Underemployment, poverty and migrant labour in the Transkei and Ciskei

Johann Maree and P.J. de Vos

S.A. Institute of Race Relations
Unions launch appeal for food subsidies

Staff Reporter

The country's two biggest trade union organisations yesterday appealed to the Government to spend more on food subsidies.

The president of the Trade Union Council of South Africa, Mr Tom Murray, said the expected rise in the price of meat, eggs and milk, and the possibility later this year of another hike in the bread price, emphasised the urgent need for Government action to freeze the price of essential foods.

"There must be thousands of urban African families who are unable to afford enough food for minimum health standards. These families are hungry and their plight will become desperate unless the prices of basic foods are lowered."

UNREST

A hungry population, Mr Murray said, was a discontented and dangerous population. Industrial unrest was never far from the surface in an economy with large numbers of low paid workers struggling to maintain minimum living standards.

The president of the SA Confederation of Labour, Mr A. I. Niewoudt, said the steep rise in prices of essential foodstuffs in the past year had bitten deeply into the "buying power of the low income groups, Black and White families."

Food subsidies paid by the Government include: Bread, R58-million; butter, R12.7 million; maize, R39.8-million; and cheese R2.5-million.
The poor were urged to understand the true nature of the economy showdown. The government's efforts to create a sense of security through increased spending on social programs were not enough to appease the population. The root cause of the problem, according to those who advocated for economic reforms, was the unequal distribution of wealth. Political leaders were criticized for failing to address the root causes of poverty and inequality. The situation was dire, and the government needed to take decisive action to address the crisis.
World's hungry will not be 'fed' in decade

ROME. — Dr Oddeke Boerma, the director-general of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, shook the World Food Council here by declaring that its aim — to eradicate world hunger within 10 years — cannot be achieved.

Dr Boerma's warning came in the middle of the inaugural session of the World Food Council set up by the World Food Conference last year to put into action the strategy to feed 500-million starving or undernourished people and produce sufficient food for the world's future population.

The conference's aim, that within a decade no child will go to bed hungry, no family will fear for its next day's bread and no human being's future will be marred by malnutrition, sounds beautiful,' Dr Boerma said.

But the problem is not just of food production, but of purchasing power,' he said.

There are so many people, the population increase is still going on, there will be more unemployment and under-employment, and if the social and economic problems are not tackled equally vigorously, our council will be out on a limb,' Dr Boerma's warning may come as a cold shower to delegates of 36 countries assembled in Rome to discuss immediate food aid to the starving and how to produce, and distribute cheaper fertilisers and increase, the world's food output.

TARGET

Dr Boerma recalled that he had addressed the World Food Conference before he was aware it was going to set such a target.

'But I warned them over and over again never to forget that the problem of hunger cannot be solved just with food production and distribution,' he said. — Times News Service
Why 20,000 children will go hungry

Daily Dispatch 10/17/15

Twenty thousand children will soon be going hungry, and the public has been asked to contribute to the Mayor's Feeding Fund, a pharmacy, a furniture store, and an estate agency and an outfitter all answered.

"Maybe next year," Mr. Addleson do not agree. There has been a great deal of publicity and advertising, but the results were negligible. The facts were fully explained, but the results were negligible.

We simply have not got the message across to the public. The fund's actual expenditure was $22,000.

The fund started, Mr. Addleson told me, because when he was Mayor of East London, he, was approached by the chairman of the board of education, who had generously supported the fund during all the years the fund has operated.

The next street appeal for the fund is in October. Normally about $500 is collected.

"The Crown Trust gives us $500 per annum, Selborne Primary School has contributed the sum of $1,000 since 1958, with each pupil bringing $5 a week, and other industries such as CDA, which gives $250 per month, and some oil products, which gives $100 a month, all help to swell the budget.

Recently a competition with the prize of a bicycle donated to the mayor netted some $500," Mr. Addleson said.

"A capable young woman was engaged for one month to canvass for regular donations. The return resulted in about $1,000 being collected, but this was made up of amounts mainly, which shows how little interested the donors were.

The highest donation was $120; the rest, with one or two exceptions, ranged from $3 to $10 and this was from reputable firms, not individuals.

The canvasser estimated the total costs at $350 per month. It was later increased to $500 and are now contributing $750 per month.

But we find that the amount, plus the monthly $250, contributed by the pupils, means we can only supply biscuits once a month - useless.

Was lack of publicity the problem?

present our total orders amount to $350.

If donors are reluctant to sign a pledge of a monthly or quarterly payment, would the school accept a one-time payment? But unless the community and industry, which between them employ many thousands of Africans and Coloureds, are prepared to support the fund, our efforts as far as Mpondoland is concerned, must fail.

Apart from the growth of the number of Africans and Coloureds employed by commerce and industry, the fact must not be forgotten that most businesses in East London rely heavily on African trade, and that a fund such as ours is entitled to a quid pro quo.

If these problems did not exist, I would say: what are blacks themselves doing?

"As I said before, the pupils of each school in Mpondoland are asked to bring a cent a day, so far about $200 a month is paid. An effort is also made to get all the traders and others to make a contribution.

What other problems did the fund face?

There is a lack of male personnel on the committee to deal with individual projects to raise funds, seek alternative means of feeding, and so on.

I feel..." industry and service clubs ought to be directly represented.

One of the difficulties we are facing is the continued rise in the cost of biscuits and the prohibitive cost of flour. To reduce costs, we are investigating the possibility of baking bread every day.

Mr. Addleson said that Santa regarded feeding schemes as a tremendous contribution to the elimination of tuberculosis. And, he said, "Let each donor remember our original slogan - "A hungry stomach has no heart" would be a tremendous blow to our standing as a community!"

But there are plenty who have empty stomachs.

After all, it is easy to say, "Come back next year," and write a letter.

So perhaps 20,000 children will be going hungry - more hungry.

— JIM MITCHELL
FEEDING INFLATION

WITH a better than passed exam at
the end of term, a family of
students is preparing for the
summer vacation. However, the
increased cost of living and
the high prices of food and
other necessities are making
it difficult for them to
afford a proper holiday.

Inflation has become a
serious problem in the
country, with prices rising
at an alarming rate. The
government has taken steps
to control inflation, but
the results have been
mixed. The latest figures
show that the cost of living
has increased by 10% in the
past six months.

One of the main causes
of inflation is the high
wages paid to workers.
This has led to an increase
in the cost of production,
which in turn has pushed
up prices. The situation
is particularly severe in
the manufacturing and
construction industries,
where wages have risen by
over 20% in the past year.

The government has
announced a number of
measures to address the
inflation problem, including
a temporary increase in
the minimum wage and
a tax on high-income
earners. However, these
measures may not be
enough to bring down
inflation to a manageable
level.

As for the students,
they are facing a difficult
choice. They want to enjoy
their summer break, but
they also need to save
during this period to
afford their education.

The situation is not
unique to this family. Many
students are facing similar
problems, and the pressure
on their finances is growing.

The government needs to
take urgent action to
address the inflation
problem and ensure that
young people have a
better future.
Beter salarisbedeling vi is 'n saak van erns

Bantoeraad (Karoo) se antwoord op verhoogde behuisingsfooie

Graaff-Reinet
Adreser 7/8/75

Sederneemers, die voormalige van die Bantoe-Administrasieraad (Karoo), mr. K. H. die Lange, van Graaff-Reinet, op bertakte in Die Adrester, gereageer, waar- gelyks is op die verhoging van behuisingsfooie in Bantoevooi, diere in die ge- bied onder die jurisdesie van die Raad.

Die voormaliges van die Raad, mnr. F. J. Meintjes, hag graag verskyn dat die brief ook in Die Karooneus gepubliseer word. Ons doen dit met graagte.

Met verwysing na die onlangs bevestigte, betref, die asseblief de verhoog- de tariewe ten opsigte van Ban- toebehuisings, wat in verskeie uitgawes van u kierant verskyn het, wil ons u graag hiermee van 'n antwoord voorraan. Ten- en se 'n balans te probeer hand haaf, word u verduidelik om asse- blief hierdie brief volledig te plaa.

Ten eerste moet ten sterkste beswaar aangeteken word teen die eerselde en sensasiewekkende trante van u beriggevang. U verwys na die belangrikheid van die Eerste Minister se beleid van deuntente, maar terwile van die "nuiswarte" is u bereid om die handhawing van voortestetse, goeie raasverhoudinge in die weeskaal te plaas. Of is die opskrywer van u kierant be- langrikter?

Is dit bilik om te insinueer (a uitgawe van 4 Augustus 1975) dat die Bantoe-Administrasie- raad Karoo gewetensloos en liggend besluit het tot die ver- hoging van die betrokke tariewe? As dit nie u bedoeling was nie, wat was u bedoeling dan? Bly in die dramatiese effek daarvan?

U argumenteer dat hierdie Raad eerstens die dienste en ge- nereue moes voorsien en daarna (Vervolg op bladsy 17)
Beter salarisbedeling den zwartman

(Vervolg van bladzijde 1)

dat 'aanpassingen in tarwesge
maken is. Dit is wel moeilijk,
maar dan zullen de Raad duurdere
tonde van 'n eksterne bron moeit bekoem, wat die finansiële
lassen op die Bantoe. Noor meer sou 'n maakt. Dit sou dus nie in
belang van die Bantoe wees nie.

U is bewus van die feit dat
hierdie Raad sedert instelling
gedurende September 1973 van
een groot opbou baie moes, wat personeel, oplossing, be
bettings, en kapitalo programme, en beter. U is bewus van die
omvang van die kapitaal in die pro
gramme verwelk in die 1975/76
begroting van hierdie Raad, 'n
afwaard Drops se oorsaak was.
He lu kan dan in opregten
egteriger dat u nie weet wat die Raad so temperamente
behandel, vir die Bantoe bevolking nie?

Graag gee ons u krediet vir u
besondere heldere slegting van
u op bladsy 16 van u 31 Mei
1975 uitgegawe, oplossings vir die
delemaal aan die hand doen
der die het en dood van loone, is
erwetlik waar die probleem is
en u die saak gelyk is, dat u
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u met onrechtzaam saam met
e wat u gelyk is, dat u

As na die deelname van
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die uit die feit dat swart bedien
des tussen R4 en R8 per maand

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bles deur Munsipaliteit aangekondig
ou sou nie. Die toernooisbe
het egter gebeur. Die diens
in die tariewe van Munsipaliteit, wat
ruiders van subcidiering van Plaaslike Owerhee
in die Platteland) so ingestel
was dat lae lede gehandhaaf kon
word. Dit is gedaan in die vorm
van subcidiering en wel op 'n
wyse wat baie moeilik waar
neembaar was. Die blanke be
volking het dit uit eldiemdeslating
en andere diensdele deur die
Munsipaliteit gehelp. Die Bantoe
se reserwerde in die buurt
subsidie en deel dit
tegenswoordig vir die
weer van Munsipaliteit, wat
steeds, op die goedkoopheid geldende kan
word. Dit sal vir elke de
kendige persoon tog duidelik wees
wat 'n bedrag van 60 c per
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groot water, ullenswater
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San-
The culture of poverty

The effort of the Western Province Council of Churches is commendable, but there is the very real danger that givers and recipients of money, food, clothing, furniture, blankets and toys may miss the whole point — that both may forget that what is being dealt with is not an impoverished people, but either the culture of poverty.

Of necessity poverty has never really been conducive to having a balanced set of values. How could it be, if it is accepted that poverty — if its root causes are not removed — will create more poverty?

Daily routine

Without being prescriptive to the people who live in thousands upon thousands of shanties throughout the Peninsula, it can be said that not much perception is needed to know that poverty practically kills the soul of man, and that all that is left over is an advanced form of vegetable.

Look at the facts: Mother and father, often not legally married, live in a rondavel which may or may not be sub-divided into sleeping and living quarters. The daily routine of the father is getting to a low-paid job on time, with early rising the rule as long distances have to be travelled to a place of employment.

Another daily rule is getting home late, followed by a meagre supper, no real entertainment facilities — and bedtime. Recreation is for the sake of sex... and invariably it, unwanted but family, children who cannot be properly cared for.

Is it humanly possible for mother, father and (average) six children from a "home" such as this to have a balanced set of values? The answer must be a resounding NO. And because no member of this kind of family "knows better", this becomes the accepted way of life. This becomes a culture of poverty.

To many of the poverty people well-mean aid in the form of an extra blanket for the new baby, R5 to buy a month's supply of bread, a small table on which to place the pressure stove, a doll for the toddler groveling away in the sand wastes of the Cape Flats, can be only fleeting value.

Tangible gifts such as a blanket, and the piece of corrugated iron for closing up a hole to keep out winter rain, are objects and concepts which the poverty people merely fit into their existing culture.

As much as they need such help, and as much as those who are better off give that help to make compassion a real concept, the help does not really mitigate against the culture of poverty.

It so happens that the more than 100,000 squatters of the Peninsula are Blacks, and as much as these Blacks appreciate the Samaritan principle of periodic material aid of Compassion Week, a visit socio-economic new look at the highest level of government — the South African Government — is needed.

Total upliftment

What is necessary is a programme of total upliftment — socially, economically, educationally, and what must follow of necessity, politically. Only then will the evil cycle disappear in the culture of poverty be broken.

Finally, those who will give during Sunday's collections and Compassion Week should also consider, lose their sense of balance and of values: Donating R10, or a blanket or 20 loaves of bread, must not be allowed to raise the conscience — or make us lose sight of our main responsibility: fighting the culture of poverty.
WASHINGTON—The World Bank proposed to lend R4.900 million to the world’s poor and developing nations this year and about R28,000 million in five years, the president, Mr. Robert McNamara announced yesterday.

Although it would be a record lending programme for any agency for underdeveloped countries, Mr. McNamara said it would not begin to meet the dire needs of the 100 million people living in the poorest countries.

"Some 900 million of these individuals subsist on incomes of less than 75 dollars (about R32) a year in an environment of squalor, hunger and hopelessness," he said.

"They are the absolute poor, living in situations so deprived as to be below any rational definition of human decency," he added—SAPA-AP.
Poverty warning

PRETORIA — Poverty will spread in urban African townships unless employers supported the shrinking purchasing power of earnings by increasing wages.

This warning was sounded yesterday by the Director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, Mr. Fred van Wyk, following the devaluation of the rand and the fear that it will further aggravate inflation.

Mr. van Wyk said employers had made great advances generally in raising the earnings of Black workers, but in an inflationary climate where the purchasing power was being eroded at about 15 percent a year, constant wage reviews were imperative.
Newcastle — low pay high CoL

NEWCASTLE, which is still reeling after a week of violence, must look to industrialists and socio-economic factors for the root cause of the disturbances.

Although the riots were triggered by a five-cent rise in bus fares, the fares are no longer the focus.

This is borne out by the fact that the most serious outbreak of violence, during which over 200 homes were burnt, took place in the lower corridor where workers do not use the buses.

Two years ago — at the time of labour unrest in Durban — a study, issued by the Chamber of Commerce, placed the poverty datum line at R50 a month.

In Newcastle, the situation is much worse, with the poor living in the hinterland of the city, which is now at the poverty datum line.

Although an accurate figure could not be obtained, residents estimated there were 70,000 houses.

This means an average of eight people are living in each house.

Residents said there were two, three, four and even five people living in each house.

This situation has led to overcrowding and poor sanitation, which has contributed to the unrest.

Doctors and health workers have said the area needs more medical facilities and more health workers.

The lack of basic services, such as electricity and water, has also contributed to the situation.

The people of Newcastle are tired of living in such conditions and are calling for action.

The Mercury Reporter

Andrew S

Newcastle for their purchases.

Appalling social conditions prevail in both townships.

Africans have reported that even before this week’s violence, drunkenness, robbery and violence were prevalent.

Representation for the township is by way of a council, appointed by the Department of Native Affairs.

There are no elections.

In Madadeni, the chairman of the council is Dr. Frank Mdlulelo, best described as a moderate.

Although he is an appointed leader, Dr. Mdlulelo, the township’s doctor, commands wide respect and would undoubtedly be elected by the people.

However, even he has not been immune to the unrest.

The last week has shown the people’s desperation to end the situation by appealing for calm.

It is against this background of frustration and anger that violence erupted on Monday.

It would appear at this stage that the violence has been spontaneous.

As one, Black said: “How else can my people protest. How else can we show our disgust. We have no representation.”

The danger of the situation remains — that it must inevitably create radical leaders, a class of whom already seem to be emerging from the ranks of taxi owners.

The tragedy of Newcastle is that industrialists here are not paying significantly lower wages than the rest of South Africa, and the townships of Madadeni and Caraveli are no different from hundreds in South Africa.
Resentment of Newcastle

By IED SIEALES

YOU DON'T have to look far to find the reason for the bus boycott and riots which shook Newcastle this week and caused some industries in this new economic hub of South Africa to lose three complete production days.

No further, in fact, than at the weekly budget of an average Black family living either one of the two townships here—Madadeni and Oosweni.

The quick shows that the increases which have taken place in the bus fares to the two townships have had a crippling effect on these people.

For the average family man, already living below the starvation level, more than one-fifth of his earnings are spent on the bus company if he lives in Oosweni—which is 23 km from Newcastle.

For the man in Madadeni, 13 km out from the bigger of the two townships, things are a little easier—but bus fares still comprise a crippling 13.5 per cent of his wages.

When we consider that for most Africans the bus fares are specially resisted because they are seen as an expense incurred by apartheid, which forces them to live in these separate townships far from their places of work—the wonder really is that there have not been protests in Newcastle before.

The latest fare increase has only occurred for a one-way trip, and it is this which caused most people to react with surprise at the angry reaction.

It seemed an insignificant increase in anyone's budget.

But in fact it was only the latest in a series of increases which have inflated the Newcastle fares by almost 20% in the past two years.

It was, therefore, the last straw which caused these hard-pressed Africans to snap—and vent their anger at the Trans-Tugela Transport Company.

