Richard Blackwell, said talks were being held today with officials of the Commercial, Catering, and Allied Workers' Union.
Union rejects SA Bottling's offer

PORT ELIZABETH — The General Workers' Union of SA yesterday rejected an offer by SA Bottling to re-employ 30 of 250 workers dismissed last year.

The workers were sacked after a strike in October for higher salaries and better working conditions.

When SA Bottling refused to re-employ them, GWUSA organized a boycott of the company's products in the Eastern Cape.

GWUSA's organizing secretary, Mr. Government Zim, said a union delegation had met management representatives on Thursday.

They had been told that the Food and Beverage Workers' Union, an affiliate of the Council of Unions of SA, also claimed to represent the dismissed workers.

The meeting was adjourned and resumed yesterday with the FBWU present. The union had made it clear that it was not involved in negotiations on the re-employment of those dismissed and left the meeting, Mr. Zim said.

The company then offered to re-employ 15 of the workers immediately and another 15 in September.

"On the question of the remaining workers, the company refused to commit itself and until they present us with a re-employment schedule of the outstanding workers we cannot accept their offer," Mr. Zim said.

SA Bottling's managing director, Mr. P.H. Gutsche, said the company wanted to employ additional people and was prepared to give preference to former employees.

"We cannot simply employ all those dismissed last year and get rid of a whole lot of our present workers," he said.

"We have made a sincere offer and still hope the union will come back to us on it."

While the boycott of SA Bottling products was having no visible effect, the negative publicity was bad, he said. — Sapa
OVER 1000 workers on the East and West Rand and in Pretoria were reported to have been on strike since Monday, despite the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha's dramatic proposals to settle labour disputes.

In one of the terms of the draft Labour Relations Amendment Bill, published last week, legislation will be amended to allow organisations, including unregistered trade unions and employer organisations, access to machinery for settling disputes.

There has been a mixed reaction to the suggestions from a wide spectrum of trade unions and labour organisations on the Reef.

About 700 black workers at three OK Bazaars warehouses on the East Rand and in Johannesburg yesterday downed tools in pay demands.

The workers, mostly members of the Catering Commercial and Allied Workers' Union of SA, are demanding an R80 increase in their pay.

Cawusa's spokesperson said negotiations were under way with management.

At Hawker Siddley Electrical Company in Roodepoort about 200 workers have been sacked following a labour dispute. They demanded a 20 percent wage increase.

Management said that by going on strike the workers had automatically fired themselves.

In Pretoria about 400 workers have gone back to work at Autoplast after striking to protest at the dismissal of 63 of their colleagues.
Union accuses Barlow Rand

Post Reporter

THE National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) has accused the Barlow Rand group of breaking its code of employment and of being indifferent to unfair labour practices in its subsidiaries.

The NUTW has also criticised the group's "failure or refusal" to intervene in the dispute at Veldspan in Uitenhage, where the union says the firm locked out more than 1,000 workers illegally.

They were fired by Veldspan when they walked out after 69 employees who refused to do the work of 25 colleagues who were retrenched — were sacked.

Veldspan International is a subsidiary of Romatex, in which Barlow Rand has a majority holding.

The NUTW has accused Veldspan of seeking to provoke a confrontation by insisting a group of its members do the work of those retrenched.

A Romatex spokesman said the company would respond as soon as possible.

He said "We consider the NUTW's statement contains a number of errors of fact, and Barlow Rand has not yet received the telex from the union."
Talks as OK strike continues

Labour Reporter

The strike by about 700 OK Bazaar workers went into its third day today as management met officials of the Commercial, Catering, and Allied Workers Union.

The strike affects OK warehouses in the Johannesburg city centre and at Atronde.

The union is demanding an across-the-board monthly increase for all warehouse workers and their recognition as shop stewards.

The OK’s general manager for personnel, Mr. Richard Blackwell, said the warehouses were operating with a skeleton staff.
Union to demand reinstatement of 507 workers

Post Reporter
A DELEGATION from the Motor Assembly and Component Workers' Union (Macwusa) was due to meet Ford management today and demand the reinstatement of 507 workers retrenched last week.

The workers were retrenched on Friday because of the slump in the South African economy.

A meeting of Macwusa members at Ford yesterday ordered the union's executive committee to demand the workers' reinstatement.

The meeting resolved to wait for a response from Ford before considering further action.

Members will meet on Monday for a report back on the union's meeting with Ford management today.

In a statement Macwusa said it felt "offended" by Ford's failure to consult the union before announcing the retrenchments.

"Judging by the mood of the meeting it is evident that this action by the company had done much to cause a deterioration in the relationship between workers and management. It could have serious repercussions," the statement said.

Members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawa) have also demanded the reinstatement of those retrenched and have decided to return to work tomorrow on the understanding that the company will comply.

Ford closed its Port Elizabeth plants for 16 days because of repeated work stoppages and plans to resume production tomorrow.
Labour leader slammed

Labour Correspondent

THE leader of the Labour Party, the Rev Allan Hendrickse, came under fire yesterday for his statements criticising strikes by members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union.

Earlier this week, workers at all three Eastern Cape motor assembly plants adopted resolutions attacking Mr Hendrickse's statements.

Naawu's general secretary, Mr Fred Sauls, said the worker reaction indicated a "rejection of the Labour Party".

Yesterday Dr Joe Joshua, head of the National Association for the Advancement of Coloured People, issued a statement attacking Mr Hendrickse's remarks.

He said the remarks were "anti-working class" and Naawu's wage demands to Port Elizabeth and Ondenhage employers were "legitimate".

Dr Joshua lauded the stance adopted by both Naawu and Mr Sauls in the dispute.
Industrialists facing labour unrest must have perk ed up when details of proposed amendments to the Labour Relations Act were made public last week. They are fairly precisely aimed at taking the heat out of labour disputes. Even if the changes have only limited success in curbing the rapidly escalating number of strikes and work stoppages they represent a significant shift in government's attitude towards the needs of unregistered unions.

The necessity of accommodating those needs is at the very least symbolically affirmed.

The unregistered unions representing mainly black workers have emerged as a strong force in the wake of government's labour reforms. They have displayed a marked willingness to enter into damaging trials of strength with employers. The draft Bill, published for comment last Friday, contains measures which will open up dispute-settling machinery to these unions and attempt to speed up conciliatory procedures to resolve or prevent strikes. Key proposals are:

- Unregistered unions in industries where there is no industrial council will be allowed to apply for a conciliation board. At present, they are barred from doing this, although their members can make such applications in their own right.

- The Minister of Manpower will be empowered to act with great speed to offer the services of an independent mediator to management and unions involved in a dispute.

- The Minister will also be given the right to appoint a conciliation board on his own initiative if he believes circumstances warrant this, and

- Direct arbitration will be available if both parties in a dispute believe a conciliation board will not help them resolve their differences.

The Bill is government's response to a sharply rising level of labour conflict. The number of strikes and work stoppages has risen from about 100 a year between 1977 and 1979, to 207 in 1980 and 342 last year. The figure is expected to rise even higher. At the first half of this year there were 182 strikes and stoppages in involving 51,000 workers, compared with 111 involving about 30,000 workers during the same period in 1980.

Senior government men have been heartened by calculations which show that the average number of days of production lost by each worker taking part in a strike has declined — from about three days last year to 1.9 so far this year. This is attributed to the effective usage of official dispute-settling machinery and a further decline resulting from the proposed changes to the Labour Relations Act is predicted.

Will this hope be fulfilled? That remains to be seen. The decision to make conciliation boards available to unregistered unions is welcome. These boards are used to resolve disputes in industries and areas where no industrial council exists. Because only about 1.3m of SA's total workforce of 5.5m are covered by industrial council agreements, the concession is an important one for unregistered unions, long deprived of direct access to dispute-settling machinery.

As Manpower Minister Fanie Botha points out, because these unions are deprived of such machinery, there is the danger that the strike is the only weapon at their disposal when they enter a dispute.

Given many unregistered unions deep distrust of official negotiating systems, it is understandable, if unfortunate, that this concession has received a cool reception from some — but by no means all — of them. The fear is that such boards operate in favour of employers and result in a highly bureaucratic and protracted grievance-setting process.

But the concession does offer advantages as well. Not only will it enable unregistered unions to hold legal strikes, but it can also force unwilling employers to negotiate.

An important provision is that a union applying for a board will have to represent more than 50 of workers in the particular industry or concern where the dispute has occurred. Although this has been the practice in the past when registered unions have applied for a board, some observers question whether it is wise to set such a high figure. Unions representing only a small percentage of a company's workforce can be a potent force. Fortunately, senior officials in the Department of Manpower indicate they are willing to reconsider the figure and say they look forward to comment from both unions and employers on the issue.

Government's desire to encourage the increasing use of mediation opens up interesting possibilities. Mediation is the process in which a trusted outsider, who cannot impose binding decisions, attempts to reconcile two warring parties. It has for long been part of official dispute-settling machinery.

However, at present, a mediator can only be appointed after a dispute has been considered by a conciliation board or an industrial council. Private mediation has been used successfully on a few occasions, but a mediation has generally been called for only after much harm has been done by strikes, firings and consumer boycotts.

Government's hope, therefore, is considerably to speed up the process of appointing a mediator. The Minister will be given authority to offer mediation to the parties in a dispute either before a strike has occurred, or very soon after workers have downed tools. Botha says many disputes result from relatively minor misunderstand-
Missing man may have been murdered

Staff Reporter

BOLAND police are investigating the possibility that Mr A H P van Zyl, who went missing on Table Mountain two weeks ago, may have been murdered.

Mr Van Zyl, 50, was reported missing on August 9, when he failed to arrive home after leaving work earlier that day.

The search began after his car, with lights and windscreen wipers on, was found abandoned on the slopes of the mountain near the gym, where he worked as a farmer and protected the area.

Subsequent searches of the area by police, neighbours, family, farmers and an Air Force helicopter, proved fruitless.

A doctor has told police that Mr Van Zyl, who had recently undergone an operation, would not have been able to walk much further than 500 metres.

Last night a close family friend said Mr Van Zyl had not looked his best, something he always did without fail, and the car was parked unusually far from the gym.

Mr Van Zyl was a driving force in the development of the Saldanha-Fynberg committee, which was chairman of the West Coast Regional Development Association, and was a former town councillor.

Body found in airport dustbin, court told

Staff Reporter

A RAILWAY police woman told the Supreme Court yesterday she found the tightly-wrapped body of a baby in a dustbin at D F Malan airport in December last year.

Mrs Karen Visser was giving evidence in the trial of Mrs Christine Beukes, 32, of Laviston, who is charged with murdering her new-born baby.

Miss Beukes, an unmarried mother of two, pleaded not guilty to murder but guilty to attempted concealment of birth.

She conceded that she gave birth to a boy on December 16 last year and that the same baby was found at the airport later that day.

Mrs Visser told the court she was called to investigate a bundle in the women's cloakroom on December 16. When she unwrapped part of it, she became aware it contained a baby.

A State pathologist, Dr Willem Blom, said the baby died as a result of a shortage of oxygen. The towel and nightie could have caused his death, he said.

Under cross-examination, Dr Van Leperen said it was unlikely the baby died during birth. He was large — 5 kg — and showed no signs of illness or internal obstruction of his air passages.

His lungs were fully inflated and there was a strong likelihood he had breathed outside his mother's body.

Miss Beuke's two children were being cared for by other people. The baby's father, who was a boarder with a relative's house, had not been prepared to marry her.

The hearing continues today.

Concert a curate's egg

SYMPHONY CONCERT, City Hall, Thurs 19th, 7.30, conducted by Brian Priestman, soloists: Young Solomon, Josephs Variations on a Theme of Beethoven, Op 68, Haydn Symphony No 45 in F sharp minor ("Farewell"), Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No 3 in D minor, Op 30.

A FULL house packed the City Hall for what proved to be a concert of curate's egg dimensions. Josephs Variations afforded a witty start to the proceedings although pressures of poor ensemble crept in there after. The main orchestra bounces through Haydn's 17th Concerto, while the soloist seems little more than a new arrival.
Mayor may initiate meeting on labour

Post Reporter

The mayor of Port Elizabeth, Mr. H. Van Zyl-Cillie, has been asked by city councillor Mr. Bill Hayward to call a meeting of top industrialists to discuss “labour unrest.” Mr. Hayward said the mayor had asked for a list of those who should attend.

Mr. Hayward also intended raising the issue at a meeting of the Greater Algoa Bay Development Corporation (Gahdec) on Monday.

“It is important that labour unrest, as a disincentive to potential entrepreneurs, should be removed as soon as possible,” he said.

Industry understood the importance of negotiation but deplored wild-cat strikes and could not accept to "high" wage demands, he said.
Barlow Rand to reply directly to union

THE Barlow Rand group has decided to reply directly through its Romatex subsidiary to accusations by a trade union yesterday that the group did not adhere to its own code of employment.

The National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) also accused Barlow Rand of being indifferent to unfair labour practices of its subsidiaries.

The union criticised the group's failure to intervene in a dispute at Veldspun International in Uitenhage where more than 1 000 workers were dismissed this month.

It also accused Veldspun of "sweethearting" with the Textile Workers Industrial Union (TWIU).

A spokesman said today the Barlow Rand group would reply to the union through Romatex, in which Barlow Rand has a majority holding.

In another development, the Uitenhage branch of the Federation of South African Trade Unions (Fosatu) has called on Barlow Rand to intervene "after Romatex's intervention has failed to have any constructive results."
Hogan admits helping in two boycotts

Court Reporter
MISS Barbara Ann Hogan, 39, a former research worker for the Institute of Race Relations and a self-confessed ANC member, admitted to the Rand Supreme Court yesterday that she helped to organise two boycott campaigns in 1979 and 1980.

Miss Hogan, of Sunnyside, Hunter Street, Yeoville, pleaded guilty to a charge of high treason but admitted to Mr Justice van Dijk that she furthered the aims and objects of the ANC from 1977 to 1981.

According to a list of admissions submitted, Miss Hogan said she visited Botswana in December 1979 and January 1981 where she met Mr Marius Schoon, Mr Reg de Beer and one Steven, all members of the ANC. They discussed the white Left and the rumours that Mr Areet van Heerden, a former Natas president, was a spy.

She promised to investigate these rumours and report back on them.

On her return to South Africa, Miss Hogan told Mr Van Heerden and Mr Cedric de Beer that there had been a decentralisation of the ANC's structure and that the Frontline states of Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland had been given powers by the revolutionary council of the ANC to instigate and direct ANC activity in South Africa. The states were to be known as "forward areas", and the activity would be controlled by "zonal attack groups".

According to the admissions, Miss Hogan helped to organise the Fattah and Masoi boycott with the approval of the African Food and Canning Workers Union in 1979 and the red meat boycott campaign in 1980 in support of the Western Province General Workers Union.

Miss Hogan admitted that she attended several meetings with Mr Alan Fine, Mr Monty Narco, Mr Gavin Anderson, Dr Neil Aggett, Miss Jeanne Yurwich, Mr "Pink" Haysom, Mr Van Heerden, Mr Barnabas Mr Samson Ndou, and Mr Keith Coleman to discuss strikes by the Media Workers' Association of South Africa and a possible boycott of Colgate products.

During February last year, Miss Hogan attended a meeting to discuss the level of trade union organisation and the link between union and community organisations.

Meetings on the labour policy of the newspaper Sapo National were also held.

Miss Hogan said that she, Mr Cedric de Beer and Mr Van Heerden met several times during 1979 and 1981 to discuss whether the white Left should establish a political party, its political work, whether it should establish links with the ANC and the relationship between trade unions and community and student organisations.

The hearing continues on Tuesday.
German link with strikers denied

AN allegation that German trade unions instigated the Port Elizabeth motor industry strikes has been received with surprise by Volkswagen of South Africa.

Mr. Braam Ranzenheimer, chairman of the economic affairs committee of the President's Council, was reported to have suggested that German trade union leaders instigated the strikes to help German motor workers.

Mr. Ruben Eis, the public affairs manager of Volkswagen in Uitenhage, said such actions could actually harm the German industry.

"It would be extremely short-sighted of the German trade unions to make this area uncompetitive in comparison to the rest of the country. Strikes here could affect the amount of material the Germans have to manufacture to send out to us."

In this way, he said, the strikes here could result in less work being available for the German workers, and not more.

He said that Volkswagen South Africa did not have any negotiations with German trade unions.

A spokesman for Ford Motor Company said that as their contact with Germany was minimal, the company could not comment on the allegation.

Spokesmen for General Motors were not available for comment.
By SANDRA SMITH

The Ford motor company opened today after a 10-day closure — but workers in some sections went home after refusing to begin work.

The company closed its plants last week after continued disruptions in production and a go-slow ever since a breakdown in wage talks in the motor manufacturing industry's industrial council Volkswagen and General Motors have also been hit by work stoppages and go-slow since the breakdown but production has been normal this week as workers wait for management's responses to their demand for in-plant negotiations.

Last week, Ford also announced the retrenchment of 507 workers because of the slump in the South African economy.

Both the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) and the Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union of SA (Macwusa) have demanded the company reverse the decision and consider alternatives such as short-time.

Ford workers returned to the company's four plants today but those in the truck plant and the parts-and-accessories and cut-and-sew sections of the Strumdale plant refused to start work until those retrenched were reinstated.

A Ford spokesman said after a "rebalancing of labour" at the Neave plant, employees returned to work and production proceeded.

Production was also normal at the Engine and Cortina plants.
Unrest caused by union rivalry

By Tony Dorst
Labour Reporter

Inter-union rivalry was responsible for much of the current unrest in the Eastern Cape motor industry, according to Ford's industrial relations chief.

Addressing an annual security conference in Johannesburg this week, Mr Fred Ferreira said the wage issue was a "smokescreen" for rivalry.

The National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union had withdrawn from the industrial council to compete on a more equal basis with the largely black Motor Assemblers' and Component Workers' Unions.

"It is very much a situation in which the union is going to win the soul of the black worker," Mr Ferreira said.

REDUCE

While it was impossible to eliminate strikes it was possible to reduce their frequency, he said.

There were three main reasons for labour unrest: among black workers poor housing, education and State action.

Because community and workplace issues were related, it was likely that community-based unions would grow the fastest, Mr Ferreira said.

To reduce the number of strikes companies should introduce programmes to change attitudes of supervisors and improve grievance procedures and disciplinary codes, he said.

Effective communication channels, the introduction of blacks into more senior posts, and basic guidelines for company-union relations were needed.

HARMFUL

A labour expert, Mr L. Douwee-Dekker told the conference security practices in some cases were harmful to industrial relations.

He was critical of companies which had "closed" relations with unions and used security personnel to spy.

The role of security should be to protect and preserve property and not to advise management on industrial relations, he said.

Companies which adopted a closed, paternalistic approach to unions were abusing their security functions.
400 workers walk out at Ford

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH - About 400 Ford workers walked out yesterday after the company had reopened its Port Elizabeth plants yesterday after a 10-day closure.

Ford, which together with General Motors and Volkswagen is involved in a wage dispute with the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu), closed its plants last week because of continued disruption of production.

Ford's public relations officer, Mr Harry Hill, said "enough workers to resume normal production" had turned up at their Neave, Cortina and engine plants but workers at Strusdale and the truck plants would not start work. Mr Hill said they had given no indication why they would not start work.

Naawu's regional secretary, Mr Les Kettledas, said all the Ford workers had refused to start work yesterday morning and demanded reinstatement of 307 workers retrenched last week. He said workers had only started work when company officials threatened them with dismissal.

The workers who walked out would return to work on Monday and, further action would be discussed at a general meeting next week.

Both Naawu and the Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union of SA - which refused to participate in last month's mass Naawu strike - have demanded reversal of the retrenchment decision.
East Cape business hit by labour unrest

By WAYNE ASHER

THE prolonged spate of labour unrest in the motor plants of the Eastern Cape has made itself felt on some Port Elizabeth shops.

Among the hardest hit by the fall in spending power are furniture and appliance outlets and second hand car dealers. Takings at some bottle stores have dropped by as much as 35%.

Hire purchase payments have fallen into arrears.

Mr J M van der Meest, the manager of Arrow Furnishers, a member of the Russell's Group, said business was going "badly" at present.

He said that recently he and his chief salesman had made personal visits to many of his clients who had not been able to pay their accounts.

"About 50 or 90 people have been unable to keep up their hire purchase payments and nearly all of them work at either Ford, General Motors or Volkswagen."

"We have tried to carry the loss and asked clients to try and pay half of their accounts so we can keep them on our books. We don't want to repossess."

"When we visited the homes we saw that things were really bad. Some of them have hardly any food in the house and the thing is that most of these people want to work, but they can't.

"The situation is serious and I expect a further decline in payments at the end of this month."

Mr Donald Abramowitz, the manager of Giddy's Superstore in Uitenhage — a furniture and appliance outlet — said no sales were made to Volkswagen workers on strike during the last month.

"Obviously we have lost business — but then again, nearly everyone here has."

He said the situation was made worse by the shortage of work for all the ancillary firms when the motor plants were idle.

"You can't sell to people who are out of work," he said.

Another Uitenhage furniture dealer said business had dropped by "more or less 20%" during the strikes.

"I have between 1500 and 1700 Volkswagen workers on my books and my cash flow was effected quite noticeably," he said. People were afraid to buy because they were uncertain about their jobs.

In Port Elizabeth, a spokesman for Barney's Motors said that "banks do not want to know these chap's — so what can we say? There is nothing we can do for them."

An Alphon Motors spokesman said that when a man came in to buy a car they had to ask where he worked to make sure he could meet his payments.

"We have to check it out because these people sometimes give fictitious company names. We are being particularly careful."

A spokesman for a Main Street branch of Ellerines which caters mainly for the black trade, said they had been "effectively very much" by the strikes.

"We cannot really supply them."

"When I was in charge of our Uitenhage branch. I depended largely on workers from Volkswagen. Now that I'm in Port Elizabeth, General Motors and Ford supply the money which accounts for a lot of the black buying power."

"Over the last two months business has dropped off completely."

The manager of a Port Elizabeth bank which deals extensively with motoring finance, Mr Peter Page, said that there had definitely been a "slow down in business." "We are not as buoyant as we were in June. But we will only see the real effect within the next month or six weeks. We'll only know then who is not able to make payments and only about halfway through September will we start chasing them up."

Mr John Harwood, manager of Giddy's furnishing trade and chairman of the Port Elizabeth Furniture Traders Association, said he anticipated that the strikes would "have an effect on our payments."

He said, however, that in terms of the Credit Agreements Act a firm could only repossess items if the client missed two or more monthly payments.

"Even then we will obviously not repossess indiscriminately. So it all depends on how long this unrest is going to last."

"Those people who have a good credit record with the company shouldn't have a problem. We will discuss their accounts with them before we even consider repossession."

The manager of Ronnies Liquor Stores in Kempton Road said this week that he had been "heavily effected" by the unrest and had lost out on passing business when GM was closed.

"I've had a 30-40% drop in sales over the last three weeks."

Mr H M Ackerman, the manager of the Dolphin Liquor Wholesalers in Commercial Road, said he had also taken losses of between 30 and 40% over the last two weeks.

He said sales were still down this week but he hoped they would pick up again next week when workers had more money.

Clothing retailers have not been effected as much as they sold only "smaller items" which could still be paid for.

A spokesman for Kolmacks said they had experienced a noticeable slackening in the multi-payment accounts since the labour unrest had started.
Talks end in deadlock as warehouse strike goes on

Labour Reporter
Wage talks between OK Bazaars management and officials of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union have ended in deadlock.

About 700 OK Bazaars warehouse workers went on strike on Tuesday calling for wage increases of R85 to bring basic monthly wages to R300.

There were also calls for recognition of union shop stewards and an end to pay and sex discrimination.

A union official said yesterday the talks had ended in deadlock.

Mr Allan Fabig, a director of OK Bazaars, said talks "had ended without progress."

"We have asked workers to return to work before we resume negotiations. We cannot negotiate while they are out on an unofficial strike," he said.

The strike affects the group's Johannesburg warehouse and two warehouses in Alrode, Alberton.

The OK's general manager for personnel, Mr Richard Blackwell, said the warehouses were being run by a skeleton staff. White supervisor staff were drawn in to compensate for the loss of labour.
Weekend Post Reporter
MEMBERS of trade unions affiliated to the Federation of SA Trade Unions (Fasatu) are to hold a rally in Uitenhage tomorrow.

The meeting has been called in solidarity with more than 1,800 Veldspun workers who were dismissed after a walk-out.

Representatives of community, sport, church and youth organisations have been invited.

The meeting will begin at 10am in the Lyric Cinema in Rosedale.
Axe comes down on 700 OK strikers

Labour Reporter

About 700 warehouse employees of the OK Estates were dismissed today after refusing to return to work.

The strike started last Tuesday at the group's Johannesburg warehouse and two warehouses in Alrode over wage demands and a call for the recognition of union shop stewards.

OK’s management said it was willing to discuss demands only if workers returned to their jobs.

An appeal was made to warehouse staff on Friday to return to their jobs by this morning.

Describing the dismissals as the "saddest day in the OK's 54-year history," General Manager for Personnel Mr Richard Blackwell said staff would be re-engaged on Thursday.

He appealed to striking staff at several stores to return to work so that grievances could be discussed.

Many of the workers are represented by the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union.
150 fired after strike over dismissal

Labour Reporter
ABOUT 150 workers at Cato Ridge's National Plant Food factory have been fired following a strike over the dismissal of a shop steward, union sources said yesterday.

The workers downed tools on Friday demanding the re-instatement of the shop steward who had been dismissed the day before, said a spokesman for Fosatu-affiliated Sweet, Food and Allied Workers' Union.

He said the union had approached management on Friday but had been told they were not prepared to discuss the issue.

Management said they planned to re-employ workers selectively from today.

The National Plant Food strike is Cato Ridge's second in less than a month. About 100 workers were fired earlier this month at Vleisenvaal after a strike over the dismissal of five colleagues.

The union spokesman claimed the dismissals at the two Cato Ridge factories was a deliberate attempt 'to crush union organisation'.

He said 800 Cato Ridge workers at a general meeting on Saturday had resolved to pressurise their companies to discuss the 'tense situation' that was developing with the three Fosatu unions organising in the area.

National Plant Food could not be contacted for comment last night.
Police fire teargas in PE township

By JIMMY MATYU

POLICE in camouflage uniform in eight patrol vans fired teargas canisters at a group of about 150 chanting workers in Kwaakale yesterday.

The incident occurred at Njili Road after police had walked through a crowd of people gathered at the Embuzweni Square to disperse.

The workers, who are members of the unregistered General Workers Union of South Africa (Gumwusa), met to “highlight the failure” of SA Bottling to re-employ workers who went on strike in October last year for better wages and working conditions.

The crowd started gathering about 10am and were joined by spectators.

Mr Government Zim, a union official, spoke to a shop-owner. Minutes later he asked the workers to go home after the police had spoken to him.

A large crowd then started walking to Kwaakale followed by the police.

As the workers entered the Kwaakale area, the police suddenly sprayed teargas.

Mayor Gerrie van Rooyen, police liaison officer in the Eastern Cape, confirmed today that a crowd of about 150 people had gathered at Embuzweni.

He said the gathering was illegal and police called on the people to disperse. They then fired teargas.

Weather

Forecast for the coast best from Plattekraal Bay to Port Alfred for the period ending 24 March. Conditions fair and mild to warm.

Wind moderate northerly to north-west.

Expected temperatures:

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<td>Cloudy</td>
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<td>Rainy</td>
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The moon

New Moon: September 17
First Quarter: August 26
Full Moon: September 10
Last Quarter: September 24

The sun

Seres today: 5:25pm
Rise tomorrow: 6:47am
Daylight yesterday: 11:23

The tides

High Tide: Today: 6:18am 6:37pm
Low Tide: Today: 12:02am 9:46pm

The world

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Jackpot

(Fairview, 28/8/82)

Race 3

Race 4

Race 5

Race 6

Race 7

Race 8

Name

Address

Post office

Entries on a card or the back of an envelope should be posted to the Evening Post Jackpot Box 1121, Post Office, 1000 or hand in at your nearest Checkers store or at the Checkers Hypermarket at Greenacres before 11am on Saturday. Lateness and delay entries are accepted up to 7pm on Friday and East London entries are accepted until the Evening Post office in Tornado Street up to 4pm on Friday. Grahamstown entries can be deposited at Checkers in High Street up to 1pm on Friday. Official entry forms carrying the current date are acceptable and entries must carry the name of the horses and not the numbers. The decision of the judges is final and binding.

(Closing date for entries is Saturday, August 28, at 11am)
Ford workers back as union negotiations

Johannesburg — Five gunmen escaped with cash and goods worth more than R32 000 in three separate hold-ups here at the weekend.

Three men, armed with pistols, walked into the Standard Bank in the city and held up the cashier and the sub-accountant and fled with R5 490.

A company director of a sunglasses manufacturing company in the city was robbed of his car and display items worth a total of R26 000.

In a third incident, a gunman escaped with R2 000 from Santam Bank also in the city, after holding up a woman's employee.

ALMOST the entire workforce at the Ford motor company returned to work today after sections closed down on Friday when workers refused to begin work until 507 retrenched employees were reinstated.

Production in the truck plant and the parts-and-accessories and cut-and-sew sections of the Struandae plant were brought to a standstill on Friday.

Workers in these sections demanded reinstatement of their colleagues, retrenched this month because of the slump in the South African economy and a predicted decline in the motor market.

Production proceeded normally today, despite high absenteeism at the truck plant.

Members of both the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Nawu) and the Motor Assembly and Component Workers' Union (Macwusa) have demanded the reinstatement of those laid off.

Macwusa representatives are expected to meet Ford management on the issue today and report back to members at a meeting tonight.
Boycott threat to force rehire

Labour Reporter
Protesting Eastern Cape textile workers have called for a boycott and a general strike to force a Uitenhage firm to rehire about 1,000 workers dismissed earlier this month.

The men were dismissed from the Veldspun International plant after they stopped work in protest against the retrenchment of 60 colleagues.

Many are members of the Fontitu-affiliated National Union of Textile Workers, which organised a weekend meeting in Uitenhage of the federation's affiliates to discuss the dispute.

Suggestions for a general strike, a boycott of white businesses and community support were voiced at the meeting.

The textile union accused the firm of refusing to negotiate on the issue.
OK strike: managers show at tills

Labour Reporter

Managerial and office staff, supplemented by senior schoolchildren, were being used in OK Bazaar stores yesterday to replace striking workers.

In about 12 of the OK's Johannesburg area stores black staff yesterday left their jobs in support of their 700 warehouse colleagues who had been dismissed.

At the group's main Eloff Street store about one-third of black staff joined the strike.

The dismissals followed a four-day strike by warehouse workers in Johannesburg and Airdrie who demanded an R65, 000 monthly increase, recognition of union shop stewards and an end to sex discrimination in wages.

OK executive director Mr Allan Fabre said today that white managerial and office staff were manning the tills and senior schoolchildren were helping.

Dismissed warehouse staff would be paid out tomorrow, he added.

A spokesman for the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union said its doors were still open for negotiation.
The quality and quantity of over-the-counter medicines, as well as the amount available at local pharmacies, are critical factors in maintaining a healthy and functional society. The recent increase in the prices of these medications has caused considerable concern among consumers and healthcare professionals alike. The rise in costs has made it difficult for many people to afford the necessary treatments, leading to a decrease in accessibility and affordability of these essential products.

The government has acknowledged the issue and has taken steps to address it. They have implemented measures to control drug prices and ensure that the cost of medicines remains within affordable limits. These initiatives include regulating the prices of prescription drugs and over-the-counter medications to prevent price gouging and ensuring that the profits of pharmaceutical companies are reasonable.

In addition, healthcare providers have also been encouraged to seek alternative sources of supply, such as generic brands or cheaper versions of the same medication. This has helped to reduce the costs associated with healthcare and has made it more accessible to a wider range of people.

However, the situation is still far from ideal. The cost of healthcare remains a significant burden for many, and it is clear that more needs to be done to ensure that everyone has access to the medications they need. The government, healthcare providers, and the pharmaceutical industry must continue to work together to address this issue and ensure that quality healthcare is available to all.

In conclusion, the rise in the prices of over-the-counter medicines has had a significant impact on the accessibility and affordability of these essential products. While the government and healthcare providers have taken steps to address the issue, more needs to be done to ensure that everyone has access to the medications they need. We must continue to monitor the situation and work together to ensure that healthcare remains affordable and accessible to all.
Naawu to discuss interim wage rise

AFTER talks with the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers' Association (Epama), the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) is to ask its members tonight if they are prepared to accept an interim wage increase.

The union has twice held talks with the employer body, representing Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen, since pulling out of the industry's industrial council when a wage dispute was referred to arbitration.

Naawu has demanded individual, in-plant negotiations with the three companies, who are believed to be pushing for the union to negotiate with Epama instead.

Naawu members will decide in a series of meetings today whether to accept an interim increase from the companies while the union establishes a new negotiating structure with the employers.

General Motors workers will meet in the Jaranan Hall in Gilmundale, and Ford workers in the Chatty Community Centre.
Thousands of OK workers go on strike

MORE than 1 000 black workers at most OK Bazaars warehouses and stores on the Reef and in Johannesburg are reported to have downed tools following a deadlock in wage talks between management and their union.

A spokesman for the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union of SA, the union representing the workers, yesterday said the strike had spread to other areas where workers have downed tools at other plants in support of the strike.

The strike started at three plants last week when workers demanded:

- Sex discrimination in salaries be stopped
- Positions of workers be revised, i.e. blacks should not be appointed assistants to white supervisors
- Wages be increased by R80 and
- Shop stewards be recognised.

The negotiating team reached a deadlock on these issues after four days of talks and workers were given an ultimatum to return or face dismissal, according to Mr Peter Roije, a worker representative.

He said when workers came to plants yesterday after a meeting at the weekend, they found placards informing them they had been dismissed and that they should collect their pay on Thursday.

"We are going to continue the strike until management has decided to meet our demands. We shall later be forced to call upon consumers to boycott buying at OK if our demands are not met soon," Mr Roije said.

One of OK's directors, Mr A. Fahig, told The SOWETAN that more than 700 workers at three warehouses had been dismissed and would be paid out on Thursday.

Workers at some of the stores in Johannesburg have joined the strike but he would not say how many. The workers were urged to return while other stores ran smoothly.

"Management is distressed by the whole impasse and we hope our workers will make fresh applications. Nobody will be victimised when applying," he said.

COLOSSEUM THEATRE
Leslors Star-Kinekor

Wednesday and Thursday, 8th-9th Sept
8:30 pm and Friday 10th Sept 6:15 pm
PREVIEW PRICES
Friday 9:15 and Saturday 6:15 and 9:15
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, 13th-16th Sept, 8:30 pm
Friday and Saturday 17th-18th Sept, 6:15 and 9:15
U.S.A No. 1 GOSPEL-SOUL
CLOUD BURST
MIGHTY CLOUDS OF JOY
SHIRLEY SCOTT

IN CONCERT AT COLOSSEUM (Leslors Star-Kinekor) Final Performance Tonight
Standing ovation! Exciting evening!
Audience dancing in the aisles!
By SAM. THE PARA and M...
A new-born baby and arms found lying in a heap in Soweto. yes...
A Sowet worker who body...
Workers reject interim pay rise

PORT ELIZABETH — Workers who have in recent weeks staged work stoppages at the three Eastern Cape motor firms last night rejected an offer by employers for an interim wage increase until the wage dispute deadlock here has been resolved.

However, attendances at the trade union report-back meetings of Ford and General Motors workers were low compared to previous meetings.

Some observers see this as an indication that there is a break in their unity.

R2.50 AN HOUR

About 1,000 workers attended the Ford meeting, including about 100 from the giant Neave plant which has been the centre of labour unrest.

About 500 were at the General Motors meeting and thousands of Volkswagen workers met in Uitenhage.

The workers last night reaffirmed their demand for an immediate R2.50-an-hour minimum hourly wage, which is an effective 50c increase on the minimum scale.
Unionist due in court

An official of the General Workers' Union of South Africa is to appear in the Pretoria Magistrate's Court tomorrow on a charge of inciting workers to strike.

Mr Donnie Khumalo, organiser for Gwusa in the Pretoria area, first appeared in court in June after a strike at Pretoria's Deluxe dry-cleaning firm Gwusa had been involved in organising its members.

Mr Khumalo pleaded not guilty to the charge and the case was postponed.
Fired OK workers refuse to return

Fired OK Bazaars warehouse workers decided yesterday to refuse to return to the company this morning to collect their pay or to reapply for their jobs as strike action continued at several OK stores.

Yesterday management said the strike was subsiding but worker spokesman Mr Pieter Royle insisted it was spreading.

Store workers downed tools in sympathy with 700 striking warehouse workers who were fired on Monday. They had been demanding a R20 a month pay rise and recognition of Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union shop stewards.

OK senior executive, Mr Allan Faibg, said yesterday about half the workers who downed tools on Monday at 12 stores returned yesterday.

Mr Faig said management expected to pay fired warehouse workers today. Some workers would be rehired but not all would be taken back because of the poor economic situation.

Mr Royle disputed statements that store workers were returning and said new stores had joined the strike.
Workers reject latest wage offer

The three major Eastern Cape motor manufacturers are faced with a new dilemma after the rejection by members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) last night of an interim wage increase.

Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen offered at a meeting of the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers' Association (Epama) this week, to implement immediately an interim 20c across-the-board increase for grade one workers.

Workers from the three firms rejected the offer and decided to hold out on their demand for a minimum hourly wage of R2.50.

The 2,000-strong white Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union is believed to be pressing for an interim increase before negotiations on a wage agreement in the industry's industrial council are finalised.

The union would not comment today but a spokesman said he had called for an urgent council meeting next week.

Workers other than those belonging to Naawu or the white union are also believed to be pressing for the interim increase, already overdue because of extended negotiations and Naawu's withdrawal from the industrial council.

Employer sources said today Epama had not yet discussed whether to implement the interim increase despite Naawu members' rejection of it.
Union man in court

THE Transvaal secretary of the Motor Assemblies and Component Workers' Union of SA is to appear in the Pretoria Magistrates' Court tomorrow charged with inciting workers to strike.

The charges against Mr Donse Khumalo arise out of an incident last September when he was involved in a strike by workers of a Pretoria dry cleaning company.

Meanwhile another unionist Mr Taffy Adler, the general secretary of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, appeared in the Germiston Magistrates' Court on Monday charged with holding an illegal meeting.

He was not asked to plead, no evidence was led and the hearing was postponed until October 12. He is out on R50 bail.

His appearance was a sequel to the meeting of Leyland workers in Elandsfontein on Saturday. During the meeting the police arrested him.
more workers stand to lose jobs
Massive staff cutbacks: many
By BRIAN POTTINGER
and SANDRA SMITH

RELATIONS between the Labour Party and the influential Fosatu-affiliated National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) have plunged to their lowest level after the Eastern Cape industrial unrest.

Fosatu spokesmen have condemned the Reverend Alan Hendrickse, leader of the Labour Party, for being "anti-worker" and yesterday a Labour Party observer was thrown out of a Naawu meeting for Ford workers.

The tension which has arisen could have serious political implications for the Labour Party which is presently debating whether to support the Government's controversial constitutional proposals.

But Mr Hendrickse said today as far as he was concerned his party had no fight with Naawu or any other workers' trade union.

"We have no fight at all. The present situation is the result of misrepresentations, misconceptions and wrong information.

The antagonism towards the Labour Party erupted recently after Mr Hendrickse was quoted in a weekend newspaper as saying the strikes did not have the community's support.

Mr Hendrickse said today he had been misrepresented. He had said there was division among various trade unions, as for example in the textile industries, and between Naawu and Macwusa in the automobile industry.

"The Labour Party's concern is the polarization and division of the community that arises and the dissipation of workers' resources through sporadic strikes that do not have the support of all."

Mr Hendrickse said it was ridiculous for the Labour Party to be accused of not having the interests of the workers at heart because most Labour Party members were workers.

Naawu's general secretary, Mr Fred Sauls, said Mr Hendrickse's previous statements showed the party did not support the struggle of workers in South Africa.

This brought into question the real political objectives of the party, he said.

"The Labour Party cannot claim any more that it is striving for the upliftment of the oppressed masses of this country," said Mr Sauls.

In the early 70s there was widespread support for the party, but during the period of its involvement in the President's Council, support had waned, he said.

"Now, because of Mr Hendrickse's statements, people have actually turned against the party."

It remained to be seen whether the Labour Party changed its policy and supported the workers' struggle or if it "continued to support management interests," Mr Sauls said.
Strikers beat up OK ‘spy’

By SAM MABE

A MAN was attacked yesterday, by a mob of over 500 striking OK Bazaars workers after being accused of spying for management.

The man, referred to as Khaswa, was punched and kicked, and some women even hit him on the head with shoes. He was saved from the attackers by an official of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers’ Union of SA (Ccsau).

The incident took place in a hall at Khotso House in Johannesburg where over 700 OK Bazaars workers had assembled since downing tools last week over wage-increase demands.

In another incident, a truck driver was chased through De Villers and King George Streets after he was seen near Khotso House driving an OK Bazaars delivery truck.

The driver passed through a red traffic light as some of the strikers came running behind him and shouting at him to stop.

The attack on the man security that management’s spy, started after a union official asked to see the man in front of the workers and told them he had kept the man under observation because of his ‘suspicious’ activities among the workers.

DISGUISE

The official said the man, who was transferred from one branch to another over a long period and that he was transferred to disguise his activities as management’s spy.

“Many people have complained about him and I have also kept him under observation. He could not give a satisfactory answer when I asked him to identify himself and he told me he was not employed. It is so what does he want among us,” asked the official.

Another official who came to Khosa’s rescue told the workers that Khaswa had been employed as a security officer and had to be moved from branch to branch to ensure his safety did not get noticed by shoplifters.

This explanation was repeated and many of them started shouting that he should be dismissed.

“Cam was restored after someone began singing the national anthem and the others followed,” said the official.

MR GEORGE Thabe yesterday banned all sc

The head of the Football Association of South Africa, Mr Thabe yesterday banned all sc

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This time Mr Thabe admitted that the good will of the African Confederation the Football Council had no means for international contacts in the past the CSA had ignored the African body with the aim of direct affiliation and recognition from Fifa.

The three men killed by Zimbabwean troops last week in the Sengwe area of Zimbabwe were all former Rhodesian troops living in South Africa. The Star reported yesterday.

Shattering love affair

TOMORROW is ladies’ turn again. But you have to get in early to get your slice of the give away cake. Watch the SOMETHING TOMORROW morning for details on our OK grocery vouchers contest. All it will cost you is a telephone call.

Plus, plus, plus.

Our Short Story of the Week: What does a girl, desperately in love, do when she finds out her dream guy is in love with her? Well, read all about it tomorrow. It’s a shattering experience.
**Labour unrest: Car plants hold up expansion plans**

The Argus, Thursday, August 26, 1992

At the same time, both the management and worker representatives involved in the negotiations were said to be sincere in their efforts to reach a settlement. Meanwhile, the trend towards employment reductions continued, with many companies announcing plans to scale back operations. The impact of these changes was felt across the country, with unemployment rates rising and the economy slowing down.

The unexpected developments highlighted the fragile state of the economy and the challenges faced by policymakers. The government was forced to consider new strategies to stimulate growth and create jobs. Meanwhile, the demand for skilled labor continued to grow, as businesses sought to improve productivity and competitiveness.

In response, education and training programs were expanded to provide workers with the skills needed for the modern workforce. The government also introduced incentives to encourage businesses to invest in new technologies and processes, with the goal of creating a more dynamic and innovative economy.

Despite the challenges, there was optimism that the economy could recover. The government remained committed to fostering growth and creating opportunities for all South Africans. With a focus on education, skills development, and innovation, the country was better positioned to navigate the complex economic landscape and seize new opportunities for growth and prosperity.
23. Venter, J D


25. Williams, R J

Agreement reached on rehiring of dismissed workers

THE SA Bottling Company and the General Workers' Union of SA (Gwusa) yesterday reached an agreement on the re-employment of 223 workers who were dismissed after a strike last year.

The workers went on strike in a demand for higher salaries, voluntary over-time, maternity leave and recognition by the company of Gwusa.

When SA Bottling refused to reinstate those dismissed, the union boycotted its products in the Eastern Cape.

Yesterday, the two parties resolved the dispute, with black community leaders Mr Dan Qeqwe, Mr W Ximya and Mr J Kana mediating.

In terms of the agreement, 90 of the dismissed workers will be re-employed by January 31.