In fact, the main focal point of their anger is actually the Bantu Investment Corporation, because these staggering increases have taken place since the BIC took over Trans-Tugela two years ago.

Before the BIC took over, the bus fare from Madadeni was 6c, today it is 30c.

That means the fares for the round trip has soared to 60c a day, or a crippling R3 a week for Madadeni's 50,000 inhabitants—and 90c a day or R4.50 a week for the 50,000 living in Oosweni.

What this means becomes starkly apparent when you study the economy of life in these townships.

The poverty datum line in Natal is R137 a week, but a quick survey I did suggests that most people here are earning below that.

Two people I spoke to who seemed fairly typical, told me their wages were R50 a week. To each man the man was supporting a wife and two school-going children, and the families lived in Oosweni.

This is how they budget for the bare necessities of life each week: Food R15; rent R12; school fund 10c; school uniforms 70c; school books 50c. The total is R20.55.

Bear in mind that that is allowing only R13.18 a week for the family's food—or 54c a day.

Bear in mind, too, that it makes no allowance for such essentials as fuel, polish, clothing for the adults, fur-
Yesterday's situation in Newcastle was:

The industrial plant, Iscor, has suffered a severe blow with the evictions of some 1500 Black workers from the site of extensions to the steel plant which has put Newcastle on the industrial map.

Riot scenes came after an Strike last week and police stations this week when the Transvaal Transport Company announced a five per cent increase in bus fares to and from Madadeni township.

The police, although not employed by Iscor, were working for one of the construction firms building the extensions to the steel plant.

They will only come back to work when peace returns to the town.

There is a great tension in the town and business houses are feeling the pinch with two exceptions.

The local grocery dealers have increased their sales 20 to 30 per cent for the past week.

Hundreds of battle-dressed police troops, armed with FN rifles and shotguns, were on duty yesterday protecting the police station and other areas where violence was likely.

But there was no riot.

POLICE believe 19-year-old Oliver Edward Wensley, from Stellenfontein, was shot dead by police because of his love for a pretty blonde Stellenfontein teenager.

Oliver's mutilated body was found in a smoke-filled room of a Stellenfontein house after he had tied up his wife and her lover.

A bodyguard of Oliver's friends, Mr. Klaus Eberwein and Mr. Roger Rotherham, Oliver was "crappy" about 17-year-old Jenny Rowe.

The authorities claim they had no cause to shoot Oliver.

He said that the riot situation in Newcastle during the past week had been controlled by a leader who had somehow acquired several electronic walkie-talkies.

Apparently this man, who authorities say is almost certainly an African, has complete control over the actions of many residents of the Madadeni township.
Bus fares not real issue

By PETER MANN

DURBAN — Newcastle, which is still reeling after a week of violence, must blame industrialists and socio-economic factors for the disturbances.

For although the riots were triggered by a five cent rise in bus fares, the fares are no longer the issue.

This is borne out by the fact that the most serious outbreak of violence during which two White men were held hostage and assaulted and three policemen injured, took place at the Iscor compound — where workers do not use the buses.

Two years ago — at the time of labour unrest in Durban — a rally rested by the Chamber of Commerce here placed the poverty datum line at R90 per month.

The figure was based on a family unit of four.

Although this figure is the most recent available inflation and the recent devaluation have more than doubled it. The bus fare two years ago was eight cents; it is now 10 cents.

Today's PDL figure would be closer to R120 per month.

A survey of wages paid in Newcastle yesterday produced average earnings between R72 and R124 per month.

Below PDL

This means that the vast majority of the 130,000 blacks surrounding Newcastle are living below the PDL.

KwaZulu's Councillor for Community Affairs Mr Walter Manze, has called on industrialists to raise wages to meet the bus fare increases.

"The riots are as much a protest against poor wages as against fare increases," Mr Khanyile said.

Newcastle's twin troubles spot is the Madadeni and Ooswene townships, lying 13 and 23 kilometres from the town.

The township's manager, Mr Durand, refused to give any information about the townships: "I'm far too busy," he said.

But according to the Rural Affairs Commissioner, Mr M. J. Mathias, about 14,000 people live in Madadeni and Ooswene.
Rent increases won't be paid—Coloureds

EAST LONDON—The council intends increasing the rentals in Coloured areas from January 1. Residents have described the proposal as "unreasonable and ridiculous."

“We can hardly afford to pay our present rentals and most of us are still paying-off arrears. How are we going to meet the new increased rentals,” they asked.

A driver with a funeral undertaker, Mr. C. R. Mundie, said the R2 000 arrears should be enough warning to the council that the people cannot afford to cope with the increases.

“The council is trying to suck blood out of a stone. They are forcing our hand where we as a community will have to confront them and this time we shall challenge anybody who would want to lock our doors if we cannot afford to pay the increased rentals,” Mr. Menne said.

An Executive member of the Coloured People's Organisation, Mr. J. Alexander, said the rentals imposed on the Coloured community in East London were the highest in the country.

He felt that the time would come when the council would be confronted by the people instead of the members of the Coloured Management Committee.

“As breadwinners we cannot stand any further increases in rentals. Due to inflation and the low wages being paid in East London, we can just about keep our heads above water at the moment.

“If the rents are increased the council will be faced with a deficit double the present R2 000,” Mr. Alexander said.

The Coloured Management Committee have a special meeting next Tuesday to discuss the question.

Another meeting will be held in the Parkside Hall by the Coloured People's Organisation officials next Thursday. —DDR
Poverty guideline of R125 set by State

Labour Reporter

The Government has set R125 a month as a poverty guideline in terms of the manifesto against inflation.

R125 is the income limit for workers who are not expected to make sacrifices under the manifesto.

The Trade Union Council of South Africa welcomed the figure - the first poverty guideline issued by the State - as "what we have been striving for over many years." But, a spokesman for the Department of Statistics insisted: "This limit should not be interpreted as a poverty line or a minimum living-level." He confirmed that, all available studies on minimum levels had been referred to in arriving at the figure, but added "it represents only a guideline in terms of the manifesto.""}

RELEVANT

The guideline, regarding the application of the "almost measure of retribution," in respect to wages, salaries and prices, is in a circular sent to signatories of the manifesto.

It refers to the relevant passage in the manifesto and goes on: "The limit for workers who are not expected to make a sacrifice in terms of the manifesto in respect of income in the campaign against inflation is set at R125 a month, including renumeration in kind, such as housing, etc.

Mr. Arthur Grobbelaar, General Secretary of the National Union of Metalworkers, said: "The discrepancy between poverty lines set by various institutions has been used by employer interests to compel trade union pressures to accept inadequate minimum income levels. "Now we have a figure which, in spite of its limitations - we can use as a starting point in efforts to adequately reward the least skilled worker in any industry," Grobbelaar added."
HOUSEHOLD INCOMES

Poverty amidst plenty

Despite the wage rises of the past few years and self-satisfied propaganda that Africans in SA are better off than those elsewhere on the continent, appalling poverty is still haunting this land.

This is the inescapable conclusion to be drawn from household income figures just published. The figures are extracted from the 1973 All-Media Product Surveys conducted by Market Research Africa (MRA) for the Advertising Research Foundation.

Although its monthly income doubled between 1970 and 1975 — up from a paltry R36 to a meagre R72 — the average African household (5.8 persons) is still living far below the breadline.

Just how far below can be gauged by comparing the R72 to the most recent Household Subsistence Level (HSL) calculations of the University of Port Elizabeth's Institute for Planning Research (FM December 5). The HSL (which includes only the barest allowances for food, clothing, rent, soap, transport and fuel) ranges from R97 a month in Umtata to R135 a month in Windhoek.

The average African household thus has an income equivalent to only 74% of the lowest HSL and only 60% of the HSL for Johannesburg.

Of course, the R72 is an average. Some families are better off, and some are worse off.

The MRA figures show that in 1970 the average White household had R362 more to spend each month than the average African household. That gap has widened alarmingly. In 1975, the White household had R546 more to spend.
Poverty is danger.

— Gatsha

ISITHEBE — The poverty of black South Africans and their denial of a stake in the wealth of the land was more dangerous to South Africa than the feared presence of Russians and Cubans in Angola, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, head of the KwaZulu Government, said here yesterday.

Speaking at the opening of a new factory, the chief said black people had contributed towards the production of the wealth of South Africa and wanted a stake in the whole of the country.

Chief Buthelezi said the development of industrial growth points in KwaZulu and other black reserves deserved the support not only of the central government but of all entrepreneurs within and outside the country's borders.

He said his people were aware that the ideological reasons which motivated the central government in being in the forefront of this industrial development was quite unacceptable to most blacks.

However, too much energy was wasted in looking at the wrong motives of the government rather than at the benefits that would accrue to blacks — DDC.
Black hunger problem 'may be explosive'

Staff Reporter

HUNGER that could become an explosive problem in major urban areas, catastrophic unemployment, greater frustration, increased tensions - and worse, were forecast by Black leaders last night as the effects of the Budget on the Black community...

The assessment came from the leader of the Labour Party, Mr Sonny Leon, and the immediate past president of the SA Indian Council, Mr H E Joossu, who both said the Budget would press most Blacks deeper into poverty.

Mr Leon said the indiscriminate increase of 30 per cent in the sales tax would hit Blacks particularly hard.

When other provisions were taken into account - higher wine, liquor and beer prices, increases in the prices of cigarettes and cool drinks - it was glaringly apparent that the last thing on the Minister's mind when he compiled the Budget was the desperate plight of Blacks.

"The Budget can only increase the tensions building up in urban townships," he said "When you add to the Budget, the effects of the higher petrol price, railway rates and power charges on consumer prices, it is obvious that thousands more Black families will fall below the breadline."

Mr Leon warned that if, on top of this, there was no increase in food subsidies - and there was no mention of this in the Budget - and the prices of bread, milk and mealie meal rose this year, hunger could become an explosive problem in the major urban areas.

Both Mr Leon and Mr Joossu said it was imperative that employers should increase Black wages, to compensate for the higher living costs which would certainly flow from the Budget.

Mr Joossu, a member of the SA Foundation and a prominent businessman, said the Budget provisions posed the threat of a further economic slowdown, greater inflation and catastrophic unemployment among Blacks.

"The measures will entrench even more deeply the economic gloom and pessimism afflicting the economy," he said.

He attacked the "almost meaningless" increases in social pensions for Blacks, the lack of mention of increased food subsidies and bigger amounts for housing.

"The overall effect on the poorer Indian community, on Coloureds and Africans, will be seriously to depress already austere living standards."

Greater frustration and tension - and worse - among Blacks would be the inevitable result, Mr Joossu said.

Mr Harry Makubre, director of Home and Family Life of the SA Council of Churches, said that with a poverty datum line somewhere between R85 and R105 a month, the meagre new Black pension of R19,50 a month was an encouragement to begging.

"The disparity between White and Black pensions is unacceptable and immoral, to say the least," he said.

He was referring to the R9 monthly increase for White pensions, compared with only R3,50 for African and R4,50 for Coloured and Indian.

"Bread and clothes cost the same for everyone. If the Government says it is moving away from discrimination, then pensions should be the same for everyone, in the country. Blacks also pay taxes," Mr Makubre said.
Plea for emergency plan to relieve blacks

PRETORIA — The high costs of basic foods and the hunger now spreading in urban black townships are important additional reasons for the seething discontent among blacks, according to authorities spoken to yesterday.

They stressed that the big rise in the price of bread — by 4c for a white loaf — added to the increased prices of other basic foods earlier this year had intensified and spread the chronic poverty conditions in the townships.

The acting director of the South African Institute of Race Relations, Mr J. Wolfson, supported a suggestion by the United Party MPC for Hillbrow, Mr D. Epstein, that emergency plans should be launched to relieve the growing distress among urban blacks.

"Surveys have shown that the average wage of an urban black family is about R60 a month. This is against a household subsistence level of nearly R180 a month."

Mr Wolfson said the consumer price index did not reflect the living costs of blacks.

He said to raise the price of bread was an "extremely untimely" move at a time of unrest and inflation.

"It is astonishing that the Government should be so insensitive to provide another source of discontent in an already inflammatory situation," Mr Wolfson said.

Mr Epstein said there was a desperate need for assistance, and in the last resort it was in the interests of whites that public funds should be diverted to relieve not only the need for food but other hardships caused by the riots.

Meanwhile, the labour intensive Transvaal clothing industry, hard hit by the high level of absenteeism caused by the Soweto unrest, fears that the costs it will have to face through lost and disrupted production could run into millions of rand.

The executives of several clothing factories said yesterday if the present conditions lasted for too much longer — "another couple of weeks will do it" — they would be facing serious cash problems — DDC.
Once a year Catholics everywhere are asked to contribute towards Mission Sunday, and this Sunday will be the 50th anniversary of its introduction. A special appeal from Pope Paul VI to support the missions will be read at all masses on Sunday.

In Cape Town, the National Director of the World Mission Aid Society, Monsignor J. Hatton will appeal on behalf of the missions at all masses in St Mary's Cathedral.

Monsignor Hatton, a Cape Town-born man, has been National Director of the Mission Society for almost 22 years. In that time he has run up a number of South African records for mileage covered and personal appeals made on behalf of the missions.

He has travelled over two and a half million miles on mission assignments and personally delivered or written 190,000 separate appeals for help. On some days he makes as many as 25 appeals in churches and schools, ranging from pulpits to puppets from school to school.

Monsignor Hatton is a regular visitor to Rome, the rest of Europe, America and many other lands, and his efforts have raised millions for the poor and the diseased throughout Africa.

By a Special Correspondent

An estimated 655 million people in the world today live — or starve — on incomes of R36 a year or less, and a further 100 million exist on marginally more.

Most of the world's starvation-level poor live in Asia, South America and Africa, and although the World Food Council (appointed by the UN General Assembly) is dedicated to reducing hunger and malnutrition, progress has been painfully slight.

One of the many church organisations that attack the poverty problem through missionary activities — and has been doing so since it was founded in 1882 — is the Roman Catholic Society for the Propagation of the Faith.

The Society has 877 mission dioceses in countries throughout the world, including Africa. Seminarians, alone in these missions, number more than 45,000.
Poorest countries worst hit by recession

PARIS. — The Third World's 40 poorest countries have been worst hit by the international recession, says the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development.

"While middle-income developing countries had been reasonably shielded from the worst effects of the recession, economic activity in the 40 poorest Third World countries (with incomes of less than $170 a head) had been hit through their inability to finance trade deficits," a report on development cooperation said.

"The sharp increase in the economic disparity among developing countries after 1973 and the bleak prospect for lower-income countries for the rest of the decade, require special efforts which have yet to be undertaken."

The report was drawn up by Mr. Maurice Williams, chairman of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee, which consists of 17 of the Western world's leading, industrialised nations and the European Common Market Commission.

Sounding an optimistic note the report said: "Despite appearances to the contrary, the conference talks of 1975-76 between the Third World and OECD countries at numerous United Nations meetings and at the conference on international economic cooperation in Paris, are reaching consensus on the important problems and on the examination of alternative solutions."

It warned, however, that understanding on important economic objectives and policies could not be achieved by some once-and-for-all "global bargain."

What was required was "a sustained effort of cooperation in adjustment of national economic policies to assure non-inflationary economic growth, particularly among the industrial countries, and to remove those constraints which prejudice the growth of developing countries." — Saps-Reuters.
Number of 'poor' whites grows

Staff Reporter

POVERTY is spreading across the colour line and affecting white families, opposition politicians and Labour leaders agreed yesterday.

Mr Jimmy Zurich, president of the Artisan Staff Association, told the Minister of Transport, Mr Louwrens Muller, this week that whites earning less than R300 a month ran a threat of becoming "poor whites."

The PRP spokesman on finance, Mr Harry Schwartz MP, said yesterday standards of living of all South Africans were falling fast.

Those most seriously affected were at the bottom of the ladder.

"The reduction in living standards of lower-paid workers in the past 12 months has been dramatic."

If the recession continued — and there was no indication yet that it had reached its lowest level — there would be a threat of an upsurge in the number of poor whites, he said.

The general secretary of the National Union of Distributive Workers, Mr Rev Altman, said most of 200,000 workers in the trade earned less than R300 a month.

More than 50,000 of the 200,000 workers were whites, more than half of them also earned less than R200.

"It takes little imagination, therefore, to realise how desperately poor some families are becoming."

The secretary of the Federation of Leather Workers, Mr Steve Scheepers, said tens of thousands of semi-skilled whites earned less than R300.

Mr Scheepers, a vice-president of the Trade Union Council of South Africa, Tucsa, agreed with Mr Zurich about poverty spreading to lower-paid whites.

"Tighter State control of prices and a trimming of profit margins in commerce and industry was the obvious answer, he said."
Whites feel the pinch of poverty

PRETORIA — Opposition politicians and labour leaders agree with the president of the Railways Artisan Staff Association, Mr. J. Zurich, that poverty is spreading across the colour line and affecting white families.

Mr. Zurich told the Minister of Transport, Mr. Muller, earlier this week that "poor whites" had become a threat among those earning less than R300 a month — and there were large numbers of them on the Railways.

The PRP spokesman on finance, Mr. Harry Schwarz, said the standards of living of all South Africans were falling fast, but those most seriously affected were at the bottom of the ladder.

"The reduction in the living standards of the lower paid workers during the past 12 months has been dramatic, and there is no indication that the bottom has been reached," he said.

The general secretary of the National Union of Distributive Workers, Mr. R. Altman, said of the 200,000 workers in the commercial distributive trade, including more than 50,000 whites, more than half earned less than R300 a month.

He agreed that the burden of rising living costs fell heaviest on the lower paid workers.

"It takes little imagination, therefore, to realise how desperately poor some families are becoming and how great is the need for relief," Mr. Altman said.

The secretary of the Federation of Leather Workers of South Africa, Mr. S. Scheepers, said there were "thousands of semi-skilled whites earning less than R300 a month.

Mr. Scheepers, a Tucoa vice-president, said Mr. Zurich was right when he said poverty was spreading to the lower paid white workers.

A tighter State control of prices and a trimming of the profit margins in commerce and industry was the obvious answer, he said — DDC.
Public apathetic on poverty—academic

Political Staff

A member of the Theron Commission today expressed disappointment at the lack of public sympathy for the "community poverty" of the coloured people as set out by the Commission.

Professor S. Terblanche of the University of Stellenbosch's economics department, said in Pretoria that it seemed the commission had failed to convince the public of that which the commission members themselves had become so intensely convinced of.

He told the "Kontak" conference on the position of the coloured people that the commission had hoped to capture the public's imagination by putting to it the concept of chronic community poverty which the coloured people suffered so strongly.

"Could it be that the prejudices and misconceptions about the coloured people go deeper than we have thought with the result that greater resistance is offered to new insights than we have thought possible?" the professor asked.

The "Kontak" conference also heard Mr. J. H. Rabie, a member of the Coloured People's Representative Council, say that an all-embracing South Africanism was needed to counter communism.

Mr. Rabie strongly criticized the Government's policy of separating whites and coloured people.

He claimed that it was an illogical separation. Nationalist policy was to separate people on the grounds of language, cultural, religious and philosophical differences, but there were not such differences between the whites and the coloured people.

To call the coloured people a separate nation or nation-making was contrary to reality.
Poverty crime wave

Bread is target

The Star approached 30 shops. Thirteen of the 30 said food had been stolen from their shops — either lifted casually or taken after their shop had been broken into.

One shopkeeper in Westdene, had caged the glass with wire mesh. A shopkeeper in Haslam Street, said the stealing of food from her shop was “getting worse — and worse now because most of the factories are closing down.”

She added: “It goes on like this all the small shopkeepers will have to close.”

A Westdene shopkeeper complained of coloured people who would just “take and run away.”

“Last week one ran away with a bag of potatoes,” he said.

A Doornfontein general dealer complained that the stealing was getting worse and worse. Twice he had had bread stolen from in front of his shop.

To Page 3, Col 5

Bill Smith and Mignonne Crozier

A new crime pattern has developed in Johannesburg which shopkeepers say springs from unemployment, poverty and hunger.

Provisions, ranging from coolers and butter to bread and potatoes have been snatched from shops.

Almost daily, waitresses carrying take-away foods are being held up.

A senior police officer said he was aware of this type of theft but did not think it was out of proportion to other crime.

However, police statistics do not reflect the true picture as many of these crimes go unreported.

Mr. A. Sequeluma, who works in a Fritchard Street Johannesburg food shop described how a man rushed into his shop and grabbed a chicken.

“He did not run away. He stood across the road and ate it. I did not go out. I was too scared. But I could see he was hungry,” he said. He finished the whole chicken in a few minutes.

“I did not phone the police. Who wants to make trouble when a hungry man steals food?”

“Poor people were lifted”

One man who was lifted by a hungry man was N. van der Merwe. He said: “I was retrenched through no fault of my own. And although I have searched I have not found a job for five months. I am getting desperate. I have sold everything we don’t need for food.”
Poverty—the quiet peril

ONE of the most disturbing aspects of The Star's report yesterday that "crimes of hunger" are increasing is that there is no way to tell how large the problem is. There are no statistics on poverty, and in particular no meaningful documentation of the extent of black unemployment.

As a result, an incident in which a man snatches a cooked chicken from across a delicatessen counter and can hardly wait until he is on the other side of the road before he begins to devour it becomes somewhat more significant; what we lack in official figures we can begin to guess at through these human cameos.

The situation is all the more serious because, although there is some hope of the economy stabilising again in the next few months, it is generally agreed that black unemployment will continue to rise for some time.

According to the Rev Dale White, director of the Agency for Industrial Mission, a preliminary survey showed that one in 10 Soweto families has no income at all, and one in four has no breadwinner. These are appalling statistics, although it is necessary to note that even these are imprecise and perhaps unreliable. The situation may be better—it could be worse.

The truth is that in the anxiety caused by the Soweto unrest we have tended to lose sight of this problem which is socially as significant and in security terms may be equally sensitive. There are a great many empty bellies, and there is, thanks to past State indifference, no way to tell how many or how to reach and help them.

It is not possible to solve this type of problem overnight. But Durban's example of coordinated effort by municipality and welfare organisations to quantify the situation and begin to deal with it effectively is a good starting point. Johannesburg needs the same sense of concern.
GENERAL SALES TAX
The poor pay more

No taxation without representation is a fundamental democratic principle. Yet the voiceless black in the "white areas" of SA will be the hardest hit by the new 4% General Sales Tax (GST) on practically all goods and services.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Current</th>
<th>GST 4%</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sh'm milk Powder (Skatula) 6 kg</td>
<td>10.17</td>
<td>10.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food Insect 1.8 kg</td>
<td>2.07</td>
<td>2.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fish 🐟 (Large, filleted) 2 kg</td>
<td>3.14</td>
<td>3.28</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eggs 1 kg (3 eggs large)</td>
<td>1.77</td>
<td>1.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheese 1 kg (llbloomil brand)</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>1.66</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fries 0 kg (66)</td>
<td>0.77</td>
<td>0.99</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fresh fruit and veg</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomatoes 14 kg</td>
<td>13.72</td>
<td>14.27</td>
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<tr>
<td>Potatoes 14 kg</td>
<td>4.66</td>
<td>4.82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apples 14 kg</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>10.92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bitter melon 3 kg (Floro yellow)</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>4.12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oil 1 ltr (Skiltoan brand)</td>
<td>97c</td>
<td>1.01</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bread white 10 pcs</td>
<td>1.50</td>
<td>1.56</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hicko bread 570 g</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>6.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar 3 kg</td>
<td>1.06</td>
<td>1.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee 0.5 kg (Pot of Gold)</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt 1 kg</td>
<td>0.24c</td>
<td>0.26c</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
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<td>92.16</td>
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FM calculations show that GST will cost a black family living at subsistence level an extra R2.78 a month — R33.36 a year — in food alone. This added burden will be only marginally lightened by the abolition of the R2.50 annual poll tax and the R20m subsidy on basic foods.

The accompanying table shows the minimum monthly diet of a family with three children under the age of 10. It is compiled from figures published by the Institute of Planning and Research at the University of Port Elizabeth in 1975. Prices are taken from the OK' branch in Johannesburg's Carlton Centre.

For families living beneath the PDL (currently R163.60 a month for a family of five in Soweto), the coming year looks bleak. The AMPS survey conducted countrywide by Market Research Africa in 1975 revealed that 63.5% of African households had less than R80 a month on which to live.
"Tipmense' in battle for survival

RUBBISH DUMP FEEDS
SCORES OF CAPE TOWN'S POOR

By MOEGSIEN WILLIAMS

SCOREs of poor people in Cape Town are digging into the municipal rubbish dump at Guguletu.

"Every day the dump becomes a hive of activity as the "Tipmense" people of the dump swarm over the filthy refuse heaps to salvage paper, tins and metal."

Many come from the surrounding townships and squatter camps and with many stray dogs they "mine" the rubbish heaps for food.

Barras

The dump is also a graveyard for dead babies — newborn and often wrapped in plastic shrouds. Several corpses are uncovered every week among the garbage.

An investigation this week showed:
1. The dump is a last resort for people who cannot find employment elsewhere.
2. The trade in rubbish is lucrative for people who need to supplement the family income.
3. An obvious health hazard exists.
4. There is physical danger to people because of the plothing bulldozer, the constant truck traffic and sharp items such as broken bottles.

The tipmense eagerly await the arrival of each rubbish load snoozed into a huge hole by a bulldozer.

Then they set to work sorting items of value.

The moneyspinner appears near to be paper, bottles, pieces of cloth, cardboard and embers.

Representatives and subcontractors of the waste-paper agencies were on site with huge containers, bartering with the collectors for their harvest of rubbish.

On the day of our visit the children were having a party because a "treasure trove of canned soft drink" was uncovered.

Money

Everyday Mrs. Johanna Allgood of Guguletu descends on the dump with her brood of seven children, in time for the first garbage truck.

When interviewed, the gap-toothed matriarch was sitting on a wooden box on top of a mound of rubbish, directing her seven "workers" and evaluating the paper, cardboard, cloth and embers.

"I've been coming here for many years because it's easy money and I'm my own boss," she said.

Pensioner

"My husband and I are DP (disability pensioners) and what we earn here means we won't starve.

"Do you expect me to work for a madam who digs out all the work she can and pays me R2.50 a day. Here I earn three times as much," said Mrs. Allgood as she stashed a R1 note, handed to her by one of her sons, into her bra.

Machine operator Andries (he refused to give his full name), was retrenched by the engineering company he had worked for and had been unemployed for four months.

"You should know there are no jobs," he said, tying a huge bundle of newspapers which he had collected over a period of 60 cents.

"I average about R4 to R6 a day and with the unemployment money I get, I'm able to keep my two children at school," he said.

Guguletu

Stanley Jordon, 16, of Matalena Road, Man-Mau, Location, Nyanga East, was crushed by a reversing truck several weeks ago as he was rummaging through a pile of rubbish.

His mother, Mrs. Luseb Jordon, said he suffered multiple fractures to his pelvis and legs. "Is there anything your newspaper can do about it?" she asked.

The Sunday Tribune tried to interview him at the G. F. Jooste Hospital in Manenberg but he was discharged a few days ago and could not be traced.

Lona Boysen, of the Crossroads squatter camp, scours the dump mainly for food.

"It's amazing the good food people throw away. I don't buy food and I support my family with the food I find here," she said, as she added another carrier bag of "goodies" to an already huge pile.

"What I don't like is when we find babies in the rubbish. People can be so cruel," she said.

The Medical Officer of Health, Dr. B. J. Cogan, said the City Council was aware of the health hazard and the possibility of people eating poisoned and toxic food.

"But there is very little that can be done to keep these scavengers away from the dump. The cleansing department tries to cover the rubbish heaps as soon as possible with sand," he said.

"The dump will be closed for good in about two months time when our new pulverizer station at Athlone comes into operation."
The merciless wave of bread-and-butter price increases — in some cases the biggest ever — have created a desperate situation for millions of consumers.

Mr and Mrs David Mtshali, of Soweto, Johannesburg, explained to the Express how their family, of six, living six months ago on a budget of R75, are now having to pay R161 a month for less than they could buy on their previous budget.

In the past few days increases in the prices of basic commodities topping 30 per cent have been announced:
- Coal: up from R1.09 a bag to R1.36
- Anthracite: up from R2.50 to R2.60 a bag
- Milk: from 23c a litre to 35c
- Other dairy products: up by 10 per cent.
- Honey: up by 30 per cent.
- Glass: 10 per cent.

Six months ago the Express visited the Mtshali family in their four-roomed home and analysed their monthly budget.

The Express visited them again this week and found that though the two eldest children are no longer living at home, the family's expenses had increased.

Six months ago Mr Mtshali spent R69 a month to feed his family of two sons aged seven and nine, and two daughters aged 11 and 17.

They now have to spend R69 a month to feed four. The two daughters are at boarding school.

Latest

This reflects the 25 per cent increase in the price of food over the past few months, but excludes the latest round of price increases.

According to the latest figures from the Planning Research Institute at the University of Port Elizabeth, an African Johannesburg family of six, with two teenage children and two children under 10, needs a minimum income of R111.21 to survive.

This amount excludes any allowance for the cost of education.
Labour Reporter

A leading economist has predicted disaster or "political change with unpredictable consequences" unless there is a reallocation of income in favour of the poor.

Mr Merton Dagut, manager of Group Economic Services of Nedbank and Syfrets-UAL Holdings, was speaking yesterday at a Black Wages Symposium held by the Institute of Personnel Management in Durban.

"Serious inflation occurs either because a fraud is being perpetrated or because a reallocation of resources and of income is being resisted, or both," Mr Dagut said.

He argued that the prospect of an easing in inflation next year presupposed that a reallocation of income had taken place, with the real incomes of the poor having risen.

EXACERBATED

The maldistribution of income in South Africa was already a source of tension. This was being exacerbated by the high rate of inflation, coupled with the income-squeezing effect of the economic slowdown.

If a reallocation did not occur, "the pleasant picture must be discarded in favour of either a disaster scenario or one of political change with unpredictable consequences," Mr Dagut said.

Mr Wells Ntuli said inflated White wages could not be justified in terms of the contribution made by these people. Heavily inflated wages for people such as artisans represented the greatest obstacle to a redistribution in income.
Hungry children

Like many other people I have been worried for a long time about the growing unemployment, especially among our black citizens, with the inevitable starvation (or semi-starvation) which must be following. I was particularly made aware of the need, and probable solution by three things. The first was an article in a week-end paper about the number of children who have to go to bed hungry, every night. The second was that I was involved in two dinner parties and one braai party in three days. The third is referred to later in this letter.

My dinner parties made me wonder how many other overfed people in this city care about the situation, and whether we couldn't do something to make people aware of the need.

In a welfare state this would be a problem for the Government to deal with, but in this country if anything is done it will have to be done by service clubs and welfare organisations.

From long involvement in the Mayor's School Feeding Scheme I know what wonderful work that organisation does, and at all costs this must be maintained. But it is the pre-school children who are most in need of help. The most crucial time in the life of a child is from weaning to six or seven years before they start school. If they are inadequately nourished in these tender years they cannot grow up into strong and healthy adults.

I am well aware of the difficulties, but the position is getting worse by the day, particularly, with the advent of sales tax and something must be done quickly.

I therefore appeal to your paper to start a "Save the Children" Fund, and to the various Rotary, Round Table and Lions Clubs to combine to control the organisation. To be successful it will have to be on the biggest and broadest scale possible.

My wife and I will give R100 to start the fund, and there must be literally hundreds of people who could afford to give a like amount, in our affluent society, and thousands who could give smaller amounts. And few would dispute this if they had stood with me while street collecting on Saturday morning outside a bottle store in a shopping complex. There was no shortage of cash for liquor. As trolley loads of bottles and cases passed me, the thought passed through my mind that if we could only get ten — or possibly even five — per cent of what is spent on liquor every week, very few children would need to go to bed hungry.

This is a desperately serious matter. Unless these children are adequately fed we shall be breeding a generation of malnourished and discontented people, and in later years will have to find many times the amount of money needed now to provide hospitals and other medical care for a generation which will be stunted (mentally and physically), unhappy and rebellious.

[Signature]
SURVIVAL IS THE AIM AS STARVING FAMILY IS TAUGHT TO LIVE ON R37 A MONTH

By GARY NORTON

For the first time in many years the Hungwane family of Soweto knows where its next meal is coming from.

Smiling, but with tears in their eyes, the four members of the family greeted me this week when I visited their modest, humble home at the start of a month-long survival programme which the Sunday Express and the Transvaal branch of the Kangani Nutrition Corporation have set up for them.

The family, which is without any source of income, consists of 52-year-old Mr William Hungwane, who is a carpenter, his wife, Noma, their two daughters, Phila, 16, who is unable to find work, and her three-year-old baby sister, Nyele.

But suddenly there is hope for the Hungwane family.

As a direct result of last week's article in the Sunday Express the Domestic Community Health Clinic has stepped in to investigate the family's living conditions and with a group of health officials at the clinic have interviewed Mr Hungwane about the problems he has to claim for the past few years and they will make representations on his behalf to the Social Administration Board in Soweto.

The article has also brought a small flood of donations from warm-hearted Sunday Express readers.

Today, Mr Hungwane was offered the help of everyone who has played a part in "saving his family from hunger and despair".

"I'm quite happy," he said.

Mrs Hungwane said: "Now our family can stay together instead of having to spend the day searching for food!"

Sarah added: "I have food at night because I know Grace will be there to provide it."

The most immediate ray of hope came when Kangani Survival Programme Director, Mr. Tsebe, visited the family and explained to the mother who is seeking work that help is on the way.

For the Hungwane family the food basket has been set at a mere R5,25, which is being supplied by Kangani for the experiment. At this point the government's, or rather, on "pure survival" basis.

All members of the family will be weighed at weekly intervals and it is expected that they will show marked improvements in weight by the end of the second week.

On Monday, a cooked meal was taken to the Hungwane family by Miss Mantoelile Mahlanga, Kangani's nutrition advisor, and the diet was explained to them.

"First they couldn't believe their eyes. To see a cooked meal after months of going hungry without made them all very eye-openers," said Miss Mahlanga.

"The family became very happy with me straight away. For the first time, I can see that there are people in this country who really care what happens to people.

"During this first week of the diet, Miss Mahlanga will stay with the family every morning and night, helping them to understand how to prepare and cook food, and advising on dietary deficiencies they may have access to.

"Our biggest problem so far is the lack of an adequate place to cook. There is no chimney in the small house and carbon dioxide is released in dangerous amounts if the cooking is done indoors," said Miss Mahlanga.

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

1 kg Lambitsete R14.85
1 kg Milk Powder R15.98
1 kg Beans R10.98
3 Laves R1.46
1.5 kg Milkmeal R1.48
1 kg Bunch Sausage R8.28
1 kg Parmesan Cheese R1.85
1 kg Mince R1.32
1 kg Broth stock R1.40
400 g Soup R1.32
330 g Cooking Oil R1.78
2 L Magarine R1.76
1 L Buttermilk R1.78
4 g Salt R1.99
500 g Tomatoes R1.60
1 kg Olives R3.36
Sub-total R34.14
4 L "Butterfly" R27.16
TOTAL R61.26

Hlungwanes know there will be a next meal

The diet consists of these basic food types - carbohydrates, fats and oils, body-building protein, and protien-rich foods, mainly vegetables.

"For the remaining three weeks the Hungwane family will now have the following food schedule:"n
BREAKFAST
- Lambitsete
- Milkmeal
- Milk powder
- Beans
- Parmesan cheese
- Parmesan sauce
- Milk
- Broth stock
- Soup
- Cooking oil
- Magarine
- Buttermilk
- Salt
- Tomatoes
- Olives

LUNCH
- Porridge and butter in sauces on Monday and Saturday, porridge and mince on Tuesday and Friday, protein rich and porridge on Wednesday, with dagga vegetables on Thursday, and porridge and soup on Sunday night.