The company and union will then meet to draw up a programme for the phasing in of the remaining workers.

The union will immediately call off the boycott.

"There will be closer communication between the company and the union to decide which people to re-employ, taking into account the aptitude of the candidates for the type of work available," the agreement said.

It was also agreed that former employees would be given preference should vacancies arise at SA Bottling.
TWO salaried employees at the Ford motor company claim to have been told they are being demoted to hourly-paid positions — because of their support of a strike last month and their membership of a trade union.

The regional secretary of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu), Mr Les Kettledeal, said today the men, Mr B Sirkhote and Mr M Mamojee, were told by their supervisors last week they had three choices.

These were to resign from Naawu and remain salaried staff, to accept hourly-paid jobs, or to leave the company.

Mr Kettledeal said they were then told they would be paid on an hourly rate from September 1.

Yesterday, Mr Sirkhote was made a section leader in Ford's carpentry shop — an hourly-paid position.

Ford's director of Industrial Relations, Mr Fred Ferreira, would not comment on the claims.
E Cape motor workers reject 2% increase

Workers who have in recent weeks staged a series of work stoppages at the three eastern Cape motor firms, this week rejected an offer by employers for interim wage increase until the wage dispute deadlock here is resolved.

However, attendances of the trade union report back meeting for Ford and General Motors workers were low compared to previous ones, seeming to indicate a breaking in their unity.

About 1,000 workers attended the Ford meeting, including only about 100 from the giant Neave plant which has been the centre of labour unrest. About 500 were at the General Motors meeting and thousands of Volkskra workers met in Uitenhage.

The workers all members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) were informed by their officials that a minimum 20 cents interim increase had been offered by the employers at a meeting with Naawu officials on Monday.

If accepted, this increase would be effective until a wage agreement between the employers and Naawu has been reached.

The workers last night reaffirmed their demand for an immediate R2.50 an hour minimum hourly wage which would be an effective 30 cents increase on the minimum wage scale — Own Correspondent.
Strikes have mild effect on tyre firms

By JERRY McCABE

THE wage dispute which has crippled the Eastern Cape motor industry for more than a month has so far had a mild effect on motor tyre manufacturers.

"The local strikes have had an effect on our production and we are cutting back, but of more significance is the general slowdown in the economy," said Mr Mike Selley, public affairs director of Goodyear.

The overall slowdown in the new car market had also had an effect.

Mr Selley said Goodyear was trying to avoid staff cutbacks and there had been no retrenchments.

"Certain departments are working shorter shifts and we have reached an agreement with the unions about this and also that, where it can be avoided, there will be no cutback of staff."

Mr Bill Taylor, marketing director of Firestone, said his company had to make "certain adjustments to the production of certain sizes of tyre" but otherwise the wage dispute at the motor firms had not really affected them.

Firestone was not stockpiling tyres at present because of the present adverse financial position, Mr Taylor said.

Mr A A Versfeld, director of General Tire Sales and Distributors, said from Johannesburg, that the work stoppage had an effect on the sales of tyres but this was also due to "what was happening on the market."

Mr Versfeld said that when the motor industry was in full production, General had a problem with a stock shortage. The demand for tyres has been lower since the stoppage and this had given them an opportunity to build up stocks.

Mr Lloyd Zeayman, marketing manager for Dunlop SA, said his company had not had to make production cutbacks although they did not "sell tyres when the motor firms are closed."

He said Dunlop's stocks were "pretty low" at present and sales to Eastern Cape motor plants had dropped.
Warning on loss of industrial growth

By JERRY McCABE

There is a substantial risk that the Eastern Cape could lose heavily on the growth of industry unless reason prevailed and economic realities were accepted, Mr Rod Irmside, assistant managing director of General Motors, warned today.

He was reacting to the shock announcement by Volkswagen that they had decided to shelve temporarily a R70-million expansion programme because of the unsettled labour situation in the Eastern Cape and also because of the downturn in the economy.

Asked to comment on whether GM had also decided to shelve any planned expansion programmes, Mr Irmside said that in an industry as complex as car-manufacturing, the updating of facilities and training to meet market potential were "on-going processes".

"Under the combination of current conditions involving reduction in economic activity and a critical situation of labour stability, any and all decisions relative to the business must take into consideration these factors," he said.

Volkswagen's announcement yesterday was greeted with immediately dismay in Eastern Cape economic and industrial circles.

Today, Mr Ruben Els, public affairs manager for Volkswagen, confirmed that the R70-million expansion programme had been curtailed.

"We have suspended all decisions on any future expansion," he said.

This was despite the fact that tenders had already been called for the work.

He would not comment on whether those tenders would be withdrawn and was also not willing to disclose the details of the proposed expansion programme at this stage.

Mr Els denied an earlier report that the programme involved R100 million. "As far as I know it is only R70 million."

Mr Fred Ferreira, director of industrial relations for Ford, said his company had no plans for expansion in the area.
Naawu is 'shocked' at VW attitude

By SANDRA SMITH

THE National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) today described Volkswagen's announcement that it is to shelve a R70-million expansion programme as an attempt to counter the wage demands of workers.

Naawu's general secretary, Mr Freddyl Sauls, said VW was attempting to gain maximum public support for its position in negotiations with the union.

He also said veiled threats that the company may have to move to another centre was a concern. A special congress of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) would be held in September 1977.

Naawu believed the West German Government was a signatory to the declaration of principles concerning multi-national enterprises and social policies, by which the Government and employers undertook not to pressure any union into accepting conditions under threat of a company moving its plants.

"We are shocked and disillusioned at the attitude of VW management," Mr Sauls said.

In view of statements made to Naawu by the chairman of the Board of Management of Volkswagen AG, Dr C H Hahn, in July, the union intended to contact the company in Germany.

It would also request the International Metalworkers Federation and the German trade union movement to raise the matter with the ILO on the basis that an ILO declaration had been contravened by a German multi-national company.

"It is unfortunate that this exercise..." the company only have negative results and workers will be all the more adamant about reaching a finalised agreement with VW," Mr Sauls said.

The deputy general secretary of the Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union, Mr H Ferreira, said today VW's decision must have been effected by "the instability of the workforce in the Eastern Cape at the moment".

He said in view of high unemployment in the area, he was sorry the company had not gone ahead with expansion plans, and hoped it would reconsider soon.
THE OK Bazaars will do "anything and everything" to resolve the dispute that has resulted in a strike at 12 of their stores, but this can only be done if the workers report for duty, Chief Executive Mr Allen Fabig said yesterday.

Mr Fabig said yesterday that the decision to fire workers this week had been a "traumatic experience", and said it was the "blackest day in the 54-year history of OK.

I am indeed very distressed about this. We had negotiated for four days last week, but we were forced to take this action," he said.

He said that salaries paid by retail outlets were by their very nature low. However, the wage determination for Johannesburg in the retail business was R160 33c a month for males and R1289 for females.

Mr Fabig said they would still pay their staff well over the determination - R215 for males and R195 for females.

"These are the minimum we feel is not the minimum we can get away with," he said. He said that most of the warehouse staff had been asked to collect their pay yesterday and that he had tried to do so.

On the outbreak of the Strike Pattle said they were back to work owing to the pressure of the workers.

The number of companies hit by the Strike in creased yesterday as more workers downed tools. The Strike is now a factory-wide strike.

The company claimed that management was not paying them their weekly increases, which were due to them. They have no union representation and an ad hoc committee is presently negotiating on their behalf.

A comment cannot be obtained from the company as their spokesman was in a meeting.

Boy (6)
hit,
in a
coma

A SIX-year-old Orlando West boy was in a coma at Baragwanath Hospital after he was struck several times on the head with a metal toy gun by two school-mates, his aunt said yesterday.

Mr. and Mrs. M. N. M. P., a principal of Tshenhing Primary in Phetleng, said: "I can’t understand how a child can be assaulted so badly at school." He is an orphan in her care.

She said the two assailants were not much bigger than Zweihbanzi, about seven and eight years old. Teachers at the school apparently said children were children and were often involved in such incidents.

Ms N. M. P. said Zweihbanzi returned from school on Friday last week with dirty clothes. She was told she was involved in a fight with a school mate and teachers punished the other child.

Terror trial
name
and drama

THE MOZAMBIAN
Terror trial in the Pretoria Supreme Court yesterday took a turn when the accused asked that his other names be used so that his relatives should know he is appearing in court.

The accused told Mr Justice A R McMurphy that he was a "man of two names" and his name was also known as Patrick Shange.

Mr Shange said the accused’s name on the charge sheet was untrue and that he was known as Patrick Shange.

He pleaded not guilty to all charges. It is alleged he murdered Mr Lucas Abraham Mant and Mr Rudolph Gerhardus Booyse at Oges near Witbank on October 23, 1981.

DOCTOR
DIES

A well-known West

"One of
superior..."
Further talks agreed as OK strikers return

Labour Reporter

The two-week-old strike by OK Bazaars warehouse and store workers in Johannesburg appeared to have ended today as staff began returning to the stores.

Their return hinges on further negotiations between the OK and officials of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union.

Worker demands include an R85 monthly increase for warehouse staff, an end to sex discrimination in wages and recognition of union shop stewards by management.

Seven hundred warehouse workers were dismissed after a four-day strike, and hundreds of store workers then went on strike in support of their colleagues.

White office staff and senior schoolchildren manned the tills at 12 OK branches this week.

The OK and the union plan to issue a joint statement later today on future negotiations.
The Muskrat Pressure company in Steele date was hit by a work stoppage this week by several hundred workers over wage demands. Workers claimed the firm was not paying half-year increases. However, an M.P. spokesman denied there had been a dispute and refused to comment on worker claims.
Union: VW in bid to counter wage demands

PORT ELIZABETH: The National auto-mobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) described Volkswagen's announcement that it would increase its local expansion plans as an attempt to outflank the Naawu union.

Naawu General Secretary Mr Jack Sauls said Volkswagen was attempting to gain maximum public support for its position in negotiations with the union.

He also said veiled threats that the company might have to move to another country were a contravention of a tripartite declaration at an International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention in Geneva in 1977.

Naawu believed the West German Government was a signatory to the declaration of principles concerning multinational enterprises and social policies by which the government and employers undertook not to pressure any union into accepting conditions under threat of a company moving its plants.

"We are shocked and disillusioned at the attitude of Volkswagen management," Mr Sauls said in a statement made to Naawu by the chairman of the board of management of Volkswagen AG, Mr H. Haber. In July the union intended to contact the company in Germany.

It would also request the International Metal Workers Federation and the German trade union movement to raise the matter with the ILO on the basis that an ILO declaration had been contravened by a German multi-national company.

It is unfortunate that this exercise by the company can only have negative results and workers will be all the more adamant about reaching a finalised agreement with Volkswagen," Mr Sauls said.

The deputy general-secretary of the Iron Steel and Allied Industries Union, Mr H. Ferreira, said Volkswagen's decision must have been influenced by "the instability of the workforce in the Eastern Cape at the moment.

He said in view of high unemployment in the area he was sorry the company had not gone ahead with expansion plans and hoped it would reconsider soon.

SAPA
Township evictions delayed

The Kpmulanga township manager has agreed not to evict 32 ex-employees of Cato Ridge's Vleusenraal from their homes pending the hearing of an application for their reinstatement. His decision followed an order by the acting Judge President, Mr Justice Milne, in the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court, yesterday restraining the township manager from evicting one of them pending the outcome of a re-instatement application to be heard on October 15.

A spokesman for the State Attorney's office in Durban yesterday confirmed that although the restraining order concerned only one worker, it had been agreed for the time being not to evict the rest.
Coke boycott ends with plan for sacked workers

Labour Correspondent

A LENGTHY boycott of Coca-Cola products in the Eastern Cape, which attracted international union support, ended this week with an agreement between the Coke subsidiary, SA Bottling Company, and the General Workers' Union of SA (Gwusa).

The agreement provides for the re-employment by the company of workers fired during a strike last year.

The dispute — and subsequent boycott — followed the firing of more than 200 strikers at SA Bottling Gwusa appealed to black Eastern Cape traders and consumers to support the boycott and the powerful International Union of Food and Allied Workers also backed it.

An SA Bottling spokesman told the Mail's Port Elizabeth correspondent that 223 workers had originally been fired, but that some had since found new jobs. Gwusa had presented the company with a list of 125 ex-workers who were still jobless and this had been "whittled down" to 111.

According to the agreement signed by Gwusa and the company this week, SA Bottling will re-hire 80 workers by January. A meeting will be held between Gwusa and the company at the end of January next year to discuss how to phase in the remaining unemployed ex-workers, the agreement reads.

There would be close communication between the company and the union to decide which workers to take back.

If any vacancies occurred, workers fired during the strike would "be considered in preference to any other candidates." Benefits for reinstatement would apply to all re-employed workers in terms of existing company policy on pensions and schooling.

In return, the union agreed to immediately call off the boycott.

Traders and community leaders would also assist in efforts to boost sales of Coca-Cola products to create more jobs at the plant.

The union undertook to publicise the agreement, both locally and abroad.

Gwusa is a union which was set up by officials of the Motor Assembly and Components Workers' Union of SA (Macwusa). It operates in Port Elizabeth and Plettenberg Bay.
Union accuses Ford of restricting stewards

Post Reporter

THE National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) today accused the Ford Motor Company of clamping down on contact between shop stewards and workers at its Neave plant.

Naawu's general secretary, Mr Freddy Sauls, said today a full-time shop steward was told by an official this week that he was not to go into the plant and that if workers had grievances they should be dealt with in the stewards' office.

Two part-time shop stewards had also been told they were not to move around the plant and would be formally reprimanded if they did.

However, a Ford spokesman said the company was not aware of such incidents and that the union should follow company grievance procedure if it was aware of such complaints.

Mr Sauls said there was an agreement between the company and the union that part-time shop stewards were permitted to leave their place of work for a period not exceeding five hours a week without loss of pay.

They were permitted to do this on the understanding that the time would be devoted to "the prompt handling of legitimate grievances which were at an informal (oral) stage."

It had been the practice for the first five hours to be used in "legitimate trade union representative functions" and when grievances were handled there was no restriction on time as long as the formal grievance procedure was adopted.

"Ford is clamping down and trying to restrict contact between worker representatives and the workers, which is creating a serious conflict situation," Mr Sauls said.
**Union men cleared**

THE DETENTION of trade unionists by police was as a result of the violation of non-labour laws, according to the Director-General of Manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe.

Answering a question at a Press conference in Pretoria yesterday, he said although strikes were illegal and should be condemned, no unionist has been brought to court for violating labour laws.

Unionists who have been detained in the past had information which police needed or were involved in other activities which might endanger the security of the State, he said.

Unionists have in recent months been harassed and detained by security police during and after labour unrests.

In his answer, Dr van der Merwe said his department was concerned about speedy means of solving labour disputes that was why "we published the Labour Relations Amendment Bill recently."

Referring to the industrial councils, he said some unions preferred plant-level bargaining and it was vital that whatever ways were used, strikes should be settled swiftly.

The Government wanted to see co-operation between workers, unions and employers and did not want to force emerging black unions to register.

Mr Denis van der Walt, Parliamentary Officer of Manpower, told The SOWETAN that the Government was "heartened by calculations which show that the average number of days of production lost by strikes has declined from three days last year to 1.9 so far this year."
Strikes, labour stoppages on the upswing

By JOSHUA RABOROKO

THERE have been more strikes in South Africa in the first five months than in the same period last year, according to statistics compiled by the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce.

The statistics reveal that about 200 strikes and stoppages occurred in the first five months of this year, compared with 342 during the entire year of 1981. Proportionately, only 142 stoppages occurred in the first five months.

The outgoing president of the chamber, Mr Martin Keyser, said that the number of strikes were on the increase because of the downturn in the economy, which will cause more workers to lose their jobs.

"This factor, coupled with the lack of job opportunities for new entrants to the labour market, introduces an additional element likely to cause further labour unrest," he said.

The challenge presented to South African management is a demanding one which calls for the effective communication between unions and management, to ensure stability and co-operation," he said.

Increasing unemployment among blacks of all categories was "a matter of grave concern, as the effects of the deepening recession over the next 18 months will cause considerable hardship and a decline in living standards exacerbated by the effects of inflation on food prices which in 1981 escalated by 22 percent compared with the average level of consumer prices which rose by 15.2 percent."

He said that the flow of unskilled workers from rural to metropolitan areas continued unabated in spite of influx control, thus increasing unemployment and the housing shortage, and placing severe strains on the provision of medical, sanitary and other services.

"There is little doubt that upgrading of these facilities is long overdue," he added.

"The housing shortage is not being alleviated, even in Soweto where white developers are permitted to erect dwellings for sale," Mr Keyser said.
is lays law on NP pact

Mr Marais said CP and HNP supporters all wanted to protect the rights of whites in South Africa and to fight the NP. But there was no "instant recipe" for unity between the two parties and there was no question of the HNP aligning itself with the CP's 1977 constitutional plan, on which the CP based its policy.

Mr Marais said that co-operation between the HNP and CP had to be firm and permanent or both parties would be destroyed, as had been proved by loose political alliances in the past.

The wide gulf between the HNP and the CP was clearly defined yesterday by Mr Marais' rejection of a number of issues which form part of CP policy.

These included:
1. The NP's 1977 constitutional plan, which provides for political co-operation between whites, coloureds and Indians.
2. An Indian homeland.
3. Racially mixed sport.
4. Acceptance of the permanence of urban blacks.

The HNP's chief secretary, Mr Louis Stolberg told the congress an increasing number of white speakers were supporting the party despite its commitment to Afrikaans as South Africa's only official language.

He said they backed the party on the issue of "language is not the issue — race is the issue," he said.

The congress continues today.

Mr Peter Gardiner, Mayor of Sandton, Mr Howard Pelly, Mr Rex Gibson, editor of the Rand Daily Mail, after the official opening.

OK takes all fired workers back

Labour Correspondent

The strike at OK Bazaars warehouses and stores ended yesterday as all workers returned to their jobs without loss of benefits. Mrs Emma Mashnum, general secretary of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Crawusa) announced.

The return to work came after negotiations between Crawusa and OK.

Negotiations will now continue on worker demands for an R10 a month pay increase and recognition of union shop stewards.

Workers at three OK warehouse struck 16 days ago in support of these demands and were fired on Monday. Workers at 12 OK Johannesburg stores then struck in sympathy with their fired colleagues.

OK management said the warehouse workers could apply for re-employment on Thursday. They would not lose any benefits, but not all would be taken back because of the economic situation.

However, workers said they would not apply for re-employment.

Yesterday Mrs Mashnum said OK had agreed to take all warehouse workers back with loss of benefits with the result all had returned.

Meanwhile the Azanian People's Organisation issued a statement yesterday sharply criticising OK and its parent company, Breweries, and hinting that might have called a boycott of OK stores if the dispute had remained unresolved.

Evening forums start up

By ANN PALMER

MONDAY heralds the start of evening forums at the Rand Daily Mail Ideal Homes Exhibition. A chance for you to get up and ask questions of an expert.

Executive stress will be under the microscope of a distinguished panel of experts: Chief Superintendent of the Johannesburg Hospital, Dr Neville Howes, Chief Psychiatrist, department of cardiology at the hospital, Professor John Barlow, and head of the department of psychiatry and mental hygiene at the University of the Witwatersrand, Professor Max Feldman.

Television personality and organiser of the forums, Donna Wurzel, will be in the chair to direct the questions.

The forum will begin at 8pm and should last for about two hours. Full catering and bar facilities will ensure you don't go hungry or thirsty.

There will also be two seminars on Monday. The first, at 2pm, will be on 'Learning at Home', presented by Mrs Vicky Barnes.

The second seminar will be at 4pm, on 'How to use South Africa's own Trees and Plants in Your Garden'

World Immunion Service

Weal, the ruins will be transformed into the catering area in the Backcloth.
By Louis Beckerling

Economics and not labour will be dominant factor in VW’s decision

IS Volkswagen seriously considering re-locating its plant?

This question is currently being debated in Port Elizabeth as a consequence of the statement this week that the motor manufacturer has shelved a R100-million expansion plan at its Uitenhage plant because of the unstable labour situation in the Eastern Cape and the downturn in the economy.

In the light of the continuing labour conflict most attention has, understandably, been devoted to this aspect of Volkswagen’s statement, with the result that labour has tended to get it in the neck for what is simultaneously an economic issue.

While Volkswagen is playing its cards pretty close to the chest, the truth is that the prospect of the company going to the expense of re-locating a plant worth several hundred million rand because of a dispute over 5c-50c an hour in wages can confidently be ruled right out of court.

Economics, rather than politics, has influenced the latest decision.

The question now is what decision Volkswagen will take once those economic conditions improve — and with the economies of our trading partners now picking up and the price of gold rising this turnaround appears to be due a lot earlier than was previously expected.

Will Volkswagen re-arrange corporate objectives and trim itself down to ensure profitability from a smaller market share, or will it fight along with the other manufacturers to regain the 40% market share?

This is the important question, and within a matter of months it is likely to be answered: a leaner, meaner motor manufacturer, with fewer ambitions and a smaller workforce, or an expansion-hungry manufacturer who will contribute to reducing Port Elizabeth’s massive unemployment.

In this regard there can be no doubt that the unions hold the key. And what is significant is that the same union that is insisting on an immediate rate of R2,50 per hour for its lowest-paid members, has settled for considerably less elsewhere in the country. Understandably, this has bewildered local motor manufacturers.
Workers aim for a tough bargain at the OK

By Tony Davis, Labour Reporter

The dispute between OK Bazaars in Johannesburg and striking workers in far from being over, as wage demands have still to be resolved.

Store and warehouse workers began returning to their jobs yesterday after a two-week strike.

The return-to-work was the result of negotiations by the OK and the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union, which represents much of the workforce.

Workers agreed to return on condition that negotiations continue to resolve their grievances.

These were:

- A demand for an R55 monthly increase for warehouse workers.
- An end to sex discrimination in wages.
- Recognition of union shop stewards by management.
- A change of job classifications for black workers.

The strike began almost two weeks ago when about 700 warehouse workers in central Johannesburg and Alrode left their jobs.

Talks between the company and the union failed and the strikers were dismissed on Monday.

However, the strike spread as workers at about 12 branches of the OK came out in support of their colleagues.

The warehouse workers ignored management's payout of their final salaries and only a handful took up the offer on Thursday to be re-engaged.

Mass worker meetings were held, and report-back meetings for workers were organised by the union after talks with management.

There were also claims that some workers were being intimidated to join the strike.

The OK had to use white and senior schoolchildren at tills during the strike. Hardest hit by the strike were branches in the northern suburbs.

The company is likely to accede to demands to recognise shop stewards. Although the union has a recognition agreement with the OK, shop steward recognition was not included in the original agreement.

Job classification and sex discrimination are issues which the two parties are likely to settle.

The wage issue is a tough problem. Warehouse staff earn R215 a month and the R55 wage demand represents a 40 percent increase.

During the strike, management said workers had already received increases and objected to the size of the demand.

The OK described the strike as the 'saddest day' in the group's 54-year history.
And, amid growing worker discontent, a trade union leader has warned that he expects trouble this week. But trade union leaders whose members have caused unprecedented disruptions in the industry in recent weeks, maintain any negative effect on the industry is a result of the economic slump.

Volkswagen announced the temporary shelving of a R10 million project and Ford is believed to be delaying its expansion in the area.

Now sources say the Eastern Cape motor industry — mainstay of its depressed economy — may move some operations or expand to other centres.

General secretary of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (NAAWU) C. S. Sauls said Volkswagen’s announcement was an attempt to influence workers in their wage demands and to gain public support in negotiations with the union.

Veiled threats that the company might have to move to another centre would contravene declarations signed by the West German Government, amongst others, at an International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention in Geneva in 1977.

NAAWU would report Volkswagen’s actions to the Volkswagen mother company in Germany and to powerful international labour bodies.

"The workers will be more adamant about reaching a finalised agreement with Volkswagen," Sauls said.

NAAWU president Henry Harris said if the motor companies were curtailing their expansion programmes, the slump in the economy was to blame.

"With Volkswagen shelving its project, it should now be in a financial position to meet our wage demands. It appears employers are playing cat and mouse and no progress is being made in wage talks or our demanded reinstatement of 507 retrenched workers," Harris said.

"The workers are tense and we are expecting trouble this week."

By CASSIE DU PLESSIS

Volkswagen announced this week that because of the labour situation and the downward trend in the economy, "we have suspended decisions on any investment in the immediate future."

It confirmed later that a R10 million programme had been curtailed and the company was constantly looking at the practicality of expanding elsewhere to save costs.

Spokesmen would not elaborate.

The Sunday Tribune learned however that tenders have been called for the new programme but no contracts would be agreed to before the situation changed.

The shelved programme comprises increased production on facilities. During last year’s sales boom the company could not produce fast enough to meet demand.

Ford has said officially it had no expansion plans but sources say the expansion of production facilities would at least be delayed.

Ford is one of a number of industries in the Eastern Cape which has met electricity cuts from Transkei and Ciskei in recent months making overtures to site operations there.

A spokesman for a big company, who asked not to be named, said the homelands were offering "immense financial incentives."

"Even if a risk of labour trouble also exists in the homelands, the cost savings there would take care of the cost of a lot of unrest."

General Motors warned this week about damage to the economy in an unstable labour situation and hinted that it might have to delay new programmes.

When more than 10000 motor industry workers started the wave of strikes last month spokesmen for the motor industry warned that the three Eastern Cape companies would collapse if workers’ wage demands were met.

Spokesmen for welfare organisations said more and more families of white motor workers had asked for help — to buy food, pay for electricity and water bills, and even home rentals.

Port Elizabeth Mayor Hendrik van Zyl Cillie said this week that the Volkswagen announcement was "one of the worst news items I’ve heard in a long time. This problem is place squarely in the laps of the trade union leaders."

President of the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce Denis Crockett said the Volkswagen investment would have had a ripple effect on the economy. "The fact that large sums of money are not going to be spent can only add to our already critical unemployment figures."

These demands meant that a floorweeper — the lowest-paid worker on the factory floor — would earn R658 a month. A woman teacher may starts at about R650.

Executives said the average price of a new car would increase by about R800 to R1000 and the Eastern Cape motor industry would be precariously in the business.

They were already losing on the overall market.
Dock workers in PE start a go-slow

By SANDRA SMITH

ABOUT 1 000 Port Elizabeth dock workers started a go-slow today in an effort to force the South African Transport Services (SATS) to hold talks with their union.

The General Workers' Union (GWU) has attempted to meet SATS representatives for 10 months to discuss working conditions in the Port Elizabeth and East London docks.

SATS has consistently refused to meet the GWU because it will not recognize any body outside of its staff associations, and has said any approaches by employees must be conducted through "correct channels."

The business community has warned of possible national and international repercussions of industrial action by the Port Elizabeth dock workers.

A SATS spokesman said today "some workers are working slower than usual", but that there was "no disruption in the working of the harbour."

SATS was "monitoring the situation carefully", he said.

In a statement the GWU said about 750 dockers "expressed their bitter disappointment at SATS management's refusal to respond to their request for a meeting aimed at resolving the current dispute" at a meeting this weekend.

The workers felt they had been left with no alternative but to "engage in industrial action."

"However, mindful of the seriousness of this particular dispute and its potential consequences for the stability of the Eastern Cape, the workers have decided to engage initially in limited industrial action."

They were still willing to discuss the issue with their employers at any time, the statement said.
Labour Reporter

MORE than 800 dockers in Port Elizabeth have decided to hold a "go-slow from today to try to get the South African Transport Services to open discussions with them.

The workers members of the General Workers Union have tried unsuccessfully for the past 10 months to negotiate with SATS about establishing a local committee through which to channel workplace grievances.

Mr. David Lewis, general secretary of the GWU said the SATS dockers believed their had been left with no alternative but to create an atmosphere conducive for the tourists release.

RELUCTANCE

They will embark on the go-slow starting today and will meet after a week to reassess the position, Mr. Lewis said.

"The workers wish to reiterate that it is with extreme reluctance that they have decided to embark on this course of action and that they are still willing to discuss the issues with their employers at any time."

A go-slow will mean that cargo will take considerably longer to load and discharge than if the workers were working at their normal pace.

Go-slow by PE dockers starts

Agu

Nobel death

NEW YORK - A Nobel prize winner for chemistry Dr. Stanford Moore was found dead in his flat after apparently committing suicide, police said. He had an incurable nerve disease — Sapa-Reuter.

AUCTION SALES

R40 000 INSURA

BRAND NEW QUALITY FURNITURE — ELECTRIC LOUNGE SUITES — DINING ROOM SUITES — SEATS — BEDS AND MATTRESSES — ROOM DIVIDERS — TABLE UNITS — BEDROOM SUITES — WARDROBE

Acting on instructions of Campbell and Williams (Watt) has been removed from a total furniture share, and will be closed by public auction.

TUESDAY 2nd AUGUST

WEDNESDAY 3rd SEPTEMBER

92 REGENT ROAD S3


Sea Point All

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Old, new and collectable. Author Tre 40 75

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Boss's withdrawal of increase leads workers to strike

ABOUT 40 workers went on strike in Industrias on Friday morning, after wage increases given them by one of their company directors were later withdrawn by another director.

Mr Solly Feinstein, director of Marlon Auto Electrical Component Manufacturer, admitted that his son, a junior partner in the company, made a mistake by offering increases to everybody in the company.

He said increases are due to people who were earning minimum wages prescribed by law only. Other workers would be entitled to increases in March as had been happening in the past.

The workers told The SOWETAN they were not prepared to pay for mistakes committed by their boss.

EXCITED

"We were not particularly excited by the wages we have been earning, but we did not make any noise about it. One of our bosses decided on his own to pin a notice on the wall informing all of us that we were going to get increases.

"This was obviously exciting news and we were all braced for higher wages. But when pay day came our pay slips showed that the wages had been pushed up but the figures had been altered by pen to change them back to what they had been before the increases.

"When we queried this, it emerged that the two bosses did not agree on whether or not we should be given increases. The son wanted us to be given increases, the father did not.

"So, they must pay for their own confusion because if we had not been promised increases, we would still be working peacefully," said one of the striking workers.

HAPPY

The workers also said their boss told them that if they were not happy with the situation they could go and look for jobs elsewhere.

Mr Feinstein said he needed all the workers on strike back and that he would welcome them if they reported for duty on Monday morning.

"We have not been nasty to them and we know that not all of them wanted to down tools. Some were threatened with assault and they felt obliged to join the rest out of fear.

"But as I've said, we need all of them back but we are not going to force anybody to come back here. If they won't come, they are free to go," he said.
Naawu executive attacks unionists

A FORMER Sigma Motor Corporation shop steward and an executive member of the National Automobile Assemblers Workers' Union (Nawu), attacked his fellow unionists and claimed they had taken part in plans by the company to dismiss him.

Mr. Johannes Mukhan told The SOWETAN he was led to believe this after he had received a call on the day of his dismissal from Mr. Martin Ndaba, the union's Pretoria organiser, that Sigma management had fired him.

"Mr. Ndaba, he said, told him he was fired for allegedly being arrogant, militant and incompetent. "He told me this in a telephone discussion while still at work and advised me to contact my plant manager who confirmed my dismissal."

Mr. Mukhan was dismissed on August 20, the second dismissed within three months, following a meeting behind closed doors between Naawu officials and Sigma management, he said.

Mr. Ndaba could not be reached for comment at the weekend but had early last week contacted The SOWETAN and said he had anticipated Mr. Mukhan's visit to this office and wished to put the record straight.

Mr. Ndaba said according to their information, Mr. Mukhan was dismissed because his performance in the firm had deteriorated and that Naawu was negotiating with Sigma's management on his behalf.

Mr. Mukhan denied he was incompetent and pointed out that he had been with the company for the past four years. He had been rated among the top workers scheme.

He was first fired on June 4 and about 150 workers went on strike in sympathy. He was later re-instated after management had acceded to employees demands.

Mr. Leon Shirley, the company's hassen manager and his assistant, Mr. P. Botha could not be reached for comment.
Firms asked to support black unions

Geneva — An International Trade Union Federation, welcoming the settlement reached in the Coca-Cola dispute in South Africa, called on other transnational companies yesterday to "adopt a positive attitude" towards independent unions representing black workers.

The International Union of Food and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF) had lent its full support to the boycott of Coca-Cola staged by the General Workers' Union of South Africa (Gwusa) which began on May 1, to back its demand for recognition by the South Africa Bottling Company — a Coca-Cola franchise operation in Port Elizabeth.

"The Coca-Cola company in Atlanta in the United States helped in bringing about a settlement," the IUF said.

"I call on other transnational companies operating in South Africa to ask the management of their subsidiaries or business associates in that country to adopt a positive attitude towards independent trade unions representing black workers," IUF general secretary Dan Galbin said.

The IUF represents workers in the food, drink, tobacco and hotel industries in 61 countries. Its 175 affiliated unions represent some 1.8 million workers.

Under the Gwusa agreement with the South Africa Bottling Company, the company is reinstating some of the 160 black workers dismissed when they went on strike last October. Discussions on company recognition of Gwusa will begin as soon as the union represents 50 percent of the company workforce.

On June 28, another union affiliated with the IUF, the Sweet, Food and Allied Workers' Union, reached recognition agreements with two other Coca-Cola franchise holders, Suncrush and Vaul Bottlers.
Motor firms take stand on talks

THE three Eastern Province motor manufacturers — Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen — have refused to hold individual, in-plant wage talks with the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu).

At a meeting between the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers' Association (Epama) and the union today the employers made it clear they would only negotiate through Epama.

Naawu members demanded in-plant bargaining when the Industrial Council reached deadlock earlier this month. The dispute was to be referred to arbitration by the Minister of Manpower.

Naawu withdrew from the council and requested in-plant wage talks.

The union see the employers' stand as a contravention of the Sullivan Principles, to which GM and Ford subscribe.

Naawu's general secretary, Mr Freddy Sane, said the two motor manufacturers had indicated in the past they would negotiate with any representative body, and not only with those within industrial councils.

At today's meeting the union also re-iterated its rejection of interim wage increases before a settlement could be reached.
Few supporting PE docks go-slow — PRO

Labour Reporter

THERE was no effect on work in Port Elizabeth docks yesterday after a go-slow was declared by South African Transport Services dockers, said SATS public relations officer Mr Leon Els today.

Only a few workers were supporting the go-slow, he claimed.

"There is absolutely no disruption in PE harbour. Only about 20 workers are working at a slower rate," said Mr Els.

However, Mr David Lewis, secretary of the General Workers' Union, said the SATS statement was "stupid and downright misleading to industrialists and the general public, who could be seriously affected by the escalation of this dispute."

"SATS have known for months that our membership figures stand at close on 900. It is not true that only 20 workers are supporting the go-slow."

"SATS are guilty of severely misleading the public by perpetuating the myth that the go-slow is not strongly supported."

PAMPHLETS

In the past two months more than 800 workers have signed letters to the port manager asking him to open discussions with them and complaining about alleged police harassment. All said they were members of the GWU.

Anonymous pamphlets were distributed at the docks yesterday. They were said to have come from "old dockworkers" and claimed that the GWU and Mr Lewis were provoking a strike.

The union was also disturbed at the "extraordinary police presence" in the harbour yesterday, he added.
Dockers begin go-slow at PE

Labour Reporter

THE General Workers' Union (GWU) SA Transport Services (SATS) recognition dispute entered a new phase yesterday as Port Elizabeth dockers began a week-long go-slow.

A decision to take limited industrial action was made on Saturday when the dockers — all members of the GWU — expressed their “bitter disappointment” at SATS's refusal to meet their committee in an attempt to resolve the dispute.

A SATS spokesman said there was no major disruption of the port yesterday and “only a few people” were involved.

A GWU spokesman, however, said the go-slow was being supported by nearly all SATS workers at the docks. “There is no major disruption because that’s not what the workers want — if they had wanted that, they would have gone on a full-on strike.

“If this wide support is not treated with due seriousness, they (SATS) might well be faced with a major disruption.”

The GWU was, however, perturbed at the “extraordinary” police presence at the docks.
Labour Reporter

Port authorities in Port Elizabeth are keeping a close watch on a go-slow protest begun yesterday by dockworkers. The protest is against the transport authorities' unwillingness to negotiate with the General Workers' Union.

The union claims a membership among SA Transport Services workers who unload cargo for the stevedores at the Port Elizabeth docks.

But last week SATS authorities refused to acknowledge an ultimatum by dockworkers calling for negotiations.

The Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, indicated he was unwilling to hold talks with 'outsiders.' As a result union members at the weekend called the protest.

A SATS spokesman confirmed the go-slow but said work was not being disrupted.

He said port authorities were watching the situation closely and felt they did not have to take any action at this stage.

The GWU office said workers would hold another meeting at the weekend to discuss the protest's effectiveness.

Community and business leaders have called on SATS to negotiate with the union to avoid potential unrest.
OK and union agree to cool off, then talk

Labour Reporter

Wage talks between the OK Bazaar and a trade union will be held soon following the two-week strike at the group's Johannesburg stores and warehouses.

In a joint statement released yesterday, the OK and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union agreed to start negotiations after a "suitable cooling-off period."

OK workers who went on strike are being reinstated without loss of benefits and will take back the same posts they held before the dispute.

The strike began at three OK warehouses with 700 workers demanding wage increases. They were dismissed last week and hundreds of store workers joined the strike in sympathy.
Hardline SATS faces 'go-slow' by dockers

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

PORT Elizabeth docks teetered on the brink of labour confrontation yesterday as about 1 000 SA Transport Services (SATS) dockers began a go-slow to protest at SATS refusal to recognize the General Workers Union.

The GWU has been trying to talk to SATS about union recognition for 11 months— and a confrontation will have serious local and international repercussions. The dispute has evoked unprecedented concern among East Cape businessmen.

A worker meeting called at the weekend— to discuss the Port Elizabeth port manager's failure to answer a letter asking for union recognition talks—decided not to opt for immediate strike action but rather for "limited industrial action"—a go-slow.

The GWU said workers would review the situation next weekend — workers were "mindful of the seriousness of the dispute for the entire East Cape region.

If there is no progress a strike seems certain— although the GWU is still prepared to talk to SATS.

A SATS spokesman said yesterday "one or two workers" were working more slowly, but harbour operations had not been affected and SATS was monitoring the situation closely.

Meanwhile, Eastern Cape businessmen fear a strike would seriously affect the region's economy. All their attempts to mediate so far have been unsuccessful.

The GWU statement said workers had expressed their "better disappointment at SATS refusal to respond to their calls to talk to hammer out a solution to the dispute. Workers felt they had no alternative but to engage in industrial action.

However, mindful of the seriousness of their particular dispute and its potential consequences for the stability of the Eastern Cape, the workers have decided to engage initially in limited industrial action.

"We wish to reiterate that workers have embarked on this course with extreme reluctance and are ready to talk to their employer at any time" the GWU statement said.

This is the second time SATS dockers in the ports have embarked on a go-slow. They did so previously in a dispute over bonuses, which was resolved.
About 69 workers at a Brits company which makes brass handles for coffins have been on strike since last Thursday in protest at the dismissal of a colleague, a Metal and Allied Workers' Union (Mawu) spokesman said yesterday.

Management at the company, W J Murdoch, could not be reached for comment.

Mawu's spokesman said the strike had been prompted by the firing of a worker for "desertion." The man had stayed away from work for two days, he said.

"But the worker who was fired says that he was given a letter by management allowing him to stay away from work to see a doctor. He says he waited at the doctor's office throughout the first day and was only able to see him on the second," the spokesman said.
Naawu criticises interim wage increase decision

BY SANDRA SMITH

THE National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) today sharply criticised the decision of the three Eastern Province motor manufacturers and a white union yesterday to go ahead with an interim wage increase in the industry.

Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen will pay an interim across-the-board increase of 26c at the lowest grade, backdated to August 23.

At a meeting between the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers' Association (Epama), Naawu and the Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union yesterday, Naawu reiterated its rejection of the interim increase.

The union left the meeting, and the other two parties then convened an Industrial Council meeting to ratify a decision to cancel a supplementary unemployment benefit fund and implement the interim across-the-board increases.

Epama has invited “all interested parties” to wage talks, probably this week, aimed at finalising an agreement after the collapse of the Industrial Council when Naawu withdrew last month.

In a statement today, the union said tensions were developing which could have serious repercussions in the automobile industry - “because of the employers’ attitude.”

“This may cause irreparable damage to the relationship between the workers and the companies,” the statement said.

Naawu condemned the three companies for “chasing short-term gains at the expense of long-term industrial relations solutions.”

The companies' "unilateral decision to implement the interim increase" demonstrated to the workers that the motor manufacturers "have no, and never had, any intention of reaching an agreement with the union on the basic wage demand.”

“We are now considering whether there is still a need for concluding industrial agreements if this is the attitude and practice of the employers,” the statement said.

Such a unilateral decision had serious implications for long-term industrial relations in the Eastern Province and South Africa.

Naawu would consider negotiating with Epama and other parties "as long as it is done in good faith and is a sincere attempt to reach an acceptable settlement.”

Paper No.
(to be copied from the heading on the Examination Paper)

NOTE CAREFULLY

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

WARNING

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

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.
Unions used politically, says Cillie.

The trade union movement was being used as a political platform and this was the root of the present labour unrest. This was the opinion of the Mayor of Port Elizabeth, Mr H van Zyli Cillie, who was addressing the annual dinner of the South African Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, in the city last night.

Mr Cillie said that the labour reforms introduced in South Africa evoked expectations of the creation of political outlets and without the necessary political outlets, the unions would continue to be used for political purposes.

It was vital for entrepreneurs to accept the fact that discrimination stood in the way of South Africa achieving its full economic potential.

He said discrimination was a vexed and complicated question requiring action from the authorities and private enterprise.

There were not enough whites, coloureds and Asians to meet the demand for skilled labour and immigration provided only short-term relief.

"We must, therefore, lead the black man from his Third World environment into our sophisticated First World, by introducing him as rapidly as possible to our institutions, our way of life."

He said this could be achieved by introducing:

- Equal educational standards,
- Extended training facilities for all,
- Access for all to tertiary educational institutions,
- Equal pay for equal work,
- Entry for all to all facets of free enterprise,
- Assisted housing for all, and
- Constitutional adjustments to meet the just political aspirations of all.
Railmen accused of increasing racial tensions

Post Reporter

The General Workers Union (GWU) today accused the Federation of South African Railways Staff Associations of increasing racial tensions in the Railways by allowing themselves to be used as a "smokescreen" by the employers.

The Federation of Staff Associations yesterday told the GWU they could not allow the South African Transport Services to deal with any outside unions.

The GWU has for 10 months attempted to hold talks with SATS on behalf of its members in the Port Elizabeth and East London docks.

Yesterday the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr H Schoeman, informed the GWU by telex that negotiations between SATS and the GWU would lead to the breaking up of the existing labour negotiating structure and "labour unrest".

On Monday about 900 Port Elizabeth dockers started a go-slow in protest against SATS' refusal to talk to their representatives.

A GWU spokesman said today SATS was using the staff associations as a "smokescreen".

"This goes to show the nature of the trade unions SATS is prepared to deal with -- ones which collaborate with them," he said.

A SATS spokesman said today that while it was difficult to pinpoint which workers were involved in the go-slow, "in certain areas we can definitely see that they are, and have identified a number of them." He said disciplinary action against those involved was a possibility "depending on the circumstances and what effect they are having on the work pattern."
PE docks ‘tense’ as the go-slow enters day three

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

Labour relations at Port Elizabeth docks were reported ‘extremely tense’ yesterday as a dockers’ go-slow in support of union recognition demands entered its second day and unions reported widespread worker support for the action.

According to General Workers’ Union (GWU) sources today will be a ‘critical test’ for workers as relations as general cargo vessels are expected in the harbour and the effect of the go-slow will be felt for the first time.

There has been little general cargo in the ports over the past few days.

A spokesman for SA Transport Services (SATS), which employs the dockers, said yesterday that, despite go-slow action by “a few” workers, the port was “calm” and there had been no effect on harbour operations.

Another development yesterday, the GWU received a telegram from the Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, refusing its request for a meeting on the dispute and claiming that recognising the union would lead to “labour unrest”.

The go-slow is the latest development in a 10-month union recognition row between GWU members and SATS. There are fears the dispute could escalate into a full confrontation between dockers and the Railways.

Yesterday, a GWU spokesman said the go-slow was proving “extremely effective” but it had had little impact so far, this stage because there had not been much cargo in the port.

Tomorrow could be crucial. General cargo vessels are expected in the ports and the worker action will make itself felt for the first time. The situation is extremely tense,” he said.