"Miss Mahlanga has explained that the experimental family preferred bread to porridge but the preference or choice of the family is always taken into account," said Miss Mahlanga.

"Miss Mahlanga will construct the family in the art of planning for a low budget: once they have their own regular income.

Because of this, donations of foodstuffs received from Sunday Express readers will be stored until the end of the training period and then handed to the Hungwane family.

Donations of money have been used to pay for the arrears in rent, buy household necessities and enable the Hungwane family to put on clean clothing for the first time in years.

But fired-up and coal are still desperately needed.

"Miss Mahlanga said the affectional family preferred porridge to bread, and their clothing don't the budget out of season.

"But then, of course, they were always hungry so I have a feeling that it won't be a safe guard," said Miss Mahlanga.

The amount of R61.26 for foodstuffs was calculated by Miss Mahlanga on the base of what was enough.
EXPERIMENT IN SURVIVAL

Food brings back the laughter

By JENNIFER HYMAN

week that the family is gaining weight "There is laughter in the house now. When I first visited the house, the family was hopelessly depressed. "Now there is activity and conversation. "Our most pressing problem is still inadequate cooking facilities," she said. The cooking at present is being done on a brazier, which is neither healthy nor satisfactory. "What the family really need is a coal stove."

The emphasis in the survival diet is on selection of foods and their preparation. Favourite meal is supper, which, on two nights of the week, consists of ncome with onions and tomatoes, and on one night, of protein stew, said Miss Mahlangu.

This week the organization Grow, which teaches impoverished families to grow their own vegetables, began establishing a small vegetable patch in the Hungwe backyard. However, it will be some weeks before the success of this experiment is seen. Ideally though, the Hungwanes could provide vegetables not only for themselves, but also small surplus which they could sell.

The family, which is without any source of income at all, consists of 70-year-old Mr William Hungwe, a tuberculous sufferer, his wife Janga, 66, their widowed daughter, Sarah, 26, who has still not found a job, and her three-year-old daughter Grace.

They were chosen for the experiment because they are representative of thousands of families who struggle to survive well below the poverty datum line.

Sunday Express reports of their progress are already having a ripple effect. Clinics and organizations concerned with basic nutrition have asked for more information about the survival programme to assist other families in a similar plight.

Miss Manikekulu Mahlangu, the Hungwe nutrition expert who is monitoring the Hungwe's return to health, reported that...
No. 20

SO\(\text{TENOR, AND BASS SOLOS AND CHORUS.} \) THE KING OF LOVE.

Key C.

1st Baritone - Male Voice.

2nd Soprano - Female Voice.

Tenor Solo.

Instrumental.

The King of Love my Shepherd is, Whose

Copyright, 1807, by C. D. Simper.

Chorus

Key C.

THE KING OF LOVE.

Copyright, 1807, by C. D. Simper.
By Rev Samuel Tshla who helped off-load the products into his church storeroom, said: "There are many in this area who have lost their jobs. People who could not normally afford these things now can"

Juha, his wife, painted a picture of gloom as she described her small community. "People are in arrears with their rent. Children whose parents cannot afford to buy them school books and clothes are not sending their children to school," she said.

Statistics from the World Vision Children's Fund for the year 1983 show that 12,000 children in the town are in need of help. Of every ten, nine are unemployed. The statistics also indicate that 90% of the children are suffering from malnutrition.

World Vision believes in making the Gospel visible through words and action. At present they are buying up to 30 to 40 tons of produce, costing about R800, every week.

They are now negotiating with the Johannesburg City Council for a store where produce waiting for transport can be kept. They will make the depot available to other charitable institutions.

VITAPALESTRAIN

OPERATION "Feed Me" has been combating hunger, and would normally distribute food among the poor for the past four months on the Rand. The operation comes out of the organisation's "Feed Me" programme, the brainchild of the late, SA-born, Rev Samuel Tshla who recognized the need for food assistance among the unemployed and destitute in the area.

"Feed Me" was initiated in direct response to a request from the Rand Daily Mail, which sought assistance for the poor in the area. The programme was derived from the experience of the World Vision Children's Fund, which运行 "Feed Me" in the Rand. The fund is a member of the World Vision International network.

Since the programme was launched, statistics indicate that more than 12,000 children have benefited from the programme's activities. The fund is also working with the Rand Daily Mail to ensure that the programme continues to operate.

The fund is appealing to the community to make donations to ensure that the programme continues to operate. Contributions can be made through the "Feed Me" fund or through the World Vision Children's Fund.

The fund is also appealing to the community to make donations to ensure that the programme continues to operate. Contributions can be made through the "Feed Me" fund or through the World Vision Children's Fund.
Be a next meal know there's Hiong Swanes

Three members of the Hiongswane family in their new home: they're taking part in an exercise in nutrition.

The Sunday Express 18.01.1976
know there'll be a next meal

WHERE THE MONEY GOES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit Cost (R)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lambchops</td>
<td>0.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mashed potatoes</td>
<td>0.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned corn</td>
<td>0.20</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biscuits</td>
<td>0.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grilled corn</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canned peas</td>
<td>0.40</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grilled vegetables</td>
<td>0.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grilled meat</td>
<td>0.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grilled vegetables</td>
<td>0.30</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grilled bread</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grilled vegetables</td>
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<td>Salad</td>
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<td>Grilled meat</td>
<td>0.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grilled vegetables</td>
<td>0.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>11.90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The diet consists of three basic food types - carbohydrates, fats and oils, and proteins. The diet allows for a wide variety of foods, including fruits, vegetables, and grains.

BREAKFAST
- Grilled meat
- Grilled vegetables
- Grilled bread
- Grilled eggs
- Grilled vegetables

LUNCH
- Grilled meat
- Grilled vegetables
- Grilled bread
- Grilled eggs
- Grilled vegetables

DINNER
- Grilled meat
- Grilled vegetables
- Grilled bread
- Grilled eggs
- Grilled vegetables

Snacks
- Grilled meat
- Grilled vegetables
- Grilled bread
- Grilled eggs
- Grilled vegetables

In conclusion, the diet provides a balanced and nutritious meal plan that includes a variety of foods.

What you gave

Donations of money, blankets, clothes, and food were received by the weekly donor, who said, "I'm happy to help!

More donations were received from the public, including food and clothing. One donor, M. J. Smith, donated 100 blankets.

The total cost of the donations was R7.90 for foodstuffs, which was calculated by Miss Mahlangu on the basis of the cost of each item.
POVERTY - General

30-5-79 - 11-12-79

241

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Own Correspondent

MARTIZBURG — Malnutrition and starvation among pupils of all races has produced a crisis situation in some Natal schools.

Teachers at some black schools in the Martizburg area have been shocked to find pupils eating newspapers to still their hunger pangs.

And at one white school in the province, teachers found many of their pupils losing concentration towards mid-morning, and falling asleep at their desks, after being fed a breakfast with no nutritional value.

Zululand schools were in a "distressing" situation because of drought and the resultant crop failures and cattle deaths.

Pupils at coloured and Indian schools in the Durban and Martizburg areas were not much better off than their counterparts in other schools.

A coloured high-school has introduced a "sandwich scheme." Sandwiches are left by the pupils at their school and later taken to a coloured primary school nearby for the younger pupils who have no food.

According to one authority the blame did not lie with the departments of education involved but rested with the economic position and unemployment.
Is the Year of the Child a big flop?

By Laurence Tutu

EAST LONDON — The Year of the Child could be heading for failure.

According to Dr Trudi Thomas, the year was supposed to highlight the needs of the child — but it is not being done.

She said in an interview some business houses had seen the Year of the Child as a means and opportunity to advertise expensive clothes, instead of concentrating on the real needs of the child.

Disillusionment was creeping in. Nothing much had been done and the year was almost half spent. The year was meant mostly for needy children.

Dr Thomas said for a child to have adequate nutrition his father must have a job. Equal distribution of jobs was basic and essential. Everybody talked about ignorance as if the black man did not know his own needs.

Where would he get milk from when he had no source of income? Forty per cent of children were undernourished and 75 per cent of the school-going children were undernourished.

"We are busy pushing up the price of milk instead of subsidising it," Dr Thomas said.

Some children had developed chronic kwashiorkor. The major problem with malnutrition was it recurred in children went back to the same conditions.

Comprehensive health services were needed, health education, lessons in nutrition, mobile clinics and so on. The community, in the person of the health services, should step in where the parent, grandmother or guardian had failed. "You can tell people what good food to cook and eat but without the ingredients what were they going to do?" Dr Thomas said.

When a mother came in with a sick, undernourished child, speak to her patiently and explain the cause of sickness, how to cure it and how a recurrence can be avoided instead of telling her how stupid she was.

Dr Thomas's husband, Dr I. Harris, said, "Every underweight child is entitled to a packet of milk a week."

"There is need to educate doctors and nurses to prescribe this milk. The milk is provided by the government for the child in the Republic as well as in the Casket.

"It is also imperative that nursing sisters be supervised by qualified medical officers at the clinics as they are unable to detect malnutrition in its early stages," he said.

"By the time they see it, it has ravaged the child."

Because most got sick from undernourishment, the tendency was to regard every problem as medical even when a social worker should have taken over.

The day-to-day situations could upset her.

"It is a fallacy that you grow hard," Dr Thomas said. "A woman came in barefooted, thin and ill and said, 'I have never had a child like this in my life. I have eight children.

The father went to Johannesburg nine months ago and has never written a single letter.

"One can blame the migrant labour system for the kind of breakdown in family communication. You find a child sucking a breast which is probably dry and no better than a dummy.

"It is heartbreaking to read anxiety on the face of a three-month-old baby whose eyes desperately plead with you for food. People should stop quoting 2 billion starving children in the world.

Each country, region or community can solve its problems by concentrating on its immediate surroundings.

"If you say there are 2,000 starving children in Duncan Village and 20,000 affluent people in East London, the problem can be solved if the 20,000 people with food and money concentrate on Duncan Village and help relieve the suffering.

"White farmers in the 1940s had the same problem and started trekking to the climes to look for work. About 40 per cent of white children were undernourished those days."

But Dr Harris said: "Mantansane had improved tremendously. There were more malnutrition cases from Duncan Village, Kwela, Moolplaas, the coastal area than Mantansane."
FACES OF POVERTY—CAUSE FOR ALARM

TODAY The Star features several articles which reflect diverse faces of poverty in South Africa. They deal with poverty in the "resettlement areas" of the Eastern Cape, rural slums where malnutrition and disease are a daily fact of life; poverty in the heart of Johannesburg, where hungry blacks rummage amid garbage bins in the shadow of the new Stock Exchange, the very symbol of the "Golden City." We highlight, too, one of the direct contributory causes of this poverty—a tougher new application of influx control policy.

Some five weeks ago the Government amended the law which discourages employers from making use of unregistered or "illegal" black workers. The fine was sharply increased from R100 to R500 (or three months' imprisonment). The intention, officially, was that preference should be given to "legal" but unemployed people. The result appears to be rather different. Effectively it shows signs of frightening employers, shrinking the reservoir of available jobs and pushing up the number of unemployed.

OUT OF SIGHT

Some of these jobless people stay on stubbornly in cities like Johannesburg, where there is at least some chance of work—or of food from the rubbish bins of the more affluent. The majority have no option but to return to the homelands, where there are virtually no jobs: to places like the "un hospitable "resettlement areas" where, as we report today, hunger is ever-present. Such areas have never been paradises. But the effect of the new policy is to cram yet more people into these human dumping grounds.

Unemployment, in other words, is being pushed out of the sight of white South Africa. It cannot...must not...be pushed out of mind.

One would like to accept that Mr P W Botha's administration is adopting a more humane attitude towards urban blacks and the pass laws which so comprehensively dominate their lives. Or at least that it is being more pragmatic and realistic about the problem. Yet the measures now being applied are far more likely to worsen race relations rather than ease them.

We can accept that Dr Piet Koornhof and the Prime Minister are sincere in their desire to phase out the pass laws. But the human reality is regrettably something different. The poor and the unemployed have always been with us, in the cities as in the rural areas. What is happening today, however, is that their numbers are being augmented, tragically, through direct intervention by the machinery of the same State which makes these high-minded promises. Worse, the machinery does not record or reflect the human misery that its shortsighted ideological administration inflicts.

ULTRA-LEGALISTIC

In its ultra-legalistic application of the pass laws the Administration seems to be repeating some earlier mistakes, on a tragically larger scale. Possibly the Cabinet, like much of the electorate, are ignorant of the results. They MUST not be. There are alarm bells now, warning the Government to make the actions of the State machine fit the words of Cabinet spokesmen.
We are suffering in the land of our birth

Stop calling people informers

SIR — There is something that really disturbs me going on among blacks which needs urgent attention.

I am talking about people being called informers. I do not say informers are not there but for God's sake, let us stop playing into the hands of the enemy.

There is very much of that. It is not a good thing to label an innocent person an informer. It is a false assumption that I know of people here in Port Elizabeth who have been labelled informers with no evidence whatsoever.

One thing that must be made clear is that what we will never, I repeat, never be equal. Jealousy really blinds one. 

I wish you could add to what I have said as I am sure you are quite aware of this.

MURIMISI SIMON MAKARINGE
Tshawelo.

COM'ON MIKE YOUR BURDEN IS ALSO OUR BURDEN

SIR — I read with great interest the letter written by Mr. Madloko in which he appeals to South Africans about the matter concerning leader of Soweto and the Committee of Ten.

Mike, I would like to inform you that we in Umthato are as good (or as bad) as people of Soweto. In other words, don't be misled by the fact that we are 'independent' and think that what concerns you over there doesn't concern us. After all we have relatives there — brothers, sisters and grandparents. Everybody knows that 'independence' for us has brought poverty and shame.

We have been despised by our brothers in other parts of the country because of the wrongs done by our so-called leaders. Come on Mike, don't despise us, we are your brothers after all. You burden is our burden.

C. ZILINDILE
Umtata

How about some more sweet cakes?

SIR — I write in full support of Mr. Gumbi's letter in SUNDAY POST on July 22

You should have realised by now that many readers of this paper are asking and pleading for the re-birth of the Postscript column which has been silenced for a long time by yourself, sir.

There has been so much public demand for this, yet you are turning a blind eye to your readers' letters.

You are regarded as one of the foremost editors of our times who knows how and when to please the average reader.

Please, Mr. Editor, do not disappoint us. We tasted a few of your cakes. How about some more?

ABBEY BONDIN
Odendaalsrus
Teachers should stop enforcing school uniforms.

SIR — Through your columns, I would like to express my sincere gratitude towards the action taken by SUN-DAY POST in publishing the parents' grievances regarding the enforcement of uniforms at schools. This really shows that SUN-DAY POST is not only interested in publishing news for fun but it does sympathise with us, black parents.

I do hope the culprits, who punish our children for not having school uniforms, have noted the warning from Mr G. White. It is disappointing that sympathy towards us is shown by a white man whereas our fellow black teachers and principals are the ones trying to lead us to unnecessary bankruptcy.

What we, as parents, are concerned about is seeing our children producing good results at the end of the year. So please, dear teachers, just concentrate on teaching our children and stop enforcing uniforms. It seems to me too much time is being spent in enforcing uniforms instead of teaching.

STEPHEN BALOYI
Meadowlands.
HUNGRY CHILDREN

A COMPARISON OF POVERTY

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Where a wage packet is R0,00

FACTORIES at the Ciskel homeland industrial showplace, Dimbaza, are paying their workers starvation wages.

A SUNDAY POST probe has revealed that there was a lot of discontent about the low wages paid to women. But women were scared to talk about them for fear of losing their jobs.

The workers cannot afford to lose their jobs because there are many unemployed people in the district who would gladly fill their places.

And at a factory, the SUNDAY POST investigation found piecework employees were not paid last month because "they did not produce enough".

Chief Lemox Sebe, head of the Ciskel, has campaigned for industrialization in his territory, not more than any homeland leader.

Dimbaza Overall, owned by German-speaking Mr Edmar Krull, pays female labourers R3.50 a week as a starting wage plus a great attendance bonus.

The starting wage for female machinists is R4.50, which includes the attendance bonus.

Men are started at R9 a week.

Mr Krull refuses to discuss what his factory paid its labourers.

On Friday afternoon last week SUNDAY POST met sad faces from Ranger Carpets' workers going home empty-handed.

They said they had not been paid because, they had been told, they had not produced enough. They did not know what their exact pay was and said they were usually paid R5 each week as a loan and paid a few rand and the end of the month.

The manager of Ranger Carpets, Mr Radloff, said his workers were paid on piecework monthly. They were given a R5 loan for "pocket money" every week and, in the last week of the month, their piecework was added up.

As asked about the women who were not paid on Friday he said: "These girls are loafting. You know yourself that, if you work in a factory and are paid on piecework, you must work because, if you do not, you do not get money."

A woman worker at Tribal Handweavers said they started work at seven in the morning and worked until eight in the evening except on Fridays.

"Pay depends on productivity. I was employed in 1977 and the highest I have earned in a week is R19. Most of the time it is less."

A spokesman for Tribal Handweavers said workers were paid on piecework. Weavers and cutters were paid different rates per square metre. The best weaver was paid about R35 a week and the worst about R16.
‘Stupid’ — or starved?

Focus on

SOCIETY

The study started in June 1955 when Dr Stoch decided medical research would best enable her to combine her chosen profession with her desire to have a large family.

"Although I wanted to do research, I could not muster much enthusiasm for Prof Smythe's original suggestion that I collect data on height/weight figures. Then he remembered an idea he had while watching the cattle on his farm.

By WILLIAM SAUNDIERSON-MEYER

"He had noticed that if calves of a fast-growing breed were deprived of adequate nourishment during their early life, they never caught up to the size reached by the slow-growing breed.”

From this, Prof Smythe formulated the hypothesis that the human brain, which has its major postnatal development during the first two years of life, would be most vulnerable to the effects of undernutrition during this period.

Work started in June 1955 with a group of 20 severely undernourished infants, controlled with 20 better nourished infants matched for sex, age, socio-economic status and race.

The groundwork and pilot study took four years to complete.

When the first findings were published after five years, they were hailed as a pioneering work. The research is still continuing.

"Research techniques have improved and we have become more critical and demanding, but the original hypothesis postulated by Prof Smythe has been proved absolutely correct," said Dr Stoch.

"Improved food intake after the first two years of life may still improve brain tissue damage there is gross cognitive impairment which is manifested in learning and perceptual difficulties.

"The originally undernourished children have lower verbal IQs, less spatial and analytical skill defective visual-motor height and weight but the stunting of head size is irreversible. Although there is no evidence of motor co-ordination and disturbed body concepts.

"For example a 16-year-old teenager had the same perceptual level as a child starting school.

"They have less social maturity and have difficulty in forming long-term relationships and coping with societal demands.

None of them has gone beyond standard seven at school, as opposed to seven of the control group who reached matric and another three who did post-matric studies. None of them is classified as a skilled or professional worker.

"It also seems as though girls in an impoverished environment are damaged more than boys. The girls in the control group lagged behind the boys in educational progress, physical growth, and cognitive development."

"This may be a combination of a number of factors. Girls mature more rapidly than boys and thus may be more vulnerable to under-nutrition during the critical growth periods it may be because of less motivation, linked to their personal value systems, or because of the lower parental and societal expectations of girls.

"The obvious tragedy is that these women are now the mothers of another generation. These men are fathers trapped in low-income jobs from which there is no hope of advancement. They are plummeting along a spiral of deprivation," she said.

None of these people is State-assisted or is any different from his peers in outward appearance. There is no way of realizing, without extensive testing, that they are actually severely handicapped. This is something that every employer, especially of blacks, should remember.

Dr Stoch said nutritional supplements should be provided to the mother in the third trimester of pregnancy (28 weeks to birth) and to the infant child until it reached the weight of the average two-year-old child.

"All these women go to clinics, but even if they are not gaining weight adequately, they are not, to the best of my knowledge, given any food supplements. Since undernourished mothers do not lactate for very long, the infant is thus also deprived of mothers' milk," she said.
On the street where

the people who live "on

the look in words and pictures to

the winter glass things a
city like Jonemapping during a

and down-and-out surviving in a

How do the beggars, tramps

others

"we" and "they".
With ten days' worth of stubble on my chin I dressed in ragged shirt, pants and a decaying jacket. The tokens of my "disability" were a crutch and an orthopaedic caliper (a souvenir of my motorcycle crackup) clamped to my leg.

Parking myself next to the department store's main door I "passed out" with a suitably battered hat upturned to entice the pennies from heaven.

As I waited I recalled the story which had inspired my investigation.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle wrote a Sherlock Holmes story, "The man with the twisted lip," in which a Fleet Street journalist decides to disguise himself as a deformed derelict to investigate how much a beggar earns. He finds that he can make more than his journalist's salary and takes to the street.

My own rewards were less than spectacular. Contributions were slow and never amounted to more than 20¢ per person.

Interesting responses came from the people who would notice me, but refuse to "see" me or meet my eye.

A reverend gentleman resplendent in dog collar and crucifix actually crossed over to the other side of the pavement to avoid me. The people who weren't afraid of eye contact with such a miserable being were children and blacks.
Hungry get leftovers

PORT ELIZABETH — The Rev George Molefe, recently given an honorary doctorate at Fort Hare University, has lived and worked among local township blacks for decades and knows that hundreds of them go to bed with almost empty stomachs.

Unable to sleep comfortably himself when he knew so many were hungry, Dr Molefe approached the manager of a beachfront hotel and suggested that leftover food could stave off starvation among many families in the townships.

The manager readily fell in with his suggestion that the leftovers should be collected and sent to the townships.

Every morning a long queue forms in his yard at Jolobo Street as early as 6.15 a.m. to await a lorryload of food in clean cartons.

Food is dished out by Dr Molefe’s wife, Mrs Jane Molefe, and happy mothers go home to feed their children before school. The mothers work in town.

The manager of the hotel nearly dropped the scheme after a week because of a petrol shortage. But Dr Molefe persuaded him to pitty the hungry.

The queue is growing longer daily, according to Dr Molefe, who criticised affluent blacks for not lending a hand by at least providing much-needed transport.

Dr Molefe plans to approach other hotels in Port Elizabeth:

“This feeding scheme could also embrace KwaZakhele and Zwitde so that very few children would go to school hungry,” he said.

Mr Donald Gonya, who is employed by a butcher at Zwitde, is critical of the careless attitude of organisations which receive millions of rands from local firms and from overseas to alleviate the suffering of the blacks.

“Pride and modesty aside, my people are starving, and small wonder because thousands are unemployed,” said Mr Gonya.

He said with the millions of rands that were accumulating, soup kitchens could be built in the townships to feed the poor.

“This is done in welfare states and our condition is no better than that of the starving people in these states.”

DDL

Professor J.F. Broek
Mnr C.S. Corder
Professor W.H. E. Dow
Dr J.P. Dumas
Professor G.F.R. Ellis
Bishop A.N. Habeljaarn
Mnr E.V.E. Humes
Professor M.F. Kaplan
Dr R.A. Linneman
Mnr G.R. Lindsay
Sir Richard Lutet
Professor S.J. Saunders
Professor H.W. van der Hersen
Nede-professor D.J. Welsh
Professor Monica Wilson

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PM will witness Soweto poverty

The Prime Minister, Mr P.W. Botha, will see the harsh realities of poverty, poor housing and unemployment when he visits Soweto on Friday.

Mr. David Thebehali, chairman of the Soweto Council, said today that he would confront the Prime Minister during his visit with the "burning issues" which face the townships.

Mr. Thebehali and his counterparts in the Doornkloof and Dobsonville councils have been caught up in a wave of protests against the proposed rent increases.

Mr. Thebehali said he would explain to Mr. Botha the problems his council, and the Soweto people face because of the lack of revenue.

"I will put things in their proper perspective," he said.

Sources in the Soweto Council say Mr. Thebehali will ask for a Government subsidy to save the services in the townships which are on the brink of collapse.

Other important issues are:
- The 99-year leasehold scheme
- Unemployment
- An estimated shortage of more than 20,000 houses.
- Necessary commercial developments within the townships.

At one of many recent protest meetings in Soweto at the weekend, residents demanded that the Prime Minister show the poorer side of the townships, not only the well-off suburbs.

Mr. Botha and members of the Cabinet are to address a residents' meeting outside the Soweto Council chambers, where Mr. Thebehali is expected to make his speech calling for Government action.

Later today Mr. Thebehali said the three Soweto

SA to be hit by food strike

Thousands of South Africans will go hungry for 40 hours from 8 pm on Friday, October 19, in a bid to alleviate the suffering of tens of thousands of malnourished children.

The 48 Hour Famine has been organised by World Vision of Southern Africa, to help threatened South Africans identify with hungry and malnourished children in this land.

World Vision of SA's executive director, Ron Brautseht, said yesterday his organisation was seeking support groups of people to join the Famine for 40 hours.

"They will be asked to obtain the support of up to 36 sponsors who will pay a minimum of 10 cents for each hour each participant goes without food."

"Of course, they must meet at least one meal to be eligible."

Mr Brautseht said the 40 Hour Famine could be described as a Big Walk for Tummies.

WINDFALL

R400 million was added to survey ourselves. After sending out 5,400 forms we now have a clearer picture of the areas of need. Each survey respondent has claimed aid from the Fund in 1989, and so far these claims total over R1.4 million, on behalf of more than 400,000 malnourished children.

The 48 Hour Famine will raise funds for feeding programmes to meet these needs — both for programmes that are already established, and those who lack the resources to start. Each programme will be carefully monitored by a panel of independent nutritionists.

These programmes will be established among hungry people — from Windhoek in the West to KwaZulu in the East, from The Cape Peninsula to the Northern Transvaal.
It is well stated by Wittman and Hansen.

The major problem of malnutrition is not reflected by the incidence of kwashiorkor but by the incidence of severe gastro-enteritis in malnourished children. Pneumonia may also be related to malnutrition, while measles, whooping cough, or without complicating pneumonia, definitely is.

Some hospitals in the Eastern Cape are now reporting that one in four black babies born in the area now face death before they are 12 months old.

The Medical Journal concludes: "The real problem lies in the successful development and application of programmes to reduce the infant mortality rates of colostrums and the black population in South Africa as a whole."

Furthermore, the problem is of such magnitude that no one government department can tackle it on its own. We, as concerned South Africans, should not let our Health Year pass by without making some impact on the most lethal disease among our children.

We pay cheques after July this year, in the form of tax cuts.

It has been suggested that the tax-paying public could share something of this windfall with the thousands upon thousands of malnourished children in South Africa.

GUNS OR CHILDREN

The UN Declaration of the Child states that, "Mankind owes the child the best he can give."

Today, 30 years later, the facts about the world’s most valuable possession are:

- There are about 1.5-billion children in the world.
- About 5-million children are refugees.
- 15-million die before their fifth birthday.
- 700-million don’t have safe drinking water.
- 500-million are threatened by malnutrition.
- 150-million live in slums.

For the estimated cost of a new mobile intercontinental missile, 50-million malnourished children could be adequately fed. Herbert Bhola, head of World Vision’s Childcare programme in Southern Africa, says, "Comparisons may be obscene but when one considers the disparity between our investment in the coming generation, on the one hand, and the lethal instruments of destruction on the other, it is not hard to agree with those who conclude that the world society is now extremely sick - if not insane."

For a brief 40 hours we will share the burdens of the hungry, identify with them, and raise money to help them.

The 40-Hour Fast is the annual fund-raising project of World Vision, aimed at mobilizing public compassion and resources to wipe out malnutrition in Southern Africa. The money collected will be used to run feeding schemes for hungry children of all races, and community nutrition training programmes to benefit the children of tomorrow.

All projects will be controlled by responsible local organizations.

You should eat a spoonful of honey or barley sugar every four hours, and during the period drink fruit juice, water, tea or coffee.

Pro Marius Barnard offers this advice: "For an average, fit person a 40 hour fast should harm no one. However, it is advisable for those who have recently undergone surgery, pregnant women, people with a history of diabetes, gastritis or duodenal ulcer, heart disease or severe kidney complaint. Children under ten should not go without food for 40 hours. If in doubt consult your local doctor."

It costs R1 000 a month to treat a malnourished child in hospital in South Africa. A month for fortified milk powder would prevent treatment - Dr Trudy Thomas, East London.

TID-BITS

Vagrant children are often seen fighting with baboons for scraps of food on municipal rubbish dumps outside Windhoek. - WV representative.

When asked what she did when she was not able to borrow food, a little Ciskei girl told an Anglican Bishop recently, "We drink water to fill our tummies." - Rapport.

Over the past three years the South African population has been increasing at the rate of 3% per year. Yet the purchase of food has dropped by 5.7% per year - RDM August 29.

A Cape Flats survey of 4,369 children under the age of three revealed that more than one third were underweight and living in homes with incomes below the poverty level. - Cape Flats Mission.
Thousands are starving in South Africa

Own Representative

Early today — exhausted relief workers, doctors and nurses right across South Africa were preparing to renew their battle against malnutrition and associated diseases, which could claim the lives of up to 100 000 children under the age of five during the next 12 months.

Most of the hospitals serving SA's rural areas report that their pediatric beds are mainly filled today with children suffering from malnutrition. In some cases little boys are lying under the beds as there is no room on top.

Some concerned medical workers confess that they have broken down under the stress of watching little lives slip away.

This year, an estimated 12 million people across the globe will die from malnutrition and related starvation — making it easily the biggest killer in mankind's history.

It is a tragedy, that deaths from this cause are a daily occurrence right here in South Africa, with all our wealth and resources. The twin ravages of destitution and unemployment have produced a situation where malnutrition abounds.

TIME BOMB!

Government statistics show that the consumption of staple products like maize and wheat has dropped over the past three years — because more and more South Africans can least afford to eat. Unless food prices are contained, the expectation is that the rate of inflation could reach 17% by the end of the year. As one leading economist puts it: "We are sitting on a time bomb.'"

That this should be happening in a country where extravagant eating habits have caused an alarming rise in heart disease in recent years, and turned pubs into a national pastime. National newspapers and magazines run slimming advertisements every day — all within the sight of sections of the community who don't know where tomorrow's meal is coming from. In fact, children eat newspapers to still their hunger pains.

Doctors, now frustrated by the fact that children they've from death, go back to live under the same social conditions that brought them into hospital in the first place, are calling for national action towards prevention.

Four weeks ago a group of Johannesburg doctors called a meeting of concerned people to start a concerted programme to deal with this national problem. They felt that because of "hidden" causes the incidence of TB was in fact about twice as high as the figures released, and that the Department of Health had called for co-operation in combating the disease which causes morbidity and mortality to so many millions of South Africans. TB is basically a disease of malnutrition, poor socioeconomic conditions and ignorance.

Recently, unemployment has hit the rate, very. Some hospitals in the Eastern Cape report that more than 50% of the children in their area are suffering from malnutrition.

Although there are many existing feeding schemes, particularly in metropolitan areas, these organisations are, faced with rising food costs and increasing numbers of children needing help. In order to focus the attention of the nation on this crisis, World Vision launched the Hungry Children's Fund during July. The money accumulated by this Fund will be made available to organisations right across South Africa, to run feeding schemes for children, and nutritional training projects for adults.

Over 50 applications for aid have been received so far, of which 80% are from rural areas.

Only the concerted effort of both the private and public sectors can there be any hope in reversing the current ominous trend.

Jesus Unhappy

Jesus Christ, radical church leader, and Son of God, is reported to have wept with compassion over the plight of humanity.

He has urged all his followers to get serious about sharing with others.

Jesus is an authority on world need having been born among the working class. He became a refugee to Egypt at an early age, and lived a semi-nomadic life as an adult.

"You give them something to eat," he once instructed his disciples.

He was set up and illegalaly murdered, thus saving millions from eternal death.

One of the conditions Jesus set for inheritance of the eternal kingdom is recorded for us by Matthew (25), "I was hungry and you fed me, thirsty and you gave me a drink." "I tell you, whenever you did this for one of the least important of these brothers of mine, you did it for me."
Doesn't this look familiar? Yes, it's a famous image from the '70s, showing in every country that food is becoming an increasing share of imports. What about in your country? Has food become a bigger share of imports in recent years? Have you noticed any changes in the way food is imported and distributed? Have you noticed any changes in the way food is consumed? Has food become a bigger share of income? Have you noticed any changes in the way people buy and prepare food? Have you noticed any changes in the way people eat and drink? Have you noticed any changes in the way people think about food? Have you noticed any changes in the way people write about food? Have you noticed any changes in the way people talk about food?

THE ENLIGHTENMENT OF FOOD

Unless the reality gradually becomes aware of the importance of food, the world-wide domination of food may become a perilous fact.

Threatens the world's food security and future. Food is increasingly being used as a weapon of power and control. In some countries, food is being used to control the population and to suppress dissent. In other countries, food is being used to create dependence and to dazzle the masses.

In the end? In the world, will the food supply continue to be adequate? Can we ensure that everyone has enough food to eat? Can we ensure that the world's food is being produced sustainably? Can we ensure that the world's food is being distributed equitably? Can we ensure that the world's food is being consumed healthily? Can we ensure that the world's food is being enjoyed fully?
Biafra War and during the great drought in the Sahel in the early 1970s. Most countries in the region are, in fact, close to self-sufficiency in food, says Bethke. And yet, he reports, WFP food aid in West Africa is “alarming” on average almost five times as high per person as in the desperately needy countries of Southern Asia.

If these effects are indeed taking place, he goes on, food aid in its present form will not solve the problem tomorrow – in 20 or 30 years from now.”

The memorandum includes a catalogue of reports of corruption and diversion from WFP officials on the spot. One wrote “In almost every country that I have been in, the tendency is for the project manager, once he is appointed, to bring in all his closest relatives. The whole set up becomes a family affair from then on.”

But Dr Bethke’s site.
AND WIDOW ALIVE

RUBISH KEEPS KIDS

241 STURDY MAN WHO SPOOKS MOTHMAN IS UNIFORMED CABLE CAR ROPER

WHILE most people are still sound asleep,

Saturday Sept. 28, 1929

SUNDAY POST, October 2, 1929
CPI rise is 14.3% for past year

By VITAL PALESTRAIT

The Consumer Price Index rose 1.8% during September and 14.3% during the 12 month period ending in September. These figures were released by the Department of Statistics in Pretoria last week.

During September the CPI rise was highest for lower income groups (1.5%), followed by middle income groups (1.3%) and higher income groups (1.1%).

During the 12 month period ending in September the CPI for lower income groups rose by 12.7%, middle income groups by 14.4% and higher income groups by 14.7%.

Economists have warned that the inflation rate could reach 15% and higher by December.

The cost of food is still running ahead of the CPI. During September it rose 1.6% and 15% during the 12 month period.

In the food sector the price of vegetables rose 7.5% last month while meat rose 1.4%, sugar rose by 1.4% and coffee and tea rose 1.2%. Milk, milk products and eggs dropped 8.3%.

Transport showed hardly any increases.

Each month the Department of Statistics releases masses of information about the cost of goods and services from 11 major urban areas. These figures are processed to make up the CPI.

Consumer Mail runs the CPI every month as a service to its readers. All the information appears in the tabulation.
I shall never forget the doctor at a council clinic who asked me offhandedly why I 'bothered about a solitary black child's survival. Thousands more kids besides this one are dying like flies in the Ciskei,' he told me as if discussing the weather.