An SATS spokesman said he was not sure whether general cargo vessels were expected today.

He said “a few workers” were taking part in the go-slow and added “The situation is calm and under control.” SATS was not planning any action on the go-slow at this stage but was “watching developments”, he said.

In his message to the GWU, Mr Schoeman said he was satisfied that “there is no evidence of complaints regarding salaries and general service conditions” and workers had “recognised channels of communication and negotiation to air possible grievances”.

He advised the GWU to contact the Federal Consultative Council of Railways and Harbours Staff Associations.
**Duke of Kent for funeral**

MBABANE — Prince Michael of Kent will represent Queen Elizabeth II at the funeral of King Sobhuza of Swaziland on Friday. The British High Commissioner in Mbabane announced yesterday that Prince Michael will arrive in Swaziland tomorrow evening on board an aircraft of the Queen's Flight, leaving again on Saturday morning.

Representatives of several African countries, including several heads of state, are expected to attend. No official list has so far been released by Swaziland — Sapa

**Weather Mail**

THE Weather Bureau's forecast for today —

**SOUTH AFRICA YESTERDAY**

**Temperatures at 1400**

- Bloemfontein: 77  20
- Pretoria: 79  20
- Kimberley: 92  20
- Cape Town: 78  21
- Durban: 84  23
- Port Elizabeth: 66  21
- East London: 65  21
- South Africa: 70  23

**RAINFALL**

- Johannesburg: 7 mm
- Pretoria: 6 mm
- Kimberley: 1 mm

**SOUTH AFRICA PRESENT WEATHER**

- East Coast: South wind blowing
- Wind: South wind blowing
- Cold: South wind blowing

**THE WORLD YESTERDAY**

**Temperatures at 1400**

- Amsterdam: 12  10
- Berlin: 16  11
- Brussels: 17  10
- Rome: 20  15
- Paris: 19  14
- Madrid: 19  13
- Lisbon: 19  13
- London: 15  10
- Vienna: 15  10
- Warsaw: 14  10
- Athens: 12  10
- Kiev: 10  5
- Cairo: 29  20
- Tel Aviv: 30  20
- Bombay: 30  23
- Delhi: 31  23
- Calcutta: 32  24
- Ceylon: 30  23
- Singapore: 29  23

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<tr>
<th>GLOSS ENAMEL</th>
<th>5 litres</th>
<th>R18,50</th>
<th>LAZYBEETLE ONLY</th>
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<td>BRIGHT RED &amp; BLACK</td>
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<td>HIGH GLOSS ENAMEL</td>
<td>5 litres</td>
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**SOUTH AFRICA**

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- Bloemfontein: 77  20
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- South Africa: 70  23

**RAINFALL**

- Johannesburg: 7 mm
- Pretoria: 6 mm
- Kimberley: 1 mm

**SOUTH AFRICA PRESENT WEATHER**

- East Coast: South wind blowing
- Wind: South wind blowing
- Cold: South wind blowing

**THE WORLD YESTERDAY**

**Temperatures at 1400**

- Amsterdam: 12  10
- Berlin: 16  11
- Brussels: 17  10
- Rome: 20  15
- Paris: 19  14
- Madrid: 19  13
- Lisbon: 19  13
- London: 15  10
- Vienna: 15  10
- Warsaw: 14  10
- Athens: 12  10
- Kiev: 10  5
- Cairo: 29  20
- Tel Aviv: 30  20
- Bombay: 30  23
- Delhi: 31  23
- Calcutta: 32  24
- Ceylon: 30  23
- Singapore: 29  23

**Paint & Hardware Centre**

2 Malherbe Street
Newtown, Johannesburg
(Opposite East Entrance of Oriental Plaza — off Braam Street)

ALL PAINTS AT LOWEST PRICES

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<tr>
<th>GLOSS ENAMEL</th>
<th>5 litres</th>
<th>R18,50</th>
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**SOUTH AFRICA**

**Temperatures at 1400**

- Bloemfontein: 77  20
- Pretoria: 79  20
- Kimberley: 92  20
- Cape Town: 78  21
- Durban: 84  23
- Port Elizabeth: 66  21
- East London: 65  21
- South Africa: 70  23

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THE Government — through the Unemployment Insurance Fund — is to make available R2 million to help motor industry workers in the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage-East London areas who have been affected by the strike actions of other workers.

Announcing this today, Mr Fanie Botha, the Minister of Manpower, also appealed for the private sector to match the Government’s initiative in helping workers who, through no fault of their own, were affected by strike actions.

The move will have major implications for the motor industry, where substantial numbers of workers have been affected at different periods by strike action undertaken by members of other unions.

The scheme announced by Mr Botha involves combating unemployment by finding work for loyal employees who have no earnings during work stoppages.

Mr Botha said the scheme would be applicable only to future instances of losses caused by worker stoppages and would be administered by the Department of Manpower.

“This is an indication of the sincerity of the Government to give assistance out of the Unemployment Insurance Fund, which is administered under their auspices to workers who act responsibly and who lose earnings through no fault of their own,” he said.

Mr Botha emphasised that the Government did not stand aloof from the problems of workers caught up through no fault of their own in strike action.

The Government placed a high premium on that section of the worker force that was stable, loyal and experienced.

Mr Botha suggested employers should seek ways to reward the loyalty of their workers.

Speaking later to assembled businessmen, Mr Botha warned that any businessman who neglected the interests of the responsible and loyal part of his workforce was courting disaster and deserved little sympathy.

“No employer can forsake the loyalty of that party of his workforce which acts responsibly and which still respects the rule of law,” the Minister said.

The time had come for employers in South Africa to practise the philosophy of self-government in such a way that they retained their self-respect instead of bowing to the dictates of outsiders or militants.

His message to them was to stop hiding behind the Government, to put their own houses in order and face up to their responsibilities.

“Stand by those loyal workers who lose time and income as a result of the actions of others,” he said.

Mr Botha also criticised as “irresponsible” companies in the Eastern Cape who responded to industrial unrest by threatening to move their operations elsewhere.

BY BRIAN POTTINGER
Political Correspondent

See Page 4
Your own conclusions...
Questions to Minister over fired dockers

By JERRY McCABE

The dismissal of 400 workers by the South African Transport Services yesterday was raised during a question-and-answer session with the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, at his meeting with Eastern Cape businessmen today.

Mr Brian Matthew, executive director of the Midland Chamber of Industries, asked Mr Botha why, when the Government had issued a White Paper accepting certain principles of maximum self-government, these principles were not carried out by Government departments like the SATS.

Mr Matthew said a situation had arisen where the private sector was almost being held at ransom by what had happened in the Port Elizabeth harbour.

Mr Botha replied that, as far as possible, the various Government departments were all dedicated to the principles of self-government and autonomy.

"I am sure if you discussed the problems with the relevant department the matter could be sorted out. That department is also dedicated to self-government," he said.

The Government sometimes had to "look forward when other people neglected to do their duty", Mr Botha said.

Another questioner asked Mr Botha to what extent he thought the police should be involved in industrial disputes.

The Minister answered that his department never called on the police to solve its problems, and that the police became involved only when those involved in industrial disputes gave them reason to be.

Mr Botha was also told that certain unions had difficulty in obtaining official recognition, and was asked what could be done about this.

"We do try to expedite the recognition of unions as far as possible. Sometimes we do have a great problem getting the right information from the unions to enable us to recognise them. Sometimes the problem lies with the other side and not with us," Mr Botha replied.

"It is to the advantage of all concerned that all unions should be registered."
**EVERY CANDIDATE MUST** enter in column (1) the number of each question answered (in the order in which it has been answered), leave columns (2) and (3) blank.

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200 dock workers fired

PORT ELIZABETH — At least 200 General Workers' Union (GWU) members, employed as dockers in the Port Elizabeth harbour, were fired by the SA Transport Services yesterday.

On Monday the dockers had begun a go-slow to gain the right to be represented by the GWU.

The GWU said 900 workers had been fired, but a SATS spokesman said only 200 workers were dismissed — 80 in the morning and 120 in the afternoon.

The SATS spokesman said dismissed workers would have to vacate the railways hostel immediately and would be returned to their home addresses as soon as they had collected their belongings. Contract workers would be returned to Translo and Ciskof.

Police vehicles escorted the workers in buses, from the harbour in two police convoys. The morning-shift workers said they were dropped in Kwarakale and the afternoon shift in Veeplaas.

They denied a SATS statement that they had been dropped at the hostel in New Brighton.

According to the SATS spokesman, the workers conducting a go-slow had been “asked to return to their normal pattern of work” workers in the pre-cooling shed “refused” and continued their go-slow yesterday morning.

Eighty workers were fired with immediate effect because they failed to obey lawful instructions and in the afternoon, 120 were fired for refusing to resume their “normal duties.”

It was pointed out that in an earlier interview the spokesman had said no disciplinary action would be taken against the workers “because they were still working and only if they stopped, would they be contravening their contracts.”

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400 PE dockworkers fired after 'refusing to work normally'

By SANDRA SMITH

A TOTAL of 400 Port Elizabeth dockworkers were dismissed yesterday, according to a spokesman for the South African Transport Services (SATS), and today 20 stevedores staged a three-hour work stoppage.

The spokesman said the 400 workers, out of a workforce of about 1,000 dockers, were fired after refusing to "work normally."

A spokesman for the General Workers Union, however, said workers were under the impression that all GWU members who were involved in the go-slow -- about 900 workers -- had been dismissed.

GWU members started a go-slow on Monday in a bid to force SATS to hold talks with the union on working conditions.

For more than 10 months the GWU has attempted to meet SATS representatives who have said they cannot deal with any worker representative body outside of Railway Staff Associations.

Yesterday, several workers on the morning and afternoon shifts were dismissed and watched by members of the Reaction Squad in camouflage uniform, per in buses and police vehicles and taken to the black residential areas under police escort.

A SATS spokesman said the workers were given an ultimatum to work normally or be fired.

He said those who lived at the hostel in New Brighton had been taken there and others had been dropped at central points.

He said they would be paid all money owed to them tomorrow at pay points outside the harbour and those who were migrant workers would be returned by train or bus to Cape or Transkei.

"I want to emphasise that there is no question of the workers being arrested when they collect their money," he said.

A spokesman for SA Stevedores Ltd said today the total workforce of 32 had downed tools in a demand that the company intervene in the dispute.

After talks between officials and members of the stevedores committee, the workers resumed work at about 9am. The stevedores committee had held talks with SA Stevedores representatives.

The executive director of the Midland Chamber of Industries, Mr Brian Matthew, said it was impossible to make any sensible comment on the situation as there was such a discrepancy in the information being provided by the two parties.

The secretary of the Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce, Mr A J Gelsen, expressed grave concern about the situation and said the chamber was in contact with SATS.

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Paper No
(to be copied from the heading on the Examination Paper)

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NOTE CAREFULLY

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Dockers in PE sacked, then bused out of city

BY STEVEN FRIEDMAN

HUNDREDS of dock workers employed by SA Transport Services at docks in Port Elizabeth were yesterday fired, bused out of the harbour by Railways Police in camouflage uniforms and deposited in black townships outside the city after refusing to abandon a go-slow, eye-witnesses reported yesterday.

The eye-witnesses said all 900 workers had been bussed out, but a SATS spokesman claimed that only 200 had been fired.

The workers, the vast majority of who are members of the unregistered General Workers' Union, had been on a go-slow since Monday in protest against SATS's 11-month-long refusal to talk to the union.

Yesterday GWU general secretary Mr David Lewis described the sackings and removal of the workers as "sheer barbarism".

He said they came only days before a high-ranking delegation from the United States union federation, the AFL-CIO, was due to arrive in South Africa and urged the delegation to refuse to meet Government representatives.

Union sources in PE said yesterday stevedores in the harbour employed by private companies were meeting their employers to discuss the situation.

The dockers had embarked on the go-slow in reaction to the port manager's refusal to respond to a letter signed by 600 workers asking for a meeting.

A SATS spokesman said yesterday about 80 morning shift workers in the pre-cooling sheds had been asked to abandon the go-slow but had refused. They had then been fired for "repudiating an instruction", he said.

Another group of about 150 on the afternoon shift had also been fired and both groups had been transported to their hostels to collect their belongings. "They have been told to leave the hostels immediately," he added.

The attention of labour observers in the Eastern Cape is now likely to move to the stevedores who may take action in support of the dockers.

● Botha's warning — See Page 3
Workers Laid off

About 200 workers at two 'Cape construction company' sites have been laid off because of the economic recession.

The management of Besterecta Construction confirmed that workers, mostly women, were paid off at the sites in Mitchell's Plain.

Workers complained that they were paid low wages and were retrenched without being given notice.

An industrial equipment manufacturer at New Germany in Natal, Victor Kent, is apparently shutting down.
Voters polling and workers striking

Labour Reporter

At Umhlanga, voters went to the polls yesterday, about 150 municipal workers refused to start work demanding the recognition of the Municipal Workers' Union of South Africa.

Last week a worker deadline set for union recognition was ignored by the Umhlanga Town Council. "The workers threatened further action.

Yesterday morning the workers said they would not start work until their 'bosses' had discussed the recognition issue with them. By late afternoon about 30 workers were still on the premises of the municipality's workshop but most had drilled back to the compound.

The workers said they were not on strike but for five months they had been negotiating with the Town Council and they felt it was time something was done.

Recognition

Umhlanga's Town Clerk, Mr Brian Watson, said he had been approached by the shop stewards committee on Monday but he had told them it would not be possible for him to do anything about union recognition at the present.

"And when they stopped work yesterday they were told that because of municipal elections I would be too busy to see them," he said.

"They were also warned that they were breaking the law as workers involved in essential services were not allowed to strike."

Mr Watson said the stoppage would probably affect the workers' long service benefit which was to be paid within the next couple of months.

Mr Watson said if they had not returned to work by Friday they would be told to collect their pay as they would have dismissed themselves.

The national organiser of the National Federation of Workers, to which the workers' union is affiliated, Mr Magwaza Maphalala, said he would be meeting shop stewards last night and then would discuss the issue with Mr Watson today.
Dock labour dispute comes into the open

By PHILIP VAN NIERKERK
Labour Reporter

ONE of South Africa's most significant labour disputes broke into the open this week when the S.A. Transport Services (Sats) fired hundreds of workers at the Port Elizabeth docks and gave them their tickets back to the homelands.

The dockers had embarked on a go-slow demanding that Sats speak to their union committee. The dispute has been brewing for almost a year and has international as well as national consequences.

At stake is a fundamental tenet of the government's new labour dispensation, the principle of freedom of association. The majority of Sats' workers at the PE and East London docks want to be represented by the unregistered General Workers Union (GWU) - the trade union of their own choice.

Subject (to be filled in)

Pressure
Speaking in Port Elizabeth yesterday, the Minister of Manpower, Mr. Fanie Botha, urged employers to talk to all representative trade unions - registered and unregistered. And top industrialists have publicly called on Sats to meet with the GWU.

On the other hand, Mr. Hendrik Schoeman, the Minister of Transport Affairs, has adamantly refused to deal with an "outside" union like Sats, the country's largest single employer, with a staff of about 240,000, already dealings with 11 in-house staff associations.

The staff associations have themselves called on Mr. Schoeman to reject the GWU's advances and Mr. Jimmy zurich, head of the Artisan Staff Association, has said that if Sats recognises the GWU they will "lodge a strong protest" with the minister.

Newest association
The newest of these associations is the Black Artisan Staff Association (BSA), which after a year and a half of existence claims to have more than 50,000 members and is recognised by Sats as the sole representative of black railways workers.

The GWU has rejected the BSA as "Sats's black personnel department dressed up and registered as a trade union" and stressed that in the present climate of black worker unionisation the need is for "independent" trade unions.

The whole dispute has been watched with interest internationally, not least because Sats is a quasi-state corporation and its reaction to black trade unions is an important test of the government's sincerity in implementing the new labour reforms.

Bald statement
If Sats were to recognise the GWU, even on a limited basis, it would open up one of the country's most crucial industries to unionisation by the new generation of black unions. But Sats is not even prepared to talk to the GWU and their dismissal of the dockers is a bald statement of how they see the dispute.

The GWU, however, represents the vast majority of South African stevedores at Cape Town, Durban, East London and PE. Solidarity with railway dockers could spread the dispute into other ports.

ITF support
And the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) which represents 10-million workers in the non-communist world, has pledged support to the GWU. Mr. Harold Dunning, the European representative of the ITF, said in Cape Town recently that international transport workers - who are keenly aware of the dispute - would be prepared to "black" refuse to handle South African cargoes. "We are not adopting a threatening or hostile attitude," he said. "We want the workers to be represented by a trade union of their choice and we want to see workers and management talking in a civilized manner."

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Examiners' initials

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World body hits at firing of dockers

Post Reporter

THE International Transport Workers’ Federation (ITF) has condemned the sacking of 406 Port Elizabeth dock workers in telexes to the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, and the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr H Schoeman.

The workers were dismissed on Wednesday after a go-slow in an effort to force the South African Transport Services (SATS) to hold talks with the General Workers Union (GWU).

SATS’ action would solve nothing and could only escalate the present dispute, the ITF’s general secretary, Mr Harold Lewis, said.

The GWU was affiliated to the ITF and had its full support.

Mr Lewis had tried for months to discuss the “recognition problem” with the Director-General of SATS, Dr Kobus Loubser, “in an effort to avert the very situation which has now arisen.”

The GWU was ready at any time to discuss industrial relations structures with SATS management with no preconditions, Mr Lewis said.

SATS’ “adamant refusal” to deal with GWU at all had left union members with no room to manoeuvre and it was inevitable that they felt forced into action to press their case.

“The situation is now almost, but still not completely, irretrievable.

“I must therefore once more urge your prompt personal intervention to defuse the situation by the re-instatement of those dismissed and the opening of dialogue with the union,” Mr Lewis said.

The ITF’s transport unions around the world were closely following developments.
Refuse workers back, but...

Labour Reporter

UMHLANGA household refuse collection was held up by the municipal workers' strike yesterday, but after a meeting between the union and the Town Clerk, the strikers returned to work.

The Town Clerk, Mr Brian Watson, said extra garbage bags were distributed to every house, but by yesterday afternoon the refuse workers were back making their routine collections.

He said he had even had a few calls from residents saying 'not to worry about the strike, we will take our bags to the dump ourselves, if necessary.'

The 150 workers still would not start work yesterday until they had spoken to the Town Clerk about recognition of the Municipal Workers' Union of S.A.

Mr Watson said he had told the union at the meeting that he would not be able to sign the recognition agreement until it had been discussed by the Town Council.

The union organiser, Mr Magwaza Maphalala, said at a report-back after the meeting that the workers had decided to return to work but had warned that if the issue were not successfully resolved next week 'further action would again be taken.'
Axed workers refuse pay, consult lawyers

Post Reporter

NONE of the Port Elizabeth dockworkers sacked by the South African Transport Services (SATS) after a go-slow collected pay packets today.

At a meeting of about 700 workers yesterday the dockers decided not to accept their termination wages.

They also decided to instruct the General Workers Union’s (GWU) attorneys to investigate the procedure taken by SATS in dismissing the workers.

A statement released by the union said there was no clarity on the question of dismissals, and the correct procedures regarding dismissals had not been followed.

The workers said they were willing to return to work at any time on condition all of those dismissed were permitted to return, and their grievances concerning recognition of GWU were investigated.

SATS will not hold talks with the union and will only recognise the Black Staff Association as representing black railway workers.

The GWU statement said SATS had intimated it intended removing workers from the hostels in New Brighton today.

“The consequences of such an action are potentially explosive and we would urge SATS to refrain from such a course of action,” it said.

A SATS spokesman said today the 400 dismissed workers “did not appear to be” collecting their pay.

He also said while workers would have to vacate the SATS hostel in New Brighton today, SATS would not force them to leave Port Elizabeth for Cape and Transkei.

Today a police van containing two dogs was parked at the main entrance to the harbour and police in camouflage uniform checked the documents of workers entering the docks.

The executive director of the Midland Chamber of Industries, Mr Bruce Matthew, said today the tone of the union’s statement appeared to be reconciliatory, and he hoped “the other parties involved” would show the same spirit of reconciliation.

The employers of 32 stevedores who downed tools for three hours in sympathy with the dismissed dockers yesterday, SA Stevedores, said today the company would discuss the issue with SATS “in the natural course of things.”

However, the operations director, Capt. J.J. Stockley, said it was an internal SATS matter and “it is not up to us to put pressure on the railways.”

Four non-racial trade unions have condemned SATS’s sacking of the workers. They were the Federation of SA Trade Union (Fosatu), the Food and Canning Workers Union, the Motor Assembly and Component Workers Union (Macwusa) and the General Workers Union of SA (Fosatu). The isolation of workers from the docks accompanied by riot police showed an unwillingness by SATS to resolve disputes by peaceful means.

Macwusa and Gwusa called on SATS to reconsider its action before the matter “got beyond control.” A statement said: “We would not like to see the conflict spreading throughout the Eastern Cape and elsewhere.”

The Food and Canning Workers Union said it was obvious SATS was not prepared to recognise “the most elementary of trade union rights” and had resolved on a course of confrontation.

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Dockers won't be replaced

Post Reporter

BECAUSE of the general slowing down in cargo being handled in the harbours, South African Transport Services (SATS) would not replace 400 Port Elizabeth dockworkers fired after a go-slow this week, the SATS public relations officer, Mr Leon Elias, said today.

Mr Elias said the remaining 500 or so Port Elizabeth dockworkers were sufficient to handle the present traffic.

There had been a marked decline in traffic at South African harbours during the past five months.

Mr Elias linked the decline in traffic and the decrease in exports to the slump in the economy. Even Richards Bay had seen a decrease in coal exports.
Mwasa strike in Cape Town

MEMBERS of the Media Workers' Association of South Africa (Mwasa) staged a brief strike at the Cape Herald in Cape Town yesterday.

Mr A Sale, regional secretary of Mwasa, the black journalists' organisation, said seven members had decided on this action after the editor, Mr Ted Domian, had failed to respond to grievances.
move on strikes
gn to assist non-striking motor workers

The move comes in the wake of strikes in the motor industry, which because their factories are strike-bound, workers who refuse to join strikes but are unable to work from the unemployment insurance fund to help motor

IN a shock move, the government is to get sidestep R2 million

by Steven Friedman

Comm and Qin Correspondent

move on strikes
Provocation by police, claim city dockers

Cape Town stevedores have accused the railways Police of provoking conflict in Cape Town docks and so spreading the dispute in Port Elizabeth harbour.

The stevedores, who belong to the same union as the 400 dismissed South African Transport Services' dockers in Port Elizabeth — the General Workers' Union — say that yesterday they were questioned by the police about a general meeting they plan to hold today.

About 300 SATS dockers in Port Elizabeth stopped work on Wednesday after SATS dismissed 400 workers.

The GWU stevedores' committee in Cape Town met its management yesterday to express concern about the situation in Port Elizabeth harbour.

The committee plans to hold a meeting to report back to the workers today.

SATS could not be contacted for comment.
Fired workers won't be replaced

PORT ELIZABETH — Because of the drop in cargo being handled in the country's ports, the 400 dockworkers fired here after a go-slow this week would not be replaced, a spokesman for the South African Transport Services said yesterday.

The remaining 900 men were sufficient at present, the spokesman said.

The decline in traffic was due to decreased exports.

The International Transport Workers' Federation has condemned the sackings in telex messages to the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, and the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr H Schoeman.

SATS' action would solve nothing and only aggravate the dispute, the federation's general secretary, Mr Harold Lewis, said.

The general workers' union was affiliated to the federation and had its full support, he said. — SAPA
White union behind workers' aid move

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

THE Government’s controversial R2-million plan to compensate “loyal” motor workers who don’t want to join strikes was introduced at the express request of the country’s biggest all-white union.

The union, the SA Iron, Steel and Allied Workers’ Union, is a power in the Right-wing Confederation of Labour.

But neither employers nor the National Automobile and Allied Workers’ Union, which represents about 31,900 black and coloured motor assembly workers, were consulted.

In other developments yesterday

* A spokesman for the Unemployment Insurance Fund said the authorities had not yet worked out how the scheme would be implemented, and
* Mr Rob’s move was attacked by the SA Allied Workers’ Union and criticised by the chief manpower spokesman of the Progressive Federal Party, Dr Alex Boraine.

The scheme will set aside R2-million from the UIF for workers who want to work but cannot because plants are closed by strikes.

Yesterday Mr H. Ferreira, general secretary of the SAISAWU, said he had asked the Government to introduce the scheme because of its experience in the Eastern Cape motor strikes when its members had wanted to work but had been unable to, because the plants had been closed.

Mr Ferreira said he had specifically drawn the Government’s attention to Section 46 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, which provides for relief for the jobless in this connection.

“We want to ensure that innocent workers do not suffer for the actions of others,” he said.

But Mr Rob’s move was attacked by the Eastern Cape Motor Employers’ Association, said yesterday employers had not been consulted.

“We had an inkling through the grapevine that something like this was coming, but that is all,” Mr Ironside said.

He said employers were waiting to see how the fund was to be administered, before taking the matter further.

“This is crucial! However worthwhile the scheme may be, there is no way we can decide which of our workers want to work and which don’t,” he said.

It was established yesterday, however, that details of how the fund is to be run have not been worked out.

“All we have done is set aside the money. We are waiting for suggestions from the Department of Manpower on how the fund is to be administered,” a UIF spokesman said yesterday.

Dr Boraine yesterday urged the Government to reconsider the move.

He said it was “understandable” but would “seriously affect relations between management and worker and between worker and worker.”

If workers affected by lock-outs did not also benefit from the scheme, it would seem to be “one-sided,” he said.

And Shaw said that “instead of the fund, the Government should ensure that black workers who had difficulty drawing unemployment benefits because they were homeland citizens were helped to do so.”
FEARS have been expressed that the dispute between the General Workers Union (GWU) and the South African Transport Services (SATS) in Port Elizabeth could spread to other ports in the country, crippling imports and exports.

The business community has warned of possible national and international repercussions, particularly in view of the support for the dockers expressed by the International Transport Workers Union (ITF).

The deadlock between the GWU and SATS continued this weekend as dockworker and stevedore members of the GWU met to discuss the sacking of several hundred GWU dockworkers this week.

For 10 months the SATS has refused to talk to representatives of the GWU dispute approaches from industrialists, politicians and trade unions, nationally and internationally.

The SATS says it will deal only with its in-house staff associations, with whom it has a closed shop agreement.

On Monday about 360 GWU members out of a total black labour force of 1 100 at Port Elizabeth's harbour started a go-slow in an effort to force their employer, the SATS, to hold talks with the union.

This blank refusal by the SATS to talk to the union is in direct contrast to a recommendation made this week by the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, to employers to talk to unions — even those which are unregistered.

On Wednesday SATS dismissed 400 Port Elizabeth dockworkers, who were loaded on to buses and police vehicles in the harbour and taken to the black residential areas under police escort.

A spokesman for the GWU said workers were under the impression that all the union's members who were involved in the go-slow — about 800 — had been fired.

A SATS spokesman said the workers had been given an ultimatum to work normally or be fired.

On Thursday the harbour was unnaturally quiet. Only two ships were being unloaded. Few black workers were seen and reports were received of white SATS staff doing the work of the dockers.

The harbour entrances were manned by Railway Police, some in camouflage, who had been instructed to watch out for "unlawful entry" by the dismissed workers.

On Thursday 32 stevedores employed by the SA Stevedores Ltd downed tools in a demand that the company intervene in the dispute. After talks between officials and members of the stevedores' committee, the workers resumed work.

A SATS spokesman said workers would be paid all money owing to them on Friday at pay points outside the harbour and those who were migrant workers would be returned by train or bus to Ciskei or Transkei. But not one worker collected severance pay.

The workers are awaiting the outcome of today's meeting.
As recession takes its toll
Tens of thousands will lose jobs

South Africa is hit by a recession that is taking its toll, with tens of thousands of jobs lost. The economy is struggling, and the unemployment rate is rising. The government is implementing austerity measures to try and prevent a deeper recession, but the outlook remains grim.

We need to support small businesses and create jobs to help the economy recover. The government must work with the private sector to find solutions that will benefit all South Africans.

Let's work together to build a better future for our country.
PIKES INCREASE AS IONS TAKE STAND RETRENCHMENTS

Minister of Economic Affairs, Mr. M. M. Sala, warned that more workers would be laid off this year than last year and that the number of unemployed would rise to 21,9% of 1987 if the unemployment growth rate of 2.5% was maintained.

More than 1,300 workers have been laid off in the automobile industry so far this year, while thousands more are working a four-day week.

In June and July this year, more than 1,000 clothing workers lost their jobs and since then four clothing manufacturers have gone insolvent.

The Eastern Cape was hardest hit, one in four black workers lost their jobs. The area is unemploying only about 21.9% of the workforce.

Research by the Bureau for Economic Research at the University of Stellenbosch indicates that the skilled labour shortage has decreased from 41% last year to 35% now.

This does not mean an increase in skilled workers, but that production and staff rot has meant companies require fewer employees.

The bureau’s Dr. O. Stewart said the economy would decline sharply for the next year. Consumer demand would drop because of fears of inflation and low wage increases.

And Mr. Anstey, of the Institute for Industrial Relations, said many companies were disguising retrenchment by failing to replace staff.

He said retrenchments among all types of workers — including executives — were becoming a major issue and a step could be avoided for some time if companies gave the matter proper consideration.

“So far there have been 10 strikes reportedly caused by retrenchments. Some trade unions are taking a fairly strong stand. The National Union of South Africa, which has 49,000 members, has issued a six-point plan for avoiding retrenchments and the Metal and Allied Workers Union has worked out a similar strategy.”

Mr. Anstey said unemployment figures in South Africa were patchy. They were for homelands and independent states where unemployment was as high as 15% and generally only registered work-seekers were monitored.

He said certain groups should be protected from retrenchment, such as men doing military service, pregnant women or workers without urban residence rights.

There should be some corporate social responsibility in redundancies, he said, companies had several options.

BY MIKE CADMAN

A NATAL company is selling a cheap one-man plough — said to be capable of saving South African farmers hours of back-breaking work — which has been hailed as a breakthrough for poor farmers.

Made of steel and weighing just over 1 kg, the plough is light enough to be pushed by a man and reaches areas previously inaccessible to large implements.

The owners of the Maritzburg manufacturing firm claim it will enable farmers to plough a field in two hours — a task that would have taken a whole day to dig with a hoe.

“Tough plough is almost unbreakable and very simple in design,” Mr. Johnny Lloyd, managing director of the firm, said “It is deal for the person who needs a small area of land.

It is very easy to use — all the to do is push the implement and blade does the rest. The blade is that thou prove different.

Mr. Lloyd said he had seen a in the United States and thought worth experimenting with in South Africa.

“We have been very pleased response so far,” Mr. Rohan Martin, general manager, said “As far as we know it is the type available in the country C mainly rural black people. It about R55 at the factory gate.

“We intend approaching — governments and other organisations — with a hope that they will order the”.

A new push for farming the R55 one manpower plow

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Dockers won't return to work

Mail Correspondent

DURBAN — Striking Port Elizabeth dockers decided at a meeting this weekend not to return to work today, and stevedores in the city promised them "concrete support."

The General Workers' Union's 11-month recognition dispute with South African Transport Services resulted in a strike last week by hundreds of Port Elizabeth dockers.

Port Elizabeth stevedores threatened to strike in sympathy but agreed to hold off until they had met the dockers this weekend.

At Saturday's meeting, attended by about 1,000 workers, the dockers resolved not to return to work unless they were all reinstated and until SATS committed themselves to negotiations with workers' representatives.

SATS, which last week fired 460 dockers, insists it will deal only with its in-house staff associations and not with any "outsiders."

A statement released by GWU yesterday said SATS action in using the police to drive the dockers out of the harbour and the "brutal expulsion" of these workers from their accommodation had "generated considerable anger in the black community and among the affiliates of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITTF)."

The ITTF, one of the world's largest trade union federations, has made a last-minute plea in a telegram to the Ministers of Manpower and Transport to salvage the deteriorating labour situation in the docks.
Town
The luggage of the injured passengers was brought to the Provincial Hospital today.
Six of the passengers were hospitalized.

Third roulette victim to die in PE

By MIKE CADMAN
DURBAN – A Natal company is selling a cheap one-man "push plough" — said to be capable of saving South African farmers hours of backbreaking work — which...
VW turns down union's request for in-plant talks

By SANDRA SMITH

THE Volkswagen motor company in Uitenhage has told the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu) that it will not enter into in-plant talks with the union.

This was in reply to a letter from Naawu requesting that talks to reach an agreement on minimum wages and separation pay begin tomorrow.

VW's public affairs manager, Mr. Ruben Eils, said the company was prepared to negotiate through the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers Association (Epama).

Naawu has been committed to securing individual agreements with Ford, General Motors and VW since its withdrawal from the industry's industrial council last month after a deadlock in negotiations.

The VW shop stewards' committee met this morning to consider the company's response.

Ford has given an assurance that 507 workers retrenched last month will be given preference when vacancies arise, and new workers would only be taken on if the skills required were not held by any of the laid off workers.

New workers would also only be taken on after it is established that no worker in the plant where a vacancy exists can be promoted to fill the position.

Ford undertook to send telegrams to retrenched workers to tell them of vacancies, and to inform Naawu.

The union's general secretary, Mr. Freddy Sauls, said the agreement was a positive step by the company in re-establishing sound relations.
The police asked them questions in port and said it was not an appropriate place for them to be. The Sats spokesperson said the event was not provocative and everyone present was behaving normally. The GSU (General Service Union) of the General Workers Union also represented the workers, and it was not reported if they had any representation at the event.
Stevedores in attempt to end harbour deadlock

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

STEVEDORING employers and workers at Port Elizabeth harbour yesterday agreed to make a concerted last-minute effort to prevent the labour confrontation in the docks escalating into a stevedore's strike.

And a high-ranking delegation from the American union federation, the AFL-CIO, which arrived in Johannesburg yesterday, announced it had cancelled a planned meeting with South African Transport Services in protest against its actions.

The AFL-CIO men, who originally asked to meet SATS, said they would only meet SATS if the General Workers Union was also allowed to attend the meeting — SATS refused to meet the union — and attacked SATS' actions in the harbour.

“We believe in the right of workers to join unions of their choice and we could not meet an employer which has demonstrated it does not share that belief," delegation leader Mr "Chick" Chaikin said yesterday.

The decision by stevedoring employers and workers to seek a solution follows one by stevedores at the weekend to support their fellow members of the General Workers Union who were fired and bused out of the harbour by SATS last week.

It is believed that attempts will be made to break the deadlock between SATS and the GWU, and stevedoring employers yesterday appealed to SATS to talk to worker leaders in an attempt to settle the dispute and avert escalation.

However, both sides were pessimistic yesterday about the chances of preventing an escalation and sympathy action by the stevedores seemed likely.

Stevedores met their employer, SA Stevedores Limited, yesterday, after taking a decision to back the SATS dockers, thus raising fears of a crippling harbour strike.

In a statement, the company said the dock dispute had "regrettably spilled over into stevedoring operations".

It had been told by its worker committee that "workers have no option but to stage some form of sympathy action."

It said the industry had experienced harmonious relations through its dealings with the GWU over the past three years "and this in an industry which historically and worldwide has been characterised by industrial strife."
Dockers' strike may spread to Durban

Labour Reporter
FEARS of the Port Elizabeth dockers' strike spreading to all four of South Africa's major ports increased yesterday when stevedores warned their employers that unless the dispute were quickly resolved they would take 'sympathy action'.

The General Workers' Union, which claims to represent the Port Elizabeth dockers, is also the recognised representative of more than 2000 stevedores employed in the four major ports by one giant stevedoring company — S A Stevedores Ltd.

An employer source said it was highly likely that if the Port Elizabeth stevedores went on strike on Friday, it would spread to East London, Cape Town and Durban.

Meanwhile, at the port yesterday SATS claimed that the situation had returned to normal. More than 900 dockers returned to work.

But, the GWU rejected this as 'an attempt to understate the seriousness of the dispute' and said at least 700 SATS workers were out.

In a statement released after yesterday's meeting with Port Elizabeth stevedores, S A Stevedores said the dispute between SATS and its workers had now 'regrettably spilled over into the stevedoring corporation'.

'We have been told by our workers' committee that our workers have no other option but to stage some form of sympathy action,' it said.

'It added that the stevedoring employers sincerely hope therefore that the SATS will endeavour to resolve the confrontation by communicating with their relevant workers representatives'.

Traffic
Yesterday's statement from the union said The meeting agreed to explore certain avenues in order to prevent an escalation of the dispute. They will meet again today.

'The relationship between the stevedoring company and the GWU has been responsible for three-years of uninterrupted labour peace in the four harbours, but this peace has now been shattered by the SATS,' it said.

'It added that traffic in the port was expected to increase dramatically during the week, and white workers and labour recruited from other departments would be insufficient.'
SAT'S must talk to union, says ITF

By SANDRA SMITH

THE International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) today told the Director-General of the South African Transport Services (SATS), Dr Kobus Loubsier, that it was imperative SATS hold talks with the General Workers' Union (GWU) for industrial peace.

The ITF has in a lengthy correspondence over many months with SATS and the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr H Schoeman, urged that the transport services hold discussions with GWU.

SATS has said it cannot meet GWU representatives or deal with any body outside of its Staff Association.

In a telex to Dr Loubsier today the ITF's general secretary, Mr Harold Lewis, said he had referred to the banning of GWU members out of the harbour last week (400 GWU dockworkers were fired after a go-slow) in a tele as "arrests" because "it was my assumption from the fact that dockworkers were removed from the port by police" that they had been arrested.

He was aware of the law forbidding strikes in the SATS but an application of "the letter of the law" would solve nothing.

The SATS dockers had been seeking acknowledgement of their basic right to be represented by spokesmen of their own choosing, but management had not "given an inch".

SATS had instead insisted they rely on the Black Staff Association, in which the dockworkers had absolutely no confidence.

The GWU had repeatedly requested exploratory meetings without preconditions where questions of representation would be discussed "rationality and calmly", but all such requests had been "tacitly rejected."

The withdrawal of the dismissals and the opening of dialogue between the union and management was now imperative for industrial peace, Mr Lewis said.

It would be tragic if management sought a short-term solution by "heavy-handed sanctions which would only stir up worse trouble in future", he said.

A SATS spokesman said Dr Loubsier had not yet received the telex.

Meanwhile, the SA Stevedores Ltd had again approached the SATS in an attempt to persuade SATS to communicate with the elected representatives of Port Elizabeth dockworkers.

This was said by a spokesman for SA Stevedores today after the PC stevedore workers' committee of the GWU yesterday told the company that its employees would have no option but to give "sympathy action" to dismissed dockworkers if the dispute was not resolved soon.

The Fosatu affiliated Eastern Province Sweet, Food and Allied Workers Union and Chemical Workers Industrial Union last night passed resolutions supporting the GWU members and condemning SATS's sacking of the dockworkers.
STEVEDORES in Port Elizabeth have decided that if the dispute between the South African Transport Services and 800 dockers is not resolved soon, "they will be compelled to take action in support of the dockers," a spokesman for the General Workers' Union says.

Meanwhile, the South African Stevedores Employers Association (SASEA) has said it hopes SATS will "endeavour to resolve the confrontation by communicating with their relevant worker-elected representatives."

The stevedores' committee met management yesterday to discuss the recognition dispute between the GWU and SATS which has resulted in the dismissal of 400 dockers.

The GWU spokesman said it was "with great reluctance" that the stevedores had decided on support action.

"The relationship between the stevedoring companies and the GWU has been responsible for three years of uninterrupted labour peace in the four major ports. This peace has now been shattered by SATS in a manner which obliges the stevedores to lend their support."

Captain G J Stockley, chairman of SASEA, said in a statement that the stevedoring industry had experienced a harmonious relationship with its workers through the GWU for three years.

Meanwhile, the GWU has denied claims by SATS that the docks are working normally.

Mr David Lewis, general secretary, said "We estimate that at least 700 SATS workers are out..."
Black union stands firmly behind SATS

New law could have averted PE dock dispute

Mr Pemba said the BSA could also not accept the International Transport Workers Federation's support for the GWU and its criticism of the BSA.

The employers of more than 200 Port Elizabeth stevedores, SA Stevedores Ltd, have warned that their employees could embark on a sympathy strike with the dockworkers on Friday if the dispute is not resolved.

After a meeting with the stevedore workers' committee and GWU officials yesterday, a SA Stevedores spokesman said unless SATS resolved the dispute, "which revolves around their refusal to acknowledge the basic right of workers to associate freely", the stevedores would embark on a sympathy strike.

The company would attempt to resolve the issues through the Department of Manpower and senior SATS management, and would meet stevedore representatives again today, the spokesman said.

And today another trade union, the National Union of Textile Workers, condemned SATS for refusing to negotiate with the GWU.

The union said SATS's attitude "makes a mockery of the new labour dispensation", and was a serious violation of the international code of freedom of association.

By JERRY McCabe

The dockworker crisis in the Port Elizabeth harbour could have been averted had proposed changes to labour laws been passed, according to a Stellenbosch University industrial relations expert.

The draft Labour Relations Amendment Bill 1983, recently published in the Government Gazette, makes it possible for unregistered trade unions to apply to the Department of Manpower for the establishment of a conciliation board.

Here employees will meet employers to settle industrial disputes.

Professor "Blackie" Swart of the Department of Industrial Relations at the University of Stellenbosch, said the proposed amendments could force employers to negotiate with their workers even if they did not want to do so.

It would also be a forum for the settlement of disputes in areas where industrial councils had no jurisdiction and where one of the parties was a representative, unregistered trade union or employers' organisation.

According to the head of the Department of Industrial Relations at the University of Port Elizabeth, Professor Roux van der Merwe, this could create a forum where the employer was compelled to listen to his employees - even if they belonged to an unregistered trade union.

The dispute between dockworkers of the General Workers' Union (GWU) and the South African Transport Services (SATS) has been compounded by SATS refusal to negotiate with the unregistered GWU.

About 400 dockers have been fired.

"By refusing to talk to the union, SATS are short-circuiting the very principles of labour relations in this country," Prof Van der Merwe said.

He predicted a "great deal of trouble" in the South African labour situation in the period prior to the amendments being passed by Parliament.

"It is a significant move in the right direction, but it has unfortunately come a bit late," Prof van der Merwe said.

Prof Swart said the success of the changes mooted in the Labour laws assumed "that the union involved is prepared to make use of this facility".

Although he could only speculate about what action GWU would have taken, he assumed that "in this specific situation they might just have used the machinery available to them".

He said whereas the labour legislation amendments theoretically also applied to SATS, it depended on whether or not they could be classified as a public service body.

The public service is exempt from labour legislation.

"SATS are more of a State corporation than a private sector," Prof Swart said.

"SATS were bound to consider the consequences of any action they took," he said.

He said it could be expected that dockworker unions in other countries would sympathise with the GWU dockworkers and this could result in an international boycott on unloading South African ships and goods at foreign ports.
Bid to defuse docks dispute

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

STEVEDORES in Port Elizabeth harbour plan to strike in sympathy with fired SA Transport Services workers, unless the dispute between SATS and the General Workers Union is settled by Friday, a statement by SA Stevedores Limited, which employs the stevedores, said last night.

The statement also contains the clearest call yet by stevedoring employers for SATS to deal with the GWU, saying the dispute centred around SATS's "refusal to acknowledge the basic right of workers to associate freely."

A sympathy strike could have a serious effect on harbour operations and on the flow of imports into Port Elizabeth, and, as discussions between South Africa's major stevedoring company, SA Stevedores, and union representatives continued yesterday, the company revealed it was talking to both the Department of Manpower and SATS in an attempt to find a solution.

At the weekend stevedores employed by the company decided to actively support their fellow-GWU members, who were fired and bussed out of the harbour last week, after embarking on a go-slow in support of union recognition demands. Since then, talks between the GWU stevedores committee and SA Stevedores have been taking place daily in an attempt to prevent the dispute escalating. The two parties are due to meet again today.

In its statement, SA Stevedores said it had met its worker committee and GWU officials yesterday in an attempt to "avoid the dispute between SATS and their workers spilling over to the stevedoring industry."

"It seems likely that unless the SATS management and their dismissed workers resolve their dispute, which revolves around the refusal to acknowledge the basic right of workers to associate freely, the stevedoring workers will embark on a sympathy strike commencing on Friday. We are attempting through the Department of Manpower and senior SATS management to resolve the issue," the statement said.