Then a blue dummy jerked out from between thin bales of straw at the end of a string pinned to the vest. This made him smile, perhaps because he was in the city, but not because he was happy. He was tired, hovved, and in pain.

I looked at the woman's face, and thought we had been describing any ordinary event of the week and spoke without the least trace of bitter-ness, complaint or reproach. But what a mercy she spoke in Dutch, as well as Xhosa or I should have been sunk.

"Oh yes, they could see he was dying. The pattern was all too familiar...."

"That's correct, ma'am. He dropped dry from a mother whose 'man' had still not paid his lobola, and alone any maintenance, 30 years after father was his 'wife' infant And this child was her bastard.

"What a mercy, too, that we weren't very far from the Red Cross Children's Hospital — the best in the world. I became convinced almost as soon as we entered in panic"
Broken-hearted. In less than a month I had actually grown to love as well as pity that grotesque little creature.

On the third day a doctor saw me through a glass screen, vanished a moment and then came out carrying our little skeleton.

He was obviously embarrassed. He said, "We have done our best," he stammered, with downcast eyes. "On one of his tour visits the baby must have picked up virus encephalitis and meningitis. Two lumbar punctures both yielded blood clots. He went on talking in technical Italian while I bit my lip and puzzled something about the Fever Hospital. I don't remember his reply. But it amounted, very simply, to the fact that the little mite was not long for this world. And his bed was badly needed. My head was understood but my heart did not. In a fit of madness I blurted out: 'Will you give him to me... just for a week or two. Please, I can't let him die.'

'What do you propose to do with him, my dear?'

'Oh! Fill him up with glucose and rhubarb tea to clean out his tummy, love him to bits and then, well - just pray that God will heal all his diseases as it says in the Scriptures.'

The doctor said, 'I'd like to see him every Thursday,' please. My heart fluttered hopefully.

It has been a long and painful process which included completely re-educating the baby's mother, introducing her to hygiene, teaching her to measure, tell the time, count and handle money. We used a toothbrush, toothpaste, tissues, and toilet paper as well as how to sterilise everything from bottle-tees to wounds and scratches.

He has graduated from napkins to underpants, corduroys, denim, and dungarees...

In excess of the layout of material, financial gifts, and presents, which would add up to a weekly parcel of salt, rice, and stamp, melted, potatoes, onion, paprika, sugar, candles, matches, a bottle of two of paraffin, and some green beans, tomatoes and pumpkin seeds to plant in the yard...

Sue Donham

Gone are all her baby's dresses. Gone, too, the fear that he might never walk. (Once he had done so at 20 months and had a prognosis of probable cerebral palsy.) He has graduated from napkins to underpants, corduroys, denim, and dungarees, an anorak for winter walking, a Sunday-best suit, shoes, stockings, slippers, and a pair of 'bathers' and water wings since he's learning to swim.

In the hospital at clinics, petrol-pumps, toyshops and in church... he has helped me to build bridges I never dreamed possible. He is a highly intelligent, energetic, funny, loving five-year-old who has an uncanny knack with a football, and a boisterous soprano like a fledgling Ernest Lough.

Having graduated from milk to meat and vegetables, he also wields his own spoon and fork and says 'grace' for the food thus provided. In addition, he is almost fully bilingual and understands very well what was meant when his faustite was shouted and ranted at for being 'a kerfuffletoe one day at a supermarket where an old woman saw him holding my hand as we went shopping together for his grannie.

It's a sad indictment of our society that many people I know have had it softly to me: 'Ah, but you can't harm whites responsibly if blacks choose to live like animals.' I say this is sad and stupid because we white don't know what we are missing. I have gained unsought spiritual rewards very far
Poverty, not ignorance, is cause of malnutrition

Staff Reporter

It was pointless to talk to blacks about malnutrition when they had no money to buy proper food, or to tell them to grow vegetables when they could be evicted because they could not afford the rent. Miss Manke-kulu Mahlangu, secretary of the Soweto Action Committee, said in Soweto at the weekend.

Miss Mahlangu was addressing a meeting on “good nutrition in the development of a people” at the YWCA centre in Dube Village. The meeting was organised by the Cripple Care Association.

She told the meeting that nutrition meant good feeding. This was not a privilege but a right.

“It was pointless, she added, to talk to blacks, especially the handicapped, about nutrition.

The plight of the disabled was serious. A social worker had told her the disabled were given R47 every two months to maintain themselves and their family.

“Last year, when I was at Kopanong, we did an experiment on a survival diet. We found that a family of five on a survival diet needed R37. This diet did not include meat but meat substitutes,” she said.

When you take into account what the disabled get, you will realise that their position is worse than anyone living on a survival diet.

“It is with these points in mind that I ask myself whether it is worth telling you about vegetable gardens in your backyards when I know you may be evicted from the house tomorrow and leave them behind because you could not pay your rent.”

She stressed that malnutrition in the black community was caused by poverty, which she said was a result of unequal distribution of wealth within the country.

People were wrong when they said malnutrition was due to ignorance. Once, blacks knew nothing of malnutrition because they had access to wild fruit, vegetables and meat.
POVERTY - General
1-1-80 - 31-12-80
The Pangs of South Africa

STARVATION
LOOKING AT POVERTY

A group that includes medical doctors and welfare organizations has launched The Hunger Concern Programme to combat starvation in Soweto.

Still in the initial stages, it is now engaged in field studies to determine the extent and nature of poverty in various regions. Dr Selma Drude, who, together with Dr Nikola Metha, started the programme, tells the FEH that a major priority is to employ a full-time field worker. Then, once the task of amassing data has been accomplished, action will follow to tackle some of the cases and manifestations.

Journalist John Kanu-Berman, author of Soetoe, estimates that about 80 per cent of Soweto's residents fall into this category.

The problem of low wages is aggravated by conditions which inhibit against any efforts to better the overall standard of living, particularly in Soweto. The attitude that urban blacks are not permanent (an attitude, fortunately on the wane), has helped create a generally unhealthy and despairing society. A major indication of this is the high expenditure on alcohol.

In his study of Johannesburg's black city, Kanu-Berman notes, "Malnutrition is a grievous problem in Soweto, its causes to be sought not only in poverty, but in a wide range of inter-related socio-economic factors, among them the level of education.

If the majority of urban blacks live below the PDL, the situation in the rural areas is worse. In Nguta, in Kwazulu, a typical rural area visited by the FEH for this article, the average monthly income is R20. Living standards here and in similar areas have, moreover, been deteriorating in recent years.

The recent economic recession hit rural people hardest because of escalating unemployment. Economic conditions are likely to become even more depressed if proposals flowing from the Rekert report are fully implemented and urban blacks are included in a new economic dispensation, while unemployment is confined to the countryside.

The massive resettlements undertaken by Pretoria to establish compact rural and ethnic enclaves have also exacerbated matters. Between 1971 and 1974, an estimated 400 000 people were relocated from white farms. Black labour tenants, who were allowed to live on these farms in exchange for seasonal work, at least enjoyed the privilege of raising stock. Their few cows and chickens provided the protein necessary to counter malnutrition.

Mass removals, often to remote, arid areas, have meant that ever more people have been exposed to malnutrition. In addition to this, the inevitable expense of employment for these people have been effectively cut off by distance. So the spiral of unemployment, poverty, and starvation has been given added impetus by political considerations.

Starvation in its various forms has many social effects. Liz Clarke, a Kwazulu social worker comments, "The most significant contributory cause of malnutrition in our rural areas is the social chaos that results from the rural-to-urban labour system. We are unable to curb malnutrition."

If the causes of starvation are complex, its effects can be stated in simpler terms. At Baragwanath, seven out of 10 cases admitted to the paediatric department suffer from malnutrition. Even if the diagnosis is gastro-enteritis, pulmonary tuberculosis, or pneumonia, the underlying contributory factor is often malnutrition; the breeding ground for a host of other ailments. In one hospital in Kwazulu, 75 per cent of children admitted, of whom 10 per cent later die, have malnutrition as the primary diagnosis.

High infant mortality is a direct fact of black life. But there is a social and economic toll too. While difficult to measure, low productivity among black workers has, as a major contributory factor, malnutrition and undernourishment. Professor H. L. Watts, as director of the Institute of Social Research at Natal University, has stated that "the costs of poverty are many, and they are usually hidden. But, as taxpayers, we have to pay indirectly quite a proportion of the costs as they relate to ill health, lower productivity and lower quality of workers who are permanently retarded at an early age through malnutrition.

Once starvation has become endemic, a vicious cycle is set in. The director general of the World Health Organization has noted, "The inevitable result is a downward spiral in which poor, malnourished parents produce malnourished children, who in turn will become poor and malnourished parents."

Prospects for alleviation, especially in the rural areas, are bleak. What makes the situation far worse is the unpalatable fact that starvation in SA is closely related to race, and moreover exists cheek by jowl with immense wealth. Starvation is thus a racial injustice which feeds a sense of grievance in a politically tense situation.

Any attempt to tackle starvation will have to look into the political and economic conditions that govern blacks. Chief among the socio-economic policies that should be changes in the structure of employment to improve the situation of African workers. This means that a significant number of black workers and economic grounds should be allowed to enter skilled, higher-paid jobs. Fundamentally, this means scrapping influx control and permitting market forces to operate freely in the industrial centres.

For the rural areas, a much larger infusion of development capital and technical assistance, according to Natal University economist Jill Natrass will aid in increasing average living levels.

But least assurance politically determined population removals, which cause social disruption and economic depopulation, will surely not go further in the direction of tackling the problem. The ideologies of Pretoria will have done well to consider this, while digesting their Christmas turkey.

The most common and vivid image of starvation is of swollen-bellied children. These shrivelled and pitiful victims suffer from kwashiorkor - a serious protein deficiency, but not the worst. Marasmus is the most severe indication of malnourishment. The victims - in kwashiorkor are children. They are underweight, dried-up creatures, who look like old folk. The major cause of malnutrition is a diet deficiency of proteins, fats, milk, eggs, etc. Often, as in the case among blacks, the intake of excess carbohydrates, such as mealie meal, usually to the exclusion of other foodstuffs, causes an imbalance. The swollen belly of kwashiorkor cases is the result of excess carbohydrates.

Financial Mail January 11 1980
A large number of people in this country are now receiving the benefits of economic cooperation. The principles of economic cooperation are being applied to all aspects of life. The government has been working to establish economic cooperation in all spheres of activity. The benefits of economic cooperation are being felt in every part of the country. People are now better able to meet the challenges of the future. The government is committed to furthering the benefits of economic cooperation. The principles of economic cooperation are being applied to all aspects of life. The government has been working to establish economic cooperation in all spheres of activity. The benefits of economic cooperation are being felt in every part of the country. People are now better able to meet the challenges of the future. The government is committed to furthering the benefits of economic cooperation.
Doctors fear winter deaths

BY ARNOLD GEYER
Fifty thousand South African children will probably die of malnutrition in rural areas this winter and a further 100 000 children's lives are at risk, say two leading doctor-politicians.

Dr Nthato Motsana, chairman of the Soweto Committee of 10, and Dr Selma Browde, a PFP member of the Johannesburg City Council, said yesterday that poverty, malnutrition and infant mortality in rural areas had taken on such enormous proportions that existing organisations could no longer cope.

Instead, a major rural development organisation, incorporating existing smaller bodies, would be launched soon to tackle these problems.

Representatives of organisations as well as individuals concerned with combating rural poverty met in Johannesburg last night to discuss the setting-up of such an organisation.

No details of the meeting could be obtained, but Dr Motsana and Dr Browde, who have led the Hunger Concern Campaign for the past few months, admitted their campaign could no longer cope with the growing infant mortality and malnutrition and would therefore "slot in" with the body.

"We have to pool our resources both to remedy the symptoms and prevent the causes of rural poverty," Dr Motsana said.

This would include the re-introduction by the Government of a free school feeding scheme, the widespread application of preventive medicine and assistance to people in resettlement areas and homelands to build up their own livelihood, he said.

Mr Victor Allen, the co-ordinator of the proposed umbrella organisation, said the four priorities facing it would be food production, the creation of work and occupation opportunities, the production of cheap fuel, and the provision of appropriate and adequate housing.

Mr Browde said the increase in tuberculosis cases in resettlement and homeland areas was twice as high as official Government figures.

"We have realised that we have to go much further than feeding children—we have to look at the causes, like unemployment, resettlement, bad irrigation, earth erosion and the growing of suitable food stuffs," she said.
mass starvation threat
no govt money to stem
Small Jo'burg firm to feed hunger area

Shocked by disclosures of widespread malnutrition in rural areas, employees of a Johannesburg company have decided to donate R500 a month for food to one affected area and deliver it themselves.

There has been a strong reaction from the public and Parliament to reports in The Star that 50,000 children could die of malnutrition in the Western Transvaal area alone could be affected by malnutrition.

Almost all employees of the small engineering firm in Johannesburg responded to an appeal by Mr. Godfrey Parsons, the managing director, to help villages hit by drought and winter conditions.

We will collect about R200 a month for four months to buy high protein food,” said Mr. Parsons. Employees will select a particular community and then personally deliver the food to them every two weeks.

“Only we can redress the situation.”

South African health authorities are doing a nationwide survey of the extent of all kinds of malnutrition in the country.
A community scheme has been launched to supply food and water to rural families suffering from malnutrition.

The scheme has evolved from the Hunger Concern Programme started by Dr Selma Browde, a PPF Johannesburg councillor, and Dr Kiboto Molana, chairman of Soweto's Committee of Ten.

Its aim is to fight malnutrition and infant mortality.

The Hunger Concern Programme sent scores of letters to rural and mission hospitals and received reports that 50,000 children would die this winter.

In one Western Transvaal area alone 200,000 children could be affected by malnutrition.

SHOCKED

Shocked by the malnutrition problem a small Johannesburg company has decided to give R10 a month for food, for four months.

"There has been an encouraging reaction to the call for help," said Dr Browde today.

"The rural linkage scheme will link donors in the urban areas with recipients in the rural areas.

Reacting to a dismissal by the Minister of Health, Dr Munnik, of the malnutrition reports, Dr Browde said, 'The Minister appears to be misinformed about the objectives of the Hunger Concern Programme.'

She said in rural areas, malnutrition and hunger were caused by several factors, including ignorance about feeding.

Some people were resettled in areas where there was little food, land was not suitable for farming, not enough water and insufficient jobs.

She said she and Dr Molana had interviewed the Secretary for Health before launching the Hunger Concern Programme.

Individuals or companies waiting to take part in the rural linkage scheme may contact Dr Browde at 725-4215.
Survey on hungry children ends

A nationwide survey that will show the extent of malnutrition in rural areas in South Africa will be completed this week, a spokesman for the Department of Health said today.

The official nutrition survey of 32,000 children of all ages between the ages of six and nine is the largest of its kind ever carried out. Information will be collated but results will not be known for months.

Meanwhile, a community scheme committed to supplying food and water to people suffering from malnutrition in rural areas has been launched.

The Rural Linkage Scheme, evolved from the Hunger Concern Programme, was initiated by Dr Sema Brodie, PFP member of the Johannesburg City Council, and Dr Nitesa Molana, chairman of Savato's Committee of Ten.

The Rural Linkage Scheme is dedicated to linking donors in urban areas with recipients in the rural areas. People from the cities will give food directly to the undernourished. They will communicate with the people and find out why there is a malnutrition problem in some areas.

A small Johannesburg engineering company has offered to hold a month for four months for food. Employees will make deliveries themselves.
Report homes in on black poverty

Poverty in the homelands is highlighted in a report compiled by the bureau of market research at the University of Pretoria, released in Pretoria yesterday.

The report, compiled by Professor Piet Nel, also emphasizes the need for homeland consolidation and economic viability.

It says household expenditure in the homelands represents as little as 6% of total household expenditure in South Africa, Transkei, Bophuthatswana and Venda — though 35% of South Africa's black population lives in the homelands.

Although whites made up only 10.6% of the population, they accounted for 65% of household spending in 1973. Blacks represented 71.2%, but their household spending came to only 24.6% of the spending for the period.

The figures, the report says, emphasize the importance of whites as consumers and demonstrate the wide income gap between the population groups.

But it emphasizes that certain markets in white metropolitan areas depended entirely on "non-white" consumers for a real growth rate between 1970 and 1975.

Food was by no means the most important item on which whites spent their money in 1973. 16.2% of white household spending was on food, while housing and electricity made up 19.8% of the bill.

But food purchases made up 40% of black household spending in the same year. Corresponding figures for coloureds and Asians were 33.3% and 31.1%, respectively.

The next largest expenditures among coloureds and Asians were for housing and electricity for blacks, clothing and footwear followed food on the household budget.

But the report gives concern about food price increases "in further epitomized by a fall in the importance of food in the spending patterns of all groups between 1970 and 1973."
Birds die in 'poison' area

Staff Reporter

POLICE yesterday collected two dead doves for analysis from the Eikenhof plots where seven children ate poisoned fishcakes last week.

Police said yesterday they had not established exactly what the poison was that had killed three of the children, but medical opinion believes it to be strychnine.

Colonel Louw van Schalkwyk, of the Witwatersrand CID, said yesterday: "We are expecting results from our forensic laboratories at any time."

The owner of the plot where the doves died, Mrs Kath McDonald, said yesterday the doves had suddenly fallen out of a tree on Sunday.

"We found two more dead birds at our gate. We have become extremely careful since the poisonings last week," she said.

Col Van Schalkwyk said yesterday police feared someone had laid out poison for wild animals in the area.

"The children at the Baragwanath Hospital may hold the key to this problem, but they are still unconscious and far too ill to be interviewed," Col Van Schalkwyk said.

Four of the Eikenhof children who ate the poisoned fishcakes last week are recovering in the intensive care unit of Baragwanath Hospital, while a fifth child has been moved to a general ward.

The Miami children, Robert, 6, Josias, 14, and Zodwa, 8, are still heavily sedated and being ventilated on respiration machines. Yvonne Diadi, 10, is still in a serious condition.