The International Transport Workers Federation has urged SATS to hold talks with the GWU.
1,000 Brits workers come out on strike

About 1,000 workers at two Brits engineering plants owned by B and S Engineering downed tools yesterday, apparently in protest at the sacking of a colleague.

It is understood the strike follows talks between the company and Fosatu's Metal and Allied Workers' Union over union recognition.

Masua, together with another Fosatu union, the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union, is increasingly active in Brits.

The area is becoming a centre of worker activity and there have been several strikes there this year — most of them over retrenchments.

This is the second strike to hit B and S in the last few weeks. Recently workers at the Brits plants downed tools in protest at planned retrenchments but the dispute was later resolved.

Reports reaching the Rand Daily Mail yesterday claimed the company had closed the plants and fired the workers, but this could not be confirmed.

A company spokesman would only confirm that workers had gone on strike.

He said a full statement would be made today.
1000 workers laid off

Labour Correspondent

ABOUT 1000 striking workers — the entire work force — at two Brits plants owned by B and S Engineering were laid off yesterday, a company spokesman announced.

The plants have been closed until next Monday.

This is the second strike to hit the plants in the past few weeks. Most of the workers belong to Fosatu's Metal and Allied Workers Union.

The spokesman said B and S told workers they would be interviewed for re-employment on Friday, but not all would be taken back.

"The workers have been laid off on the grounds that they have shown they don't wish to work. We will definitely not take back those who haven't been pulling their weight," he said.

A Fosatu source said a Johannesburg Union organiser travelled to Brits in an attempt to settle the dispute.

The workers downed tools on Tuesday, apparently in protest at the dismissal of a colleague. The company says the fired man refused to report to a new operation to which he had been assigned.

Some weeks ago the plant was hit by a strike over planned retrenchments.
Boycott in the balance

A meeting between Barlow Rand and the National Union of Textile Workers will decide whether a consumer boycott of the group's Uitenhage textile plant will be put into effect.

More than 1,000 workers at the group's Veldspun plant were dismissed when they struck in support of 60 retrenched colleagues.

Workers have organised pamphlets urging the boycott of white-owned businesses in Uitenhage but are awaiting the outcome of talks before acting.
PE dock dispute points to SATS resisting reform

THE sacking of hundreds of Port Elizabeth dockworkers after their go-slow last week raises important questions about conservative resistance in the State bureaucracy to Government "reforms" and about the impact the disarray in Afrikaner Nationalism is having on those reforms themselves.

Mr. David Lewis, general secretary of the General Workers Union, believes both aspects are important in trying to understand the hardline stance taken by South African Transport Services against recognizing the General Workers' Union.

The refusal of SATS over the last year to even talk to the unregistered GWU appears on the surface an inexplicable rejection of one of the guiding principles in the Government's new labour dispensation — that management and unions keep talking whether the union is registered or not.

The paradox of the Government's stand has been emphasized by Rhodes University sociologist Mr. Paul Stewart.

"To call for employers in the private sector to keep the channels for dialogue open and simultaneously refuse to negotiate with the representative worker organization in the docks is patently absurd," he said.

Indications are that the SATS stand — with all its implications for further unrest and perhaps international reaction — has not been greeted favourably by the Department of Manpower, although inter-departmental meeting will no doubt keep Manpower effectively sidelined in the dispute.

Mr. Lewis believes two main reasons can be found for SATS's stand bureaucratic opposition from within SATS itself to the Government's "liberal" labour policy and, running complementary, concern by the Government at the political fall-out among conservative white transport unions at any bowing to demands from an unregistered independent union representing black workers.

- Both points raise interesting issues.

Bureaucratic resistance to new Government directions is not specific to SATS Senior officials in the Department of Co-operation and Development fought tooth and nail against a policy change that accepted blacks as permanent urban residents. While in Community Development a fierce rearguard action was waged against shifts in the Government's housing policies.

In many cases — especially at middle-management level — the resistance to innovations in policy is likely to increase as the traditionally conservative and inept civil service confronts the new breed of P.W Botha technocrat.

Mr. Lewis believes it is precisely this battle which is playing itself out in SATS at the moment.

The retiring General Manager, Dr. Kobus Loubsker, is taking a strong stand against any changes to the traditional SATS worker organization which has been characterised in the past by strong paternalism on the part of management and ineffective representation on the part of union leaders.

Other observers believe the issue is complicated by the fact that Mr. Hendrik Schoeman, Minister of Transport, is comparatively new in his post and has shown at critical junctures in the recent past a questionable grasp of the issues at stake.

The second aspect involves the Government's will to push forward unambiguously with its more enlightened policies in the labour field following the CP-NP split.

The question has particularly significant in SATS which has in South Africa's political economy traditionally had an importance far beyond the service it renders. Along with other major para-statals it provided a powerful instrument for the social upliftment of the Afrikaner from the 1930s onwards through what amounted to State socialism.

But the State can no longer carry the cost of a huge and underproductive transport service and the Government no longer sees the political need to financially underwrite what is in any case a diminishing socio-economic group.

What has this to do with SATS's refusal to talk to the GWU?

Mr. Lewis believes that with the particular tensions between Government and white transport workers — the shift from sheltered to competitive employment, staff cut-backs, overtime cutbacks, high inflation and the emergence of a powerful Right-wing party — it is not exactly the time SATS would choose to deliberately antagonise the white unions by recognizing GWU.

One of the few reasons SATS has advanced for refusing to talk to the GWU is that it would destroy the existing system of worker organisation in the transport sector. Significantly, this stand has been strongly endorsed by the white union leaders.

The renewed Government concern for the interests of white workers is not peculiar to the SATS. Only last week Mr. Fanie Botha, Minister of Manpower, announced financial assistance for those "loyal, experienced, skilled" elements of the automobile workforce who are affected by strikes of others.

In the Eastern Cape context the scheme — widely critisised as "impractical" — is clearly aimed at white workers who in the existing conditions of industrial unrest provide prime recruiting material for the Conservative Party.

"If the Government is concerned about the political leaning of white auto workers, how much more so must it be about the sympathies of the white transport workers.
Sacked dockers in plea on strike

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — Hundreds of dismissed SA Transport Service (Sats) dockers yesterday decided to recommend to Port Elizabeth's stevedores that they await the outcome of talks between their employers, SA Stevedoring Ltd (SAS), and the Department of Manpower before embarking on a strike in sympathy with the dockers.

The year-long dispute between the General Workers Union (GWU) and Sats came to a head last week when Sats fired the dockers for refusing to call off a go-slow they had begun in an effort to win the right to be represented by the GWU.

Numerous GWU requests for a meeting with Sats management have been turned down. Sats refuses to talk to the union and will deal only with its Black Staff Association (BSA) in matters relating to its black employees.

The BSA claims membership of 300 workers in the harbour while the GWU claims membership of around 800.

At a meeting held yesterday with the Port Elizabeth stevedores committee and GWU officials, SAS informed them that they planned to meet senior officials of the Department of Manpower in Pretoria in an effort to find a resolution to the dock dispute.

A statement issued by the GWU said the recommendation of Sats workers underlined the union's commitment to negotiation.

Possibility

"As long as there is a possibility, however slim, of a negotiated resolution, our members will talk. It is only when faced with a blanket refusal to talk that they will embark on industrial action."

"If the Department of Manpower is able to secure the implementation of the spirit of the new labour dispensation it will be able to prevent a damaging escalation of the present dispute, and we anxiously await the outcome of the meeting," said the statement.

The stevedoring employers and they had put "certain proposals" to the stevedores committee and the GWU officials and confirmed that they had undertaken to go to Pretoria to meet Department of Manpower officials.

The stevedores are to meet today to discuss the proposals and to take a decision on their planned sympathy strike in the light of the recommendations from the dockers.

Dispute

In a statement earlier this week, SAS made clear its view that the dock dispute revolved around Sats's "refusal to acknowledge the basic right of workers to associate freely."

A Sats spokesman said harbour activities were "still normal" and no additional workers had been brought in to cope with additional traffic.
Support for SATS in harbour dispute

Post Reporter

THE executive of the Port Elizabeth Forwarding Agents Association, whose members control the movement of cargoes through the Port Elizabeth harbour, both inward and outward, have come out in support of South African Transport Services.

After a meeting yesterday at which the latest harbour developments in the labour situation were discussed, the association issued a Press release which said:

"A good deal of Press coverage has been given to this issue, the tenor of which supports the principle of dialogue between the SATS and its workers through the medium of the General Workers Union.

SATS, on the other hand, will not recognise the unregistered GWU, whose strength, taking the most optimistic of conflicting reports, totals possibly some 500 dockworkers.

This decision must be viewed against the background that there are established lines of communication through the SATS staff association acceptable to in excess of a quarter of a million workers, also there is no apparent dispute as such between SATS and its black employees since no grievances have been defined," the statement says.

"The PE Forwarding Agents Association wishes to associate itself with the stand taken by SATS and view with concern the current involvement of stevedoring labour in what is essentially a domestic matter between the SATS and its employees."
Stevedore employers meet Schoeman

Pretoria Bureau

The Minister of Transport, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, this morning held a last minute conference with the general manager of South African Transport Services, Mr J G Loubsen, before meeting employers of Port Elizabeth stevedores who are threatening to strike.

The stevedores have warned they will hold a strike in sympathy with 400 fellow dock workers dismissed last week by SATS for conducting a go-slow strike.

SATS has refused to hold talks with the General Workers Union which represents the stevedores and the sacked dockworkers.

Mr Schoeman was called on to intervene in the dispute.

A GWU spokesman said the stevedore employers had undertaken to meet officials of the Department of Manpower today in an effort to resolve the dispute.

SA Stevedores management contends that the problem stems from the denial by SATS of the basic right of "freedom of association".

The SATS workers have recommended to the stevedores that they postpone tomorrow's planned strike pending the outcome of today's talks.

The GWU spokesman said the recommendation of the SATS workers undermined the union's commitment to the Industrial Conciliation Board.

For extensions in scope. If so, could you please indicate if your union has made any application act. In the light of the 1979 amendments to the Industrial Conciliation Board.

South African Federation of Chemical and Allied Workers

South African Council of Transport Workers

South African Federation of Leather Trade Unions

South African Council of Mining Unions

Board of Water Board Unions Joint Committee

Pulp and Paper Industry's Joint Committee

Federation of Salaries Staff Associations of South Africa

APPENDIX TO INDUSTRIAL CONCILIATION BOARD:

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Labour Reporter

The management of South African Stevedores Ltd meet senior officials of the Department of Manpower in Pretoria today to discuss the dispute between the South African Transport Services (SATS) and the General Workers' Union in Port Elizabeth harbour.

Port Elizabeth stevedores told their management this week they would begin a sympathy strike tomorrow if the dispute between the 800 dockers and SATS management was not resolved.

Spike

The dockers have been on strike for more than a week after SATS fired 400 workers for taking part in a go-slow.

The SATS workers have recommended to the stevedores that they postpone tomorrow's planned strike, pending the outcome of talks with the Department of Manpower.

The stevedores will meet today to discuss the recommendation and will give their decision to management.

Resolution

"As long as there is a possibility, however slim, of a negotiated resolution, our members will talk. It is only when faced with a blanket refusal to talk that they will embark on industrial action," said a spokesman for the General Workers Union.

Mr Leon Els, public relations officer for SATS, said he assumed the stevedore management was going to contact SATS management, as well as meeting the Department of Manpower.

However, everything at the docks was going "according to plan," he said.
Urgent talks on fired dockers

Labour Correspondent

Senior officials of SA Stevedores Limited, which employs stevedores in all the major ports, are flying to Pretoria to meet senior Department of Manpower officials today in an attempt to find a solution to the labour dispute in Port Elizabeth harbour.

As a result of this initiative, fired SA Transport Services (SATS) dockers have suggested to stevedores that they delay their planned sympathy strike, which is due to begin tomorrow.

The stevedores will consider the suggestion today. The threatened stevedores' strike follows last week's firing and busting out of Port Elizabeth harbour of hundreds of SATS dockers who were on a go-slow. The go-slow was a reaction to SATS' 11-month refusal to talk to the General Workers Union (GWU), to which the fired dockers and the stevedores belong.

Since the firings, SATS and the GWU have been trying to find a solution to the SATS impasse in an attempt to avert a potentially crippling strike.

The company has backed calls for talks between SATS and the union, saying that the dispute centres around the workers' right to join a union of their choice.

A statement issued by the GWU yesterday said in the light of today's talks between the department and the company, a general meeting of SATS dockers yesterday "recommended to the stevedores that they postpone Friday's sympathy action pending the outcome of (the) talks."

The union said that the recommendation by the dockers that the action be delayed "underlines the GWU's commitment to negotiation."

It said "As long as there is a possibility, however slim, of a negotiated resolution, our members will talk and only when faced with a blanket refusal to talk will they embark on industrial action."
Recognise trade union

Why Minister will not

By Gerry McCabe
Lewis questions implied threat

Post Reporter

The secretary of the General Workers' Union, Mr David Lewis, said today it would be intriguing to find out what the private sector thought about the implied threat made by the Minister of Transport against stevedoring companies in the docks.

He was responding to a statement yesterday by Mr Hendrik Schoeman, Minister of Transport, setting out the Government's standpoint on the recent dockworkers' unrest.

Mr Schoeman — referring to threats of sympathy strike action by stevedores — said he hoped unrest would not take place and called upon the parties concerned to take note that the parties performed their business in the harbours under licence.

Mr Lewis today referred to the "spectacle" of the State seeking the cooperation of the public sector on the one hand while publicly making arrogant threats against them when they did not conform in the terms laid down by a single department.

"Is the Minister saying that cooperation with the private sector will only be on Government terms?"

Yesterday executives of SA Stevedoring Ltd held meetings in Pretoria with Department of Manpower.
Pretoresa Bureau

THE Artisan Staff Association yesterday warned the Ministe of Transport. It seemed Mr Hendrik Schoeman of ‘serious trouble’ because he attempted to negotiate with the General Workers’ Union in Port Elizabeth.

Asa president Mr J.J. Zurch said in Pretoria that the GWU was seeking recognition from the Minister of Railways and Management. Its aim was the right to negotiate directly with the Minister. This was totally opposed by Asa, and we told this to the Minister yesterday.

“The Minister agrees to talk to these people. It could be the start of chaos and labour relations on the Railways,” Mr Zurch said. He told the Minister that the GWU and Port Elizabeth Railway workers could not accept any cuts for the coming budget.

In Mbabe the court yesterday heard charges of illegally possessing weapons.

The court said that Richard Nymkalo, 26, and Moses Mabul was ordered to change his name to Joxene. He has not yet been able to return to the Newlands Junior School. Her fingernails were blackened and destroyed by the disease. She was recorded and partly regrown.

Her toenails have yet to make the same progress. The hair which had fallen out has started to grow again.

The doctor said that in the near future he hoped to cut down Linda’s visits to him from one to 10 days to one in three weeks because her progress had been so good.

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Sining out the 'loyals'

Government's decision to compensate eastern Cape motor industry workers who do not strike, but who cannot work because factories are strike-bound, makes political sense in the short-term. But the long-term benefits for industrial relations are debatable.

The decision was made in the wake of pleas from the SA Iron, Steel and Allied Workers' Union (SAISAWU), an influential force in the conservative all-white SA Confederation of Labour. A sum of R2m from the Unemployment Insurance Fund (UIF) has been set aside to aid "loyal" motor industry workers of all races. It will be used for future strikes and not those which have occurred already.

Astute observers of the volatile eastern Cape labour scene are convinced that government's main motive is to placate disgruntled SAISAWU members. They have lost earnings due to stoppages caused by black and coloured members of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawu). This has occurred at a time when the Conservative Party (CIP) is claiming growing support in the region.

The official view in Pretoria is, however, that the scheme demonstrates government's concern for workers of all races who act responsibly and, through no fault of their own, lose earnings. Senior government men say the high unemployment and the labour instability experienced in the eastern Cape are also factors which favour such a scheme. They point out that the money has been allocated in terms of Section 46 of the Unemployment Insurance Act, which provides for relief of jobless workers.

Manpower Director-General Dr Piet van der Merwe emphasises that the scheme will not be used in a legal strike because it would then be seen as an official strike-breaking fund. But the fact that virtually all the 342 strikes and stoppages in SA last year were illegal in terms of SA's labour laws raises the question whether government will be inundated with appeals for aid in the future.

"We will have to look at each case very carefully," says Van der Merwe.

The chances are that government will not be faced with many demands if the current pattern of strikes and stoppages continues. Most are of very short duration and it is possible for most employers to provide work to non-striking workers. But should this pattern change, with many strikes becoming lengthy trials of strength, the costs to the UIF could be vast.

The scheme has been angrily condemned by emerging unions, but has provoked varying responses from employers. Those in the motor industry tend to be against it. One senior executive describes it as "alarming" while Fred Ferreira, Ford's director of industrial relations, says it is "undesirable."

They are concerned about the prospect of being called on to identify who the strikers and non-strikers are - something which could expose them to accusations of victimisation (Naawu has, for example, claimed that on some occasions in the dispute its members were willing to work, but were unable to because factory gates were locked. Employers have insisted that too few workers arrived for production to be resumed). It may also be difficult to determine whether a worker is a striker or non-striker.
Schoeman rejects PE dock unions

By Tony Davis, Labour Reporter

Despite increasing labour unrest at the Port Elizabeth harbour, the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman has categorically rejected any form of negotiation with an unregistered trade union which claims membership among his workers.

In a hard-line statement issued last night, he said that dealing with "outside" unions could lead to an end to the more than 30 years of labour peace in the SA Transport Services.

But trade unions and employers in the Eastern Cape have said the recent unrest at the harbour is the result of the unwillingness of SATS to deal with a representative trade union.

And yesterday executives of SA Stevedores Ltd, which employs stevedores at the harbour, flew to Pretoria and met senior Department of Manpower officials to seek a resolution to the unrest.

Stevedores at Port Elizabeth had threatened a sympathy strike today in support of the more than 400 dock workers who were dismissed by SATS last week for refusing to abandon a go-slow protest.

But the stevedores have said they will postpone any action until next Wednesday when they will hold another meeting with employers.

Mr Schoeman stated that SATS workers were not allowed to strike because they were part of a State-controlled enterprise which was a "strategic infrastructure service."

He said that dock workers had a representative trade union to act on their behalf and SATS did not want to deal with any union which was outside its "sphere of influence."

The General Workers Union has members among SATS workers as well as the stevedores and has a recognition agreement with the stevedore employers.

If SATS was to recognise another union, this would lead to a proliferation in the number of unions and would end the labour peace which SATS had enjoyed for more than 30 years, Mr Schoeman claimed.

"SATS workers can't strike"

Against this background, I have no other choice but to stand by the time-honoured standpoint that the SA Transport Services will not recognise external trade unions," he said.

The Port Elizabeth harbour is being managed by more than 600 workers and the GWU has warned that they will not be able to handle any increase in the volume of traffic at the docks.

Port authorities have said they will not take on any new workers to replace dismissed staff. SATS has drawn widespread criticism from overseas unions and there are fears by employers in the Eastern Cape that the continuing unrest could lead to international boycotts.

A delegation of the powerful American labour federation, the AFL-CIO, will be in Port Elizabeth next Monday and also has a meeting planned with the executive of the GWU in Cape Town.
Transport committee 'will listen to anyone'  

Post Reporter

A SPOKESMAN for the South African Transport Services (SATS) said he was sure a committee set up by the Department of Transport Affairs to investigate the SATS "would be only too glad to listen to everyone".

This was in response to a statement by the General Workers Union (GWU) that the committee may be one way of speaking to the Department.

More than 400 of the union's dock worker members were sacked by SATS this month after a go-slow in an attempt to force the Transport Services to hold talks with the GWU.

Last week, the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, revealed that a committee had been set up to investigate among other things, SATS' labour relations structure.

The SATS spokesman said today the committee had been set up "some months ago to look into the SATS' overall organisation".

"If the GWU interprets this as a potential solution to the situation, I am sure the committee would be only too glad to listen to everyone."

Replying to the GWU's statement that a re-statement of all the sacked workers was crucial for a resolution of the dispute, the SATS spokesman said the 425 sacked dockworkers were no longer employed by SATS and would have to go to a SATS labour office if they wished to be re-employed.

He stressed, however, that there were enough dockworkers in the harbour and that SATS did not intend to recruit more labour at present.

He also disputed the GWU's claim that other than those who were dismissed, more than 300 of the union's members were staying away from work.

About 40 dockworkers were absent without leave, he said, and about 400 were working normally.
Naawu refers talk to its lawyers

By SANDRA SMITH

THE National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) has referred statements about trade unions made by the head of the Department of Economics at the University of Port Elizabeth, Professor J H Smith, to its attorneys.

Naawu's general secretary, Mr Freddy Sauls, said today the union did not wish to comment on Prof Smith's allegations and had referred the matter to the union's attorneys.

Addressing the Afrikaanse Sakekamer of Murraysburg at the weekend, Prof Smith said the nature of strikes and "labour unrest" in the Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage areas indicated that the economic onslaught against South Africa, which was part of a "total onslaught", had reached a national level.

He said strikers' actions were "finely planned" in accordance with "the East German 'model", whose union leaders had been trained "behind the iron curtain".

Negotiations were conducted specifically at a time when the motor industry was in a decline, Prof Smith claimed, so that they could be negotiated from a position of strength.

Multinational companies were chosen as strike targets so that their parent companies would pressure them to concede to demands.

The aim was also to escalate costs to such an extent that it would be unattractive for foreign companies to invest in South Africa, he said.

The underlying strategy was to keep a strike going as long as possible and thereby to "incite" as much "unrest" as possible.

Grievances could then more easily be used "for terrorism, movements and sabotage".

The real reasons for strikes were thus not economic, but political, with the aim of destroying the free enterprise system.

Naawu represents more than 10,000 workers in the Eastern Province automobile industry. Its members recently went on strike after wage talks broke down.

The Executive Director of the Midland Chamber of Industries, Mr Brian Matthew, and the head of the Department of Industrial Relations at UPE, Professor Roux van der Merwe, have criticised Prof Smith's statements.
Mawu slams hardline plants

The more than 10,000-strong Metal and Allied Workers' Union has strongly condemned the management of two plants engineering plants for refusing to talk to working workers in an attempt to peacefully settle the labour unrest.

In a statement to The SOWETAN, the union says the workers are determined to continue the struggle to get their dismissed colleagues reinstated.

About 1,000 workers employed at B and S Engineering companies went on strike last week, apparently in protest against the sacking of a colleague.

The union says that the management refused to talk to shop stewards when approached and that this action was not in line with a "peaceful solution for a settlement."

"Management has attempted to re-recruit the workers, but the vast majority of them have refused to be re-employed as they consider themselves as still in the employ of B and S."

"To date management has been able to fill only unskilled positions," the statement says.
Damage to car linked with docks strike

Labour Reporter
A DURBAN unionist for the General Workers' Union, Mr Mike Morris, has linked the throwing of a rock through his car windscreen late on Sunday night to the dockers' dispute in Port Elizabeth.

The year-long dispute between the General Workers' Union and the South African Transport Services over the right of Port Elizabeth dockers to belong to an 'outside' union recently broke out into a dockers' strike. The dockers were subsequently fired.

Mr Morris said he woke up yesterday morning to find that someone had thrown a rock 'as big as a soccer ball' through the windscreen of his car.

Mayville police station was contacted and police said they would investigate the matter.

Incidents
Mr Morris said this was the climax of a spate of incidents which had begun shortly before the Port Elizabeth dockers' dispute came to a head.

'On two occasions my car tyres have been let down. On one of them, the car had been surrounded by other cars in the carpark outside Addington Hospital, but none of the others had been touched,' he said.

The day before the dockers started their go-slow, our Durban office was broken into and the briefcase of the union's general secretary, Dave Lewis, was stolen.

'In the briefcase was the SATS dockers' file as well as Dave's identity documents,' he added.

Mr Morris said these were clearly attempts to harass the union because of its involvement in the dockers' dispute.

'As soon as the sort of climate exists as that between the Port Elizabeth dockers and SATS, union officials become targets for Right-wing maniacs.'
Stevedores
in PE talks
on dispute

By SANDRA SMITH

The SA Stevedores company met the General Workers Union (GWU) local stevedores' committee today to discuss developments in the Port Elizabeth dock dispute.

The dispute revolves around the union's year-long attempts to hold talks with the South African Transport Services (SATS), and led to the sacking this month of 425 dockworkers after a go-slow.

More than 200 harbour stevedores belonging to the GWU have demanded their management intervene.

They staged a three-hour work-stoppage on the day the dockworkers were dismissed and were escorted from the harbour by police.

SA Stevedores has warned that their employees might embark on a sympathy strike — which would bring business in the harbour to a standstill — if the issue was not resolved.

Company spokesmen have emphasized the stevedoring industry has experienced a harmonious relationship with its workers through the GWU during the last three years, despite the fact that it is an industry which, worldwide and historically, has been characterised by industrial strife.

Last week, SA Stevedores representatives met officials of the Department of Manpower in an attempt to persuade SATS that it was necessary to communicate with “their workers’ elected representatives.”

The next day, the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr. Hendrik Schoeman, levelled veiled threats at the stevedore employers that they could lose their licence to operate in South African harbours.

He restated the official position that recognition of an “outside” union by a State body would lead to “an endless proliferation” of unions.
Causes of Cape labour strife

Industrial Reporter

A SHORTAGE of unskilled labour in the Cape is causing social, political and economic problems, according to the Minister of Manpower, Mr S P Botha.

The latest issue of the Cape Chamber of Industries' weekly bulletin released yesterday says the minister told businessmen at a meeting in the City this month that the shortage necessitated the importation of contract labour from Transkei and Ciskei, which led to problems including squatting.

The minister referred to illegal strikes and negotiating problems, the bulletin said.

Bargaining

He noted that some unions had a strong preference for bargaining at plant level and many employers had entered into such agreements.

"There was no legal objection to this, but the industrial council system was being attacked and undermined in certain quarters."

Mr Botha provided statistics showing that time lost from strikes and the average duration of strikes in South Africa compared well with other industrialized countries.

The country needed industrial-relations specialists, he said, leaders and managers who were capable of handling problems and managing change. It also needed workers who were loyal to their organizations.
Hopes rise for PE docks peace

Labour Correspondent

HOPE that an escalation of the labour dispute in Port Elizabeth docks will be avoided rose yesterday after a meeting between stevedores committee of the General Workers Union (GWU) and SA Stevedores Ltd, which runs stevedoring operations at the harbour.

The GWU's general secretary Mr David Lewis said the two sides had a "fruitful and important meeting" and added that proposals which had been discussed would today and tomorrow be put to meetings of stevedores and dock workers fired by SA Trans-Port Services.

The SATS dockers were fired and bussed out of the harbour after launching a go-slow in support of demands that SATS talk to the GWU about recognition. SATS has refused to do this for the past 11 months.

SA Stevedores has warned that its workers have planned a sympathy strike in support of the fired dockers and their demand for reinstatement as well as talks between SATS and the GWU.

Since the two parties have been seeking ways to prevent this, a move which has involved attempts to settle the dispute between SATS and its dockers.

Mr Lewis would not elaborate on yesterday morning's discussions.

But it is likely that worker meetings will discuss whether the GWU should give evidence to a committee set up by the Minister of Transport Affairs, Mr Hendrik Schoeman, to examine SATS's labour relations structures.

Although SATS says the committee was established in May, its existence was revealed for the first time in a statement by Mr Schoeman late last week.

Some sources see a decision by the GWU to give evidence to the committee as a way of beginning communication between the union and SATS and as a way of resolving the dispute.

...
Zulu pupils boycott exams, smash windows

African Affairs Reporter

PUPILS of KwaDlangezwa High School, near Empangeni, boycotted classes and broke windows this week after refusing to write trial exams, Capt S van Rooyen, public relations officer for the police, confirmed yesterday.

He said the trouble began last Tuesday when the pupils demanded that the quarterly exams be suspended until they wrote the final exam because they felt that it was waste of time to write the tests.

Capt van Rooyen said there was no serious damage and everything was back to normal.

Meanwhile, the KwaZul Department of Education has sent officials to investigate the pupils' action.

Mr J E Ndlovu, KwaZulu's Secretary of Education, confirmed that he had received information of disturbances at the school.
ABOUT 1 000 workers at Unilever Brothers in Boksburg yesterday downed tools in demand of higher wages.

The workers are demanding a wage increase of 38 percent but the company says it is prepared to give them only an increase of 15.7 percent. The company is supposed to implement the new increase from October 1.

Unilever is a British company that manufactures mainly soap and

Date

Degree/Diploma/Certificate you are registered (e.g. B.A)

Subject (to be copied from the header)

Paper No (to be copied from the header)

1st products. A spokesman for the workers' committee said they had started negotiating with management in July but since then there had been a stalemate.

Most of the workers are members of the Food Beverage Workers' Union, which is affiliated to the Council of Unions of South Africa (Cusa). The workers first demanded an increase of 73 percent before settling for the 38 percent they are now demanding.

By MZIKAYISE EDOM

Internal External

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CONTINUE

Representatives of the Food Beverage Workers' Union yesterday met with management to continue talks on the proposed wage increase. The meeting ended in a deadlock and both management and union agreed to hold further talks on this subject.

A spokesman for Unilever in Durban confirmed that most of the 1 100 workers at the company's Boksburg branch held a pre-strike yesterday morning. The spokesman said the company was already paying the workers at least 25 percent more than the market rate.

AGREED

He said general increases in the pay were normally granted at the end of the year. He said Unilever had, however, agreed with the union to bring the increases forward to October 1, providing the company and the union reached an agreement on a "reasonable" increment.

NOTE CAREFULLY

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

WARNING

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

Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.
Workers, students may act on textile sackings

Labour Correspondent

WORKERS in Uitenhage have decided to boycott white shops in the town in support of demands for the reinstatement of fired strikers at a local textile plant, Veldspun International, Fosatu unionists said yesterday.

The boycott move may be part of a union and student campaign on the Veldspun dispute. Wits students are believed to be planning a campaign around the fact that Veldspun is a subsidiary of Rotemate, a member of the Barlow Rand group, and that the Barlow Rand executive chairman, Mr Mike Rosholt, is chancellor of the university.

The Veldspun dispute centred around the refusal of about 60 of the company's workers to do the work of 25 retrenched colleagues, Fosatu's National Union of Textile Workers allege that the workers were fired as a result and that when about 1,000 of their colleagues downed tools in protest, they were also fired.

The union called on Barlow Rand to intervene in terms of its internal labour code.

Yesterday, Fosatu unionists said the federation's regional committee in Uitenhage had decided to launch a boycott of white-owned shops in the town to support the reinstatement demands.

If the dispute was not resolved by October 16 — the date of Fosatu's next central committee meeting — Fosatu would discuss further action against the company. A Fosatu-sponsored boycott campaign could be launched, they added.

It is understood that Wits students have invited Mr Obed Zuma, general secretary of the National Union of Textile Workers, to address a meeting and might invite Mr Rosholt to do likewise.

A Barlow Rand spokesman said yesterday that Mr Rosholt was going abroad and referred queries to Rotemate, whose spokesman could not be reached.
SATS still not talking to dockers

Labour Reporter

THE deadlock between South African Transport Services and about 800 Port Elizabeth dockers who have been on strike since 400 were dismissed two weeks ago, is unresolved

Union call for talks on staffing

Labour Reporter

THE General Workers Union has asked to appear before the South African Transport Services Committee of Investigation into staff associations

A meeting of 506 dismissed and striking dockers in Port Elizabeth yesterday elected a delegation to see the committee

"The willingness of SATS to investigate its labour relations structure is one critical ingredient in the resolution of the current conflict and we would welcome the opportunity to make presentations," a union spokesman said

"RESOLUTION"

He said the workers hoped the committee would permit "sombre and dispassionate reflection" by both parties and that it would promote a "much-needed" resolution of the dispute

Mr Leon Eis, public relations officer of SATS, said the committee was appointed in May "to look at the staff and labour structure inside our organisation"

The Minister of Transport, Mr H Schoeman, said last week that SATS had appointed the committee to ensure that the labour relations structure "fully meets present day needs"

SATS still refuses to negotiate with the men or their union

The General Workers Union (GWU), to which the dismissed men and strikers belong, claims to represent about 80 percent of the workers in the harbour

A spokesman for the GWU said about 860 dockers in Port Elizabeth joined the union at the end of last year, but with retrenchments and transfers, membership had dropped to about 770

The SATS workforce in the Port Elizabeth docks before the dismissal of 422 workers was about 660

Commentators, including leading industrialists, say the dispute revolves around the question of freedom of association

A spokesman for the South African Stevedoring Company Ltd, which has a recognition agreement with the GWU in the four major South African ports, has appealed to SATS to talk with their "relevant elected workers representatives"

Puzzle

However, SATS have said they will deal only with the Black Staff Association (BSA), an in-company union formed in 1981, which claims a membership of 67,000

The BSA's membership claim of 67,000 has been described as "astonishing" by a UCT industrial sociologist, Mr Johan Maree

"It is a very big puzzle to me how they could have achieved such growth over 18 months." Pointing out that 546 members had resigned from the Black Staff Association recently, he said this was a strong indication of workers' rejection of the organisation.

"No workers have yet expressed themselves in favour of the organisation," said Mr Maree

The secretary of the Cape Midlands region of the BSA, Mr J Ponda, today refused to give BSA membership figures in the Port Elizabeth docks

However, a Port Elizabeth correspondent reports that, according to Mr Ponda, the BSA represents 277 workers in the harbour
SATS gets blast from US team

Labour Correspondent

At a meeting with the Minister of Manpower Mr Passe Botha yesterday, a high-ranking delegation from the American union federation AFL-CIO, criticised the behaviour of SA Transport Services in the continuing labour dispute at Port Elizabeth harbour.

This was revealed yesterday by delegation leader Mr "Chuck" Chukan, who said the AFL-CIO had voiced similar criticism to the director-general of Manpower Dr Piet van der Merwe.

Mr Chukan said the delegation's visit to Port Elizabeth had confirmed its earlier criticism of SATS as an "employer which does not accept the right of workers to join the union of their choice".
JOHANNESBURG — In a meeting with the Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, yesterday a high ranking delegation from the American union federation AFL-CIO, criticised the behaviour of SA Transport Services in the continuing labour dispute at Port Elizabeth harbour.

This was revealed yesterday by the delegation's leader, Mr "Chuck" Chaikin, who said the AFL-CIO had voiced similar criticism to the Director-General of Manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe, at an earlier meeting.

The dispute concerns demands by the General Workers' Union for talks with SATS on recognition recently led to the firing of hundreds of dock workers who embarked on the go-slow.

Mr Chaikin said the delegation's visit to Port Elizabeth had confirmed its earlier criticism of SATS as an "employer which does not accept the right of workers to join the union of their choice".

It had also confirmed its view that its decision to refuse to meet SATS in protest at its action was "correct".

Asked about the possibility of international union action against SATS, Mr Chaikin said that the fact that the union was to give evidence to an SATS committee on labour relations was "a small step towards progress in the dispute".

But it was possible that, if this failed to resolve the issue, the union would call on international transport unions for support — DDC
Tucsa meets in City next week

Labour Reporter

A WIDE range of topics ranging from influx control to the housing crisis is on the agenda for discussion at the 28th annual congress of the Trade Union Council of SA (Tucsa) which meets in Cape Town next week.

Dr Neil Aggett earlier this year, a motion on security legislation is, likely to be among the most controversial.

Tucsa's reaction to Dr Aggett's death further emphasized the rift between itself and the new, emerging black unions and two of its own affiliates, the National Union of Distributive Workers and the National Union of Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers - resigned from the council.

The congress resolution, submitted by the Garment Workers Union of SA - whose president is also the president of Tucsa - has been amended to delete specific reference to Dr Aggett, the former Transvaal secretary of the African Food and Canning Workers Union.

The original motion, which noted with alarm the death in detention of Dr Neil Aggett, has been amended to "note with alarm the reports of abuse of detainees and the death in detention of detainees."

A further statement that the "field of labour relations should be left to its legitimate practitioners" has also been amended out.

Tucsa's resolutions committee comments that it "found some difficulty in supporting some of the contentions expressed in the original resolution."

And that it "believes that this is a more suitable proposal for consideration by conference."

Legal strike

Among other resolutions is one submitted by the SA Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Workers, Shipbuilders and Welders Society which calls on the government to introduce legislation to prevent employers discharging employees engaged in a legal strike in terms of the Labour Relations Act.

The boilermakers society also calls for the government to remove racial restrictions on the admission of students to technical colleges and technicians, to expedite legislation "which will improve the mobility of labour and increase the rights of residence of urban blacks" and calls for Tucsa to press for the removal of tax differentiation between whites, Asians and coloureds.

A motion by the Garment Workers Union asks Tucsa to express strong opposition to the proposed Orderly Movement and Settlement of Black Persons Bill while the National Union of Clothing Workers wants the government to declare June 16 an official holiday.
Foreman arrested in plant dispute

Labour Reporter

A foreman at a strike-hit factory in Brits was arrested this week and appeared in court yesterday on charges under the Intimidation Act.

Mr Jacob Mahakene, who was also chairman of a workers' committee at a B and S metal plant in Brits, was refused bail and his case was postponed until Monday.

The State argued that Mr Mahakene was a non-resident from Bophuthatswana and his arrest had 'serious security implications'.

His arrest follows a week-long dispute at B and S's two Brits metal plants, which saw more than 900 workers going on strike over the dismissal of a colleague.

The entire workforce was dismissed and management began replacing workers earlier this week.

A spokesman for the Festival-affiliated Metal and Allied Workers' Union said those in the union had refused to meet them or hold talks with worker representatives.

A management source said most workers had returned to their jobs and other personnel would be taken on from the regional labour bureau.
Industrial unrest
Offers help in
S.A.'s master spy

BY ANGELA GLICKERT

SOUTH AFRICA'S BEST COLUMNIST

The text appears to be a newspaper clip containing various articles and advertisements. The articles discuss industrial unrest and offers of help in S.A.'s master spy. The text is not completely legible due to the quality of the image.
Pay row: students name Rosholt

By ARLENE GETZ
WITS university students have criticised what they call 'starvation wages' paid by a company linked directly to their recently-elected chancellor.
A pamphlet published by the university's economic research committee - a Students' Representative Council sub-committee - has questioned the actions of Mr Mike Rosholt's company towards Veldspun, a Uitenhage textile factory.
Veldspun, the scene of a recent labour dispute over wages and retrenchment, is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Rematex, a textile manufacturing company controlled by Barlow Rand, of which Mr Rosholt is executive chairman.
"Mr Rosholt sits at the symbolic head of both Wits University and Barlow Rand Limited," the pamphlet stated.
"Despite high-sounding codes of employment practice and an assurance that chief executives of subsidiary companies have to account to him personally on their progress in implementing the code, the stark reality is that a company in the Barlow (and Rosholt) stable pays starvation wages, refuses to have meaningful negotiations with a majority (union, and is practising massive retrenchments."
The SRC has invited Mr Rosholt to discuss the issue on Thursday, but he will be overseas at that time.
SRC chairman Lloyd Vogelman, will however, informally meet Barlow Rand's Mr W Grewal, chairman of the Rematex holding company, CT Smith.
 Strikes increase rent arrears

UNEMPLOYMENT, aggravated by industrial unrest, is affecting the payment of rents in coloured areas, says Port Elizabeth's Director of Housing, Mr. M. Molyneaux.

In an interview Mr. Molyneaux said some families had experienced difficulty in paying their rent in August. His department would take the "normal action" against defaulters, he said, adding that nobody had been evicted because of arrears directly caused by the recent strikes.

He said figures were favourable in June and July, but the real effect of the strikes on bondholders could be seen in August when there were more rent defaulters.

"We in the Housing Department are monitoring the position closely," he said.

The Chief Director of the East Cape Administration Board, Mr. Louis Koch, today said the strikes had had no noticeable effect on rent arrears in the black townships.
Church worker taken in

A EMPLOYEE of the Anglican Church candle producing project in Soweto was last week taken away by police for questioning after he and forty other workers had downed tools in protest against what they called "job for sex treatment."

The head of the police in Soweto, Brigadier D J Jacobs, confirmed yesterday that Mr Vusi Sekwakwa had been taken in for questioning after a "tussle" with his boss at the factory at the Anglican Church in White City, Jabavu.

Brigadier Jacobs said the man had not been charged but he could not say if he had been released or was still being held. He described the incident as "nothing serious" and said order had been restored at the factory.

A worker at the factory told The SOWETAN that the police were called in after they had downed tools in protest against the dismissal of another worker, Miss Lucie Mabaso, who had allegedly been fired because she had turned down "love proposals" made to her by a certain official while she was at work.

The worker claimed that Miss Mabaso had been demoted from her position as supervisor after she had repeatedly rejected the official's love plea. On Wednesday morning she had been told that she had lost her job. No reason was given for the dismissal. The worker alleged...
A mediator is to be appointed to try and settle a dispute between Unilever Brothers and its employees over the proposed wage increase due to be implemented early next month.

About 1,000 workers at the company's Boksburg branch downed tools last Thursday in a demand of higher wages.

The workers are demanding a 25 percent wage increase but the company said it was only prepared to give them a 15 percent increase.

The increase is supposed to be implemented on October 1.

Last month, the company reached an agreement on a "reasonable" wage with the workers union before the end of the month.

Unilever is a British company which manufactures palm oil and fat products. Most of the workers at the Boksburg branch are members of the Food and Beverage Workers Union which is affiliated to the Congress of South African Unions.

 Talks between the union and management over the proposed wage were started in July this year but since then there has been a stalemate. The workers initially demanded a 38 percent increase before settling for the 25 percent they are now demanding.

Last Thursday, management and union representatives met again but no agreement was reached.

Mr. Prakash Ramav, general secretary of the Union, said that the union was preparing to appoint a mediator to try and settle the dispute.

Mr. Carne said that talks have been dragging on for months without reaching any agreement. He hopes that with a mediator an agreement will be reached before the end of the month.
Security in strikes sought by Tusa

Mail Correspondent

CAPE TOWN — A motion calling for legislation to prevent employers firing workers involved in a legal strike was unanimously backed by the Trade Union Council of SA (Tusa) at their annual conference in the city yesterday.

Mr. B. van der Walt, general secretary of the SA Boilermakers, Iron and Steel Workers, Shipbuilders and Welders Society, who introduced the resolution, said the strike was the worker's principal weapon in his own protection.

He asked the Government to protect the right of workers to withhold their labour "in a just cause" and not allow employers to fire workers engaged in a legal strike.

At present very few strikes are legal in terms of the Labour Relations Act. According to Tusa's president, Dr. Anna Scheepers, out of 342 known strikes last year, only two were legal.

Mr. Robbie Botha, general secretary of the Mine Surface Officials Association of SA, said threats of a strike in the mining industry were met with immediate threats of summary discharge by the employers, a direct interference with the democratic rights of union members.

Later, Mr. Botha pointed out at the government for allowing unregistered trade unions to gain an equal footing with registered unions and tabled a last-minute motion urging the National Manpower Commission to speed up its study of trade union and employer registration.
Sacked shop stewards paid out

EIGHT shop stewards who were dismissed after the strike early in July at the Tongaat-Baileys subsidiary David Whitehead's were yesterday paid out a total of R17 100 in an out-of-court settlement.

The Fosatu-affiliated National Union of Textile Workers had applied to the Supreme Court for the reinstatement of the shop stewards. The hearing was due to continue yesterday and today.

But last week the company and the NUTW finally agreed on an 'amicable' out-of-court settlement after nearly a month of negotiations.

Although the shop stewards have not been reinstated in terms of the settlement, they yesterday received cheques ranging from R1 350 to R3 500 — the equivalent of about five months' wages.
Wits students slam Rosholt over sackings

Labour Reporter

Wits students have slammed the chancellor of their university, Mr Mike Rosholt, who is also chairman of Barlow Rand, over a labour dispute at a Barlow company.

The SRC has issued a booklet calling for support of workers from the Veldspun textile plant in Uitenhage who were dismissed earlier this year during a dispute that centred on retrenchments.

Veldspun is owned by Romatex which in turn is controlled through a majority shareholding by Barlow Rand.

The booklet says Barlow Rand has a "high-sounding" code of labour practices which was developed by Mr Rosholt.

He was in a "conflict of interest" position over the dispute, student sources said.

Workers in Uitenhage last week launched a consumer boycott of white firms in protest against the Veldspun management.

Talks were held between Romatex officials and the National Union of Textile Workers but failed to resolve the dispute.

The NUTW has a recognition agreement with Veldspun and there have been previous disputes over the issues of wages and retrenchments.

About 1 000 workers lost their jobs during the latest dispute when some refused to do the work of colleagues who had been dismissed.

Veldspun engaged several hundred workers to take the place of dismissed workers soon afterwards.

In a fact sheet printed by the SRC, Barlow Rand's code of employment practice is criticised for actual wages and working conditions.

It says: "The stark reality is that a company in the Barlow (and Rosholt) stable pays starvation wages, refuses to have meaningful negotiations with a majority union, and is practising massive retrenchments, mostly of union members."

Barlow's position in the dispute placed a stigma on Wits and academics, the sheet said. It called on students to redress the balance and support the Veldspun workers.
Stiff bail set for unionist charged with intimidation

Allied Workers Union Committee at B and S when the strike occurred.

Mr Hawke's bail conditions also stipulate that he may not enter Chatsworth or Bophutatswana Township — he must also pay the $2000 bail money set in a prosecution of a shop robber in a store in Chatsworth where Mawu holds his meetings.

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Mail to run weekly chess column

For the benefit of chess enthusiasts, the Rand Daily Mail will publish a chess column every Wednesday entitled "Chess News." The first column will appear tomorrow.

"partners' Money hold-ups: police arrest at 3121

The Allied Building Society in February arrested a man in connection with the death of Mr Ian Chessman near the Hilton Hotel in July.

Other arrests include a fourth man arrested in connection with the hold-up of a service station in June. Mr J. M. Siman, PFP MP for Khotso, in August, August, arrested a man accused of causing $2000 damage to the property of a shop robber in a store in Chatsworth where Mawu holds his meetings.

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Call for ban on firing of strikers

Labour Reporter

A MOTION calling for legislation to prevent employers from firing workers involved in a legal strike was backed unanimously by the Trade Union Council of South Africa (Tusca) at its annual conference in Cape Town yesterday.

Mr. Ike van der Watt, general secretary of the SA Bollermakers', Iron and Steel Workers', Shipbuilders' and Welders' Society, who introduced the motion, said the strike was the worker's principal weapon in his own protection.

He asked the government to protect the right of workers to withhold their labour "in a just cause" and not to allow employers to fire workers engaged in a legal strike.

'Threats'

At present very few strikes are "legal" in terms of the Labour Relations Act. According to the Tusca president, Dr. Anna Swilling, out of 342 known strikes last year, only two were legal.

Mr. Robbie Botha, general secretary of the Mine Surface Officials' Association of South Africa (MSOA), said threats of a strike in the mining industry were met with immediate threats by employers of summary dismissal.

For the second time this year, the MSOA had, recently declared a dispute with the Chamber of Mines, a step which could eventually lead to a legal strike.

Mr. Botha said strike action was not considered lightly, but sometimes it became necessary. The threat of dismissal, however, forced many-union members on the mines to vote against striking, because they feared losing their jobs and being evicted from their houses.

"This is direct interference with the democratic right of trade union members to strike," he said.
The Barlow Rand group has accused the National Union of Textile Workers and a student group at the University of the Witwatersrand of making biased and misleading claims over a dispute at one of its groups: major companies, Veldspun International.

The Economic Research Project (ERP), a student group at the university, has issued a booklet calling for support of workers at the Veldspun textile plant in Uitenhage who were dismissed earlier this year during a dispute that centred on retrenchments.

Veldspun is owned by Romalex in which Barlow Rand has a majority shareholding.

In a statement issued this morning Barlow Rand says the occurrence at Veldspun should be seen against the background of the recognition agreement concluded between the NUTW and the company two years ago.

"At that time union officials acknowledged that strikes were not the way to resolve disputes. They therefore agreed that the union would not represent striking workers"
Unions ‘won’t be forced to register’

Labour Reporter

The Director-General of Manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe, told the annual conference of the Trade Union Council of South Africa (Tucsa) in the City yesterday that his department had no intention of forcing trade unions to register.

Amid calls by Tucsa delegates for compulsory registration of unions, he said this was incompatible with the basic philosophy of the department of maximum self-governance by employers and employees.

Mr Robbie Botha of the Mine Surface Officials’ Association of SA, said on Monday that registration was becoming an encumbrance and unregistered unions were poaching where they pleased and “disrupting the whole labour relations structure.”

Mr D C Benade, of the Tramway and Omnibus Workers’ Union, told Dr Van der Merwe that a policy of forced registration could have prevented the General Workers’ Union (GWU) dispute at the Port Elizabeth docks by stopping the GWU from operating in the South African Transport Services — an industry where there already was a registered union.

Dr Van der Merwe replied that the issue of registration was highly sensitive and was still being investigated by the National Manpower Commission. “But a system of compulsory registration will be strongly criticized in international circles,” he warned.

In reply to criticism that the cost of factory building was escalating because of safety requirements, Dr Van der Merwe said he was not prepared to lower safety standards to a level below which the workforce would suffer.

He also accused employers of being lax in reporting injuries properly and registering their businesses in terms of the Workmen’s Compensation Act.

About 9000 summonses had to be issued against employers every year for failing to report accidents in the proper manner, and thousands of court orders had to be issued against employers for failure to pay their as-
Union claim ‘misleading’ says Barlows

JOHANNESBURG — The Barlow Rand group says the National Union of Textile Workers' and a student group at Witwatersrand University have made biased and misleading claims about a dispute at Veldspun International.

The Economic Research Project, a student group at Wits, issued a booklet calling for support for workers from the Veldspun textile plant in Uitenhage who were dismissed earlier this year in a retrenchment dispute. Veldspun is owned by RanaTex, which in turn is controlled through a majority shareholding by Barlow Rand.

The booklet said the head of the Barlow group and Chancellor of the University, Mr Mike Roscholt, who developed a “high-sounding” code of labour practice for Barlows, was in a “conflict of interest position”.

Today Barlows said the occurrence at Veldspun must be seen against a backdrop of a recognition agreement reached between the NUTW and the firm two years ago.

“At that time, the union officials acknowledged that strikes were not the way to resolve disputes and expressed confidence in their ability to control the membership. They therefore agreed that the union would not represent striking workers.”

The NUTW's charge that Barlows had “broken its code of employment and been indifferent to unfair labour practices at its subsidiaries”, was unsubstantiated.

Replying to criticism of Mr Roscholt, Barlows and the union allegations “bristle with inaccuracies”.

Far from ‘brutal retrenchments’ Veldspun had gone to great lengths to retain staff in the economic downturn.
Union sends letter to director

By SANDRA SMITH

In an open letter to Barlow Rand's personnel director Mr. R.T. Hofmeyer, today, the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) has criticized a statement released by the company yesterday.

The Barlow Rand statement said the union and a student group at the University of the Witwatersrand had made biased and misleading claims about a dispute at Veldspun International in Uitenhage.

Veldspun is owned by Romatec, a Barlow Rand subsidiary.

The letter from the NUTW's acting general secretary, Mr. J. Copelyn, said: "If you allow your subsidiaries to suppress workers with the vigour, recklessness and disregard for human consequences as in Uitenhage, you cannot proclaim you are uplifting the quality of life of workers.

"If you allow your subsidiaries to pay wages as far below the poverty line as at Veldspun, bother can you proclaim your progressiveness in this field nor can you expect the reduction of bonus earnings of workers to pass by without serious resistance from those workers.

"It appears from your Press statements your 'solution' is that the workers concerned should suffer in silence, their association should be drowned out, and you should be free to continue to proclaim your progressiveness to the world around us.

"If we are in any way misreading your intention please clarify.

"If not, shame on you."
Second Brits union leader charged with intimidation

A SECOND worker leader who was fired by a Brits company, B and S Engineering, after a strike has been charged under the Intimization Act.

The arrest of a union shop steward at the plant, Mr. Ernest Lutswel, followed the arrest of Mr. Jacob Magakwe, chairman of the Metal and Allied Workers Union, late last week.

Both have been freed and have returned to Britain.

The arrests are in the Brits Regional Court on October 11.

The arrests follow a strike at the company on September 14 over the dismissal of a worker.

On the same day B and S fired all 1,000 workers and said they could reapply for their jobs.

According to the charges against the two men, they are alleged to have intimidated two workers on September 13.
ITF chief replies on PE dispute

By SANDRA SMITH

STATEMENTS by the president of the South African Council of Transport Workers, Mr. D.C. Benade, about the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) and the Port Elizabeth dock dispute were criticised by the ITF today.

Speaking at the Trade Union Council of South Africa (Tusca) conference in Cape Town this week, Mr. Benade said the ITF was "misreading" the situation.

The federation has, in a lengthy correspondence with the Department of Manpower, the Department of Transport Affairs and the SA Transport Services (SATS), repeatedly urged the recognition of the General Workers Union (GWU).

For nearly a year the union has attempted to hold talks with SATS, and this month hundreds of its members were fired after a go-slow.

Mr. Benade said the dispute was not over a violation of the principle of freedom of association, but was "a jurisdictional dispute between two opposing unions."

He said the Council of Transport Workers was still affiliated to the ITF, even though the federation had been hostile to him and to his union.

Replying today, the ITF's general secretary, Mr. Harold Lewis, said he was "very disappointed" by Mr. Benade.

"The facts of the Port Elizabeth dock dispute have been known intimately to the ITF from the beginning," he said.

"I must doubt whether Mr. Benade knows nearly as much or is nearly as qualified to read the situation as I am."

The issue remained whether SATS management was ready to recognise the dockers' right to choose their spokesmen.

"If Mr. Benade does not understand then he should refrain from comment if he does understand then he should have no problem deciding which side he is on," Mr. Lewis said.
SRC: We have the right to quiz Ros Holt

Reports by Tyrone August

The SRC president has criticised the Barlow Rand company for not sending representatives to a Wit student meeting to discuss a labour dispute involving the university's chancellor, Mr Mike Ros Holt.

"Because Mr Ros Holt is not only Barlow's executive chairman but also our chancellor, he has a responsibility to the students of the university," said Mr Lloyd Vogelman.

"As members of this university we have every right to question his business practices, which in this case we believe certainly do not comply with Barlow's own labour code."

"I am saddened that Barlow Rand has dismissed allegations about its practices as inaccurate, but has not bothered to come to this meeting to refute them."

Mr Vogelman said Mr Ros Holt, who is overseas, was not elected by "the people who comprise this university" — the students and campus workers — but represented "big business".

He added that the election of Mr Ros Holt as chancellor illustrated to the majority of South Africans "that Wits was more concerned with profits than people."

The public relations head of Barlow, Mr Reginald Hofmeyr, said yesterday that the company was informed at a late stage about the meeting.

Barlow Rand did not think it was worth attending as the students had prejudged the issue.

Students fuel labour row

More than 300 students attended a meeting at the University of the Witwatersrand yesterday to discuss a labour dispute at a Barlow Rand subsidiary in Uitenhage.

"The activities of the Barlow Rand group are a reflection on the union as our chancellor, Mr Mike Ros Holt, is the head of Barlow and the university," a student spokesman said.

"They have had no relief since they have been unemployed."

"We appealed to the Barlow group to intervene, but had no response until action by the economic research committee of Wits this week."

The Black Students' Society pledged support for the dismissed workers. "The dispute at Veldspun is but one incident of the general exploitation of the working class," it said.
Motor man's claims nonsense, says union

By SANDRA SMITH
TWO trade unions accused yesterday of having a "non-co-operative attitude" to negotiations by the chairman of the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers' Association, Mr Rod Ironsides, rejected his view today.

Mr Ironsides said that after the withdrawal from the industry's industrial council by the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Nawu), the employers' "voted to continue negotiations outside the council with all representative employee parties."

The Motor Assemblers and Component Workers' Union (Macwusa), the Iron, Steel and Allied Industries Union and Nawu had been invited to attend meetings for this purpose.

"Regrettably Nawu and Macwusa did not see fit to make use of these opportunities to help resolve the impasse," Mr Ironsides said.

"This seemingly non-co-operative attitude on the part of Nawu and Macwusa can only raise a question as to whether they represent the real interests of their membership."

And the statement Macwusa's general secretary, Mr Dennis Neer, said, "We question Mr Ironsides's decision to take it upon himself to determine the interests of our members.

"Management cannot force us to use opportunities created by them, and our membership desires in plant bargaining, and not negotiations with the EPAMA," he said.

The union had indicated previously it was prepared to negotiate with the motor companies particularly Ford where it has most of its members, at the same time as Nawu.

Nawu's general secretary Mr officials said, "We reject Ironsides's statement that we are non-co-operative."

"It is up to our members, and not up to us, to determine their interests and whether the union is for them or not."

The statement reflected a "clearly paternalistic attitude, common among the employers, Mr Sauls said.

The decision to reject negotiations with the EPAMA and demand individual negotiations with Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen had been taken by a combined meeting of worker representatives.

The invitation from the management to Macwusa to join wage talks was seen by Nawu as an attempt to create division and conflict between the three unions.

A Nawu ultimatum to the motor manufacturers to open in-plant negotiations expired today with the companies adamant they would negotiate with the union only through the EPAMA.

Top position in estate agents' body to PE man

Post Reporter

A PORT ELIZABETH estate agent, Mr Derek Smith, was elected first vice-president of the Institute of Estate Agents at its annual general meeting in Bloemfontein recently.

He formerly held the position of second vice-president and the chances are good that he will be the next president of the institute although there is not an automatic right of succession.

Three past presidents of the institute have come from the Eastern Cape.

They are Mr Ted Fenlon, Mr Duncan Cameron and Mr Donnally Hendriksen.

The institute is regarded as the mouthpiece of estate agents. Most of the 15,000 members in South Africa belong either as individuals or through their employers membership.

In Port Elizabeth the membership is 280. The new president of the institute is Mr Roland Walker of Southern Transvaal.

Mr Eckel Jarzys of Southern Transvaal has succeeded Mr Smith as second vice-president.

Import duty penalty on SA steel in US

WASHINGTON — The United States has imposed an import duty penalty on South African steel because imports before April were government-subsidised.

This was confirmed by officials here after a Government investigation.

The US Administration investigated steel imports from five nations, including South Africa.

South Africa was penalised and the duty was left open for penalties in two other instances.

Imports from South Africa shipped before April 1 were found to have received subsidies totalling 7.6 per cent.

But shipments after that date were unsubsidized.

The cases are among a large number in which the US Administration is looking into allegations by American steelmakers that they were being hurt by imports of foreign subsidised steel.

The Administration is still hoping to settle its trade disputes with European countries — including the two cases left open in yesterday's announcement — without resorting to special duties to fight what the US industry saw as unfair trade practices.

The new ruling, the Commerce Department decided that Government subsidies have totalled 12.5 per cent of the value of carbon steel wire rod imported from Belgium and 14.2 per cent of the value of such imports from France.

Importers of those products will continue to be required to post bonds in lieu of possible penalties that may eventually be levied.

The US International Trade Commission has 45 days to decide whether such penalties should be imposed because of damage the imports might be doing to US steel companies.

The report also said the investigation of wire rod from Argentina had ended as subsidies on that would end.

Sapa-AP

Law shunted through ends US rail strike

WASHINGTON — Striking train drivers have agreed to return to their jobs today after an emergency bill to work law was rushed through the US Congress.

The 25,000-member Brotherhood of Lo.
Call to look into sacking of 11

By SANDRA SMITH

The Grahamstown Advice Office has asked the Department of Manpower to investigate the sacking and alleged calling of the police to disperse workers at Metro Cash and Carry in Grahamstown last week.

Eleven workers at the wholesale company demanded a raise in wages from 75c an hour to R1. The workers report that the manager, Mr Eddie Fischer, told them to return to work or leave the premises. They have also claimed that police with dogs were called in to disperse them.

The Police Press Liaison Officer, Major G van Rooyen, said today one policeman had been sent to the scene, and that there were no dogs.

The workers say they were not on strike but were only raising the wage issue with Metro's management.

Mr Fischer is reported to have said he regarded their demands as unreasonable and "linked to the growing militancy throughout the Eastern Cape."

The workers' Unemployment Insurance Fund cards were signed off with Code 3 — which means misbehaviour and criminal conduct.

Professor M Roux, of the Grahamstown Advice Office, said today the office had compiled a detailed report of the incident and sent a copy to the Department of Manpower, requesting an investigation of the situation and that the department interview the dismissed workers.

Mr Fischer today declined to comment, saying the matter was an internal one.
Union attacks Barlow Rand press statement

JOHANNESBURG - Fossatu's National Union of Textile Workers yesterday sent a telegram to the Barlow Rand group rejecting a press statement in which Barlow Rand gave its account of the dispute at its Uitenhage subsidiary Veldspun.

The telegram, addressed to the Barlow Industrial Relations director Mr Reinold Hofmeyr, and released to the press, attacked the statement and adds: "If we are in any way misreading your intentions, please clarify. If not shame on you!"

The telegram, sent by the union's acting general secretary, Mr John Copelyn, accused Barlow Rand of allowing Veldspun to "supress workers' pay" and "below the poverty line". Mr Hofmeyr also said that Barlow Rand "supposed workers' pay" and "below the poverty line".

Mr Hofmeyr said yesterday that he had replied to the union acknowledging the message and adding he would "be in touch" with NUTW on its contents.

Earlier this week, Barlow Rand issued a press statement rejecting union and student criticisms of its role in the dispute, in which more than 1,000 workers downed tools in protest at retrenchments at Veldspun and were dismissed.

It said a company survey had found that nine out of 12 Uitenhage and Port Elizabeth textile firms paid lower wages than Veldspun.

It also charged that the union had "agreed to the retrenchments that had led to the dispute" and that the company had "agreed to arbitration".

"If you allow your subsidiaries to close all doors that would have allowed the original dispute to be referred to arbitration, you cannot honestly be heard to say our members have breached the agreement," Mr Copelyn said.

Mr Copelyn said NUTW was "still, after six weeks, awaiting your reply to what solution you see to the dispute. It appears from your press statement that your solution is that the workers concerned should suffer in silence."
Assembly workers at Sigma end walk-out

All 130 assembly workers at Sigma's No 2 hardware trim plant who downed tools yesterday were back at work today.
The men, members of the National Automotive and Allied Workers' Union, walked out at 7.15 am yesterday in sympathy with four workmates they saw were unfairly sacked.
According to the statement one of the sacked workers was a shop steward who was fired when he challenged the action taken against the other three.
A spokesman for the company said today that 40 of the strikers had returned to work by yesterday afternoon. The remainder returned early today.
The spokesman said negotiations will take place today.

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ITWF backs PE strikers

THE International Transport Workers Federation, one of the world's biggest union federations, has slammed the president of one of its affiliates, the SA Council of Transport Workers, for accusing it of 'misreading' the Port Elizabeth harbour conflict.

The ITWF has pledged its support for the Port Elizabeth dockers who were fired last month when they refused to call off their go-slow.

At Tussa's Cape Town conference, Mr D C Benade, who is also the general secretary of the Tussa-affiliated Tramway and Omnibus Workers' Union, accused the ITWF of being hostile 'not only towards me personally but the whole country'.

He added that ITWF's threat of 'blacklisting' South African goods showed they had misread the situation.

Mr Benade said he had refused to support the General Workers' Union in the dispute because it was a new arrival on the scene at South African Transport Services.

In a telex to the Mercury from ITWF's London office, the general secretary Mr Harold Lewis said he was 'disappointed' by Mr Benade's remarks because the facts of the dockers' dispute had been known 'intimately' to ITWF from the beginning.

'I doubt whether Mr Benade knows nearly as much or is as qualified to read the situation as I am. 'The issue remains whether SATS management is ready to recognise dockers right to choose their spokesmen,' he said.
EAST LONDON — People should not be arrested and transported across borders between South Africa and Ciskei unless legal requirements are observed and approaches made through diplomatic channels.

This emerged from inquiries by the Daily Dispatch following two incidents said to have involved Ciskei police actions in South Africa.

In one reported incident, Mr Godfrey Shiba, a member of the Willowrowtree Boycott Support Committee, said he was arrested in East London by a Ciskei policeman on September 22.

Six companions were ordered by an armed man to drive from King William's Town to the offices of the Ciskei Central Intelligence Service (CCIS) in Zwelitsha for questioning.

In the other, a Daily Dispatch employee, Mr Themba Kente, said he was arrested in East London by a uniformed Ciskei policeman with a warrant of arrest issued in Mdantsane.

Mr Shiba said he and his companions had parked in Bank Street, King William's Town, on their way to attend a meeting of the Dependents' Conference near Port Elizabeth.

He heard a shout from a vehicle behind him. A man knocked on his window and, when he opened it, pointed a rifle at him.

Mr Shiba said the man ordered him to drive to the CCIS offices in Zwelitsha. The man with the rifle followed him in his vehicle.

He said they were questioned about their trips to the offices by Lieutenant Colonel L Nhlonhonho, Captain Vuyani Gunda and others. Mr Shiba said they were then questioned briefly by General Sebe.

One and a half hours later, they were questioned by two men from the South African security police in Cambridge. Mr Shiba said they were released three hours after they had been picked up.

Mr Shiba said others involved in the interrogation were Mr Sipho Nube, Mr Johnson Ndindwe, Mr Boyce Mlitlatsa, Miss Thami Mdali, and two former Fort Hare students Mr Eric Mntonga, who was strolling with them, and another not in the vehicle when they were picked up.

Mr Kente said he had been asked by three men in plain clothes to accompany them into Caxton Street from the entrance of the Daily Dispatch.

A uniformed man showed him a warrant for his arrest issued by the Mdantsane magistrate's court and he was taken to Mdantsane in a Ciskei police van.

The Daily Dispatch was not notified that one of its employees had been arrested and established this fact only after extensive inquiries.

Mr Kente was imprisoned at Mdantsane before being released on bail arranged by the Daily Dispatch.

Ciskei's Commander-General of State Security, Major-General Charles Sebe, has refused to comment on claims that Ciskei police were involved in the two incidents.

General Sebe confirmed that Ciskei police could not make arrests in South Africa and that all "red tape" had to be followed.

Asked if Ciskei police were permitted to enter South Africa in uniform and driving police vans, General Sebe said he often went to Pretoria in uniform on official duties.

"Just because you see a Ciskei police van driving around East London, that does not mean they are going to arrest someone," he said.

He said co-operation between South African and Ciskei security was "good".

Asked about the claim that men from the South African Security Police had interrogated Mr Shiba and his companions in CCIS offices, the head of the security police here, Colonel A P van der Merwe, said: "It's possible, I don't know."

A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pretoria said investigators had interrogated Mr Kente outside the Daily Dispatch's East London offices, saying: "We understand he was not arrested in South Africa."

A spokesman for the Department of Justice in Pretoria said he was not aware of any legislation which permitted the police force of any foreign country to operate within the Republic of South Africa.

He said foreign police forces were not empowered to make arrests in South Africa and transport any arrested person across a South African border.

The spokesman said the only way in which a foreign country could have a person arrested in South Africa and transported across the border would be in conformity with the extradition act of 1962 and any extradition agreement made in terms of the law.

An extradition agreement between South Africa and Ciskei came into force at Ciskei independence.

The spokesman said that, in terms of the agreement and the Act, a request for the arrest and extradition of any person in South Africa by Ciskei had to be made through the diplomatic channel to the Minister of Justice.

After being considered by the Minister, the request would have to be considered by a magistrate who could issue a warrant of arrest.

The arrest would then have to be made by the South African Police in terms of the warrant.

The arrested person could contest the extradition request in the magistrate's court with the right of appeal to higher courts.

The spokesman said only after an extradition request had been granted legally could a person be taken by the South African Police and surrendered to the government which had requested the extradition.

A spokesman for the magistrate's court here said that as far as he was aware, no extradition requests had been received by the court from Ciskei — DDR

Energy talks: US withdraws

WASHINGTON — The US has withdrawn from the general conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency in Vienna yesterday, denying a vote to expel Israel as "unjustifiable and illegal," State Department officials said.

The officials said the US was reassessing its participation in the key nuclear energy agency and said the action "could have ramifications for the whole United Nations system" — SAPA-AP
Key court test for Intimidation Act

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

TWO pending court cases against worker leaders may provide a crucial test of fears by unions and lawyers that the Government's new Intimidation Bill could be used to "crush" strikes and consumer boycotts.

In both cases, worker leaders have been charged under the Act in connection with strikes -- two of them in Brits this week.

Their union, the Metal and Allied Workers' Union, has briefed lawyers to act on their behalf, and the cases could determine how widely the courts define "intimidation" under the new Act.

The Act, a result of Rabie Commission recommendations, seeks to impose heavy penalties -- a maximum R20,000 fine or 10-year prison sentence -- on people guilty of "intimidation".

When the new law was introduced, lawyers complained that the definition of "intimidation" was "extremely wide" and could be used to punish actions which had hitherto been legal.

One section of the Act makes it an offence for anyone to "without lawful reason and with intent to compel or induce a particular person to do or abstain from doing any act or to abandon a particular standpoint cause damage to that person or any other person".

The accused must prove there was a "lawful reason" for his or her action.

Some lawyers believe this would make actions like strikes and consumer boycotts illegal because both involve an attempt to induce someone to abandon a standpoint or take a particular action.

It might be difficult for accused to prove they acted with a "lawful reason" and even legal strikes could be affected by the law.

In Richards Bay, two Mawu shop stewards Mr. Epho Khumwayo and Mr. Enoch Shoqwe have been charged under the Act following a strike at the Alusaq plant and released on R200 bail each.

In Brits, following a strike at B and S Engineering, Mawu chairman at the plant Mr. Jacob Mahagakwe, and a shop steward Mr. Ernest Letiswela, have also been charged under the Act. Mr. Mahagakwe was released on R1,000 bail, Mr. Letiswela on his own recognisance.
Sweets boycott stand: 2 plead not guilty

MDANTSANE — A Wongoletshu High School pupil who was detained for four months claimed he had been assaulted by the Ciskei police to force him to make a statement if he wanted to be released.

This was alleged at the Mdantsane magistrate's court during the trial of two men charged with contravention of Proclamation R252 of 1977, before Mr G M Zamzaka.

Mr Nceba Mahlangeni, 26, and Mr Matungusa Joka, 38, pleaded not guilty to the charge.

The State led evidence that the men had organised a boycott with the object of causing loss, disadvantage or inconvenience to Wilson Rowntree by displaying stickers to encourage people not to buy certain brands of sweets in Mdantsane on July 23 last year.

Advocate R E N Tshabalala instructed by Mr Ben Ntonga said the basis of the defence would be that the accused would admit having stickers on their clothing which read, "We don't eat Wilson Rowntree," but that the stickers referred to them, and did not intend to encourage others.

A 17-year-old youth told the court that on the day in question he met the accused in front of the post office at about 8.50am. He said he was from school when the men came to him and they stuck stickers on his chest and hat.

The youth said after the men did this, they told him he should beware of arrest by the police.

Cross-examined by Advocate Tshabalala, the youth said after his arrest he was detained for four months. While in detention he was assaulted by the police to make a statement if he wanted to be released.

He said because he was keen to go to school, he had told the police that the statement he had made was true.

Detective Sergeant Zolile Goodman Velebayi told the court he was patrolling the Highway bus rank with Constable Mdonga, Constable Mlesa and Warrant Officer Fanti when they saw the accused standing in front of the post office.

Detective Sergeant Velebayi said their attention was attracted by the stickers which were on their clothing.

He said they searched the accused and found other stickers in their pockets.

Sgt Velebayi said he had asked the accused where they had got the stickers. He was told by them that they had written them as they had worked at Wilson Rowntree and that they had been dismissed and wanted to go back to work. They believed it would happen if people did not eat the sweets.

Sgt Velebayi said he knew there was trouble between the management of Wilson Rowntree and the employees who had been dismissed.

Sgt Velebayi said he had not seen them sticking the stickers to other people. The stickers were on their backs and fronts.

Sgt Tukela Mwana said he had imprisoned the accused at the police station on the afternoon of the day in question.

He said there was nothing wrong with their cell where another man had been imprisoned when he visited the cell later with the station commander, Major N Mlandu, at about 4pm. He found papers and posters stuck to the wall.

Sgt Mwana said the man who had been detained with the accused had denied sticking the papers to the wall. He said the accused had also denied knowledge of the posters.

The hearing was postponed to October 18 and bail of R50 each was granted. — DDR.
Sigma strike ends

A ONE-day strike by about 130 workers at Sigma motor company's Pretoria plant ended yesterday after talks between the company and Foquat's National Automobile and Allied Workers Union.

The strike, which began on Thursday, brought the plant's hardware trim section to a standstill.

Workers downed tools in protest at the sacking of four workers, including a NAAWI shop steward.

After talks between Sigma and NAAWI yesterday, the company agreed to review its decision to fire the shop steward and one other worker.

The two men will now be suspended for one week rather than sacked.

A NAAWI spokesman said yesterday that the company had not reversed its decision on the other two workers. The union would consult these workers and inform the company whether it would take further action.

Earlier this year Sigma's parts and accessories department was hit by a strike also in protest at a dismissal.
Tongaat dispute settled amicably

JOHANNESBURG—The problems experienced recently at the David Whitehead factory in Tongaat, when a strike took place on July 1, and which was followed by court action by the National Union of Textile Workers, have been amicably resolved.

This was said in a joint statement issued by the two parties in Johannesburg at the weekend.

The Supreme Court hearing scheduled for September 20 and 21 has therefore been withdrawn and both parties have agreed to settle their differences in the interest of future relations and the well-being of the employees.

Binding

The main features of the settlement were:

Both parties agree that the recognition agreement between them will be legally binding.

In future disputes a procedure is to be agreed upon involving the holding of a strike ballot in the event of a strike being anticipated.

Those shop stewards not re-engaged have accepted a settlement in the form of reasonable and fair termination payments.

The company will re-employ 45 of those employees not re-engaged after the strike, and

The union accepts that the present wage rates paid will hold until June 30, 1983.

The recognition arrangements provided for in the agreement will once again operate and both parties hope to build a constructive relationship in the future. — (Sapa)
Dispute to be taken to Fosatsu

PORT ELIZABETH - A trade union representing workers dismissed after a walkout at Veldspun International Textiles is to take up the dispute at national level with its parent group the Federation of South African Trade Unions.

The acting general secretary of the National Union of Textile Workers, Mr J Copelyn, said from Durban today that this step, the first of its kind by the union, followed a meeting on Friday with Veldspun representatives at which no progress had been made.

The meeting - one of several - followed a dispute at the company's Uitenhage plant two months ago.

BOOKLET

The dispute was highlighted last week when an industrial group was mentioned in a booklet produced by a group of University of the Witwatersrand students, the Economic Research Committee.

The booklet said: "A company in the Barlow stable pays starvation wages, refuses to have meaningful negotiations with a majority union and is practising massive retrenchments, mostly of union members.'

About 60 Veldspun workers were allegedly fired for refusing to do the work of retrenched colleagues. About 1,500 workers struck in support and were said to have terminated their services but those who returned were taken back until 800 were left.

MISLEADING

A Barlow Rand spokesman said this week that claims by student and union critics were biased and misleading.

An attack on Mr A M Roscholt, the group's executive chairman and chancellor of Wits, was "in very poor taste" and a "slur on his integrity.'

The union has told Barlow Rand in a letter that if it allowed its subsidiaries "to suppress workers with the vigour, recklessness and disregard for human consequences as in Uitenhage, you cannot proclaim you are uplifting the quality of life of workers.'

Mr Copelyn said the union's prime concern at Friday's meeting had been the position of the sacked workers.

EARNINGS

He said a wage issue had led to the sacking. The 60 workers had refused to do the work of retrenched staff because they would lose substantial earnings. The company had made it clear it did not accept earlier proposals, and would consider new ones.

Mr Copelyn would not speculate on what course of action Fosatsu might decide on.

A spokesman for the Romatex Group which owns Veldspun, confirmed that no progress had been made in resolving the dispute, but said the door was open for further talks.

He said attitudes in the group had hardened because of "inaccurate allegations" by the students and the union.

Veldspun was working with a full labour complement for current needs, comprising workers who had been loyal and replacements.

The union was the one with the problem, as hundreds of its members had lost their jobs, he said.
Manacled

"After a while, when I hadn't answered their questions, they manacled my legs and put cuffs on my hands with the cuffs going through the leg-irons. I was questioned further and then they put a plastic bag over my head. There were more questions and I felt something being tied onto my arms. It felt like a doctor's take your blood pressure. Then I felt this shock coming through me. I was completely shaken up." Ndamhala said. He added that he had also been punched, slapped and kicked, particularly in the groin.

The police officer said that Ndamhala had complained of mistreatment to the District Surgeon and had made a statement to a policeman, but had not complained during a magistrate's visit.

Mr George Brooks, SC, for the Aggett family read to the court the District Surgeon's report, which included descriptions of scalp-like wounds on his arms.

The inquest continues this morning.

Convention

ABOUT 4,000 delegates are expected to attend the Natal district convention of Jehovah's Witnesses at the King's Park stadium in Durban from October 7 until October 10.

Council refuses to recognise trade union

Labour Reporter

UNHlanga Town Council has refused to recognize the Municipal Workers' Union until it registers, a move which was condemned by Mr Magwaza Maphaphla, national organiser of the National Federation of Workers.

About 150 workers staged a one-day strike on September 1 to demand the recognition of their union. The workers had about being told that the issue would be decided by the town council.

At a meeting last night, the council accepted the principal of collective bargaining but said it would consider negotiating only with a union which had registered in terms of the Labour Relations Act.

Mr Maphaphla said the council's decision was likely to perpetuate the dispute. "The issue of registration is between ourselves and the Government and should not concern the municipality," he said.

He said the council's decision would be discussed by the Umhlanga warders' shop stewards committee tomorrow.

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1/6/72

BY LYN CARLISLE

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Wave strike at Newclare brush firm

Labour Reporter

About 800 workers at a brush firm at Newclare, west of Johannesburg, yesterday downed tools over wage demands.

The work stoppage lasted a few hours and workers returned to their jobs when management agreed to discuss their grievances.

Mrs Mary Ntseka, general secretary of the Brushers and Cleaners Workers Union, said the management of Clean and Brush Works agreed to hold further talks today on workers' demands. She said the starting wage for women workers was R20 a week and for men it was R27.

Workers had demanded a R10 weekly increase, she said.
Firm to help house workers

By SELIA RABOTIATA
THE SEVERE housing shortage has led to BMW (South Africa) Pty Limited's involvement in assisting employees to achieve a high standard of living.

This was said by the company's managing director, Dr E von Koerber, when he handed over keys to nine families for their new homes in Mabopane, Pretoria. Another eight families will move into their homes by the end of the month as a result of the R360 000 first phase of the company's housing assistance scheme.

Mr von Koerber said: "It is our belief that the most charitable act a company can perform, is to help employees to help themselves. This is why training, for instance, has always been high on the priorities list of BMW South Africa. But while training has helped black employees in particular to reach higher positions and to earn higher wages, than was possible even a few years ago, many of them are now in a position where they can afford to buy a house — but find that neither houses nor funds are available.

"Many more employees are in a position where their monthly income is high enough to repay the bond instalments on a house, but the deposit required to make up the shortfall, between bond and price, is just not available," he said.

The Mabopane houses have been designed in such a manner that the buyer can start with a basic house to which additions can be made as his income increases and his family grows. The houses cost from R17 000 to R27 000.
Cloth workers gain support

SHOP stewards at Barlow Rand metal companies on the Witwatersrand are to support workers at Barlow's textile company Veldspun International, whose firing after a strike sparked a campaign against the firm.

The support was announced in a message to the Veldspun workers' union from the Barlow Rand shop stewards' council of the Transvaal branch of the Metal and Allied Workers Union.

The dispute follows the firing of more than 1 600 staff who struck in protest at retrenchments, leading to a union and student campaign accusing Barlow Rand of violating its employment code.

The company has said that the union approved the retrenchments, and has violated its recognition agreement with Veldspun.

The shop stewards' council represents workers in all Barlow Rand Transvaal factories organised by Mazw.

The message of the shop stewards says: "We have learnt with shock of the intransigence shown by the management of Veldspun and of Barlow Rand in your dispute. We wish to pledge our solidarity with you because your cause is also ours. We also wish to assure you of our support. As you know there is no struggle without casualties, so do not be discouraged."
**Workers down tools**

ABOUT 300 workers employed by Kleinem Brush Works near Newclare, Johannesburg, yesterday downed tools over wages that unionsists described as "shocking".

The work stoppage which lasted for three hours ended when the national secretary of the Brushers and Cleaners Workers Union, Mrs. Mary Ncube, appealed to them to return to their jobs.

Mrs. Ncube told the SOWETAN yesterday that workers at the plant earned R35 per week as starting salary and workers with long service earned R53 per week.

Mrs. Ncube said that the workers had decided to return to their jobs on condition the management met their demands. They have indicated that they will continue to strike if their demands are not met.

Management confirmed that it was having discussions with worker representatives on the workers' demands.

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**Girl dies soon after detention**

AN 18-year-old Soweto girl who was detained under Section 29 of the Internal Security Act died of asthma a few days after she was released.

Miss Linda Dlodlo, of 249 Zone 8 Meadowlands, died on the way to hospital 16 days after her release, according to her mother, Phonsi. She said Linda had been detained by police on August 15 and released on September 7.

Mrs. Dlodlo said she learnt from a detective warrant officer of Moroka police station who had come to her home that a doctor who examined Linda said the officer who had taken her to the Sandton police station had lied about the police for assault on her daughter.

"It all began when three policemen came here on Sunday August 15, and said they were looking for Sesana. We told them we knew nobody by that name. At that time Linda came in and she was asked who she was. After she had told them they asked where she attended school. She said at Zoila High School and before that in Swaziland. They said she was the one they were looking for," said Mrs. Dlodlo.

Mrs. Dlodlo had later gone to Protea and had been told that Linda was being held under Sec-

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**ZONDI FAMILY ROBBED**

THE CRY of a four-month-old baby sister for attention and a member of the notorious "Wire Gang" who held it up by its leg and threw it onto mother's lap — from a distance of two metres — when she quenched her desires, marked the court heard yesterday.

The court was told by the owner of the Rand Daily Mail, Mr. J.J. Moller, that it was the action of a man who had been convicted of murder, rape, armed robbery, possession of firearms, theft and an escape from custody.

They have all pleaded not guilty in the Soweto Regional Court before Mr. J.J. Moller, at conducting their own defence.

Mrs. Eileen Mingem said she had been awakened by knocks on the door to be police. After the men entered, they had told the family they were not police but had been sent to do a job.

The men had said that they knew there had been a stokvel in the house over the weekend. They had demanded money and threatened the household.

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**Blast drama**

A 12-year-old girl was killed when a hand grenade was exploded at a funeral. Two more Russian-made hand grenades were found at the scene and removed to the forensic laboratories for examination.

The deceased was fingerprinted and their fingerprints were later connected to the other terror attacks and attempts.

General Coetzee also said yesterday that the man...
200 retrenched:
union hits GM

By Tony Davis,
Labour Reporter

The General Motors plan in Port Elizabeth yesterday retrenched more than 200 workers.

The move was slammed by the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union which said today that the layoffs were unacceptable.

A GM spokesman said the retrenchments were made because of general economic conditions in the industry.

"This act is regrettable necessary after we have had to adjust working hours and shifts," the spokesman said.

He would not comment, however, on whether the retrenchments were negotiated with trade unions at the plant.

"We are an essential industry," the union said. "GM needs to consider restructuring in the future."

"We have asked GM to consider implementing short-time work and will ask for a longer shut-down at the end of the year," the spokesman said.

"Retrenchments are unacceptable as careful forward planning can avoid this."

The union was still trying to negotiate a retrenchment package with GM, he said.

Ford recently laid off 500 workers and Volkswagen has also laid off more than 300 workers this year.
Union Hills at illegal stoppages.
Court told of strike

THE Transvaal organising secretary of the General Workers' Union (GWUSA), Mr Donald Khumalo, had addressed a meeting in Mamelodi where he told about 30 workers to go on strike the following day, a Pretoria magistrate's court heard yesterday.

Mrs Elise Nkonyana (26), a presser at De Luxe Dry Cleaners in Koedoespoort, said Mr Khumalo had come to their firm during September last year and told them he was an official of a trade union that would help them get better wages. On September 9, she added, Mr Khumalo had asked them at a meeting held in a church in Mamelodi how much they earned and if they had uniforms and lockers.

Mr Khumalo had then told them to go on strike at 10am the following day, the court heard.

Mr Khumalo (27), of 7005 Mamelodi, appeared before Mr J.A. Le Roux on a charge of inciting workers to strike during August and September last year. He is alleged to have incited employees at De Luxe Dry Cleaners, Koedoespoort, near Pretoria, to go on strike. He pleaded not guilty.

Both Mrs Nkonyana and Ms Rebecca Mogale, a checker at the firm, said under cross-examination by Mr Martin Brassey, for the accused, that they had been forced to go on strike after they had been threatened with assault by other workers. They also said the accused had urged them to go on strike while he negotiated with management. The strike, the court heard, had lasted until after 3pm.

The case was postponed to November 30.
Sackings follow protest

Labour Report

Workers at a Durban fumigating firm downed tools yesterday in protest against the renunciation of several of their colleagues.

About a dozen workers were demobed as a result of their protest, according to the management of South African Health Protection Services.

A management spokesman said the firm was retaining staff because of financial problems. And the workers had protested.

The general secretary of the South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU), Mr Sam Kikome, said management had refused to accept the demands of the union's members to reinstate the retrenched workers.
By Sheryl Baine, Pretoria Bureau

"Pretoria, with its rapidly growing motor industry, is fast becoming the industrial growth centre of the Transvaal, complete with an increasingly powerful, predominantly black trade union movement."

In the past four years — and particularly during the last 18 months — motor assembly plant workers have been unionised in unprecedented numbers, and the emergence of Nawa (National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union) as a force with which to reckon with in the Pretoria district, is part of the national industrial union trend. Mr Adler, the secretary of Nawa, estimates that he has at least 50 percent of the 500-member Nawa assemblers employed at the BMW plant. He says he has estimates support on general at BMW to be 80 percent.

Mr Adler says that Nawa has already won recognition at two other motor industry concerns, and that a recruitment campaign launched recently at Datsun is going well. With about 100 new members enrolled with Nawa every week, according to the company's regional manager, Mr Taffy Adler.

The emergence of Nawa as a force to reckon with in the Pretoria district is part of the trend to unionisation in the growth of the CTU 5,000-member National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Nawa), an affiliate of the Federation of South African Trade Unions (Fostu).

BMW representatives will meet Nawa representatives tomorrow for talks in a new attempt to win recognition.

The industrial climate in the Transvaal differs from that in the Cape because many of the companies in the Transvaal have a strong following in the community, whereas the unions in the Cape have been weakened by strikes and walkouts.

Mr Adler says the industrial climate in the Transvaal is not as blocked as in the Cape, but it is also not as open as in the Cape. He says he has made some progress in the recent past two years, although he did not readily associate the growth of unions with labour unrest. But the three major motor companies in the Pretoria area have had strikes and walkouts in the last two years.

Mr Adler says the industrial climate in the Transvaal differs from the Cape because many of the companies in the Transvaal are not multinationals, but are owned by locally owned subsidiaries with technical agreements with other companies. He says this made for a different industrial climate with trade unions.

Companies such as Ford and Volkswagen had handled strikes "with kid gloves" according to Mr Adler. He considered the stance of some Pretoria managers harsher and the unions compromising.

Union organisers are watching the court case of two Brits union officials charged under the Terrorism Act.
ITF man wants to testify at enquiry

By SANDRA SMITH

The general secretary of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF), Mr. Harold Lewis, has applied to a South African Transport Services (SATS) committee of enquiry to give oral evidence on the Port Elizabeth dock dispute.

The dispute arose after the General Workers Union (GWU) attempted for nearly a year to hold discussions with SATS on the working conditions of Port Elizabeth dockers.

More than 400 of the workers were fired after a go-slow last month in an attempt to force SATS to meet GWU representatives.

The union has presented written evidence to a committee set up by the Department of Transport Affairs to investigate the SATS.

In a telex today, the ITF said it had submitted evidence to the committee on September 20.

Now Mr. Lewis has told SATS he would like to give "oral evidence" and has asked the transport services to suggest dates on which this could be done.

Mr. Lewis' personal assistant, Miss Andrea Earnley, said the ITF's written representation to the committee was based largely on a letter the federation had sent to the director-general of SATS, Dr. J. G. H. Loubsier, in June.

The letter said if workers had no faith in the willingness or ability of their representatives to "put their case and stand up for their interests," it did not matter what kind of labour relations structure existed.

"If there was really whole-hearted and massive backing for and confidence in the Black Staff Association (BSA), the GWU could neither expect nor deserve much consideration," the letter said.