"She was brought to the hospital after the other children and needs quite a lot of care," said Dr M T Miller, head of the intensive care unit at Baragwanath. Dr Miller said the other children were showing signs of recovery and were waking up at odd intervals.

At this stage it is too soon to tell whether the poison will have long-term effects. Dr Pincus Cattel, head of the Poison Control Centre attached to the Johannesburg Hospital, consulted several medical textbooks yesterday but said there was no information about long-term effects of strychnine.

A professor at the University of the Witwatersrand Medical School said no neurological long-term effects could be expected from strychnine.

One of the symptoms of strychnine poisoning is severe convulsions — most people die of asphyxia due to respiratory depression between the second and fifth convulsion. Doctors consulted yesterday said the convulsions could result in hypoxia (lack of oxygen) which may or may not affect the brain.

While doctors are still waiting for official identification of the poison to come from police forensic laboratories, they are treating the children for strychnine poisoning. The children are apparently responding to this treatment.
Rural poverty is "greatest threat"

MARIDJAHABA — The greatest single threat to the future well-being of South Africa is not the totally stagnant but rural poverty and unemployment of the people of KwaZulu-Natal, said Dr. Ralph Adam, the University of Natal's vice-chancellor.

He said that the problems of rural poverty and unemployment were not just confined to KwaZulu-Natal but were widespread throughout the country.

Even though the region is well endowed, KwaZulu-Natal was one of the most pressing socio-economic and environmental problems in South Africa.

The government had taken some steps to address these problems, but more needed to be done.

"A major cause of this poverty is the lack of education and training, which has led to dependency on the government," Dr. Adam said.

"In the rural areas, there is a large number of people who are not able to find work and are dependent on the government for their livelihoods."

He said it was important to create awareness of alternative sources of income. He also echoed the need for proper planning to deal with the problems of poverty.
Growing concern over malnutrition

Newly-collected figures on the long-term malnutrition crisis in South Africa are adding to concern about the current drought.

Researchers for the SA Institute of Race Relations — which yesterday launched the Operation Hunger campaign — have noted that a study last year showed that death rates for black children between one and four years are 13 times as high as that for white children in the same age group.

"Country-wide the collective forces of prolonged drought, resettlement schemes, inflation and widespread unemployment have brought about increasing mortality through malnutrition and, more particularly, malnutrition-related diseases," the researchers said.

The majority of deaths among black people occurred among children under five years, research showed. Deaths of black infants under one year were six times as high as for whites.

Malnutrition seriously affects mental and physical development, the researchers said.
ThOSE were appalling figures given at the launch of Operation Hunger in Johannesburg yesterday. A quarter of the black babies in rural areas die of diseases related to malnutrition.

The statistics at first sound like a calumny perpetrated by some lobby of the United Nations, but the information is backed by reputable South African medical sources. It should shock more fortunate South Africans out of their complacent belief that this country's blacks are better off than those in other parts of Africa. The South African measurement of its rural black infant mortality rate is higher than that supplied by most Third World countries (though perhaps the count is more accurate here).

Drought rather than policies is killing children at present. The public -- especially in the Transvaal -- has responded magnificently to appeals for aid for starving Zulus. More than R200,000 has been donated to one fund. 30 trucks of food are on their way. That will feed 225,000 people for a week -- far short of the requirements for survival; shorter still of the needs to reduce that dreadful mortality rate. Aid is needed on a scale that is beyond the pockets of the most generous individual donors.

Propagandists have been having a field day pointing to the strength of the South African economy. Last week it was predicted that the Treasury would have a bonus of R1,000-million from mining profits and the economic boom. There could be no better cause, or investment in the future, than to use some of those profits to relieve the misery of starvation.
The grim plight of Johannes Mhlongo

Where death is a way of life

Mercury Reporter

DEATH has become a way of life in Northern Natal and Zululand as the drought drags into its 12th month.

When the Mercury visited the Kraaskop area, the story was clear — the people had resigned themselves to the idea that they were alone in their fight against thirst and starvation.

Cunning

With nearly all their cattle dead, the residents, living in tiny huts on hillsides, have no one to turn to. They have only cunning and initiative as means of survival until nature lets up her onslaught on their simple way of life.

Said Mr Johannes Mhlongo, who used to draw his water from a windmill near his house: "It is not easy."

It is not only the cattle, we will be next. No one seems to be concerned — because every time we ask for help from the KwaZulu Government we are told to write or telephone the authorities. We are simple people, can't they see our plight?"

Now his family has to walk 12km to get water.

Mr Mhlongo used to work at the cattle dipping plant near his home in KwaNgcolosi. But he has no work now as the dipping plant had to close six months ago because of insufficient water.

There have been no dippings since then. And, as Mr Mhlongo says, in merely a month there will be no cattle at all.

Rotting

As if to prove his point, he took us to what used to be an island in the rapidly subsiding Tugela River.

'It smelt of death and rotting flesh and was strewn with the carcasses of animals that had died of thirst near the water's edge.'

MISS Elizabeth Mhlongo attends to a starving cow. "We have lost so many, this is part of our everyday life," she says.
Greater awareness and greater action was needed on the critical national problem of poverty and starvation in the rural areas, says Mrs Ina Perlman of the Institute of Race Relations.

She was addressing a branch meeting of the National Council of Women (NCW), a social action and discussion group in Johannesburg.

Mrs Perlman said that it was a great pity, but it was only when a crisis occurred, like the drought in kwaZulu, that there was awareness of the problem of rural poverty or action from the public.

She said that it was a hard thing to say but sometimes disasters like the drought were, in fact, mixed blessings because at last an attempt was being made to look for long-term solutions.

It was a sad reflection on South Africa that the infant mortality rate here is higher than that in many other less developed countries in Africa — for example Zaire, Nigeria and Botswana.

The overall infant mortality rate in South Africa was 249 per 1,000, and, in some rural areas like the Albany district around Grahamstown, the rate was much higher — over 300 deaths per 800 infants.

The Land Acts, the migrant labour system, resettlement programmes, and the recent moves to abolish labour tenancy on white farms had greatly contributed to the impoverishment of the rural economy.

Mrs Perlman criticised the South African agricultural system for having done too little to stimulate and develop intensive small-scale agriculture — the lack of which was the most important single cause of rural poverty.
by Francis Henry

LIVE IN DRAINS

THE CHILDREN

WHERE

HOME ON THE DUMP

21/9/66

[Signature]

[Note: The text is partially obscured and difficult to read due to the condition of the page.]
Everything she owns comes from the dump. Dirt alone — so thick on her thin body that creases streak her face when she cries from hunger or cold — is not enough to ward off the bite of winter's early morning chill.

So she has collected a motley wardrobe — an oversized pair of men's pants torn ragged above one knee, shreds of the other leg held together by a knot of string, a once-green jersey now black with countless layers of filth and tears for buttonholes closed with string.

The tattered remnants of a shirt, peep through and its collar is the same colour as her skin. Her clothes can't conceal ugly ulcers on her bare feet.

Even more treasured than her wardrobe are scraps of food she can salvage from the dump — a half-eaten sucker, woolly with dirt, which she promptly pops into her mouth, stale portions of trucks as they slow down near the turn from the main road.

As each load is tipped, dozens of shouting, pestering people, adults 'join in too, swarm on to the mound.

People descend like predators, and the scene looks like a battlefield with swirling clouds of dust and grey smoke from a smouldering pit.

Boxes, bags, papers, empty cans are quickly explored, kept or flung aside. Any morsel is quickly gulped down and the search is resumed for more.

For the losers, the next truck thunders in, bringing society's trash — and fresh hope.

Norris Sungapi, chairman of the Community Council, said the problem could be attributed to poverty and the high rate of unemployment.

A solution to the problem, Mr Sungapi said, would be to have the entire dump fenced off and closed permanently.
Shocks in new study on US poverty

WASHINGTON — There are nearly 11 million Americans living in poverty, with the problem growing "frighteningly" for widowed women, the young and minorities, according to the US National Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity.

In a recent report, the council said the United States is paying for the "cruelness" of the Nixon era and added that "the right view that growth in the private economy is the best means to fight poverty"

"Such growth has ceased to trickle down to the poor," it said.

The Labor Department last year set the poverty level for an urban family of four at $5,609 annual income.

There was a "frightening pattern" towards poverty among minorities and the poor and that of those over the age of 65 who are beyond the reach of most of the benefits of private sector growth, the council said.

The "identification of poverty" had become one of the most concerning social facts of the decade. About 24 percent of the population lived in poverty in 1970, compared to 12 percent in 1963.

The report called growing poverty among the very young "one of the major social disasters of the 1970s.

The 15-member council appointed by the President also said the rate of poverty among black families has risen from 28 percent in 1969 to 41 percent in 1977.

"Since 1966 we have made progress in reducing the poverty rate, but we are still paying for the consequences of the Nixon era, a period of shrewdness, cynicism, fear and drive," that condemned and even encouraged negative attitudes, said chairwoman Arthur T. Bluteshine.

Mr. Bluteshine was sharply critical of those "new conservatives" calling for cuts in social service programs which would "undo the substantial progress of the past 15 years and afflict billions of Americans back below the poverty line.

The council said as many as 48 million Americans may be considered poor.
Survey shows huge rise in living costs of poor

By GERALD REILLY
Pretoria Bureau

ROCKETING living costs for the poorer section of the population are highlighted in a survey to be released later this week by the University of Port Elizabeth.

The survey, compiled by the Institute for Planning Research, shows that in the 12 months ending in October the minimum subsistence level (MSL) for blacks will have risen by 16%, and for coloureds by 18.2%.

Even more alarming, according to economists, is that for the six months May to October, the increase in the MSL for blacks will be 11.3% and for coloureds nearly 10%.

And the chairman of the PFP’s economic commission, Mr Harry Schwarz, has made an urgent call for the Government to remove GST from basic foods and to slow down the unprecedented increases in food prices.

He was supported by leading trade unionists, who have pleaded with the Government for the past two years to abolish GST on basic foods like maize products and bread.

Mr Schwarz said any loss of revenue because of the removal of GST from essential foods would be a sound investment in security.

The institute claims the huge increase in blacks’ living costs is due mainly to the big escalation of food prices.

This is borne out by the Consumer Price Index for September, which showed that last month food prices rose by 6.6% and, for the 12 months to the end of September, by more than 20%.

The institute found the minimum wage needed for a black family of six in Johannesburg was R195.77 and for a coloured family of five, R211.27. Figures for Pretoria are only minimally less.

Mr Schwarz said the rise in food prices was one of the biggest “calamities” to hit South Africa for a long time. The increases in the past few months had been “outrageous”, he said, “and I’m not satisfied the increases are due entirely to higher costs.”

“A serious feature of our escalating food prices was their socially destabilizing effect, Mr Schwarz said.

“Action is necessary, not only because of the morality of pricing food out of the reach of many thousands of families, but also because of the dangers to the country’s security,” Mr Schwarz said.

The vice-president of the Trade Union Council of South Africa, Mr Steve Schepers, said Tucsa had repeatedly asked the Government to remove GST from basic food.

“However, the Minister of Finance has told us that administratively it would be too difficult to exclude some products from the tax.”
Granny's fight to raise five

Mercury Reporter

MIRIAM Magwaza is very old. She should be enjoying her retirement. Instead, she struggles to raise her five grandchildren — Marcus, 2, Theodora, 6, Christopher, 12, Ronald, 13, and Jabulani, 14.

The children's father was accidentally shot and killed five years ago. Their mother died last year at the age of 36. Since then, their maternal grandmother has been struggling to keep them. The family lives in a four-roomed house in Chesterville — the rent is R25 a month. Mrs Magwaza receives an old age pension of R55 bi-monthly.

At the moment, she is R150 in arrears on the rent and desperately trying to find money to pay it.

A son, who also lives with her, tries to help but he struggles to support six children of his own.

A foster grant has been applied for but no money has been received yet. The Durban Bantu Child Welfare Society provides food parcels once a week — cooking is done on a paraffin stove — they cannot afford to pay for electricity and the supply was cut off several years ago.

Inside, the house is bare save for a cupboard and two chairs. The children sleep on the floor. As for Christmas — what is there to look forward to, it's just another day in the year?

This year, the two younger children will receive presents from the Durban Bantu Child Welfare Society and there will be a R12 food voucher.

The organisation helps 174 similar cases in Chesterville alone. They desperately need your assistance. Please, won't you help make Christmas a little better for them?

donations have been received from:

In loving Memory of

Bob R 5.00
B M Miller 10.00
Natal Indenting and Exporting 10.00
C & C Engineering 13.00
Leckie Kito Agencies 10.00
Mr. H L K Everitt 10.00
G T Chalmers 10.00

Remembering Garth 20.00
Mrs A B Roberts 10.00
R W Thompson & Co 20.00

Assembler Electronics S A
(iPty) Ltd 7.00
C F Parker Dennison 10.00
Bilt-Mates (Pty) Ltd 5.00
WD Beckonsale 25.00
St Albans Lodge 20.00

DE Whitfield 40.00
P M 20.00
R L Hopkins 25.00
P J Wison 10.00

Power Finance and Estates 50.00
H C Sparks 5.00
Anon 4.00
Mrs C K Ashen 20.00
Rase & Reuben Silbers 50.00
Charity Foundation 50.00
Anon 20.00
Anon 10.00

Total these 26

HELPING their grandmother with the gardening are Jabulani, 14, Christopher, 12, and Ronald, 13. Marcus, 2, is on his grandmother's lap and Theodora, 6, sits beside her.
Behind the Christmas spree lurks the spectre of hunger

By Tom Duff

South Africans are indulging in a R350-million Christmas shopping spree at a time when nearly half a million blacks are out of work and dire poverty threatens thousands of black families.

There are predictions that more than R200-million will be spent on alcohol during the festive season. Yet charitable organisations are struggling to get enough basic foodstuffs to feed thousands of people living close to the Reef who are virtually destitute.

"The Ministry of Health estimates that in 1979 there were 100,000 cases of pellagra," says a spokesman for the Institute of Race Relations' Operation Hunger campaign.

"The Government's subsidised skim milk scheme feeds 56,000 children — just over a third of the estimated pellagra cases.

"Malnutrition, hunger and their inevitable companions — disease, mental and physical suffering and death — are regular visitors across the South African rural scene," said the spokesman.

At the same time, the rate of unemployment among blacks remains high. The latest available figures from the Department of Statistics show an estimated 473,000 blacks or 8.5 percent of the black workforce — to be unemployed.

More jobs will be available if the current economic boom continues, but many observers believe that the unemployment estimates made by the Department are extremely conservative. It is likely that the real situation is far more serious, they say.

Spokesmen for some welfare organisations are expressing concern that while consumers will spend an estimated R350-million on a second Christmas shopping spree, too little attention is being paid to thousands of people who are suffering from malnutrition.

Malnutrition is not confined to black families. Two surveys in the greater Transvaal area in Natal have shown that 60 percent of Indian children in the area are malnourished.

The Institute of Race Relations is particularly concerned about the high infant mortality rate among blacks — especially those in rural areas.

The infant mortality figure for rural blacks is 240 for every 1,000 live births, says the Institute.

The corresponding figure for white South Africans is 12, while for urban blacks it is 9.

The Institute saves the corresponding figure for Botswana is 87, for Niger it is 200 and 160 for Zaire.

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Foreign Policy Study Foundation
POVERTY General

1980 - 1982
By Anthony Doman

THE most important thing to come out of the recent automotive industry strike in the Eastern Cape was not so much an increase in pay, as the acceptance by employers of the concept of a 'living wage'.

The jump from a R1.15 an hour minimum to R1.45 plus bonuses, although not the R2 asked for, is a vindication of the workers' stand.

All along the big motor companies had pointed out that their wage levels were clearly above the so-called household subsistence level.

But, said the unions, isn't it enough to provide a man merely with the bare essentials? Isn't it asking too much, they wanted to know, to allow a man or woman, to live decently and not, as one put it, 'van the hand to in the fag'?

Clearly something more than mere subsistence wages was needed.

But achieving that took time, and could have meant much hardship.

For a start, the two unions involved, the National Union of Motor Assembly and Rubber Workers and the United Auto Workers' Union, would have been unable to back a mass strike financially.

AGREED

'Experts agreed that a strike would have to last at least seven weeks before the bosses would be forced to give in also, in terms of the Fair Labor Act, they could not accept money from outside. It was this which forced them to decline a R25,000 offer from the International Metalworkers' Federation.'

So while the big companies could rely on backing from their overseas owners, the unions were at a distinct disadvantage.

The economy of the Eastern Cape, specifically Uitenhage, is so integrated with the automotive industry that if there were a go-slow or a strike it would affect everyone.

Further legal complications are caused by the fact that under this country's law, strikers are regarded as having dismissed themselves unless a dispute is declared by the relevant industrial council.

There's no question of contracts being suspended during strikes, as 600 Goodwood workers found when they were summarily fired.

Obviously the system is heavily biased toward the employers with most black workers operating from a position of weakness and further hamstrung by the present unwieldy set-up of largely advisory committees with no real decision-making power.

In the case of this, the countrywide move toward the 'black worker' unit seems to be succeeding in making the bosses sit up and take notice.

The cost in terms of lost production during Volkswagen's crippling six-week strike was high. However, increased overtime should wipe that out soon. But in the long term, that is important.

What is most important is that written into the new pay deal is a stipulation that an impartial organisation will carry out a study on the union's proposals for a living wage, and the employers and the unions will discuss the question of a closed shop at all auto companies. But for now, this is only the beginning.
This week the largest unregistered union grouping slammed the use of poverty datum lines by employers to determine wage levels.

A statement issued by the Federation of South African Trade Unions (Fosatu) said: “Workers want a reasonable living wage.” Poverty datum lines, asserted Fosatu, “are a yardstick against which to measure the frightening extent of poverty in South Africa and not a goal in setting wage levels.”