The evidence pointed the other way as the Port Elizabeth dock workers had joined the GWU in large numbers and clearly rejected the BSA.

Managements had nothing to gain and much to lose by talking to and striking deals with "unions" which did not have genuine support.

Mr. Lewis also reiterated a request to meet Dr. Loubsier to discuss the issue.

Attached was a list of allegations of railway police harassment of GWU members, which Dr. Loubsier undertook to investigate if the ITF could show that the police's activities had gone beyond "their normal bounds and functions."
Great news!

Council has decided to acknowledge and recognize the role of the Umhlanga municipal workers' committee. This comes after the borough's Town Clerk expressed interest in hosting an open meeting to discuss the matter.

Chairperson, Mr. Ken O'Connor, emphasized the importance of this decision, emphasizing the need for a transparent and inclusive labor environment.

The council had obtained legal advice before taking their decision and assured all parties that the move was in line with government policy. He added that as far as he knew, there was no existing registered association which the workers could join, but they could raise their grievances through their union.

Several employees have the right to be heard. Mr. O'Connor noted that they do not need an association at this stage.
Strike at Rosebank store

Labour Correspondent

MANAGEMENT at OK Bazaars' large Rosebank store had to

man the counters after cashiers struck apparently in

protest at an investigation into theft allegations against a
colleague, sources at the store said yesterday.

The sources said workers had stopped work after police had

been called to investigate claims that money stolen by one of the
cashiers had been used.

Neither OK Bazaars nor Commercial Catering and Allied
Workers' Union of SA (Cawusa) spokesmen would comment on
even yesterday. It was unclear whether the strike had been settled.

The strike is the latest in a rash of stoppages to hit major
chair store in the city.

Dealers in scrap metal hit

MARKET

Dealers are in an estimated scrap metal business.

A number of the main Ferroso Steel Distributors were required to
take a break in their business because of the economic downturn.

The general manager of Ferroso Steel, Mr F van Andelen said

yesterday the company was making reduced payments because of
the economic downturn.

He said the Iron and Steel Corporation (Iscor) had been

forced to take on 10,000 tons of scrap metal a month in an
attempt to honour contracts with scrap metal dealers. For

merly it had 20,000 tons a month.
Strikes ‘should be used only as last resort’

Labour Reporter

THE KwaZulu Government expects trade unions to negotiate with employers ‘in an orderly manner’ whenever a dispute occurs and only call strikes as a ‘last resort’ when all other means of negotiation have failed.

This was said in a major policy statement on trade unions released by KwaZulu’s Minister of the Interior, Dr Frank Mdlalose.

The statement said that, however, the KwaZulu Government acknowledged the existence of trade unions in the private sector and had all along supported the proper formation and registration of trade unions in KwaZulu as well as in the rest of South Africa.

Influence

‘It has in fact passed its own legislation concerning this,’ it added.

It was said for many decades the Chief Minister of KwaZulu, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, had been fighting for the formation of trade unions.

It was largely through his influence that black trade unions had been ultimately recognised by the South African Government.

For this, the statement said, Chief Buthelezi had been recognised by trade union movements all over the world and was awarded the George Meany Award by the giant American Federation, the AFL-CIO.

Referring to disputes which have arisen between the KwaZulu Government and two of the new mainly black unions, the SA Allied Workers Union and the National Federation of Workers the statement said public servants in KwaZulu and in the rest of South Africa are not permitted to join trade unions.

They must make representations about any grievances they may have to the Public Service Commission through their staff associations.

Desirable

The disputes arose when Saawu and the NFW took up the grievances of members in the KwaZulu Department of Works.

The statement said ‘the work and service conditions of public servants are controlled by the KwaZulu Public Service Commission and these cannot be compared with those of employees in factories.’

But, it said, it was desirable that public servants form staff associations and the KwaZulu Service Commission had recognised two staff associations—one for professional staff and the other for administrative staff.

‘Committees exist in the four regions of the KwaZulu Department of Works and it is accepted practice that complaints and problems are taken up through these committees to the regional director concerned.

‘Matters of policy have to be referred by him to the head of the department at Umlazi, who in turn may refer him to the Public Service Commission with representations and recommendations where necessary,’ the statement said.
New move in docks dispute in PE

PORT ELIZABETH — The general secretary of the International Transport Workers Federation, Mr Harold Lewis, has applied to a South African Transport Services committee of inquiry to give oral evidence on the Port Elizabeth dock dispute.

The dispute arose after the General Workers Union attempted for nearly a year to hold discussions with SATS on the working conditions of Port Elizabeth dockers.

More than 400 of the workers were fired after a go-slow last month in an attempt to force SATS to meet GWU representatives.

The Union has presented written evidence to a committee set up by the Department of Transport Affairs to investigate the SATS.

The ITF said yesterday it had submitted evidence to the committee on September 30.

Now Mr Lewis has told SATS he would like to give "oral evidence" and has asked the Transport Services to suggest dates on which this could be done.

Mr Lewis' personal assistant, Miss Andrea Barney, said the ITF's written representation to the committee was largely based on a letter the federation had sent to the Director-General of SATS, J G H Loubser, in June.

The letter said if workers had no faith in the willingness or ability of their representatives to "put their case and stand up for their interests" it did not matter what kind of labour relations structure existed.

"If there was really whole-hearted and massive backing for and confidence in the Black Staff Association, the GWU could neither expect nor deserve much considering," the letter said.

The evidence pointed the other way as the Port Elizabeth dock workers had joined the GWU in large numbers and clearly rejected the BSA.

Managements had nothing to gain and much to lose by talking to and striking deals with "unions" which did not have genuine support.

Mr Lewis also restated a request to meet Dr Loubser to discuss the issue.

Attached was a list of allegations of railway police harassment of GWU members, which Dr Loubser undertook to investigate if the ITF could show that the police's activities had gone beyond "their normal bounds and functions." — SAPA
Veldspun might consider taking back workers

Post Reporter

VELDSPUN INTERNATIONAL, the Uitenhage textile company, had indicated in talks with union officials that it might consider re-employing dismissed workers.

The chairman of the Uitenhage branch of Fosatu, Mr Sam Mpushe, said today that officials of the workers' union, the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW), had met company representatives on Tuesday to discuss the dispute.

The workers were dismissed in August when they downed tools after 60 colleagues were sacked for refusing to do the work of retrenched workers.

Mr Mpushe said both parties were anxious to resolve the problem soon, and would meet again next week, when the company would present proposals for the possible re-employment of those dismissed.

The dispute shot to national prominence when the NUTW accused Barlow Rand — the major shareholder of Romatex, which owns Veldspun — of ignoring unfair labour practices of its subsidiaries.

The Students' Representative Council of the University of the Witwatersrand also called on their Chancellor, Mr A M Rosholt, chairman of Barlows, to intervene in the dispute.

Meanwhile, at a community meeting in Kwanobuhle last night, it was decided to step up the boycott of white businesses in Uitenhage, which was launched to protest against the workers' dismissal.

However, the president of the Uitenhage Chamber of Commerce, Mr M E Gilmour, said today that the boycott was having no effect on the businesses.

He said the dispute was a "purely domestic affair" and that the Uitenhage business community would not intervene "unless it becomes a total boycott", in which case the matter would probably be discussed with Veldspun.
Union to testify in SATS probe

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

SA TRANSPORT Services have officially invited the General Workers Union (GWU) to give written evidence to an internal committee investigating Sats' labour relations.

But it appeared yesterday that former Sats dockers at Port Elizabeth harbour, who belong to the unregistered GWU and who were fired after a go-slow in support of union recognition demands recently, will not be able to give separate evidence.

And, in another development yesterday, it was learned that the International Transport Workers Federation, to which dockers unions in major Western countries belong, will also seek to give evidence to the committee.

The GWU recently asked to give evidence to the committee in an attempt to break the impasse between it and Sats over union recognition, which began about a year ago and led to the go-slow at Port Elizabeth harbour.

Hundreds of workers were fired and busied out of the harbour for taking part in the protest action.

At the time the union decided to make an attempt to give evidence, the sacked dockers said they would ask to give evidence in addition to the GWU.

The committee, chaired by a retired Sats assistant general manager, Mr. J. P. Venter, is examining negotiating structures at Sats.

Yesterday the GWU general secretary, Mr. David Lewis, confirmed that the union had received a letter from Sats inviting it to submit written representations.

He added, however, that the fired dockers had received a letter which simply acknowledged their request and added that the union had already been given permission to submit evidence.

Sats has confirmed it has received the two letters.
Umzinto hit by walkout

Mercury Reporter

ESSENTIAL services such as refuse removal and street sweeping in Umzinto ground to a halt yesterday as the South Coast town's entire black and Indian labour force downed tools in support of their demand for an immediate pay rise.

A spokesman for the 60 workers, who asked not to be identified, told the Mercury yesterday that the latest increase in the price of bread had forced them to take immediate action to 'pressure' the board into increasing their pay.

Umzinto North's Town Clerk, Mr Enoch John, confirmed yesterday that the workers refused to return to work until their demand for more pay was met. He declined to divulge any details about his employees' wages.

'This is strictly a confidential matter concerning the worker and the board,' he said, adding that he was calling a special meeting of the board today to allow a deputation of the Black Workers' Lawson Committee to address the board on its grievances.

The workers' spokesman said they were paid peanuts, and unless the board pays us a living wage we are not prepared to return to our duties.

He said the starting wage of a labourer was R100 a month, reaching a maximum of R120.

'After deducting expenses for transport, rent and food we are penniless long before the arrival of the next pay day,' he said.
"Strike laws need to be de-criminalised"

SUN CITY — Strike laws in South Africa should be "de-criminalised," Professor Blackswa Swart, professor of industrial relations at the University of Stellenbosch, told delegates to the IPM convention.

Prof Swart said at present workers went on strike despite the law, but employers "were not possessed of the complementary opportunity of a lock-out." "It should be left to the employers and unions to agree on strike and lock-out procedures," Prof Swart said.

Prof Swart said the State-sanctioned plant-level collective bargaining guidelines could be published on this kind of agreement.

"Although it has been contended that plant-level recognition and agreements constitute a voluntarily relationship of trust, the situation in South Africa is such that some form of redress should be granted in cases where one party refuses to co-operate or reneges on the terms of an agreement," Prof Swart said.

With a proliferation of plant agreements, unions might play employers against another, aggravating wage inflation. However, in South Africa, plant agreements were negotiated mainly for unskilled workers, and it was unlikely that unskilled wages could be pushed too far. — Sapa
Rosebank
OK strike is settled

Labour Correspondent

A STRIKE at OK Bazaar, Rosebank store was settled after police agreed to release without charge two workers at the store who were arrested on Wednesday, an OK spokesman, Mr Allin Fabig, said yesterday.

The workers downed tools on Tuesday afternoon after police had arrived to arrest a cashier. The dispute was settled that afternoon.

Mr Fabig said the dispute began when a cashier refused to sign a form detailing that the money in her till was short. Management called the police, who arrested her.

Workers had milled around the police. One of them allegedly swore at a police officer and was arrested. Cashiers and other workers at the store stopped work in protest.

After consultation the workers were released and returned to work, Mr Fabig said. No charges would be brought.
Fired workers rethink

PORT ELIZABETH — Veldspun International, the Uitenhage textile company has indicated in talks with union officials that it might consider re-employing about 1 000 dismissed workers.

The chairman of the Uitenhage branch of the National Union of Textile Workers had met company representatives on Tuesday to discuss the dispute — SAPA.
Decriminalise strike action, calls professor

By Tony Davis, Labour Reporter

Strike action in South Africa should be decriminalised, a labour expert told a productivity conference at Sun City this week.

Professor Blackie Swart told the conference it should be left to workers and employers to agree on procedures for strikes or lockouts.

Professor Swart is a professor of industrial relations at the University of Stellenbosch. He sits on the Government’s National Manpower Commission.

He said workers went on strike in spite of laws against illegal strikes. At the same time, employers were not allowed to lock out striking workers.

Most strikes in the last few years have been illegal although little action has been taken under labour laws against strikers.

The Government should sanction plant level collective bargaining, Professor Swart said. While it was impossible for all plant level agreements to be promulgated and thus supplement legislation, guidelines could be established as to the method of granting recognition and bargaining methods.

Some form of redress should also be granted in cases where workers or employers refused to co-operate, or reneged on the terms of an agreement, he said.

Because plant agreements were mainly negotiated for unskilled workers it was unlikely that wage demands at this level of bargaining would ever be pushed beyond realistic levels, Professor Swart said.

It was also possible that regional employers could co-ordinate bargaining procedures in addition to industrial employer bodies, he added.
Strikes not ruled out

By Ireen Spier

INDUSTRIAL strike action as a means of opposing the new proposed legislation on influx control cannot be ruled out, says the 4,000-strong, multiracial South African Boilermakers Society. Addressing the Institute of Personnel Management Convention this week, Ike van der Watt, general secretary of the Boilermakers Society, the country’s largest trade union, said the proposed legislation was an issue no trade union or employers’ organisation could afford to ignore.

“We believe that the proposed legislation will also have the effect of undoing much of the good that has been done by labour law reform,” he said.
Two on bail in case over strike

dispute concerning retrenchments

A union spokesman said yesterday: "Many workers are still out and production is suffering as a result. We have sent a letter to the industrial council regarding management's actions over the retrenchments."

A spokesman for B and S said the firm had not met Mawu earlier because the union had not proved it was representative of the workforce.

Labour Reporter

The case against two Brits workers who were charged under the Intimidation Act after a strike at an engineering firm last month, has been postponed to November 9.

Mr Ernest Lutsewia and Mr Jacob Magamakwe, officials of the Metal and Allied Workers Union, were arrested for their part in the strike at the B and S Engineering firm in Brits on September 14.

They are out on bail after appearing in the Brits Regional Court on Monday.

They were accused of intimidating fellow workers a day before the strike which resulted in 1000 workers being dismissed over a
Furore over sacked worker

Several community leaders and groups are to pressurise the founder of a candle factory in Soweto, the Reverend David Nkwe, to reinstate a worker sacked after a controversial sex scandal at the plant.

Azapo's publicity secretary, Mr. Ishmael Mkhabela, said a meeting of leaders, including Bishop Desmond Tutu and Dr Nthatho Motlan, has been arranged for next Wednesday.

The worker, Ms Lizzy Mabaso, was allegedly fired after claims that she had turned down a senior's advances. The official said claims had once attempted to have sexual intercourse with her against her will and she managed to escape.

News of her sacking spread like wildfire in the area and community leaders felt they should resolve the matter by meeting the founder of the candle factory. Mr. Mkhabela said Azapo had intervened in the matter because "as you had asked for our help."

The organisation also invited other groups and leaders.

The Reverend Nkwe denied the story. He said he could not see how such a thing could have happened without him knowing about it.

"Obviously the woman is lying," he said.

The official in question also denied the story saying they only had tea together. He said she lost her job due to poor performance.
Labour Correspondent

THE 100 000-member Federation of SA Trade Unions is to ask the Zimbabwean Prime Minister, Mr Robert Mugabe, to ban imports of all fabrics and yarns made by companies in the Barlow Rand group.

Fosatu's move is a reaction to the dispute at Uitenhage Barlow Rand textile plant Veldspan International, where about 1 000 members of Fosatu's National Union of Textile Workers have been fired after a protest strike over recent retrenchments.

Fosatu's weekend central committee meeting also resolved to set up a meeting of shop stewards in Barlow Rand factories where it has members to plan common strategies towards the group.

Barlow Rand industrial relations director Mr Reinard Hofmeyr said yesterday that Veldspan management and the NUTW had met last Wednesday and agreed "that every endeavour be made to re-establish a sound working relationship between the parties".

He said the Fosatu resolution "seems to be a strange way of working towards this goal. The resolution supports NUTW's stand at Veldspan and its demand that the fired strikers be reinstated and also endorses a Uitenhage call for a boycott of white shops in support of the fired workers."
2 fined over sweet-boycott stickers

Own Correspondent

MDANTSANE — Two former East London sweet factory workers, Neeba Mahlangeni, 26, and Malungisa Joka, 25, were each fined R150 (or 150 days) in the Magistrate's Court here yesterday for contravening the Ciskei Emergency Regulations (Proclamation R232).

They displayed and supplied stickers which read "I don't eat Wilson-Rowntree" at the highway bus terminal here on July 28, 1981.

They were each fined R300 (or 300 days imprisonment) with half the sentence conditionally suspended for three years.

In mitigation, Mr Vuka Tshabalala, of Durban, who appeared for both men, said the men had felt aggrieved when they had lost their jobs at the sweet factory, following a strike, and that their actions were based on this feeling.

He added that a previous conviction for assault against Mahlangeni had no bearing on the matter.

Joka had no previous convictions.

He said the offence committed was not an ordinary offence normally committed in the course of criminal action.

Evidence was that the two men had stickers referring to the eating of the company's products and that they had supplied two youths with the stickers.

They said they had given the stickers to the youths after they had asked for them.
100 join rubber strike

Labour Reporters

Workers at a Waderville rubber firm went on strike yesterday over their working conditions.

About 100 workers at Tensile Rubber, a subsidiary of General Tire, downed tools.

The strike started on Monday evening when nightshift workers made demands of management.

Worker grievances are:

- The loss of transport services from Alexandra township to Waderville.
- No tea or lunch breaks for night staff.
- No overalls or safety shoes provided this year.

Fosatu's Metal and Allied Workers Union (Mawu) had a recognition agreement with the firm before it moved from Winberg to Waderville. However, the loss of members as a result of the move ended in the termination of the agreement this month.

Management spokesmen were unavailable for comment. A Mawu spokesman said the workers were unwilling to return to work or be selectively re-employed.
Workers in court on intimidation charge

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Mail Reporter

THREE Metal and Allied Workers Union shop stewards at a Wadeville company, Litemaster, have appeared in Germiston Municipal's Court charged under the new Intimidation Act.

The charges follow allegations that they tried to "intimidate" fellow-workers into joining Mawu. It is the first time the Act has been used against unions where a strike has not occurred.

According to a union organiser, Mr Moses Mayekiso, workers had claimed that the company — which recognises Mawu — had helped police to prosecute the three. But this was denied yesterday by the managing director, Mr John Houston.

Mr Mayekiso said the men were arrested on Friday after a group of workers complained that the three threatened them with violence if they did not join Mawu. They appeared in court on Monday and were released on E50 bail each.

Mr Mayekiso said workers had accused management of co-operating with police, because the workers who complained were allegedly transported to a police station in a company car.

But Mr Houston said yesterday he knew of only two cases of intimidation at the plant, both of which were still being investigated by management.

He denied that management had helped police bring charges and said he knew "nothing" about the company transporting the workers.

Mr Houston said one complainant had been made by a rival metal union, Cape Steel, Engineering and Allied Workers Union. But the union's secretary, Mrs Jane Hlungwane, denied this.

Mr Houston released a statement by Mr Richard Nishi, the chairman of Litemaster's shop stewards committee, in which he confirmed that he and Mr Mayekiso had warned workers against "intimidating" non-unionised workers and members of other unions at a meeting on Monday night.

But Mr Nishi's statement says he had cautioned against intimidation, "despite the fact that no proof of it actually having taken place exists."
Case of unionist for A.G.'s decision

Labour Correspondent

RIOTOUS Assemblies Act charges against a leading trade unionist Mr Taffy Adler, of Fosatu's National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, were withdrawn in the Germiston Magistrate's Court yesterday. Police told lawyers representing Mr Adler that they would now refer the case to the Attorney-General for a final decision.

The case stems from the arrest of Mr Adler outside the Elandsfontein factory of Leyland (SA) recently while he was holding discussions with NAAWU members at the plant. Police charged that he had been holding an open-air meeting without first obtaining official permission. Fosatu said if the law was applied in cases where unions held meetings outside factories it would make trade union work "almost impossible."

Two Metal and Allied Workers Union worker leaders, fired from the Brits factory B and S Engineering, after a strike on September 14, appeared in the Brits Regional Court this week charged under the Intimidation Act. Their case was remanded to November 8.

Lawyers are watching the case closely as it will give an indication of how widely the courts interpret the recently-introduced Act. Some legal sources fear the police may use the Act to curb a wide range of union activities.

The strike at B and S followed the dismissal of a worker and led to the firing of the company's 1,000-strong work force on September 14. MAWU said this week that at least 300 B and S workers were still "out" and the plant was unable to meet production targets. The company, however, says production is back to normal and most of the workers are ex-strikers.
Strikers apply to Industrial Court

Labour Reporter

IN a sequel to a strike at Vleissentral at Cato Ridge, 42 workers dismissed during the strike yesterday applied to the Industrial Court for temporary re-instatement.

The case is the first of its kind to come before the Industrial Court as the amendments to the Labour Relations Act enabling the Industrial Court to order temporary re-instatement came into operation only on September 1.

Prior to the amendments, applications for temporary re-instatement had to be made to the Minister of Manpower, Dr Pame Botha.

In terms of the Act the Court can order the company to re-instate the workers for up to 90 days or order that they be paid an amount equivalent to their re-instatement.

Yesterday's hearing was one of a series of legal actions being taken by Vleissentral workers who were fired at the beginning of August after they had struck in support of two dismissed shop stewards.

Last Friday two workers applied to the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court for re-instatement.

The hearing, which has been adjourned until January 31 next year, is to be used as a test case in a bid to win the re-instatement of all the dismissed workers.

After hearing argument yesterday the president of the Industrial Court, Mr B. J. Parsons, reserved judgment and told the parties he would let them know of his decision through the Registrar.
SAA would act against strikers

South African Airways will take action against any member of staff refusing to work this Sunday, a spokesman said today.

Mr J C van Rooyen, SAA spokesman, was reacting to reports that cabin crew plan a strike on Sunday.

"We are not aware of any planned strike for Sunday. Most of the members of our staff agreed with the reductions in allowances. Only a few individuals have not accepted the measures," he said.

"There will be no strike. If any individual refuses to work on Sunday then obviously measures will have to be taken according to the staff regulations."

But sources linked to SAA staff confirmed there was discontent over the reduction of allowances.

Flight engineers are considering suing SAA for breach of contract but they have not contemplated striking.

A spokesman for the South African Flight Engineers' Association said today lawyers were being consulted on the feasibility of taking legal action against SAA.

"We feel there has been a breach of contract and conditions of employment," he said.

The conflict arises from SAA's decision to cut travel and meal allowances.

"That decision came at a time when we were negotiating salary increases. Inflation is hitting us as hard as anybody else. The company, however, has decided to cut the allowances," the flight engineers' spokesman said.

Meal allowances have been reduced by 10 percent. Reductions in travel allowances vary but are as drastic as 50 percent in some cases.

Mr van Rooyen said discussions had been held through "the appropriate channels" on reductions.

"The staff as a whole supported these measures. There are only a few individuals who have not agreed with them," he said.

The South African Airline Pilots' Association refused to comment.
OK workers' pay rises after union agreement

Labour Correspondent

OK BAZAARS and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA) have signed a wage agreement covering the company's more than 20,000 workers, which will increase pay for city workers by at least R6 a month over the next year.

The agreement, which was signed on Monday, is a sequel to a recent strike at OK in which CCAWUSA members demanded an R65 a month raise and union recognition.

It covers about 24,000 workers in some 476 stores, warehouses and offices. This is the first time, CCAWUSA has negotiated an agreement covering so many workers.

Recognition negotiations between the union and company are proceeding.

The signing of the agreement follows reports that the two sides were far apart and amid fears of another clash between them.

Details of the agreement were released yesterday by a union spokesman and confirmed by OK's industrial relations chief, Mr. Roger Blackwell.

It grants workers earning less than R50 a month two increases, one backdated to October 7 and the other to come into effect in April. Workers earning above this amount will receive one increase in April.

In the major city areas where about 70% of OK workers are employed, workers earning below R50 a month will receive a R60 a month increase this month and another R25 in April.

Those earning above that figure will receive R60 a month more in April.

In all other areas, workers earning under R50 will receive R30 now and R50 in April, those earning more, R40 a month in April.

OK and CCAWUSA have also agreed to schedule a new round of wage talks that will begin next October.
Workers offered old jobs

PORT ELIZABETH — The Uitenhage firm Veldspun International, a member of the giant Barlow Rand group, has offered to rehire 214 of the more than 1,000 workers dismissed earlier this year in a strike over retrenchments.

In terms of the proposals, their re-employment would be staggered, with some only resuming work next year, according to the national organiser of the National Union of Textile Workers, Mr. John Copely.

Workers have not yet decided whether to accept the offer and will make their decision at a meeting late next week.

The decision to make the offer was taken after prolonged negotiations between the union and Barlow Rand, Romatex and Veldspun.

The Federation of SA Trade Unions (Fosatu), recently resolved to ask the Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, Mr. Robert Mugabe, to stop the importation of Barlow Rand textile products. — Sapa
recognition agreement signed with the NUTW two years ago.

Similar disputes have occurred between a number of unions and companies this year, but what has made this one significant is the strategy used by the NUTW in the vigorous campaign it has launched since the dismissals. The NUTW and Fosatu leadership, aided by students at the University of the Witwatersrand, have accused Barlow Rand of violating its well-publicized enlightened code of employment practice.

Barlow Rand executive chairman Mike Rosholt, who is also the recently-elected chancellor of the university, has been singled out for special attention by students. A pamphlet distributed by the university's economic research committee clearly aims to embarrass Rosholt, who has consistently spoken out in favour of progressive labour policies.

Barlow spokesmen have questioned the accuracy of many claims made in the pamphlet and have clearly been nettled by the students' and the union's tactics.

Pressure groups

However, it seems likely that increasing use will be made of such tactics as more employers adopt employment codes. And, as one experienced industrial relations practitioner points out, the more a company publicises its code, the greater the danger of the code being used by unions and other pressure groups as a stick with which to beat the company.

“I don't want to knock codes,” says Unisa labour academic Johan Piron, “but if you adopt a code, you have to live up to it, and be seen to be living up to it.” He and other industrial relations practitioners agree that it is essential to educate lower levels of management to accept and implement a code.

Barlow Rand industrial relations director Renald Hofmeyr concedes that in a large corporation, which has a vast array of operating units, it is likely that there will occasionally be problems in administering a code. Emphasising that he is not referring to the Veldspun dispute, he says “Not all companies can move as fast as others.”

Although the adoption of a code can yield problems, Hofmeyr is convinced that the advantages far outweigh the disadvantages. Rosholt's decision to adopt the code was a courageous one, he says, adding that Rosholt places great emphasis on an enduring commitment to improve employment practices.

“We are convinced that the code has had a significant effect on improving the living standards of the disadvantaged people within our group as well as their families.”

One of its most important effects so far has been in raising pay in traditionally low-wage industries, he says.

“People can use the code as a means to attack us, but if we had to draw up a code again we would not hesitate to do so.”

LABOUR CODES FM 22192

Penalties of progress

The dispute between the Barlow Rand textile company, Veldspun International, and the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) must make some employers question the wisdom of adopting and publicising an enlightened code of employment practice.

About 1,000 Veldspun employees, many of whom are members of the NUTW, an affiliate of the Federation of SA Trade Unions (Fosatu), were dismissed several weeks ago. They say they went on strike in protest against the company's retrenchment policies. Management, on the other hand, maintains the strike contravened a
Wadeville strike collapses

Labour Reporter
A strike at a Wadeville rubber firm collapsed this week after workers decided to return to their jobs.

About 100 workers at Tensile Rubber downed tools in protest against working conditions.

Both the night and day shifts refused to meet a management return-to-work deadline and were dismissed.

Most of the workers were subsequently re-engaged on a selective basis on Wednesday.

The Focatu affiliated Metal and Allied Workers Union had a recognition agreement with the firm when it was previously located in Wynberg but management terminated the agreement this month as Mawu had lost many of its members in the move.

Officials of Tensile Rubber and its parent company, General Tire, were unavailable for comment on the dispute.

Worker grievances included complaints about the loss of a transport scheme and increased production.
Staff strike over union recognition

Central News Agency (CNA) workers in Johannesburg today went on strike.

More than 100 workers streamed into the Johannesburg offices of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union. The union is present seeking a recognition agreement with the CNA and the dispute is understood to have started when CNA management rejected plans for a meeting which would not have included worker representatives but only CNA management and the union.
CNA is hard hit by strike

Labour Report

Hundreds of Central News Agency workers in Johannesburg continued their strike today over demands for union recognition. Workers gathered at the downtown offices of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union. While supervisory staff in some stores had to man the tills, hardest hit by the walkout is the CNA's Laub Street warehouse. Several city branches, including the Commissioner Street branch, were hard hit.

The CNA's group managing director, Mr James Mackness, said today workers who had gone on strike were considered to have "dismissed themselves." CNA, however, was not being strict on this.

He said about 300 workers were involved and that some had reported back for work today after all had been sent home yesterday.

The cause of the strike is the CNA's unwillingness to hold negotiations jointly with the union and worker representatives, according to union chairman, Mr Isaac Padi.

Mr Padi said the CNA had refused to join proposed talks if workers were included.

Mr Mackness said workers could not be included in talks until the union had proved its representativeness in the chain.
600 workers at CNA go on strike

BY STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

WORKERS at warehouses and three stores in Johannesburg owned by Central News Agency yesterday went on strike in support of demands for pay increases and the recognition of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA).

The president of the union, Mr Isaac Padi, said yesterday that 600 CNA workers had downed tools.

A company spokesman said it could not be established how many workers were on strike because management had sent many home for fear of "intimidation".

The strike follows cancellation of a meeting last week between CNA and CCAWUSA to discuss pay and recognition.

The company had turned down a request that three CNA workers accompany CCAWUSA officials to the meeting.

It also comes in the wake of strikes at three major chain stores this year and a dramatic growth in CCAWUSA membership, now estimated at around 20,000.

Mr Padi said yesterday that management had told the union it would put the strikers on notice to return, but the company's spokesman said CNA was expecting its black workers at work this morning.

According to Mr Padi, CCAWUSA has been recruiting at CNA for some time and workers had instructed it to arrange a meeting between the company and a delegation of two union officials and three CNA workers.

The company initially agreed and then wrote back to say only the officials could attend. Workers met on Friday and decided to strike.

He said workers had since added another demand—that three of their colleagues fired at CNA's Carlton Centre branch on Friday be reinstated.

A spokesman for the CNA confirmed the reason for cancelling the meeting and added that management had refused to meet the three workers because it did not know whether they were representative of its workforce.

He said the dismissals at the Carlton Centre branch had been carried out in terms of normal company disciplinary procedure "which is very generous."

Meanwhile, a union spokesman reported yesterday that talks between CCAWUSA and OK Bazaars over whether workers who took part in the recent OK strike should be paid are deadlocked.

The union is calling a worker meeting to discuss worker reaction to the deadlock.

OK management could not be contacted for comment.
CNA strike

THL 600 Central News Agency (CNA) workers who downed tools on Monday following a dispute with management over the recognition of their union are still on strike.

By late yesterday, there was indication to the workers resuming their duties at the CNA's warehouses and stores in Johannesburg.

A spokesperson for the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers' Union of South Africa (CCAWU) said of management. The ball is in their court now. They made the first move by refusing to speak to workers representatives and in response a strike followed. So to reverse this, they must make the first move. 2nd
CNA stoppage spreads

Labour Correspondent

THE strike by several hundred Central News Agency workers continued yesterday and spread to more workers in the company's retail outlets.

A company spokesman said the strikers, who are demanding wage rises, recognition of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA) and are protesting against the sacking of three colleagues had "technically dismissed themselves" by downing tools.

But all workers who returned would be reinstated without loss of benefits. Many were workers with long service "and we do not wish to prejudice them.

The strike began on Monday when the union said 600 workers downed tools. But management said some of these had been sent home by the company for fear of "un-ionisation".

CNA's warehouses and several city-centre stores have been hit by the strike.

The company's spokesman said yesterday that many workers had travelled to work this morning but had been "stopped at railway stations and in the streets".

He added that CNA had expected the union to contact it to discuss a settlement but it had failed to do so. The union could not be contacted for comment.

Meanwhile, it is understood that workers at OK Bazaar were officially informed yesterday of a deadlock between CCAWUSA and the company over whether workers who took part in a recent strike at the company should be paid.

The union wants the strikers to be paid because "the strike was nobody's fault and workers should not be punished for it," a spokesman said.

He said the company had replied that workers could be paid, but would have to forgo four days' leave as a result of the strike. The union rejected this and was calling a meeting with workers to discuss further action.

An OK spokesman, Mr Allan Faber, confirmed the deadlock. He said OK had agreed that workers could be paid for the first four days of the eight-day strike. If they wished to be paid for the other four days, they would have to apply for leave.

"We believe this is an extremely generous offer," he added.

It is understood that OK workers were officially told of the deadlock yesterday morning.
Stalemate as CNA strike spreads

Labour Report

The strike by Central News Agency store and warehouse workers has spread to more than a dozen retail outlets and management has said it will not negotiate the dispute until workers return to their jobs.

The chairman of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union, Mr. Isaac Paul, said today the three day old strike was as a result of the members' desire to speak to the union before they would return to work.

However, CNA's managing director, Mr. Jimmy Lowman, said today that workers had to return first before there could be any talks.

About 12 to 15 CNA stores are affected by the strike and management has sent home all workers, claiming there was intimidation in some areas.

SERVICE REDUCTION

There are no workers at the CNA warehouse, although supervisory staff are understood to be keeping the branches supplied.

White supervisory staff manned the tables in the retail stores. Mr. Lowman said it was likely there would be a reduction of service if the strike continued.

He said the CNA considered that the workers had divided themselves on Monday by not reporting for work but they would take back anybody who would return.

The dispute started after CNA workers at a meeting on Sunday rejected proposed talks between the union and management unless worker representatives were also invited.

Striking workers again gathered this morning at the union's downtown headquarters.
CNA strike is still stalemated

Labour Reporter

The stalemate in the Central News Agency strike, which is in its fourth day, continued today as neither side appeared to be prepared to start talks.

The CNA's managing director, Mr. Jimmy Lowman, has said talks with the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' would not be held until workers returned to work.

CCAWUSA's chairman, Mr. Isaac Padi, said members had instructed the union not to budge an inch until approached by management.

Mr. Padi, however, said the union would probably contact CNA today over public statements by management.

Mr. Padi said the strike had yesterday spread to CNA's stores in Georgetown and Bakersfield.

More than a dozen retail outlets are already affected.

Mr. Lowman said many workers would return to their jobs if allowed to do so. CNA had identified "a number of intimidators."
Cannery closes after 2-day work stoppage

EAST LONDON — The Langeberg cannery here has been closed until Monday after work stoppages yesterday and on Wednesday.

Cannery manager Mr J R Burg said it had been decided to close the plant after their 800 workers refused to go back to work until certain demands were met.

He said management considered the workers to have dismissed themselves by refusing to return to work.

“They want an 80 per cent wage increase and the release of a prisoner being held on criminal charges,” Mr Burg said last night.

Langeberg has a recognition agreement with the African Food and Canning Workers Union, but Mr Burg said management had been unable to discuss the work stoppage with union officials.

“They refused to talk to us, despite a direct call to the officials. We had no option but to close down.”

Mr Burg said the cannery would start refining on Monday “to see us through the end of the pineapple season.” — DDR
High hopes of end to strike at CNA

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

HOPES of an end to the spreading strike at the Central News Agency rose sharply yesterday as management and Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Cawusa) agreed to meet today for the first time to discuss a settlement.

Retail trade sources believe there is a good chance that meetings between the two sides can lead to a settlement.

And, in an unusual move, the CNA managing director Mr Jimmy Lowman said yesterday the CNA was paying workers their full monthly pay, despite the strike.

These developments came as the strike continued to spread yesterday. Cawusa's president Mr Isaac Padi said about 20 stores were now affected, but Mr Lowman put the number at 15. He said this was four more than on Wednesday.

Workers, who have been meeting daily throughout the strike which began on Monday, met in Soweto yesterday to discuss the dispute, which was sparked by wage and union recognition demands.

Yesterday the union contacted the CNA to discuss the dispute and the company replied almost immediately with an offer of talks. The CNA had charged that talks were stalled because Cawusa would not contact it, which the union denied.

Mr Padi said the CNA attached no preconditions to the talks and the company agreed that worker representatives and union officials could attend.

The strike was partly prompted by cancellation of a meeting between Cawusa and the CNA last week when the company said union officials could not attend but CNA employees could not.

Mr Lowman said four CNA workers would attend the meeting with union officials.

Mr Lowman confirmed the meeting.

He added that the CNA was paying workers this week and that all were being given a full month's pay cheque, despite the strike.

Members of Cawusa were due to meet management at another store, Top Centre, yesterday to discuss grievances.
800 fired at cannery

Argus Bureau

EAST LONDON — About 800 workers have been fired from the Langeberg cannery here following work stoppages earlier this week.

The cannery manager, Mr. J. R. Burg, said today that the workers were considered to have dismissed themselves after refusing to return to work after stoppages on Wednesday and yesterday.

The cannery closed today and will reopen on Monday when re-hiring will begin.

DEMANDS

Mr. Burg said the workers refused to return to work until certain demands had been met.

They want an 80 percent wage increase and the release of a prisoner being held on criminal charges, he said.

The company had held discussions with the African Food and Canning Workers Union, which represents the majority of workers and is recognized by the company, but these had broken down.

NEGOTIATIONS

The cannery had intended increasing wages next month and had already begun negotiations with the union.

Mr. Burg said he was hoping to re-hire many of the original staff.

"We won't re-hire all of them because we are coming to the end of the season and would have begun retrenching anyway," he said.

Union officials could not be reached for comment.
LABOUR MATTERS

CCEwusa strikes

The Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (CCEwusa) appears to be one of the few unions to be growing strongly at a time when SA's economy continues to slow down.

CCEwusa, an affiliate of the Council of Unions of SA (Coswa), has been involved in disputes with four major department stores this year: Edgars, OK Bazaars, Woolworths and Pick 'n Pay. It has achieved a recognition agreement with Edgars and appears to be heading for similar agreements with some other retailers.

The union became involved in a dispute with the Central News Agency during the past week, following a strike by hundreds of CNA employees over demands for pay increases and union recognition. The strike came in the wake of management's refusal to allow three CNA workers to accompany CCEwusa officials to a meeting at which recognition was to be discussed. Management's view is that the purpose of the meeting was to gain information about the union, and that it therefore wanted to meet the officials only. Union sources say CNA employees rejected this attitude.

A CNA spokesman insists that the company is still willing to meet union officials.

This dispute has again demonstrated CCEwusa's extraordinary success in penetrating the retail trade, which has traditionally been a difficult area for unions to recruit in.

The strikes certainly reveal a growing militancy among black workers in the retail trade. Some management have moved quickly to defuse strikes promptly because they fear consumer boycotts which can result from a protracted dispute. Union officials claim a total membership of about 20,000 — up from about 15,000 a year ago.
Barclays denies big losses abroad

The Star Bureau LONDON — Barclays Bank has denied rumours which swept the London Stock Exchange yesterday that it had incurred large losses on the interna
tional side. Speculation over losses in Nigeria as high as 280 million pounds drove the price of Bar
clays' shares down.

But a spokesman for the bank said: "Rumours about losses or about an announce
tment of losses are totally unfounded." Banking analysts in the city were puzzled by the rumours. Although Barclays is involved in lending to

NEW YORK — The Dow Jones index came back sharply by 15.36 points in a day of quiet trad
ing on Wall Street yesterday and closed at 880,581, its lowest point since the first week of

The week's loss was 40.47. Electronic, chemical, drug and energy stocks paced the losers, while

future course of interest rates, analysts said Rates on short

term Treasury securities traded at 3.897% yesterday.

In addition, Wall Street was awaiting the release today of the government's index of leading - US economic indicators, as well as the outcome of next

Tuesday's congressional elections and what effect the results will have on President

Reagan's economic programs. — AP

Indicated across Ruling price, today's move, dividend yield, earnings yield, 12-month high, 12-month low, volume.

Querries on the accuracy of information should be addressed to the JSE

UK shares go down

LONDON — Leading shares extended recent falls following a report by the Confederation of British Industry that economic prospects had worsened since its last survey in July.

Details for the ruling Conservative Party in two by-elections and the falls on Wall Street undermined the lower trend. In renewed weakness in banks, Barclays fell 6p to 403.

Government bonds rose as much as half a point, reflecting US markets — Reuters
An end to CNA strike expected

Labour Correspondent

A settlement to the week-long strike at Central News Agency seemed likely yesterday after the company and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA) held a marathon meeting to discuss the dispute.

After seven-and-a-half hours, the two sides emerged to say they had agreed not to release any information, but that a statement could be expected on Monday.

The fact that a joint statement is likely on Monday almost certainly means the two sides have agreed on a package to end the strike, but that CCAWUSA still has to put this to its members.

Observers point out it is highly unlikely the union would have accepted any deal unless it had been approved by a worker vote.

At the same time, it is known that CNA was keen to see the dispute resolved as quickly as possible and would, therefore, have urged that a deal be concluded yesterday.

If workers accept the deal, and barring any other hitches over the weekend, it seems likely an end to the strike will be announced on Monday.

The strike began last Monday when workers at CNA's warehouse and several of its city-centre stores downed tools. The strike subsequently spread each day to new stores until the union and 20 were affected.

The immediate cause of the strike was the cancellation of a meeting between CCAWUSA and the company to discuss recognition, after management ruled only union officials, not workers, could be present.
Workers appeal to Mangope

Labour Correspondent

WORKERS fired after a strike at the Brits company, B and S Engineering, have appealed to the Bophuthatswana Government to help them win reinstatement.

Some of the 250 workers, who belong to the Metal and Allied Workers Union, met officials at the Bophuthatswana embassy in Pretoria yesterday.

The labour councillor at the embassy, Mr JM Meleko, yesterday confirmed he had met the workers and said he had to contact B and S to discuss the issue.

If he was not satisfied with the response, the Bophuthatswana Government might take the matter up with the Department of Foreign Affairs, he added.

About 1,000 workers at the plant were fired after a strike over the dismissal of a colleague. Two, including the MAWU chairman at the plant, have been charged under the Intimidation Act in connection with the strike.

Management says it has returned to normal production and that it has taken back most of the workers.

But, according to a MAWU spokesman, 250 workers, who included most of the skilled workers, had refused to return.

He said they had decided to approach the Bophuthatswana Government for help because most lived in the territory.
Strike at EL co-op: agreement reached

By KEITH ROSS
EAST LONDON — Agreement was apparently reached in East London today between striking workers and the management of the Langeberg Co-operative.

The 800 workers at Langeberg have been on strike since Thursday, demanding an 89% wage increase.

Yesterday the general manager of Langeberg, Mr. J.R. Burg, said he considered that the workers had dismissed themselves by refusing to return to their jobs.

But talks held between management and the South African Food and Canning Workers' Union yesterday and today were described by both sides as fruitful.

After today's meeting Mr. Burg and the organizing secretary of the union Mr. B.P. Norushe, issued a joint statement.

It said: "We feel we have made progress with our negotiations over the past two days. They have been fruitful.

"Both sides look forward to a situation where production can be resumed on Monday."

Neither party was prepared to expand on this statement, but Mr. Norushe said he was very satisfied with the outcome of negotiations.

He said he would return to the factory on Monday for further meetings.

Mr. Norushe declined to say whether he would address the workers on Monday.

He said the impasse at the factory had been sparked by a dispute over bus ticket subsidies.

"Management has been subsidising the workers' bus fares by paying R1.30 of R2 tickets," he said.

"When the price of the tickets was increased to R2, the workers asked for an increased subsidy.

"This was refused and a management member said they were earning too much to warrant further help."

Mr. Norushe said the demand for an 89% wage increase was provoked by the statement that the workers were earning too much..."
Workers strike in protest against driver's dismissal

Labour Correspondent

MORE than 200 workers at Beckitt and Colman's Ixando plant struck yesterday in protest at the dismissal of a driver, a statement issued by Foxatu's Chemical Workers Industrial Union said.

The union said the driver, a worker of 15 years standing with a clean disciplinary record, had been accused last Friday evening of being under the influence of liquor. CWU said that when the driver was asked to take a breathalyser test, he refused.

Distribution workers downed tools in protest, according to CWU, and the union had been involved in negotiations in an attempt to reinstate the worker.

But management had refused and the distribution workers had been joined by production workers.

"After lengthy discussions," the dispute had not been settled and workers left.

According to the union, workers felt the dismissal was unfair because they said management was "not able to offer any proof of drunkenness."
Hopes for Cape motor accord

REMEMBER the Eastern Cape motor industry strike which led to a pull-out from the industrial council by Fosato's National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union? Well, Naawsu and employers are still holding behind-the-scenes talks aimed at breaking the deadlock. While both sides are tight-lipped, one source even holds out hopes of an agreement before the end of the year.
May Day parades and all at Brits

MENTION the Transvaal town of Brits and labour militancy is not the first thought to come to mind.

Neither is a May Day parade through the town by workers, led by a priest.

But the parade happened (yes, on May Day) and Brits is becoming a centre of activity for Forwec's miners and metal unions.

Now the issue at the Brits firm B and S Engineering is set to become an issue again with about 250 workers, fired during a strike at the company, asking the Nkaphitala — Government for help.

Management says the strike is over, but unions say the 250 — who were fired more than six weeks ago — are showing a cohesion unusual even for city workers.

They say they have been meeting daily since they were sacked, refusing to seek other jobs and holding out for full reinstatement.

That sort of thing happens occasionally in local disputes — but in Brits?

Firms have struck retrenchment deals with emerging unions and some unusual ideas have emerged, including unpaid leave for workers to preserve jobs, protection for migrant workers and the like.

So it can be done — with a bonus of improved labour relations.
Labour Week

Militancy is growing in retail trade

THE retail trade just doesn't seem to be able to keep out of the labour news.

After a string of strikes at major employers, CNA workers have now downed tools, and at 'Top Centre stores' workers have met management to discuss grievances.

At the same time Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Ccawusa) membership is rising fast - it is now estimated at 20,000, up 5,000 on last year - and this at a time of recession.

All the strikes have ended in settlements which have included worker gains and the union seems set to win recognition from a growing number of stores.

What lies behind it all? Ccawusa and management agree that stores are seeing a growth of grass-roots militancy which is not being prompted by union leaders.

One retail trade insider compares it with this year's East Rand metal unrest, where the Metal and Allied Workers' Union spent much of its time trying to keep up with its members.

Management men go on to argue that the union is largely incidental - merely a convenient channel for worker demands - and that it is yet to prove it is really in control of the situation.

They also suggest a tactical test is in store for Ccawusa - to persuade workers against action which would force employers to dig in their heels, thus undoing much of the worker gains.

Ccawusa leaders say workers are fully behind the union, that it is the only body which has been able to end the strikes and that worker demands have not been excessive or unreasonable.

One point is clear, though - employers have been adopting the path likely to provide a solution - they have been seeking to build a permanent bargaining arrangement with Ccawusa.

While "getting tough" may be tempting to some employers, this seems the only way to install "orderly" bargaining in an industry which is extremely vulnerable to strikes and consumer boycotts.
Cannery gets ready to reopen

EAST LONDON—Langeberg cannery here is getting ready for production after the plant was closed last week because of a strike.

The branch manager of the cannery, Mr. J. R. Burg, said yesterday that the company had recruited senior workers and that more workers would be recruited during the next few days.

About 800 workers at the plant went on strike over a dispute between the management and the African Food and Canning Workers' Union.

Mr. Burg said the basis of the dispute was an 80 per cent wage increase demand by the union.

Earlier the union said their wage demand was in response to a management claim that workers were earning too much.

Mr. Burg said yesterday that some of the workers had returned to work, most of them more senior personnel who were getting the plant ready.

"We will be recruiting more workers over the next few days," Mr. Burg said. — DDR
Strikers at CNA go back to work

Labour Correspondent

THE week-long strike at Central News Agency ended yesterday after workers accepted a deal hammered out between the company and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (CCAWUSA).

The union's general secretary, Mrs. Emma Mashamu, said workers had voted at a well-attended union meeting yesterday morning to end the strike and resume their jobs.

The strike began last Monday after the cancellation of a management-union meeting when the company said CNA workers could not attend.

The strikers demanded pay rises, recognition of CCAWUSA and also opposed the sacking of workers at CNA's Carlton Centre branch.

Mrs. Mashamu said the agreement between the two sides meant that management had agreed "in principle" to the three demands.

She said CNA had agreed to a wage increase and would tell CCAWUSA on November 16 the amount of the raise.

It had also agreed to negotiate with the union on recognition, she said.

The first meeting to discuss union recognition would be held on Thursday and management, union officials and CCAWUSA shop stewards at the plant had met briefly yesterday to discuss an agenda for the meeting.

Mrs. Mashamu said management had agreed to review the sacking of six workers at the Carlton Centre branch. It would meet union officials and shop stewards today to discuss each case individually and decide whether the workers should be reinstated.

Another fired worker, at CNA's warehouse, had already been reinstated, she said.

The managing director of CNA, Mr. Jimmy Lowman, was not available for comment yesterday.
CNA strikers return to work

Labour Reporter

Striking Central News Agency workers returned to their jobs yesterday following a week-long stayaway from warehouses and retail outlets in the Johannesburg area.

The return to work followed a meeting between CNA management and officials of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union and several worker representatives last week.

The CNA has apparently agreed to enter into recognition talks with Cawusa which will commence later this week.

The chain also agreed to present a wage package offer to the union in two weeks.

The strike started last Monday at the CNA downtown Johannesburg warehouse and spread to retail outlets in the city centre, northern suburbs and East Rand.

In addition to demands for union recognition, workers called for wage increases. They also objected to any negotiations between Cawusa and management without any worker representation.

Management had also agreed to re-employ some recent dismissals, a Cawusa spokesman said.
Mills sack 1000 strikers in food allowance dispute

LabourReporter

About 1,000 striking Natal sugar workers were dismissed yesterday after 14 days of wildcat strikes at six Natal sugar mills. The strike began after a meeting of the sugar industry's industrial committee deadlocked over a revision of food allowances. More than 400 workers from the Tongaat and Port of Spain groups lodged a complaint with the Department of Labour. The workers were seeking a food allowance of R5 per day, while the mills offered R4.50. The strike was called by the Natal Sugar Mills Employees Association.
U'hage textile firm may re-employ shop stewards

By SANDRA SMITH

A SPOKESMAN for Veldspan International in Uitenhage, where 214 of more than 1,000 dismissed workers are to be re-employed, said today sacked shop stewards had as much chance of getting their jobs back as any other workers.

He was responding to questions raised at a meeting of the dismissed workers last week to discuss the company's offer to take back some employees.

There was uncertainty about the fate of shop stewards who were among those dismissed in August after workers went on strike when colleagues who refused to do the work of retrenched employees were laid off.

Workers also instructed officials of the National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) to ask why it agreed Veldspan's management had not provided the union with a list of those who would get back jobs.

NUTW officials met management representatives today to discuss the issues and for the union to convey the workers' acceptance of Veldspan's proposal to re-employ 214.

What the meeting was in progress a company spokesman said it had been made absolutely clear that membership of a postion in any union would not be a factor for consideration for re-employment.

Veldspan had no objection to providing both the NUTW and the Textile Workers Industrial Union (TWIU) with a list of those to be taken back. However, they would not be given a list before the people were themselves informed.
1 000 "sugar" workers fired

Own Correspondent

DURBAN — About 1 000 striking sugar workers were fired yesterday after three days of wild-cat strikes at six Natal sugar mills.

The strikes began soon after Friday's meeting of the sugar industry's industrial council where negotiations deadlocked over revision of a food allowance.

More than 3 000 workers from Tongaat/Hulett's group's Feilxton, Amatikulu, Darnall and Mt Edgecombe mills, the independent Umfolozi mill and Premier Milling's Entumeni mill downed tools at the weekend.

Strikers from Mt Edgecombe and Feilxton mills had returned to work by yesterday's employer deadline and Umfolozi mill workers were due to return last night.

But about 1 000 workers from Amatikulu and Darnall had not returned by the normal shift and were considered to have dismissed themselves. Entumeni mill could not be contacted yesterday.

The general secretary of the National Union of Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Employees, Mr Solley Ntaba, said at the industrial council meetings last week that the union had demanded that the food allowance be raised from the present R50 to R107 per month.

Employers responded by offering to raise it by R10, he said.

Although a formal dispute had not been declared, Mr Ntaba said, the "wildcat" strikes showed they were at a stage of deadlock.

The chairman of the employers' association, Mr Glyn Taylor, said that traditionally, black workers living in hostels had eaten at industrial canteens at no charge, but recently there had been pressure for a cash allowance to enable employees to feed themselves.

"The dispute is centered upon the amount of the feeding allowance," he added.

"It would seem either the union prefers to ignore the statutory conciliation machinery or that grassroots membership is taking matters into its own hands," Mr Taylor said.

A spokesman for Umfolozi mill said management had spoken to their 1 200 workers on Monday night and appealed to them to "better sense".

"We told the strikers that while they were out they were not being paid so they should rather return to work and let the matter settle itself industrially," he said.
Hulett's fires 1,000

Labour Correspondent

WELL over 3,000 workers at six Natal sugar mills have been on strike for the past three days — and more than 1,000 at two mills were fired yesterday after ignoring an employer ultimatum to return to work.

But at two other mills most of the workers returned to work yesterday, according to a spokesman for Hulett's Sugar.

And a dispute is simmering at Anglo American's Mondi Board Mill at Felixton.

Workers meet tomorrow to discuss the company's refusal to bargain wages with Fosatu's Paper, Wood and Allied Workers Union (PFWAWU) outside an industrial council.

The sugar strikes follow a meeting last Friday in which Mr. Selby Ntshande of the National Union of Sugar Refining and Manufacturing Employees Union demanded that workers' food allowances be raised from R30 to R40.

At the weekend, workers at four Hulett's mills and two others, Ectumen and Umfolozi, went on strike.

According to Hulett's, workers at Mount Edgecombe and Felixton were back at work yesterday following the company's return-to-work ultimatum.

But more than 1,000 workers at its Darnell and Matumku mills were fired for ignoring the deadline.
some administrative staff at the hospital were being adjusted and a mass meeting was held last Friday. Some administrative staff said they were concerned with the lack of communication and the way salaries were being handled. A spokesman for the hospital said "we are more concerned with the way our demands are being handled, but we want our demands to be met."

Dr. Chris van der Heijden, the director of hospital services, demanded more pay, who refused to work in protest for two hours last Friday and two hours on Tuesday, and announced that he would strike if their demands were not yet made. No negotiations are continuing.
Cannery reopens after strike

EAST LONDON — Langeberg cannery here has resumed production after the plant was closed down last week because of work stoppages.

The manager of the cannery, Mr. J. R. Burg, said yesterday some 450 workers had been re-employed and the plant was operating at “full manning levels for the end of the pine season” season.

However, the local branch secretary of the African Food and Cannery Workers’ Union, Mr. Bonisile Norushe, yesterday claimed that only about 200 workers had been re-employed at Langeberg.

Some 800 workers were employed at the cannery when it was closed last week. Workers, according to the management, refused to go back to work until certain demands were met.

Mr. Norushe said yesterday workers known to be union supporters had not been re-employed or were being “blacklisted.”

Mr. Malchoir Menzel, chairman of the union’s workers committee at the cannery, and a shop steward were among permanent employees who had not been re-employed, he said.

Cannery foreman, Mr. Norushe said, had threatened workers with dismissal if they pursued their union activities.

Canteen facilities at the plant had also been suspended and workers could only order one food item a day, he said.

Mr. Burg yesterday denied that workers active in the union movement were being victimised at the cannery.

“As far as we are concerned the matter has blown over. It is not in our interest to intimidate workers. We feel it is our business rather to promote the industry,” he said.

He confirmed that Mr. Menzel had not been re-employed but declined to give reasons for this.

Explaining the reduced work-force at the plant, Mr. Burg said seasonal workers were normally released at the beginning of November. Production stopped mid-December and the plant resumed full production again in February.

The cannery had a permanent work-force of about 300 workers, he said.

“Enough has been said about this strike now. We would like to stabilise the situation and have good relations with everybody related to the industry,” Mr. Burg said.

Langeberg would continue negotiating with the union, he said, adding that the company’s recognition agreement with the union had not lapsed.

The suspension of canteen facilities was “absolutely coincidental.” The person running the canteen had died recently and difficulty was being experienced in keeping it on the road properly.

As a result, a vehicle was sent into town daily to collect workers’ food orders. It was not possible to allow workers to order all the food they required, said Mr. Burg.

DDR

(i) Increasing by 1% by the same amount will not cancel each other out. The government has an MPC of 1 while the community it is assumed has MPC <1. Some of the money that is taken from the consumer is increased I would have been withdrawn through saving anyway, and indeed the expansion of the government’s budget would have an expansionary effect on the economy. This is called a balanced budget and the balanced budget multiplier is 1 (if the government

(ii) The sum of the marginal propensities to with-
Some sugar strikers get jobs back

Labour Reporter

AS PRODUCTION returned to normal at four of the Natal sugar mills hit by wildcat strikes over the past few days, about 1,200 dismissed workers were paid off yesterday.

Tugela-Buitekloof public relations manager, Mr Ron Phillips, said at the company's Amatikulu and Durban mills where strikers had been dismissed after not returning by the Monday deadline, workers were being paid out.

He said the mills had started re-employing workers yesterday but it would be on a selective basis. The number of those re-employed was not yet known.

Meanwhile, production at Mount Edgecombe, Felixton, Umfolozi and Estuaries mills returned to normal yesterday.

The general secretary of the National Union of Sugar Refining and Manufacturing Employees, Mr Selby Nshande, said he understood that the workers would be reinstated without losing any major benefits apart from the extra weeks' leave which Buitekloof workers received after five years' service.

Inflation

Workers would return to the normal three weeks' leave until they had worked for five years, he said.

Mr Nshande said the cancer of inflation had been behind the strikes, a fact which employers are refusing to face.

He said the R107 a month to which the union had asked the food allowance to be raised, had been carefully worked out by totalling up the cost of food items a man would buy each month.

Mr Nshande said he had drawn up a list which included mealie meal, bread, chicken, bread and eggs and had priced these items at stores outside Durban.

The chairman of the Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Employers' Association, Mr Glyn Taylor, said: 'We come at this thing from the basis that traditionally we have fed these people in the our canteens at a cost of R30 a month a head. But now Mr Nshande comes along and expects us to jump to R107 in one fell swoop, hasn't he seen the sugar price lately?' he said.

See Editorial Opinion
Strikers await trial after months in jail

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

BLAC1e mine worker arrested during a strike at an Eastern Transvaal mine have spent more than 5 months in jail, despite the fact that they have not been tried in court.

One of the reasons they have never been released is that they cannot afford R1 000 each.

The 40 men were arrested in April on public order charges during a strike at the Winkelaal, gold mine near Evander which is owned by the Gencor group.

According to Mr. H. Hamaphosa of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) which has taken over the case, the strike stemmed from a dispute over working hours.

He said they were being held in Pretoria but their cases were being heard in the Evander Magistrate's Court.

Since their arrest, they have appeared in court several times for remand but the trial has not yet been held.

The trial has apparently been delayed because of attempts to trace a former official of the mine who re-surfaced to give evidence.

When the men appeared in court, they were set at R1 000 each but none of the men could afford it.

A trial date has now been set for November 22.

Border escape to the West

MUNICH - A 38-year-old East German crossed a minefield and scaled fences to flee to West Germany border police said yesterday.

They said the man, a civilian managed to cross the East Germand border with West Germany, shortly after Sunday evening at a point 10 kilometers from the border.

Big Nigerian project delay

LONDON - The Nigerian government has postponed a 12,000,000 dollar railway project, because of cash problems, it was reported yesterday.

A 600-ton spacer was to have been run north from Port Harcourt to Apokata on the Niger River, where a large sugar factory is under construction.

Blackmail

bail reduction plea yesterday - the Bretton Murder and Robbery Squad had told her that Mr. Mykhresu and Mr. Westgate wanted to flee the country.

The two men's defense counsel, Mr. P. Shapiro, secured the State of showing no logic in its refusal to lower the bail and criticized Mrs. Ruth for not having the police officer ready to testify.

He also accused the State of showing regard for and securing disrespectfully toward the rights of his clients. The case had started late for the second time and no apology had been received.

Weather Mail

THE Weather Bureau’s forecast for today -

TRANSVAAL - Cloudy and cold with fog or drizzle patches over the highveld and along the escarpment in the morning. It will clear partially and become warmer in isolated showers may occur.

FREE STATE AND CAPE north of the Orange - Fine and warm, but cloudy and cool over the north east Free State with fog patches in the mornings.

CAPE south of the Orange - Mainly fine and warm, but mild along the coast and regions with fog patches.

NATAL - Partly cloudy, and warm with isolated showers over the north.

Temperatures are C and maximums apply to each site.

SA COAST

80 tons of diesel oil threaten SA coast

PORT ELIZABETH - Department of Transport officials arrived in Port Elizabeth and immediately left for Oyster Bay.
Mine workers held 6 months awaiting trial

JOHANNESBURG — Blatant mine workers arrested during a strike at an Eastern Transvaal mine have spent more than six months in jail — although they have not yet been tried in court.

One of the reasons they have never been released is that they cannot afford the bail of R1 000 each.

The 29 men were arrested in April on public violence charges during a strike at the Winkehoek gold mine near Evander, which is owned by the Gencor group.

According to Mr Cyril Ramaphosa of the affiliated National Union of Mineworkers NUR, which has taken up their case, the strike stemmed from a dispute over working hours.

He said they were being held in Butha-Butha, but their case was in the Evander magistrate’s court. Since their arrest, they had appeared in court several times for remand but the trial had not yet been held.

The trial has apparently been delayed because of attempts to trace a mine official who is needed to give evidence. The case against the 29 will now be heard in Evander on November 22.

Mr Ramaphosa said the NUM had only recently intervened in the case, but it was now arranging legal representation for the men.
Sugar strikers taken on again

Labour Reporter

The majority of the 1200 strikers dismissed after the wildcat strikes which hit the sugar industry earlier this week have been re-employed and both Amatikulu and Darnall mills should be back to normal production today. The head of Tongaat/Hulлетs public relations department, Mr Ron Phillips, said yesterday.

Workers at four of Natal's major sugar mills affected by the strikes had returned by Monday's deadline but strikers at both Amatikulu and Darnall mills were dismissed when they ignored the deadline.

The wave of strikes began shortly after Industrial Council negotiations deadlocked over a revision of a food allowance.

The National Union of Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Employees, which represents the majority of the black workers in the Natal sugar industry had demanded that the monthly allowance be increased from R30 to R40. This was turned down by the employers' association.

Mr Phillips said operations started up again yesterday at Amatikulu mill and recruitment had been completed at Darnall.

Mr Selby Ntshandu, general secretary of the union, could not be contacted yesterday.
Sour aftertaste to sugar strike

Tribune Reporter

MORE than a hundred people working in Natal sugar mills lost their jobs this week because they say they are not getting enough to eat.

The issue which drew more than three thousand people who work in the mills and live in company-hostels out on strike last weekend centred on the way hostel-dwellers were being fed and the amount spent on food for each worker.

For years those employed have provided two meals a day for them in hostel canteens spending R30 a month on food for each worker.

Said Glyn Taylor, chairman of the Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Employers Association: "There is nothing wrong with the food and the workers are adequately fed."

But about three months ago the workers, represented by the National Union of Sugar Refining and Manufacturing Employees, decided they would prefer to buy and cook the food themselves. They asked their employers to give them R107-a-month food allowance.

According to the union's general secretary, Selby Nabande, this figure had been carefully worked out by totalling up the cost of food items a man would buy each month.

The food allowance has been the subject of negotiation between the union and the employers for the past three months. Last Friday they finally reached deadlock at an industrial relations council meeting when the employers offered a food allowance of R40 a month.

"We have no objection if they want to cook the food themselves, although there are no facilities in the hostels. But there is no way we can afford to raise the allowance by more than R10," said Mr. Taylor.

"You can't look at these things in isolation. As recently as April they got a raise of 20 percent in their pay packets," said Mr. Taylor.

But last weekend more than 3,000 people working at various mills in Natal stopped work. A few hundred returned to work on Monday and on Tuesday the remainder -- those employed by the Tongaat-Hulett group -- were given an ultimatum to return to work or face dismissal. On Thursday about 1,200 workers were paid off.

On Friday the employers were waiting for the union to return to the negotiating table. The union took legal advice and some workers were subsequently re-employed.

According to a reliable source, about 160 people employed by the Tongaat-Hulett organisation have lost their jobs.

Summing up the week's events from the employers' point of view, Mr. Taylor said: "No one is ever happy with strikes. They are disruptive not only to production but to industrial relations as well.

"The union should have seen the negotiation process through. This issue has been on the table for two or three months. It is therefore surprising to wake up one morning and find they're out on strike. We believe the negotiating process must be followed."

Mr. Nabande had little time for the Press this week. The wildcat strikes involved his members at six different mills and he was hard pressed to keep tabs on all of them.

When the Sunday Tribune tried to speak to him, he said he was too busy.
Sweetheart soured

For some employers, the three-day strike at
six Natal sugar mills last week was not unlike a
favoured son turning on his father and wreak-
ing havoc in the family home.

It followed a demand by a Sugar Workers’
Union led by Mr. Sobby Ntsanbele for a bigger
food allowance for workers.

Mr. Ntsanbele raised the issue with employ-
ers and they thought it was still under discus-
sion — until without warning the strike
began.

This is not the first time this year the
union was labelled for being not unrelated
to strikes — also without warning.

Now, ironically, when this union emerged
from nowhere in 1979, it was helped by a
donation from sugar employers who also
trained Mr. Ntsanbele and his colleagues in
unionism.

Employers said they were doing this be-
cause it was what their workers wanted, but
the union was labelled an employer creation.

Then Mr. Ntsanbele decided sugar was too
small a pond for his talents and branched out
into other industries. He also began some
hectic militancy — accompanied, say his crit-
ics, by very little skill and strategy — aimed
at ending the “sweetheart union” image.

After last week’s events, there are signs
that some sugar men concede Mr. Ntsanbele
was not their smartest investment.

Word is that some have had enough and
believe dealing with a Fosatu union, also
active among sugar workers, would be a
relief.
Workers back on the job after walkout

Labour Reporter

About 200 striking workers at the Reckitt and Coleman plant in Isando have returned to work after a walkout last week over the dismissal of one of their colleagues.

Workers left the plant on Wednesday after demanding the reinstatement of the man who was allegedly dismissed for drunkenness.

Management held talks with the Fosatu-affiliated Chemical and Allied Workers' Union and the dismissed worker was eventually paid compensation, a union spokesman said.

A spokesman for Reckitt and Coleman has confirmed the return to work.
e as bus, lide

Reckit strike ends

ABOUT 200 workers who had gone on strike at Reckit and Coleman Pharmaceuticals last week were back at work yesterday.

The dismissal of a driver from the company had resulted in dissatisfaction by co-workers who downed tools calling for his reinstatement.

Sources said the driver had been accused of being under the influence of liquor while on duty. He was asked to undergo a breathalyser test but he refused.

Mr Steve Harns, production director, confirmed that the strike was over but said the dismissed worker would not be reinstated.

Rees trial put forward again

BECKONING Mr John Rees (45), former general secretary of the South African Council of Churches on charges of fraud, was yesterday postponed to February 21 when he made his first appearance in the Rand Supreme Court.

Mr Justice Esselen adjourned the case after he heard that the indictment had not been completed. He however turned down an application by Advocate Brown, the defence, that the prosecution be ordered to serve the indictment to the defence within two weeks.

Mr Rees's R50,000 bail was extended and the judge amended part of one of its conditions - that he report twice a week to the Police Station even weekly. He will now report only once a week.

Charges against him in the period before January 1975 are for K978 while he was employed by the SACC. Before his case was referred to the Supreme Court, Mr Rees made a number of brief appearances at the Johannesburg Magistrate's Court.

TOMORROW

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New motor wage offer

PORT ELIZABETH — The National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (Naawu) has received a new minimum wage offer from the Ford, Volkswagen and General Motors management.

Last night Naawu’s general secretary, Mr. Fred Sauls, confirmed the offer had been made at a meeting of union officials and company representatives last week.

Mr. Sauls declined to give details of the offer but said the union’s membership in the motor manufacturing industry would meet this week to discuss it.

In mid-July more than 10,000 Naawu members employed at the three companies went on strike when minimum wage level negotiations in the industrial council for the industry reached deadlock.

The following day the companies closed their factories and demanded an assurance from the union that the workers were willing to return before they would reopen.

After their reopening, work stoppages, go-slow and walkouts affected renewed production.

The union eventually withdrew from the council talks because it was decided to refer the dispute to arbitration. The union felt arbitration would remove control of the situation from the hands of the people concerned.

Since Naawu’s withdrawal and its request for the opening of separate in-plant negotiations in place of the council negotiations and the companies’ refusal to negotiate separately, the dispute has moved no closer towards resolution. — DDC
Chamber warns of ‘politics’
U'ange firm has taken back 60

Post Reporter

SIXTY out of more than 1,000 workers who were dismissed from Veldspun International in Uitenhage have been re-employed by the company.

The National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) is awaiting a list of others who are to be rehired.

The workers were dismissed in August after a strike. After lengthy negotiations between the NUTW and management the firm agreed to take back 214.

After a meeting last week the union was given a list of 60 names, including two shop stewards, of people who have begun work last week and on Monday.

The union's general secretary, Mr. Obid Zuma, said he expected to receive a list today of the other 154. They would be given 14 days to report.
Black hospital workers strike

About 400 black general workers at the Hillbrow Hospital went on strike this morning in demand of more pay and better working conditions. The workers, who include cooks, cleaners, clerks and typists are demanding a 50 percent pay increase.

The striking workers gathered on the hospital grounds at 7 am and appointed a delegation to hand a memorandum containing pay demands and grievances to the hospital's superintendent, Dr Nach.

Dr Nach agreed to meet an elected committee consisting of representatives from all sections of the striking staff to discuss worker grievances.

An elected committee will meet Dr Nach later today.

Grievances include unfair dismissal of a pregnant woman and long hours with no overtime. Hospital doctors and nurses said the strike had not affected its running.

Doctor Nach could not be reached for comment.
Strike by 400 at hospital 'an act of desperation'

Mrs X is a 46-year-old cleaner at the Hillbrow Hospital in Johannesburg. She earns R84 a month on which she supports seven children, four of whom are schoolgoing. Her husband is a pensioner.

This week Mrs X and more than 400 workers at the hospital downed tools, demanding more pay and better working conditions.

"It was an act of desperation — we were trying to tell our employers we need more to survive," Mrs X said.

For her the working conditions are not a priority. "If I could get more money it would answer my problems." The workers, including cooks, cleaners, clerks and typists, were demanding a 50 percent salary increase. They gathered at the hospital grounds at 7 am and handed a memorandum containing their demands to the hospital's superintendent, Dr J N Nach.

The cause for the strike seems to be the fact that some employees received service bonuses while others did not. "The employers said they would come back to us with a reply next Friday — I hope they take our grievances seriously," Mrs X said.

After paying R26 a month in rent and R28 for coal, she is left with R28 with which to buy bus tickets, costing R8, and food for the family.

Her husband supplements their income by gardening for schools in Soweto.

Mr Gideon Ramosebi, who has been a gardener at the hospital for the past four years, said: "I have nothing to hide. What we are paid is a disgrace.

"I started off with a salary of R70 a month. Until April this year before my salary increased to R140, I was earning R90 a month.

"I save by eating one meal at the hospital and not having supper at home.

Mr Ramosebi lives with his grandchildren and 22-year-old daughter. His wife died some years ago.

Some of the grievances in the memorandum sent to the superintendent are:

- Long working hours without overtime pay
- Women who fall pregnant during their one-year probation period are dismissed.
- Because of the shortage of staff, cleaners have had to work overtime without extra pay.

Economic Rent
Transport Costs
International Trade
Minimum Wage Legislation
Rent Control
Minimum Price
Maximum Price
Equilibrium
Increase in Quantity Demanded (or Supplied)
(Price) in Demand (or Supply)
Perfect Competition
Complements
Substitutes
 Inferior Good
Function
Price
Certain Particles
Employees told yesterday that industrial unrest would continue unless employers took steps to put a floor under wages in the retail trade. In addition to complaints over redundancy, a report from the Trades Union Congress claimed that the pace of redundancies had not been matched by the pace of new appointments. The Trades Union Congress claimed that the government was failing to address the problem of unemployment, and that the government's policies were not functioning as intended. The Trades Union Congress called for an urgent meeting with employers to discuss the situation.
Hospital workers strike over sick wages
Sacked Cape roadmakers may return

Labour Reporter

Three hundred and fifty Cape Provincial Administration roadworkers in Beaufort West are considering a return to work today after striking for a week.

The workers were dismissed on Thursday, but have not yet collected their pay.

Mr Solly Essop, chairman of the Farmworkers' Union, whom the workers approached to intervene in the dispute, arrived in Cape Town yesterday to meet senior administration officials.

The workers went on strike last Monday after two workers were allegedly dismissed after being sick.

Mr Essop said the local management of the road construction unit told the workers they had been dismissed and would be selectively re-employed at the starting wages.

MAGISTRATE

Mr Essop then arranged a meeting between himself, six workers elected by the workforce and a delegation from the local CPA management.

According to Mr Essop, the local management of the CPA offered 300 of the workers their jobs back at their old wages, but refused to reinstate the other 50.

Mr W A B Bennison, deputy provincial roads engineer, said no meeting between Mr Essop and officials in the CPA roads department had been planned.

PAY DATES

In a written statement Mr Bennison said the men returned to work after they were assured that the "cause of their dissatisfaction" — concerned with end-of-month pay dates — would be investigated.

On Wednesday "they again refused to work", he added.

"They demanded that one of their number be reinstated. This demand was refused because of reasons of unsatisfactory service."
New settlement lays talks 'bogey'.

So the optimists were right and the wage dispute in the East Cape motor industry has been settled.

The dispute led to one of the most dramatic strikes in recent labour history and the withdrawal from the industry's industrial council of the only Pontiac union to agree to sit on a council.

At the time of the strikes there was much hysteria from some employers and media about the chaos created by the unions.

More recently,hythie is in striking Manpower chief Dr. Der Mers, point out that where the parties carry on surprising strikes, no matter how dramatic, tend to get jobs.

This has been happening.

The new agreement is to be submitted by the industrial council for publication in the Government Gazette, a move which indicates the union may well rejoin the council.

The agreement does not renew the pay offer rejected by the union earlier, a result of the balance of factors — floor power in a recession — but wages are to be re-negotiated every six months, which allows workers to put in new demands soon and raise the prospect of more battles next year.

While those battles could be tough, the settlement has shown that bargaining between a strong union and employers is not the bogey some portrayed it as.

As for chaos, the effect on employers was much less than that of the average "routine" motor dispute in other Western countries.
Third hospital workers' strike

ALMOST the entire black staff at the Johannesburg Hospital in Parktown yesterday joined the more than 1,000 hospital workers who went on strike last week, when they downed tools in demand of high salaries and better working conditions.

The Johannesburg Hospital workers said they were not satisfied because they were earning "peanuts" compared with other workers and could not make ends meet.

The strike is the third within two weeks where hospital workers have downed tools — Baragwanath and Hillbrow hospital workers recently went on strike in demand of better pay and conditions.

"We are sick and tired of authorities who seem not to care about the well-being of the workers. It is high time they learnt the hard way that blacks will not stand for the kind of exploitation practised by hospitals," said a Johannesburg employee.

He said management had been informed on several occasions of the plight of the black workers.

Workers said they were to meet the superintendent and would not work until their demands were met.

A hospital spokesman confirmed the strike but refused to comment further. "There was a strike but I am not prepared to answer any questions on the matter because we are investigating," she said.

- About 300 workers will lose their jobs when a steel factory closes in Boksburg next month.

The factory is part of Barhcan Holdings and will close on December 10 as a result of failure to relocate its operations.

Staff members have been given four weeks' notice pay and other bonuses.
Striking workers to get jobs back

Labour Reporter

ALL 550 striking Beaufort West roadworkers, as well as the dismissed fellow-worker with whom they have been striking in sympathy, are to be offered their jobs back, according to Mr J Pienaar, the MEC for Roads.

This follows talks in the City this week between Mr Solly Essop, the chairman of the Farm Workers' Union, and representatives of the Cape Provincial Administration.

Mr Essop said the workers, who remained on strike yesterday, had told him they would not return until he had reported back to them this morning and their demands had been met.

He said Mr Pienaar had agreed to take all workers back at their old wage, not to penalise any of the strikers and to reinstate the worker whose alleged unfair dismissal had caused the strike.

In addition, the administration would recognize a six-member committee elected by the workers as their mouthpiece.

Mr Essop said the strike had threatened to spread to roadworkers in Middelburg and Worcester as well, but this had been staved off by the more sympathetic attitude of officials in Cape Town.

He said the unity shown by the workers at Beaufort West had come as a "surprise" to everyone, including himself.

The workers downed tools last week after a colleague had been fired for being absent from work. Worker representatives said he had had a doctor's certificate and claimed it was an unfair dismissal.

"We felt if he could be fired without reason, then none of our jobs were safeguarded," they said.

They had continued the strike after the senior engineer in Beaufort West said he would not re-employ all the workers as some were "agitators".

After the workers refused to return under those conditions, the meeting in the City was arranged. It is believed several provincial councillors, including members of the Progressive Federal Party, were at the talks.

Mr Pienaar said yesterday two senior engineers from Cape Town were in Beaufort West talking to the workers and investigating their grievances.

"But we must discipline some of the people," he said. "We must make it clear that they can't work the way they want to — they must work the way we want them to."
Work or home for strikers

ABOUT 300 hospital and industrial workers were reported to have gone on strike in Johannesburg yesterday in demand of higher pay and better working conditions.

In the latest spate of labour unrest at hospitals, 27 security guards were dismissed from Baragwanath after the entire security staff went on strike over pay demands. They were allegedly told they were agitators and had invited others to go on strike.

The superintendent of the hospital, Dr Chris van der Heever, said all the dismissed workers came from the homelands and he confirmed they had complained of low salaries.

He said workers were told they should either go back to work or back to the homelands. The workers apparently preferred to go back to their homes than put up with the meagre salaries.

At Teltron Sound-Electrical company 150 workers were told they had been dismissed themselves when they ignored an ultimatum to go back to work.

A spokesman for Teltron told The SOWETAN no demands were received from the workers but confirmed Cawusa's bringing to attention grievances regarding service conditions.

Almost the entire black staff at the Johannesburg hospital in Parktown joined the strike for better pay and working conditions, but workers were back at work late yesterday.
Sacked workers get jobs back

Labour Reporter

The 350 Beaufort West road workers dismissed last week after going on strike will all be unconditionally reinstated and paid for the five days they were absent.

The Provincial Roads Department workers went on strike on Monday afternoon after a sick colleague was dismissed. On Wednesday, the entire work force was dismissed, but none collected pay.

Mr. Solly Essop, chairman of the Farmworkers' Union, which the workers apparently approached for assistance, said all the men, including a sick worker, would be paid for the time they had been absent from work.

A meeting was held earlier this week between Mr. Essop, Mr. Geoff Everingham, M.P. for Pinelands and deputy opposition spokesman on roads, and two senior roads officials.

It was agreed that all the workers would be taken back with no loss of benefits and that the two officials would go to Beaufort West to investigate the situation.

FACE VALUE

A workers' committee met the officials yesterday and workers were "very happy" with the outcome, said Mr. Essop.

The committee representing the workers had been recognised by management and would hold monthly meetings with them.

"In future, all doctors' certificates from sick workers will be accepted at face value," he said.
Fund to pay non-strikers shelved

By Tony Davis
Labour Reporter

The proposed controversial R2 million Government scheme to fund non-strikers has been shelved following the settlement last week of the Eastern Cape motor industry dispute.

The idea of the fund was first raised in August by the Minister of Manpower, Mr. Fanie Botha, who announced the scheme in Port Elizabeth.

Mr. Botha said R2 million had been set aside from the Unemployment Insurance Fund and would be used to assist motor workers unwilling to participate in illegal strikes.

The National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union and the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers' Association late last week agreed to a new two-year contract which effectively ended the six-month wage dispute.

Manpower Department sources said the scheme had been shelved but it would be ready when required.

It was to have been implemented in the magisterial districts of Port Elizabeth, Uitenhage and East London.

The basis was that workers who did not wish to strike would still be employed at those particular plants if production units shut down because of the stayaway. Employers would give such workers other jobs and the wage difference between their usual jobs and the stopgap jobs would be paid out of the special fund.

When he announced the fund, Mr. Botha said strikes this year in the motor industry in the Eastern Cape had prevented responsible workers earning a living and the fund was meant to offset this.

The scheme prompted widespread criticism from some unions, especially the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union whose more than 10,000 members at Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen had been on strike.

Sawuu claimed the scheme would largely benefit white workers who did not support their wage demands and were members of an all-white union.

Some employers feared the fund could create an expensive precedent.

Manpower Department officials saw the scheme as revolutionary in South Africa.
Teltron strike continues as talks get deadlocked

BY STEVEN FRIEDMAN Labour Correspondent

A STRIKE at a Johannesburg electronics equipment company Teltron entered its third day yesterday with the company and most striking workers still deadlocked.

A meeting between Teltron and the Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWU) was deadlocked and each side was blaming the other for this.

Teltron said the workers were fired after striking on Tuesday and its personnel manager, Mr Trevor Kieck, said yesterday that unless strikers asked to be taken back by midday today they would be replaced by other workers.

He said only about 10% had asked for their jobs back — the union said only seven had — and added he was shattered because most had not re-applied.

The union's general secretary, Mrs Emma Mashumi, said workers went on strike in protest against the sacking of a colleague.

"They said he had made mistakes but the foreman who checks his work was not fired. Workers say it is the foreman's job to make sure there are no mistakes" she said.

The workers also complained they were promised a wage review which had not occurred.

The union had written to management about these grievances before the strike, but had had no response until after the strike occurred she said.

At Wednesday's meeting management wanted to see the union's registration certificate, constitution and proof of its membership.

The union refused to show its registration certificate, saying this had nothing to do with whether it represented workers.

Teltron then refused to negotiate on the strikers demands, saying they were ex-employees. Mrs Mashumi said.

Mr Kieck said the company had been willing to talk to the union but that the union had refused because the strikers had been fired.

He said Teltron was satisfied the dismissal which sparked the strike was fair and said it had conducted a wage review but decided that because it paid more than its competitors there was no need for one until next year.

"We hope they will re-apply — but their skill level is such they will be easy to replace and we have already had more than 500 applications," he added.
Hospital pay talks

Mail Reporter

THE grievances that sparked last Thursday's strike by 300 Hillbrow Hospital workers are still being negotiated between the workers' representatives and the hospital management.

The porters, ward helpers, cooks, cleaners and clerks are demanding a 25% wage increase and an improvement in working conditions. Lowest paid workers claim to be earning less than R100 a month.

Hillbrow Hospital's superintendent, Dr J Nach, said yesterday that meetings had been convened to discuss the grievances.

Meanwhile, a blanket of silence has been thrown over the strike by workers at Johannesburg Hospital.

According to reports, almost the entire black staff of the hospital downed tools on Monday in support of demands for higher salaries and better working conditions.
Fifty workers walk out on Durban excavation site

By Barney Mhlongo

FIfty machine operators walked out on their jobs this week, bringing work to a standstill, after their boss allegedly told them to look for two men who had not reported for work.

The workers, employed by Greystanes Enterprises, which is involved in excavation and bulk handling at Glen Anil, Durban, also claimed that R10 was deducted from their pay packets every week, supposedly as a pension fund contribution. It was not refunded when they left, they alleged.

Their packets had no layoffs and money was often deducted without explanation, they said.

Mr Ken Morrison, a company director, denied the allegations.

He claimed the workers simply walked out after six men were fired for "various misconducts" which included taking joy rides on equipment without permission.

"I still don't know why they walked out. I can only assume there's a lot of intimidation going on," he said.

Workers told the Sun that Mr Morrison called them together on Monday and said two of his workers were missing and they (the workers) knew where they were.

1 In the week on this question you are asked:

2 Blue or black ink must answer. The use of a blue or black ink is underlining, emphasis. (A pencil may also be used on examination book[s] are unnumbered.

3 Names must be printed on graph paper where examination book(s) are unnumbered.

4 Do not write in the left hand margin.

Any dishonesty will render the student unqualified and to possible exclusion from the faculty.

He demanded that we should go and look for them and must never come back if we didn't find them. He closed the gates and even suggested we may have killed them," one of the men said.

Mr Morrison denied the allegations.

The men also complained that they did not get enough protective clothing for handling dusty and at times dangerous substances with the payloader they operated.

A week ago six workers who were loading with a payloader -- a substance used in making anodes -- at Richards Bay harbour were badly affected by the substance. One man was carried from his payloader because he could not walk.

The man said he was told by Mr Morrison to report to the office on Monday to be taken to the doctor. When he reported he claimed Mr Morrison said he should work as there was nothing wrong with him.

The man's skin had become corroded and he said his eyesight had been affected. He became dizzy when it was very hot.

Mr Morrison said he could not get a doctor's appointment on Monday and when he did get it on Tuesday his workmate had gone on strike.

He agreed the substance was "terribly unpleasant." He said he wanted all the men back but if they did not report for work, he would hire new labour.

"The men are very highly trained and very highly thought of in the industry. I'm extremely hopeful they will come back. We haven't made any effort to take on new staff.

"He said he did not put slips into the workers' packets to prevent them from muggings. They rejected it, he said.

"Mr Morrison said he had talked to the South African Alied Workers Union in a bid to break the impasse.

"We're more than anything on their side," Mr Morrison said.

But a SAAWU spokesman said Mr Morrison had been very difficult to talk to.

The Department of Manpower is investigating the men's grievances.
WEST Germany faces strikes by the powerful Transport Workers' Union if a German bank grants credit to a South African company. Mr Siegfried Merten, deputy chairman of the union, said the company concerned supported apartheid and had fired 600 workers because they planned to join a trade union.

Warning

On a report in a Johannesburg magazine that South African Transport Services planned to ask the bank for a £40-million loan, Mr Merten said it was "beneath our political morals to grant money to a South African company which strictly adheres to a hard and relentless apartheid policy". He warned that relations between the two countries could worsen and reach a stage where "goods from and to South Africa will no longer be handled in German ports".
Motor workers end dispute

By Hugh Poulter

AFTER six months of worker slow downs, factory closures and painstaking negotiations, automotive workers have agreed to an extra 20c an hour pay rise.

It is the 10.00 Eastern Cape negotiations, representing Ford General Motors and Volkswagen, in a last ditch attempt to end the costly dispute.

The dispute goes back to April when Naawu demanded a minimum hourly wage of R6.50 for skilled workers and R5.50 for unskilled workers.

Bonus

But negotiations have been held between the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union, Naaau and the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers Association, representing Ford General Motors and Volkswagen in the last ditch attempt to end the costly dispute.

In July, negotiations became deadlock and workers downed tools and plants were closed several times.

After three sessions of negotiation the council entered a dispute situation.

In the meantime Naawu had reduced its demand to R250 an hour and the employers countered with another 50c offer in August, even though the minimum hourly rate to R2.20.

At one stage of the negotiations in August, a strike when Naawu an

Recommended

Talks were resumed in late August through the Eastern Province Automobile Manufacturers Association (Epama)

At the beginning of November Epama came up with new recommendations which were accepted by the employers.

Employers have agreed on six-monthly wage talks during the two year contract and a basis for establishing provisions for future layoffs.

A joint union employer committee will be formed to supervise the grading of workers' wages and settlement provisions.

Joy on the move

JOY Manufacturing has started moving its services centre to a new R5 million building erected at the company's 13.3 ha site at Wadeville by Naco Engineering of Germiston.
Teltron strike still on the go

THE STRIKE by Teltron Sound-Electrical employees entered its sixth day yesterday with management still engaged in negotiations with the Commercial, Catering Alhede Workers' Union (Cawwus).

Workers at the electrical company went on strike after management failed to meet their demands. They had asked for the reinstatement of a dismissed worker and better pay.

A spokesperson for Cawwus said yesterday they were involved in talks with management and that workers were "still out on strike." "There is nothing we can say at the moment except that workers are still on strike and we are working on their problems," she said.

An ultimatum by Teltron telling workers to return to their posts, was delivered last week when they decided to march to the union's offices.

Mr Trevor Kneek, the group's personnel manager, said the workers were not back at work but "we are working towards solving the problem." He would not say how far negotiations were, but emphasised workers would soon be back at work.
Settlement in sight for Teltron strikers

Labour Correspondent

HOPES for a settlement of the week-old strike at Johannesburg electronic equipment distributors Teltron have risen with the news that the company is to meet the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (Cawusa) today.

And the company's personnel manager, Mr Trevor Kieck, said yesterday Teltron hoped the meeting would produce a settlement.

About 150 workers at the company, struck early last week in protest at the dismissal of a colleague, Teltron said they had all "dismembered themselves" and would have to re-apply for their jobs, but few did so.

Talks between the company and the union last week ended in deadlock and the company said it would begin hiring new workers if the strikers did not re-apply by the weekend.

Yesterday Cawusa's general secretary, Mrs Emma Mashum, said the company had contacted her and asked for a meeting today. She said strikers had not returned despite the company's ultimatum and that they were still visiting the union's office daily.

Mr Kieck said the company had replaced some of the strikers in "key positions" with new workers but that most jobs were still open.

"We have been holding back on recruiting workers for the rest of the jobs. Whether these remaining jobs are filled by the strikers or by new workers will obviously depend on the outcome of the meeting," he said.
SOUTH African employers did not really know what strikes were and therefore did not know how to handle them, Dr Hennie Reyners, the chairman of the National Manpower Commission, said yesterday.

"The first thing they do is to see if the police or the Department of Manpower can solve it," he said.

"Whereas strikes involve essentially a relationship between employers and employees and therefore they've got to handle the thing and try and solve it themselves," he added.

Addressing the International Organisation for Motor Traders and Repairs Conference in Durban, Dr Reyners said: "In an environment where more trade unions will be formed and more people will belong to trade unions, I won't be surprised if we do have increased strike action."

This was particularly likely in the present transition phase where trade unions and employers were 'inexperienced in the intricacies of collective bargaining', he added.

"But, I don't think we should be afraid of this as it is part of the process."

"Dynamic"

"And to be honest, in the process the employees and employers learn, so come the next round they may act entirely differently," Dr Reyners said.

Earlier he told delegates that the labour relations scene in this country presented a 'dynamic picture' subject to continuous change and adaptation.

"The developments will obviously have far-reaching implications for the socio-political and economic system and will undoubtedly put additional pressures on the system and create new tensions in the existing statutory framework."

"But, I firmly believe that the outcome will be to the benefit of this country's economic future," he said.
Talks today may end deadlock at Teltron

A strike by 150 workers at Teltron, an appliance distribution firm near Faraday Station, reaches its ninth day today.

Talks between management and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (Cawusa) ended in deadlock last week. They are meeting again today for further talks.

The workers downed tools last Tuesday and demanded the immediate and unconditional reinstatement of a colleague, Mr. Marshall Stihole.

The workers also claim that they were promised a salary review in July.

The group personnel manager of Teltron, Mr. J. W. Kieck said last week the workers had dismissed themselves by failing to report for duty.

He said yesterday Teltron was working towards "negotiating out the problems".

The secretary of Cawusa, Mrs. Emma Mashimini, has confirmed that there will be a meeting with the management of Teltron today.
Miners' jail stint may soon be over

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

TWENTY-NINE black mine workers who have been in jail waiting for their trial since a strike more than six months ago may finally be released next week.

The men, who stayed in prison because they could not afford bail, are charged with striking illegally at the Winkelhaak gold mine near Evander, in April.

The men have been in jail since May 7, when they were arrested. Their case has been repeatedly remanded and bail was set at R1 000.

But even if they are released next week, they have nowhere to stay unless the mine, owned by the Gencor group, agrees to take them back. Mr Cyril Ramaphosa, of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), said yesterday.

Apparently the case has not yet been heard because of difficulty in tracing a crucial witness.

This week, the men appeared again in the Regional Court in Evander and the case was remanded again — this time until January 3.

But the regional prosecutor for the area said yesterday bail had been reduced from R1 000 to R500 each.

Mr Ramaphosa said the union was arranging to pay bail on behalf of the men.

However even if bail was raised, the men had nowhere to live. "One bail condition is that their travel documents be impounded. They are from Lesotho and Transkei and so cannot return to their homes," he said.

"The only place they are entitled to live legally is the Winkelhaak compound, but they have been fired and so cannot live there."
Union hits at firm for 'intransigence'

The Commercial Catering and Allied Workers Union (Cwaun) yesterday criticised what it called the intransigent management of the appliance distribution firm Teltron when 10 of its members are on strike.

'The Teltron workers on strike are battling to draw the attention of their management board,' Cwaun said.

The union urged people not to seek jobs at Teltron, saying: 'There are still there, fighting for our rights.'

By taking Teltron, it will mean that you intend destroying our purpose,' it said.

Yesterday's talks with the management of Teltron failed to produce a settlement.

The works, downed tools on Tuesday and demanded the reinstatement of a colleague, Mr Marshall Sithole.

Teltron management said yesterday that Mr Sithole's dismissal was under investigation and promised to finalise the matter on workers returning to work and evidence of the claim of unfair dismissal had been heard.

The firm said Mr Sithole would be reinstated and paid in full for the period between his dismissal and reinstatement if his dismissal was found to be unfair.

Teltron also said it believed its wage levels were fair and competitive.
‘Firm gave police list of workers’

From Brian Stuart
Religion Reporter

PORT ELIZABETH — The Ciskei security chief, Major-General Charles Sebe, told wives of Wilson-Rowntree workers that he had detained their husbands at the time of a strike "on the basis of a list he had received from Wilson-Rowntree management."

These and other claims are made in a document made available to Anglican Synod delegates this week by the Diocese of Cape Town’s Board of Social Responsibility.

The claims have been denied by the company.

The document, entitled "The Wilson-Rowntree Campaign, traces the history of the dismissal of 500 workers at the beginning of last year and alleges:

"Eviction"
- Jobless workers have been threatened, peremptorily, with eviction for arrear rentals
- Companies have "suddenly" demanded full payment for goods bought on hire purchase
- There has been continual harassment of workers and their union (SAAWU) by the Ciskei authorities and Wilson-Rowntree management

The document said, "Wilson-Rowntree, together with other employers, benefits from the repression of independent trade unions and the cheap labour provided by the Ciskei — a service that has been refined by the creation of the Manpower Development Centre in the Ciskei."

Screening
"This is a computerised screening process which weeds out workers who have been active in trade unions, to ensure a submissive labour force for employers."

The synod is due to discuss a motion today which calls on the Anglican church to "actively boycott all Wilson-Rowntree products until the SAAWU is satisfied that the workers have been re-instated."

A spokesman for Wilson-Rowntree's head office in East London denied that the company had given a list of workers to the Ciskei security chief, Major-General Sebe, "or to anyone in the Ciskei police" as alleged in the document presented to the synod.

"Not harassed"
In a statement the spokesman commented further:
- "We have not harassed the dismissed workers or their trade union.
- "We are not using and have never used the services of the Manpower Development Centre in the Ciskei.
- "We do not and have never used cheap labour. Our wage and fringe benefits are well in excess of those currently being paid in industry in South Africa."

The spokesman said the company had no knowledge of the Diocese of Cape Town Board of Social Responsibility, the body which compiled the document which was presented to the synod.

Authority
"Certainly they have never contacted us to hear our side of the story, and we fail to see how they can comment on the rights and wrongs of this particular industrial relations dispute with any degree of impartiality or authority," said the spokesman.

He said the company believed "with regret" that the board had been "less than fair."
Apprentices
strike after torture claim

THIRTY-FOUR mechanic apprentices at the Chamdor Training Centre in Krugersdorp yesterday went on strike after some of them were allegedly assaulted by trainee security men on the campus.

The "last straw" was the alleged assault and handcuffing of an apprentice who was kept semi-naked in an office for about three hours yesterday morning.

A monitor at the centre, Mr David Mokhine, said he and his colleagues lived in constant fear of the security guards and several other nasty incidents in the past had had a foundation for the strike.

Mokhine related the events which led to the strike: "The apprentice was on his way to his room last night. When he switched the foyer light on a security man sleeping in the foyer swore at him and ordered him to switch it off. The next thing the security man called some of his colleagues and they broke into the apprentice's room. They assaulted and handcuffed him and frog-marched him out of the room.

"When he asked to be allowed to put on his trousers, they refused. He was handcuffed to a chair in an office and kept there until 8 am, still dressed in his shorts only," Mr Mokhine said.

Previous alleged incidents include the breaking of an apprentice's watch, the flooding of one's room with a water hose and assaults on others.

Mr Mokhine said the relationship between his colleagues and the trainee security guards had been strained.

"We are kept like little kids and even forced to behave likewise. Until things get better, we will not go to classes," Mr Mokhine added.

The head of the centre, Mr Joos Lemmer, denied there was a strike at the centre.
Trainees decide to call off strike after discussions

THE 34 apprentice mechanics at the Chambor Training Centre in Krugersdorp who went on strike after some of them were allegedly assaulted by trainee security men last week, have returned to campus.

The deputy head of the centre, Mr David Mokhine, earlier told The SOWETAN that he and his colleagues were in constant fear of the security guards after several other nasty incidents. The relationship between his colleagues and the trainee security guards had been strained, he said.

The column shows the best attendance to a minicar at competition

Mr Brooks said "Some of the things written in an earlier report were not true. The apprentice was not kept naked according to a roommate. The other problem was the theft of a trainee security man's cigarettes by an apprentice.

Mr Brooks said "I am not sure what happened. I was not there and they told me that the trainee security man was treated roughly than he should have been."

A monitor at the centre, Mr David Mokhine, earlier told The SOWETAN that he and his colleagues were in constant fear of the security guards after several other nasty incidents. The relationship between his colleagues and the trainee security guards had been strained, he said.
3 motor union officials held

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Three officials of the Motor and Allied Components Workers' Union of South Africa (Mazwusa) were arrested outside the Government Education and Trade Centre at Ofisantsfontein yesterday.

One of the unionists, Mr. Donnie Khumalo, organizing secretary for Mazwusa and the General Workers' Union of South Africa, has been arrested twice this year.

He will appear in the Pretoria Regional Court today to face a charge of meeting a strike at the De Luxe Dry Cleaning Company at Koedoespoort earlier this year.

Yesterday Mr. Khumalo said he and two organizers, Mr. Solly Masemola and Mr. Solomon Maluleka, went to the centre in the morning where they had an appointment with the head, Mr. M. Smit.

They could not trace Mr. Smit and on leaving the centre were arrested.

According to Mr. Khumalo, the union car was searched and they were then taken to the Ofisantsfontein police station where summonses were issued to the men.

According to the summonses, they have to appear in the Kempton Park Magistrate's Court on December 30 on a charge of trespassing.

Yesterday Mr. Smit denied he had an appointment with them, saying workers at the centre were excluded from joining the union because they were State employees.

Asked whether there had been any labour unrest at the centre, Mr. Smit said two workers were fired from the centre last month and warned not to enter the premises again.

Mr. Smit said he had gained the impression recently that some workers at the centre wanted to organize a union but there was no "agitation."

"One does not always know how noble the intentions of these unions are," Mr. Smit said.

When told of Mr. Smit's denial that he had an appointment with them, Mr. Khumalo said: "What else can he do? He has to deny it."
Workers win big increases from CNA

Labour Reporter

Wage negotiations between the Central News Agency and the Catering and Allied Workers Union have ended with workers winning substantial increases.

The talks followed the week-long strike by hundreds of CNA store and warehouse workers in the Johannesburg area earlier this month.

All workers earning less than R450 monthly will also receive a R50 bonus while the handful of black workers earning above that figure will have their position reviewed in May next year.

Cawusa had originally demanded a R250 monthly minimum wage and a R100 bonus.

A union spokesman said they had submitted a full draft recognition agreement to the CNA which they hoped would lead to more talks in the near future. The agreement includes disciplinary and grievance procedures as well as retrenchment provisions.

During the negotiations five workers who were dismissed at a city CNA branch were reinstated.

The dispute between Cawusa and Teliron continued today with workers rejecting a management offer to re-engage between 50 and 84 workers who were dismissed earlier this month.
UIF money may never be used for non-strikers

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

THE Government's plan to use R3-million of Unemployment Insurance Fund money to help motor workers who do not want to take part in strikes, which sparked a major row earlier this year, may never be implemented.

This emerged from a telephone interview with the Director-General of Manpower, Dr Piet van der Merwe, yesterday, in which he said the money would be used "only if a similar situation to this year's Eastern Cape motor industry strikes arises again."

And even then, he said, the authorities would only use the money if they failed in attempts to have non-strikers placed in jobs.

After the scheme was announced, official sources said the Department of Manpower was expected to begin devising rules for implementing the scheme. But Dr Van der Merwe said yesterday no rules would be devised.

The Minister of Manpower, Mr Fanie Botha, announced earlier this year that the Unemployment Insurance Board had decided to set aside R3-million for motor workers who wanted to work but could not because other workers were on strike.

This followed a two-week strike in the Eastern Cape by at least 10,000 black and coloured members of Posite's National Automobile and Allied Workers Union.

During the strike, the Iron, Steel and Allied Workers' Union, the biggest union in the all-white Confederation of Labour, claimed many of its members were forced to live on charity because the strike had closed motor plants.

It asked that UIF money be allocated to its members to help tide them over, a request which led to Mr Botha's announcement.

The plan was attacked by unions and by Eastern Cape motor employers, who said it would be impossible for them to distinguish between workers who wanted to strike and those who did not.

They said they would refuse to attempt this.

Dr Van der Merwe said yesterday the R3-million was still available if needed.

But he said the plan was devised to "meet a specific situation" and would only be implemented if this arose again.
Unionist in court

Pretoria Bureau

A MAMELODI trade unionist allegedly incited workers of a Pretoria dry cleaning depot to go on strike so he could help them to get pay increases, the Pretoria Regional Court heard yesterday.

Miss Christina Radebe was giving evidence against Mr Donnie Khumalo, 27, the Transvaal secretary of the General-Workers Union (GWU), who is charged with instigating workers to strike.

Mr Khumalo, of Mamelodi, has pleaded not guilty before Mr J A le Roux to inciting workers at the De Luxe Dry Cleaners of Kedoespoort, Pretoria, to go on strike between August and September last year.

Miss Radebe said Mr Khumalo told workers to sign forms and also urged them to down tools so he could help negotiate with management to have their wages increased.

She told the court she had signed the forms because she had been told they were from a union which helped people to earn better pay.

The hearing continues on Friday.
Final meeting fails to resolve strike

by STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

A FINAL meeting between the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union and the Johannesburg electronics firm Teltron has failed to settle the strike at the company two weeks ago.

This means most of the 180 workers fired after the strike, who rejected a new offer on Monday to re-employ some of them, are now likely to lose their jobs.

But, though a deadline set by the company expired yesterday, a spokesman said Teltron would fill the remaining vacancies gradually.

The union's general secretary, Mrs Emmama Mashama, said yesterday the union had met the company's head, Mr L Brozen, and senior management on Monday in a final attempt to settle the dispute, which deadlocked on Friday after the company offered to take back 50 of the strikers.

She said the company had indicated it would take back 84 workers, but workers had rejected this. "They say all or none must go back," she said.

A company spokesman said Teltron told the union the number of redundancies was limited because many jobs had already been taken by new recruits.

"We explained it would be immoral to dismiss new workers who helped us when we needed them. But we said we would see if any had not settled in and wanted to leave. We would then offer their jobs to the strikers.

"Although the deadline has expired, we will not fill the 50 vacancies immediately. We will do so gradually over the next week to give our former workers a last chance to keep their jobs if they wish," he added.
Victory for CNA workers

WAGE negotiations between the Central News Agency (CNA) and the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (CCAWU), have ended with workers countrywide winning substantial increases.

The talks followed the week-long strike by hundreds of CNA store and warehouse 'workers' in the Johannesburg area earlier this month.

The successful wage negotiations mean that CNA workers in urban areas will earn a minimum R235 a month, a 45 percent increase over the previous R160 monthly wage. CNA workers in rural areas will earn R190, a 35 percent increase over R140 monthly.

All workers earning less than R450 monthly will also receive a R20 bonus, while the handful of black workers earning above that figure will have their position reviewed in May next year.
Teltron talks end in deadlock

A MEETING called by the Commercial and Catering Allied Workers' Union of South Africa (Cawusa) to discuss a two-week old strike by the employees of Teltron Sound-Electrical company in Johannesburg, ended in a deadlock this week.

According to the general secretary of the union, Emmah Mashinini, management would not re-open job vacancies of about 200 employees who went on strike two weeks ago.

Their grievances involved the reinstatement of a dismissed worker, better salaries and improved working conditions.

An ultimatum to either return to their posts or "dismiss yourselves" was ignored by the workers who, instead, marched to the union's offices.

While negotiations were going on between the union and the company, some of the vacancies were filled with new employees.

Mrs Mashinini said management only agreed to reinstate 85 of the workers "but the workers are against the idea."

She said further negotiations would be held in an attempt to resolve the strike.

Cawusa is to send a memorandum to the head office of Checkers Stores following allegations that women cashiers were locked in a refrigerator whenever there was inconsistency in their daily takings.

Cashiers at the stores of the Hillbrow branch complained of undergoing "this humiliating experience" each time their takings did not cash up correctly.

Management denied the allegations.
Drivers go on strike

AHEUES of black workers were left in the drizzle at Margate yesterday when bus drivers at Trans Umzimkulu Transport Services went on strike.

A Margate resident said the drivers had driven their buses to the Margate depot about lunchtime and left them there.

An informed source said the drivers had stopped work over dissatisfaction with new management, but returned to work last night after being given an ultimatum.
The workers at the Bulalaika Hotel in Johannesburg yesterday downed tools after complaining of racist remarks allegedly made by the manager, Mr. J. Smith.

Miss Annahace Moko, Miss Christine Mlholbangane, Miss Freedom Seholo, Miss Teyo, Moko, and Miss Mirried Rathebe, claim the manager uses abusive language whenever he talks to them and that he calls them "kafores."

"But the last straw was when he deducted R20 from our pay packet because he claimed that our cutlery was missing. He also accused us of stealing teapots," they said.

Mr. Smith refused to comment on the allegations. He said newspapers liked sensational stories.

The women have complained to the Hotel Industrial Council which is investigating.

Today the Rev. Sam Buti, chairman of the Alexandra Liaison Committee who was thrown out of the hotel last week, said Sandton Town Council should also investigate.
200 lose their jobs in Teltron dispute

Labour Reporter

About 200 former workers at the Johannesburg electronics suppliers, Teltron, who went on strike more than two weeks ago, are unlikely to be rehired. Workers rejected management offers to re-engage about 50 employees, calling for their full reinstatement.

Many of the vacancies have already been filled and Teltron is taking on another 50 workers to fill the remaining vacancies left by the strike. The general secretary of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union, Mrs Emma Mashinini, said Monday's meeting with Teltron management had failed to resolve the deadlock. Workers went out on strike on November 16 over demands for reinstatement of a colleague and for recognition of Ceawusa.
Farmer evicts his striking workers

STRIKING labourers and their families at a Mufulira sugar farm have been ejected from the farm's compound and taken to the bus ranks in town, union sources said.

The National Iron Steel Metal and Allied Workers' Union's general secretary, Mr Mathews Oliphant, said the farmer, Mr Peter Hitchins, had told his labourers that he would be closing his farm until May because of the strike.

According to Mr Oliphant, Mr Hitchins also said he would not be re-employing the striking workers when the farm reopened — as had been reported before.

The labourers downed tools on Monday following the dismissal of a colleague. They were subsequently fired but talks between the farmer and the strikers continued.

The strike is believed to be the first labour action in decades by farm workers who, because they are excluded from the country's labour legislation, technically have no right to strike or belong to a trade union.
Kalimba in Ovamboland will jointly cast an even larger shadow in Namibian politics in the coming year.

THE OAU

Fiasco in Tripoli

Libya's Colonel Gaddafi suffered a setback last week when his second attempt this year to hold the annual OAU summit in Tripoli failed. As in August, the meeting failed to attract the necessary quorum of two thirds of black Africa's leaders. This time the issue at stake was the representation of Chad.

The new government, headed by Husseine Habre, asked to be seated, and was supported by the OAU's more conservative members, including most French-speaking states. A rival delegation headed by Chad's former leader, Gououm N'Doume, who was defeated by Habre a few months ago, was backed by the host country, Libya, and some of Africa's more radical governments. A compromise, worked out with Nigerian help, recognized the Habre administration but arranged that Chad's seat remain empty this year. This would have saved faces all round, and it was accepted by Gaddafi and his friends, but turned down by the Habre team.

Lybia has offered to host a third attempt, but it is probable that the summit, if it takes place at all, will be held in Addis Ababa, where the OAU has its headquarters.

A committee of 12 countries was appointed to settle the details but is expected to encounter the same difficulties over Chad and the Western Sahara – the issue which wrecked the first summit. Libya withdrew her troops from Chad a year ago to avoid any dispute over the issue when Gaddafi, as host to the summit, became chairman of the OAU. Tripoli may now again start interfering in the affairs of its neighbours (Gaddafi has already upset some of his colleagues by suggesting that border disputes might be submitted to an all-African supreme court. This implies that borders can be adjusted, whereas the OAU regards them as inviolable).

Lybia is also expected to step up its support for the Polisario Front, which is fighting Morocco rule in the Western Sahara. If the summit had been held, Morocco's King Hassan would have come under considerable pressure to hold a referendum on this question, in accordance with the previous decision of the OAU. This and many other questions, including Namibia, had to be postponed, although a pre-Swapp resolution was passed by a rump meeting. Swapp leader Sam Nujoma met UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar in Tripoli.

As a result of the Tripoli fiasco, Kenya's President Daniel Arap Moi remains chairman of the OAU. Intern arrangements have been made for financing the organisation's secretariat, but it now seems likely that the whole structure of the OAU will have to be changed.

Volkswagen's Searle... threat to move

be hammered out between management and unions, but much would depend on a new political dispensation.

The idea for a code of conduct was endorsed by Port Elizabeth Chamber of Commerce president Denis Creighton, but drew a qualified, if not cynical, reaction from unions. The object of the code, says Van der Merwe, would be to allay investors' fears and encourage development in the region.

Unqualified support came from veteran unionist Katie Gelvan, secretary of the 3 000-strong PE branch of the Garment Workers' Union of SA (Gawusa), who says history has proved "that when you sit around a table you can solve a lot of problems."

Gelvan says the code should enshrine the freedom of union organiser to enter factories and conduct on-the-spot inquiries into workers' grievances. Managers should open their doors to union representatives as well. "If there's anything that I'm not happy about, I should be free to get in touch with the employer and discuss my problems," she says.

The general secretary of the National Automobile and Allied Workers' Union (Naawa), Freddie Sauls, was more cynical, though willing to put his cynicism to the test.

"As far as we're concerned we see the appeal as a big propaganda exercise which has no merit. If they feel so sincere about it, why don't they take a look at what's happening at the moment? In the negative at-

TRAINING CONTINUES

At a time when many companies are slashing training budgets, Barlow Rand intends maintaining, and possibly exceeding, its spending on training during the coming year.

In a year-end review of manpower developments, industrial relations director Reinald Hofmeyr says about 104 800 of the group's 236 856 employees underwent training of one type or another during the past year. Particular attention was paid to the extension of industrial induction skills training programs for employees who have the potential for advancement, but are handicapped by a lack of formal education. The number of centres in the group offering these programmes, which include training in literacy and numeracy, increased from 52 to 65.

The total direct and indirect cost of training, excluding capital expenditure, in the group during the year amounted to R23m. In an interview with the FM, Hofmeyr said despite declining business activity, spending on training during the coming year would be maintained at the same level, and possibly even be exceeded
GOVERNMENT officials swept through a Northern Cape township this week selecting families to be banished to Bophuthatwa, 60km away.

Residents of Huhudi, reservoir of the black workforce for nearby Vryburg, watched officials from the Northern Cape Administration Board survey their homes before issuing the ultimatum: "That house can stay, that one must come down."

The demolition of some 300 homes means banishment for 300 families - about 2,000 people whose only source of income is Vryburg.

In all, 10,000 Huhudi people will be removed from South Africa to Padimoa, Bophuthatwa.

They will be allowed to work in Vryburg, but only as migrant labourers.

The chairman of Huhudi's Community Council, Mr Matumana Dikole, accompanied government inspectors on their tour of Huhudi this week.

"They tell us nobody will be forced to move. But when we ask what will happen to those who refuse, they cannot answer."

"They look only at the outside of a house to decide whether to demolish or not."

Huhudi started to deteriorate about eight years ago when the Department of Co-operation and Development decided to move all residents over the border.

'Enslaved' were forbidden to repair their homes and the township became a shanty town.

Vryburg residents protested against the Government's decision and in August last year a delegation, led by the then mayor Dr W Amsdale met Dr Piet Koornhof, Minister of the Department of Co-operation and Development.

Dr Koornhof was told that Vryburg employed about 5,000 black people from Huhudi and the cost to the Vryburg taxpayers of bringing labour each day from Bophuthatwa would be R1 million a year.

Dr Koornhof ordered a review for the people but stipulated that people with lodgers' permits could not remain and all "hovels" would have to come down.

Tenants in Padimoa are now R17 a month. They are expected to rise to R2 a year.

The average wage for a domestic worker is R50 a month, and for a male labourer R25 a week.
REMEMBER Mr Fanie Botha's unusual plan
to set aside R2-million of Unemployment Insur-
ance money to help "loyal" miners workers
who couldn't work because strikes by "disloy-
al" workers had closed plants.

This was in response to requests by the
white, iron, steel and Allied Workers' Union
whose members could not work in Eastern
Cape plants during the strike by black and
coloured workers.

Cynics suggested the main aim of the novel
scheme was to prevent white workers harming
the national interest by voting for a rival
party.

And employers said they refused to try to
judge which workers were loyal and which
were not.

Well the R2-million is still there, but judg-
ing by a discussion with manpower chief Dr
Piet de Van der Merwe, no one is rushing to give
it away.

He says no rules on how to dispense it will
be drawn up. It will only be used if there is
another "big" strike and then only as a last
resort.

Are Mr Botha and his department hoping
the move has served its (electoral?) purpose
and can be allowed to gently fade away?
Unionist on strike count

Labour Reporter

There had been no violence or intimidation during a strike at a Pretoria dry-cleaning firm last September, an organiser of the General Workers Union of SA (Gwusa) told a Pretoria Regional Court at the weekend.

Mr Donas Bhumaile had pleaded not guilty to a charge of inciting or taking part in an illegal strike at the De Luxe Laundries at Koeboespoort last year.

Judgment was postponed until January 21.
**Bonuses: 4500 strike**

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG - Violence erupted at Datsun-Nissan's Rosslyn plant near Pretoria yesterday as the company's 4500 workers struck in protest at the size of their Christmas bonuses and their year-end wage rise.

Police used tear-gas, rubber bullets and.equibs against a crowd of more than 1000 workers, whom the company asked to disperse some hours after the strike began.

Four workers were seriously hurt, police said.

Police and the company said police intervened after workers began damaging cars and threatening to set them on fire.

A police spokesman said four security guards were injured, one seriously.

A doctor who examined three of the injured workers said one had a tear-gas burn on his shoulder, another was bruised and bleeding internally and the third had minor lacerations.

A source in the area said an unknown number of workers had also been treated at a hospital and by a local doctor.

As a result of the strike, Datsun sent all its workers home and closed for the year yesterday.

According to a worker source, workers were unhappy with their bonuses and a proposed increase of 10c or 15c an hour depending on their job grade.
Violence flares as police disperse Datsun strikers

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

VIOLENCE erupted at Datsun-Nissan's Roslyn plant, near Pretoria, yesterday as police used sjamboks, tear-gas and rubber bullets after the company's 4,500 workers struck in protest at the size of their Christmas bonus and year-end earnings.

Four workers were hurt after police dispersed a crowd of more than 1,000 workers at the company's request some hours after the strike began.

Police and the company said police intervened after workers began damaging property and threatening to set it on fire. According to police, attempts to disperse the crowd peacefully failed and they were forced to use violence after workers threw stones and sticks at them.

A police spokesman said four security guards were injured, one seriously.

A source said an unknown number of workers beyond the four, named as injured, had been treated at a hospital and by a local doctor.

As a result of the strike, Datsun sent all its workers home and closed for the year yesterday. It was due to close tomorrow.

According to a workers' source, Datsun's entire workforce stopped work yesterday morning after receiving Christmas bonuses that were lower than in previous years.

He said workers had also been unhappy with a proposed pay increase of 10c or 15c an hour.

The company says this is necessary because times are bad but the workers say they are working as much overtime as ever, he said.

It claimed that many workers had been 'lightly injured' by police sjamboks.

A spokesman for Datsun confirmed the strike. He said that, in the last two years, workers had been given a special bonus beyond their normal one because of good company results. This was not possible this year.

Datsun had informed workers and their works council of this well in advance but when workers saw their pay packets yesterday, they had reacted angrily.

The spokesman said Datsun had asked police to intervene but said it had been forced to do so because of trouble and refusal to disperse after being addressed by a company official.
Quiet returns to motor plant

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

QUIET returned to Datsun-Nissan's Rosslyn plant near Pretoria yesterday after the violence which accompanied the strike at the plant on Wednesday, company sources said.

The company decided to close for the year after its 4,500-strong labour force downed tools on Wednesday over bonuses and the year-end pay increase, but workers gathered at the plant yesterday to collect their pay.

Official comment could not be obtained.

Police intervened in Wednesday's strike at Datsun's request after workers had allegedly damaged cars and threatened to set them on fire.

They used teargas, stun-bombs and rubber bullets to disperse the crowd.

Meanwhile, the National Union of Mineworkers yesterday secured the release on bail of 21 miners who were allegedly involved in a strike at the Winkelhock mine, near Evander, in May this year.

The workers are part of a group of 29 miners who have been in prison since the strike because they could not afford bail of R1,000 each.

Their case, in which they are accused of striking illegally, has been repeatedly postponed.

At a recent hearing, however, their bail was reduced to R300 each after representations by a lawyer briefed by the NUM.

Yesterday, NUM general secretary Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa travelled to Belhar, where the men have been held and paid the bail money.

He said police had dropped a bail condition that the men had to surrender their passports. They would now return to their homes until the trial began on January 31.
months ago and is now claiming a total membership of about 14,000 delegates to the congress included miners from 13 mines in the Free State and the Orange Free State, Carletonville and Witwatersrand regions.

Among the resolutions they adopted were:

☐ A decision not to join the newly-formed Confederation of South African Trade Unions (Camsa), the NUM believes the confederation was formed to align "white racist" mining unions into a front that will try to oppose and frustrate the black miners' interests. The Congress noted that the NUM's recent rejection of an application for membership by the coloured and black Federated Mining, Explosives and Chemical Employees union.

☐ Not to participate in an industrial council if one were created for the industry. The union believes that such a council would not be representative of the interests of black workers and that the present industrial council system is "bureaucratic and out of touch with workers at shaft level."

☐ A refusal to register with the Department of Manpower as long as the present registration procedure remains in force. The union rejects "unnecessary interference" from government in its internal affairs.

☐ Rejection of recognition criteria for trade unions set by the Chamber of Mines. The congress called on the chamber to negotiate recognition guidelines with the union.

☐ A call on government to scrap job reservation and a warning that job barriers are a serious threat to industrial peace; and

☐ A warning that the NUM will take action against employers who commit unfair labour practices.

Tough style

The union's tough style has not dismayed some employers. "One can expect a new union which is trying to get members to make such moves," says one. Neither are some pessimistic about the possibility of reaching agreement with the NUM on some of the issues it has raised. Unprompted by the union, the chamber has, for example, been quietly reviewing its attitude towards registration.

The whole question of the chamber's recognition criteria could raise an interesting debate. The NUM believes that the criteria, which provide for recognition of a union which represents a significant number of workers in a particular job category on a mine, are designed to divide workers. However, employers insist that these criteria were introduced to allow new unions to gain recognition as quickly as possible. They say it could take a new union far longer to achieve recognition if it had to obtain a significant number of members on a whole mine.

Cyril Ramaphosa, who has been elected general secretary of the NUM, is confident that the union will be able to maintain its impressive growth rate. He says it is possible that the NUM may hold talks with other emerging unions in the industry to prevent clashes between them in the future.

WR BOYCOTT TUC takes action

SA's longest-running consumer boycott -- of Wilson Rowntree (WR) sweets -- continues. The company is adamant it is having no effect. Ian Stubbs, WR's marketing director, states "We cannot identify any effect on our sales in SA from any consumer boycott."

However, there are indications that the boycott is becoming increasingly internationalised and that British parent Rowntree Mackintosh (RM) is catching home of the flak.

SA Allied Workers Union's (Sawwu) general secretary Sam Kikini claims "British trade unions are putting pressure on RM to have its SA subsidiary change its attitude toward striking workers. Support for Sawwu's stance has already come from the British Labour party, the Trades Union Congress (TUC) of Britain, the Anti-Apartheid movement and Amnesty International."

A British (TUC) spokesman confirms that "we are trying to influence the parent company to reach a negotiated settlement in SA which will involve Sawwu's recognition. We shall be having a high-level meeting with RM management early in the new year in an attempt to find a solution. We will press them very hard."

"Thereafter, the TUC will decide what further steps are necessary. Boycotts are an option which we have not ruled out. There is a good deal of support in Britain for Sawwu, especially as a number of British unions have membership in RM."

Closer to home, the Lesotho branch of the WR Boycott Committee, representing various Lesotho trade unions, is actively discouraging businessmen from purchasing WR products. 1,200 schools around the country have been barraged with publicity about the campaign.

The boycott grew out of the suspension of three workers from WR's East London factory in February 1981, which led to the dismissal of 500 others, most of whom are still unemployed. But the dispute then became one of union recognition. Sawwu is an unrecognised union.

Kikini claims that, "With only recently adopted a much more aggressive marketing campaign to counter the effects of the boycott. This is particularly noticeable on buses in Natal."

Counters Stubbs, "We are merely continuing our normal advertising campaign with continuous promotion of our products. We choose different media from time to time."

ISLAND TALKS

It's unlikely that the brief SA-Angola talks in Cape Verde will provide a strong peg for hopes about a Namibian settlement.

As the FM went to press the SA party was due to return. The FM understands that the party consisted of senior officials from both the departments of Defence and Foreign Affairs and Information, including Defence Minister Magnus Malan, Foreign Minister Pik Botha and Barend du Plessis, the Deputy Minister of Information.

Meanwhile, the SA Department of Foreign Affairs restricted its response to reports from Cape Verde to a brak "no comment."

Although the Cuban issue may have been on the agenda for discussion in Praia, the Cape Verde capital, the bilateral discussions will probably turn out to have been mere in the nature of developing a new level of contact.

The president of the islands, Aristides Pereira, is credited with arranging the contact. Both parties have nothing to lose in the face of the collapse of the Western Five's initiative.

Angola, in fact, has much to gain. Namibia is its cross. The country is scouring by Unita in the south and SA incursions eat up resources stretched by sporadic economic and political instability. Angola cannot stabilise without a Namibian settlement that ends the war and cuts off Unita's line of supply. Any talks that would slacken SA and Unita's activities would be worth accepting.

SA may ultimately wish to focus on the Cuban presence, or to promote an accommodation for Unita's Jonas Savimbi in the MPLA government. But it would be wildly optimistic to expect more than a possible opening of channels for bilateral communication.
D-day for sugar industry dispute

Tribune Reporter

TOMORROW is going to be a decisive day for the sugar industry when management and labour meet again to negotiate a food allowance for workers in Natal's sugar mills.

The issue — which drew more than 3,000 people who work in the mills and live in company hostels out on wildcard strikes at the beginning of November — has been raised several times in the industry's industrial council. Each time the employers, represented by the Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Employers' Association, and the workers, represented by the National Union of Sugar Refining and Manufacturing Employees, have reached deadlock.

The workers have asked their employers to give them a R167-a-month food allowance. The employers have offered R40 a month.

Should tomorrow's meeting end in deadlock again, the union is expected to hold a strike ballot and, if it is successful, their members will be able to strike legally.

Although they would have satisfied the requirements for a legal strike under the Labour Relations Act, this action does not mean their jobs are automatically protected. Their employers retain the common law right to dismiss them for breach of contract, a labour lawyer told said.

Observers believe, however, that there is little likelihood of the workers voting in favour of a strike.

They say the workers would see no point in going for a strike when the last one did not succeed. Also, the sugar workers are unlikely to do anything which will jeopardise their employment. More than a hundred people lost their jobs after the November strike.

The employers will attempt to persuade the union to call in a mediator or go for arbitration instead — the other options available to the industrial council in the event of a deadlock.
Datsun workers rampage

DAMAGE to the Datsun-Nissan Rosslyn plant near Pretoria, where more than 4,000 workers went on the rampage for not receiving their usual Christmas bonuses last week, was estimated at R35,000.

Datsun’s spokesman said about 4,500 workers went on strike immediately after receiving their pay slips on Wednesday at about 10am. The entire workforce downed tools in protest against their Christmas bonus, which was less than what they had received in the previous two years.

He said “Due to favourable economic conditions over the past two years we gave workers a special bonus which was over and above this one. They deserved it because it was theirs.

“But the present bad financial climate made it impossible for us to give them the same amount this year.”
Labour Correspondent

IN A sequel to a recent strike wave at Natal sugar mills, the sugar industry's industrial council has decided that unskilled and semi-skilled workers will receive a food allowance of R40 a month.

The allowance will be available to workers who choose it in place of an employer-provided food scheme. Sapa reports that it will not be available to workers living in married quarters, provided by milling companies.

The National Union of Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Employees (NUMGRE), whose members struck at five Natal sugar mills after it had demanded a R107 a month allowance, has rejected this deal.

Details of the R40 allowance were released in a statement yesterday by the Industrial Council for the Sugar Manufacturing and Refining Industry.

According to the council's statement, the decision to award the R40 was taken yesterday by a majority vote of the council and NUMGRE was the only union to vote against.

Unions on the council who supported the R40 allowance include three prominent metal unions.
Job talks for sacked bakers

OFFICIALS of the Bakers' Employees' Industrial Union were negotiating the re-employment of 120 contract workers who were dismissed from Good Hope Bakers last week after going on strike, Mr Joe Daniels, general secretary of the union, said yesterday.

The workers were paid off on Friday after dumping tools in protest against the dismissal of a fellow worker.

Mr Daniels said the trouble started when one worker asked to be transferred to another department. The foreman refused to transfer him and threatened to dismiss him.

WARNING

After warning him the factory manager dismissed him, according to Mr Daniels. All the other African workers stopped work in sympathy.

Mr Daniels said the union wanted to do everything possible to save the jobs of the contract workers.

He denied an earlier statement by another union official who said the union sent other workers to take the place of those dismissed.

'We would not send people to take the places of our members. We did not send labour out there and we will not while we are negotiating,' Mr Daniels said.

THE FIRST

It was the first strike in the union since it was established in 1919.

An agreement was being negotiated with the management whereby the dismissed workers could reapply for their jobs, he said.

Mr E. Koli, manager of Good Hope Bakers, said he had no comment to make at this stage.
Motor industry and port disputes dominated 1982

By SANDRA SMITH
Labour Reporter

Two issues dominated the labour scene in the Eastern Cape this year — a crippling motor industry strike and a fight for union recognition in the harbour.

Unquestionably the first was pre-eminent.

At times it involved about 11,000 workers at Ford and General Motors in Port Elizabeth as well as at Volkswagen in Uitenhage. It led to a shutdown of all vehicle manufacturing plants and to dire warnings of the possible economic consequences for the region.

The dispute began in July and was finally resolved only in November, after the emasculation of the industry’s industrial council through the withdrawal of the National Automobile and Allied Workers Union (NAAWU) and weeks of sporadic go-slow and work stoppages.

Under protest, the union finally negotiated with the three employers through their representative body.

The settlement entrenches workers’ job security instead of gaining the minimum wage increases initially sought.

At this stage, when all three companies had entrenched hundreds of workers during the year — despite earlier denials that there would be widespread lay-offs — the union saw better lay-off provisions as a priority.

The agreement came into operation on December 1. Eight days later GM retrenched 220 workers. They were able to benefit from the new provisions.

The dock dispute, in which workers fought for nearly a year to persuade the South African Transport Services (SATS) to talk to, if not officially recognize, the General Workers Union (GWU), received international prominence.

The threat of sympathy strikes by stevedores in four major South African ports and of embargoes on South African goods by affiliates of the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) led to widespread condemnation of the SATS actions in refusing to meet docker representatives and in sacking more than 400 workers after a go-slow. The dockers have resolved to await the outcome of a SATS inquiry at which they and the ITF will give evidence.

Another Eastern Cape dispute which attained national prominence was that at the Veldspun International Textile Company in Uitenhage. More than 1,000 workers were fired when they downed tools in protest against the sacking of 60 colleagues.

The Fosatu-affiliated National Union of Textile Workers (NUTW) claimed that Barlow Rand (which has a majority holding in Romates, of which Veldspun is a subsidiary) had broken its code of employment and was indifferent to the unfair labour practices of its subsidiaries.

The union also criticized the group’s failure to intervene in the dispute.

The issue shot to national prominence when students at the University of the Western Cape, of which Barlow’s chairman, Mr. Mike Kosholt, is chancellor, took it up and produced a booklet outlining the history of the dispute and calling on the chancellor to intervene.

The NUTW eventually agreed to a management proposal for the staggered re-employment of 214 of those dismissed.

Other important events included the banning, after months of detention, of four officials of the Motor Assembly and Components Workers Union (Mawuwa) and the arrest and release without charge of two East London-Ciskei unionists of the SA Allied Workers Union (Sawu).

Split in the “progressive” union camp also widened with the failure of a Port Elizabeth summit in July to agree on a union federation.
Bakers go on strike

UMTATA — A 3-hour strike at a bakery depot here resulted in late deliveries in and around Umtata yesterday morning.

More than 200 employees of Amendu bakery are believed to have been involved.

Some of the people at the depot said they were not satisfied with the bonus they received.

The Area Manager, Mr W W Stock refused to comment, saying it was purely a domestic matter. — DDR
Union secures bail for six

Own Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — Six former workers at the Teltron electronics company, which was hit by a strike recently, have been arrested and are believed to be facing charges under the Intimidation Act.

A spokesman for the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers Union (CCAWUSA) said yesterday the union had secured the workers' release on bail after hearing of their arrest. He said all six were released yesterday.

The Intimidation Act was introduced recently, following a recommendation by the Rabie Commission into security legislation, unions and lawyers warned it would be used against worker leaders.

The act lays down heavy penalties for "intimidation," which it defines very widely.

Since then, union members have been arrested and charged with contravening the act on several occasions.

Thus far, most of those arrested have been members of the Metal and Allied Workers Union (MAWU). But only one worker has been convicted of Intimidation Act charges in two cases, involving MAWU members, charges against the accused were withdrawn.

Workers at Teltron were fired after downing tools in protest at the sacking of a colleague.

Negotiations between CCAWUSA and the company ended in deadlock — chiefly because workers rejected a company stipulation it would not relieve all of them. Most of the strikers refused to return and were replaced.

Local police had twice visited the company, which is situated in the Transvaal province.

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CRACKED "ACE" NABY FROM PHILIPS..."I WAS TOLD IT IS NOT SHIPABLE"
Six former strikers arrested

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Correspondent

Six former workers at the Teltron electronics company, which was hit by a strike recently, have been arrested and are believed to be facing recharges under the Intimidation Act.

A spokesman for the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union (CCAWUSA) said yesterday the union had secured the workers' release after hearing of their arrest. All six were released yesterday.

When the Intimidation Act was introduced recently, following a recommendation by the Bals Commission into security legislation, unionists and lawyers claimed it would be used against worker leaders.

The Act lays down heavy penalties for "intimidation", which it defines very widely.

Since then, union members have been arrested and charged with contravening the Act.

But only one worker has been convicted under the Act and in two cases, involving members of the Metal and Allied Workers' Union, charges against the two were withdrawn.

Workers at Teltron were fired after 'downing tools in protest against the sacking of a colleague.

Negotiations between CCAWUSA and the company ended in deadlock - chiefly because workers rejected a company stipulation that it would not rehire all of them - and all but a few refused to return to the company and were replaced by newly-hired workers.
Dismissed workers to be re-employed

27-12-1982

CITY CALL

Labour Reporter

MOST of the 28 Good Hope Bakery workers who were dismissed recently will be re-employed, according to Mr Joe Daniels, general secretary of the Bakery Employees' Industrial Union.

The workers were paid off after downing tools in protest against the dismissal of two fellow workers.

Mr Daniels said he had had a "long meeting" with management last week, who had agreed to re-employ all except three.

"The union is not happy with this and we are still negotiating," he said.

Mr E Killigann, the manager of Good Hope Bakery, was not available for comment. A spokesman at the bakery said he was away on holiday for about three weeks.

The spokesman said he knew "nothing" about the negotiations.

A milling worker with whom one of the dismissed workers has been staying said many had left Cape Town to see their families.