The criticism follows the agreement reached between unions, affiliated to Fosatu, and employers in the Eastern Cape motor industry this week which fixed the long-standing issue of minimum living levels to set wages.

Fosatu reckons this is a “breakthrough for all workers”.

Volkswagen, Ford and General Motors workers accepted a minimum wage offer of R1.45 an hour. And their unions and employers also agreed to sponsor a survey to establish a “living wage” for the area.

The survey, to be conducted independently over the next six months, will set a new standard for wages that will have a major effect on wage bargaining in the industry.

Workers want more than necessities, says Fosatu

The agreement follows a strike by Volkswagen workers. Five weeks ago almost 4 000 Volkswagen workers downed tools, demanding a minimum wage of R2 an hour. After holding out for three weeks the strikers returned to work to await the outcome of negotiations between their union and the three motor giants.

Prior to returning, workers from all three companies had turned down an earlier offer of R1.40 an hour. The minimum wage at Volkswagen was R1.15 an hour, while the industry minimum wage was R1.10 an hour.

The agreement includes an attendance bonus for shift work, gratuity pay and several other benefits.

The two unions representing the black and coloured workers are still negotiating the introduction of a closed shop.

Although the new minimum wage rate is significantly less than the R2 per hour originally demanded by the workers, the agreement was reached once the companies had accepted the idea of paying their workers a reasonable living wage.

Said the Fosatu statement: “If our wealth is to be based on wages covering only the bare necessities of life then there is little wonder that workers are not committed to South Africa’s economic system.”

“The settlement marks a step towards real collective bargaining and a more acceptable standard of living for the majority of workers.”

The statement described a reasonable living wage as:

- A wage based on actual expenditure requirements and not some abstract measurement of the bare minimum needed for life;
- A wage that allows a lifestyle of comfort and dignity and not a constant struggle with poverty;
- A wage that offers secure income prospects, supported by improved training, job security, service allowances, redundancy pay and fringe benefits; and
- A wage that bears a more equitable relationship to company profits.

The statement also attacked “certain academics and the government” who reject the idea of a reasonable wage demand because of the threat of unemployment.

“As Fosatu has claimed before, only a clear change of priorities and a substantial redirection of Government expenditure can correct this problem, and these changes are urgent,” it said. — SUNDAY POST Reporter.
'Living wage' is hailed by Cape unions

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Reporter

EASTERN Cape motor unions yesterday hailed as a "major breakthrough" an agreement in which employers have approved an attempt to calculate a "living wage" for workers in the area.

The unions, the National Union of Motor Assembly and Rubber Workers, and the United Auto and Rubber Workers Union, also released calculations in which they estimate a family of six in the Eastern Cape needs R63 a month to "live a decent life".

Part of the agreement between employers and unions, which ended the two-month-old wage dispute in the Eastern Cape, is a proposal for a survey of workers' living needs which will try to go beyond the various poverty datum lines used by many employers.

The survey is expected to have far-reaching effects on wage bargaining for lower paid workers.

The Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce's poverty datum line, released this week, lists the minimum needs of a family of five at R195.41.

Maurice Krige, the chamber's economic secretary, said yesterday that attempts to find a body acceptable to both sides to conduct the survey were continuing and a decision should be reached soon.

In a statement released yesterday the unions said the employers - Ford, General Motors and Volkswagen - "have agreed to accept the concept of a living wage rather than the subsistence wage levels usually quoted in negotiations in most industries".

The statement says the poverty datum lines calculate a wage "which only allows workers to exist". One such calculation, the Household Effective Level, stood at R171 a month - "not a wage which allows the worker and his family to live as human beings".

It said the recent wage dispute in the Eastern Cape had occurred because workers "were forced to break away from survival wages".

Mr. Fred Hlakudi, the union leader, said workers would have "brought them nearer a wage which they consider appropriate for a decent life".

According to the statement, the unions drew up a budget of the minimum expenses necessary for an acceptable basic living standard.

This estimate totals R749, but the unions had "drastically cut and compromised" on expenses in order to present a claim which the industry could reasonably meet.

This had lead to the R2 an hour claim.

This would still mean, according to the statement, that workers would have to scrimp and stint themselves and their children some things..."
It is clear that the government and the employer are working closely to ensure coordinated strategies to address the crisis. The intergovernmental cooperation is crucial in managing this unprecedented situation. The comprehensive framework for support includes measures to stabilize the economy and protect the health of the population. The economic stimulus package is expected to provide significant relief to the hardest-hit sectors and families. The return to normalcy will depend on the effectiveness of these initiatives. The collaborative approach is essential to navigate this uncertain landscape.
The Eastern Province motor industry wage dispute seems to be drawing to an end.

Parties to the wage negotiation, now entering its fourth week, made small but significant concessions in Tuesday’s Motor Industry Industrial Council meeting.

But the final outcome still depends on whether workers at Volkswagen General Motors and Ford accept management’s offer when union officials report back to them early next week.

This week employers made two offers—a new minimum wage offer the figure will remain undisclosed until the report back meeting next week. And an agreement that a study to reassess workers’ living standards would be undertaken.

Union spokesmen are taking the new offer back to the workers, with reservations. The wage offer does not approach the R2 an hour demand, although it is an improvement on management’s original R1.40 an hour offer.

Judging from the militant approach workers adopted three weeks ago, it is unlikely they will accept the new wage offer although the unions will recommend they do so, says a union spokesman:

“Obviously we will not go against the feeling of the workers but we have no means to support strikers and will recommend they accept the offer.”

Union officials are encouraged by the survey undertaking which could have far-reaching effects on wage negotiations for unskilled and semi-skilled workers throughout SA.

The survey will be conducted by an independent body acceptable to both sides.

Although no details of the study are yet available, it is a commitment to move away from the hypothetical household subsistence level figures to a more realistic assessment of workers’ living standards.

The Eastern Province minimum wages are established according to its figures established by the University of Port Elizabeth. They have been severely criticized as an inadequate means of establishing decent living wages.

“The BPL does not provide workers the opportunity of improving their living standards. We want to establish the concept of a living wage and if we can knock the BPL it will serve this purpose for all workers,” says Brian Fredericks, national organizer of the National Federation of Trade Unions.

Adds Fred Ferreira, Ford’s Industrial Relations Manager: “A new structure is definitely needed to assess living standards.”

Although no employers will be bound by the survey’s findings they will be forced to take them into account.
BREADLINE

Slower rise (p 1)

In the past six months the breadline has barely moved in a number of towns in SA. And for Africans in Cape Town it actually dropped. But the outlook for the next six months doesn't look so good with the price hike of other commodities in the pipeline.

According to the latest Household Subsistence level (HSL) survey the breadline has climbed by over 10% in only four out of 21 surveyed African areas and in three of the 39 coloured areas. This is in sharp contrast to the previous six months when price increases exceeded 10%.

The survey is conducted every six months by the Institute of Planning Research at Port Elizabeth University. It calculates the bare minimum needed by an African family of six and a coloured family of two.

Professor Johann Potgieter who runs the survey says the surprising low increase in the HSL are due to a drop in the price of seasonal items such as meat and vegetables. In the previous six months these had been very expensive. But now in the Pretoria and Windhoek area remained expensive.

For Africans the largest climb in the HSL in the last six months in the Republic.

Shopping for food the good news is only temporary

Financial Mail May 2 1980
Black cost of living up 12 pc

EAST LONDON — Black families need an average of 12 per cent more money to survive than they did 12 months ago, according to the latest report from the Institute for Planning Research in Port Elizabeth.

The institute’s survey into household subsistence levels showed that residents in eight of the 22 centres covered by the survey experienced increases above the consumer price index of 14.5 per cent.

Peddie and Umtata’s black families might be feeling the pinch, as the subsistence level has risen by 15.5 and 14.6 per cent respectively over the last 12 months.

The highest increase, 18.6 per cent, was in Durban.

The lowest subsistence level for urban blacks is in Port Elizabeth, where a family of six needs R183.83 to survive. This excludes any luxuries or money spent on medical expenses and education.

This figure is ten per cent higher than it was 2 months ago.

Figures for other centres are: East London R178.32 (12.8 per cent higher); King William’s Town R172.08 (9.8 per cent); Uitenhage R160.72 (11.8 per cent); Queenstown R178.42 (13 per cent); Umtata R167.31 (14.6 per cent); Peddie R155.16 (15.5 per cent).

Umtata blacks also experienced the highest six-month increase of the areas surveyed — 12.8 per cent higher than in October last year.

Of the surveyed urban areas, Port Elizabeth also has the lowest figures for Coloured families, followed by East London.

Figures for local centres are: East London R172.49 (11.3 per cent higher than last April), Port Elizabeth R171.44 (7.7 per cent), King William’s Town R166.05 (2.6 per cent), Uitenhage R150.38 (5.9 per cent); Queenstown R168.34 (11.8 per cent).

Although the Queenstown and King William’s Town levels are lower, the survey group did not classify these towns as urban areas — DDR.
In the Alexandra township they talk of "survival education". Teaching children how to stay alive.

Alexandra's teachers have done their best over the years in the face of poor educational facilities and overcrowded classrooms, said Mr Leepile Tawane, education councillor on the Alexandra Liaison Committee.

"Survival teaching" had formed part of the long struggle to save Alexandra from demolition. The people of Alex had refused to go under, said Mr Tawane.

Now that Alexandra had been rescued as a family township, educationists wanted to consolidate. Many families cannot even afford to send their children to school in Alex.

Residents and educationists in the township now plan to form a central bursary fund aimed at helping penniless families send their children to one of the 15 schools.

An immediate injection of at least R200 has been pledged by Mr Linda Twala, a resident whose ancestors came to Alex in 1917.

Mr Twala will donate 10 percent of his takings from the educational films he shows at Alex schools. He hopes the principals of these schools will reciprocate by contributing 10 percent of their profits from the same shows.

The Alexandra Liaison Committee plans to make a concerted effort to introduce compulsory education in 1961.

But Mr Tawane is aware that many children in Alex come from homes devastated by poverty or illness, and that money, clothing and books would have to be obtained to keep these children at school.

Supporting the idea of a central bursary and hoping to consolidate several existing bursary funds — "too many funds containing too little money" — in Alex into one fund.

One such fund bearing his own name was launched some time ago with a R6 000 donation from Randburg. The fund is administered by the West Rand Administration Board, and according to a spokesman for the board more than half the money has already been spent on sending Alexandra children to school.
Teaching children how to stay alive

Residents and educationists in the sprawling township of Alexandra are planning a central bursary fund to help penniless families send their children to school.

ROB MEINTJES reports.
The Many of South America

Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, and Chile are the
largest and most populous countries in the
region. They are bordered by Peru, Bolivia,
and Brazil. These countries have diverse
cultures and traditions, including
traditional dances, music, and
language.
LOKING AT POVERTY

A group that includes medical doctors, welfare organisations has launched the Hunger Concern Programme to combat starvation in SA.

Still in the initial stages, it is now engaged in field studies to determine the extent and nature of poverty in various regions. Dr Selma Breede, who together with Dr Nitoa Molana started the programme, tells the FM that a major priority is to employ on full-time field worker. Then, once the task of amassing data has been accomplished, action will follow to tackle some of the causes and manifestations.

Journalist John Kane-Berman, author of "Soweto" estimates that about 80% of Soweto's residents fall into this category. The problem of long waiting is aggravated by conditions which militate against efforts to better the overall standard of living, particularly in Soweto. The attitude that urban blacks are not permanent (an attitude, fortunately, on the wane) has created a generally unhealthy and despairing society. A major indicator of this is the rapidity with which alcoholism.

In his study of Johannesburg's black community, M. B. Magos, notes: "Malnutrition is a grievous problem in Soweto. It is caused not only by poverty, but by a wide range of inter-related social-economic factors among them the level of education.

If the majority of urban blacks live below the PDL, the situation in the rural areas is worse. In Nqutu in KwaZulu, a typical rural area visited by the FM for this article, the average monthly income is R20. Living standards here and in similar areas have, moreover, been deteriorating in recent years.

The recent economic recession hit rural people hardest because of escalating unemployment. And rural conditions are likely to become even more depressed if the proposals flowing from the Boktei report are fully implemented and urban blacks are included in a new economic dispensation, while unemployment is confined to the countryside.

The massive resettlements undertaken by Pretoria to establish compact racial and ethnic enclaves have also exacerbated matters. Between 1971 and 1974, an estimated 400,000 people were relocated from white townships. Black labour tenants, who were allowed to live on these farms in exchange for seasonal work at least earned the privilege of raising stock. Their few cows and chickens provided the protein necessary to counter malnutrition.

Mass removals, often to remote, and areas, have meant that even more people have been exposed to malnutrition. In addition to this, the advent of the be derogatory treat opens for employment for these people have been effectively cut off by distance. So the spiral of unemployment, poverty, and starvation has been given added impetus by political considerations.

Malnutrition in its various forms has many social effects. Liz Clarke, a KwaZulu social worker, comments: "The most significant contributory cause of malnutrition in our rural areas is the social chaos that results from the migratory labour system. We are unable to curb malnutrition.

If the causes of starvation are complex, its effects can be stated in simpler terms. At Baragwanath, seven out of 10 cases admitted to the paediatric department suffer from malnutrition. Even if the diagnosis is gastro-enteritis, pulmonary tuberculosis or pneumonia, the underlying contributory factor is often malnutrition, the breeding ground for a host of other ailments. In one hospital in KwaZulu, 75% of children admitted, of whom 10% later died, have malnutrition as the primary diagnosis.

High infant mortality is a dismal fact of black life. But there is a social and economic toll too. While difficult to measure, low productivity among black workers has, as major contributory factor, malnutrition and underemployment. Professor H.J. Waith, as director of the Institute of Social Research at Natal University, has stated that the costs of poverty are many, and that they are usually hidden. But, as taxpayers, we have to pay indirectly a proportion of the costs. As far as they relate to all health, lower productivity, stupid workers whose brains are permanently retarded at an early age due to malnutrition.

Once starvation has become endemic, a vicious cycle sets in. The director general of the World Health Organisation has noted: "The inevitable result is a downward spiral in which poor, malnourished parents produce malnourished children, who in turn will become poor and malnourished parents of the next generation."

Prospects for alleviation, especially in the rural areas, are bleak. What makes the problem far worse is the unpalatable fact that starvation in SA is closely related to race and moreover exists cheek by jowl with immense wealth. Starvation is thus a racial injustice which feeds a sense of grievance in a politically tense situation.

Any attempt to tackle starvation will have to look into the political and economic conditions that govern blacks. Chief among the socio-economic palliatives should be changes in the structure of employment to improve the situation of African workers. This means that a significant number of blacks, of both mental and economic ground, should be allowed to enter better-paid jobs. Fundamentally, this means stopping influx control and permitting market forces to operate freely in the industrial centres.

For the rural areas a much larger infusion of development capital and technical assistance according to Natal University economist Jill Nattrass, will aid in increasing average living levels. But less insistence on politically determined population removals, which cause social disruption and economic deprivation, will surely go further in the direction of tackling the problem.

The ideologues of Pretoria would have done well to consider this while digesting their Christmas turkey.

The most common and vivid image of starvation is of swollen-bellied children. These shrivelled and piteous victims suffer from kwashorkor - a serious protein deficiency, but not the worst Marasmus is the most severe manifestation of malnutrition.

The victims, as in kwashorkor, are children. They are underweight, dwarfed up creatures, who look like old folk.

The major cause of malnutrition is a deficiency of proteins, milk, meat, eggs, etc. Often, as is the case among blacks, the intake of excess carbohydrates, such as mealie meal, usually to the exclusion of other foodstuffs, causes an imbalance. The swollen belly of kwashorkor cases is the result of excess carbohydrates

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Minimum wage ‘won’t end poverty’

Free enterprise conference opens

Mercury Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — A minimum wage for all workers in South Africa would not end poverty among less-skilled workers and would instead reduce their employment opportunities, visiting American academic Professor Walter Williams said yesterday.

Prof. Williams, associate professor of economics at Temple University, Philadelphia, arrived in South Africa on Sunday to address the International free-enterprise conference which opened at the University of the Witwatersrand last night.

He is a leading opponent, alongside Nobel prize-winning United States economist Professor Milton Friedman, of the minimum wage law which is currently in force in the United States and said yesterday he was keen to make known to South Africans the inherent disadvantages of minimum-wage legislation.

“People usually press misguided- ly for a national minimum wage because they think it will eliminate poverty and guarantee well-paid employment. It is not that easy,” Prof. Williams said.

“The principle is really quite simple — the lower the price of something, the more people will buy it. The higher its price, the less it will sell.

No inducement

“If there is a law which says nobody can be paid less than R5 a month, then there is no inducement to a prospective employer to offer the job to a disadvantaged or slightly less productive worker for R25.

“This means that employment opportunities are most economically filled by less-skilled labour, which could not find employment under any other conditions. A minimum wage will close off these opportunities to the less-skilled workers.”

Prof. Williams said the South African economy provided an ideal illustration of the very selective and restricted benefits of a national minimum wage.

“The pro-minimum-wage coalition in this country is an amazing alliance between two groups which oppose each other in almost every other respect.

“Supporting the minimum wage on the one hand is the body of opinion that advocates it specifically because it will prevent the recruitment of less-skilled — Black — labour and will effectively reinforce job reservation.”

Minimum wage

“On the other hand a body of opinion supports the minimum wage because it is seen as a means of boosting incomes among Black workers and ensuring more consistent employment for them.”

“On each side the motivating rationale is basically misguided,” Prof. Williams said.

He added that Black workers stood to lose out materially if Western countries imposed restrictions on trade and investment with South Africa.

Economic analysts were all agreed that the upswing was continuing in the Natal Mercury, Tuesday.
South Africa" had finally lanved sustained moment
fui, the Minister of Finance, Senator Owen Horwood, said here last night.
Senator Horwood was delivering the opening ad
dress at the conference.
He said international in
vestors were showing more in
terest in the Republic than for some considerable time.
"All the world capital market wants is an indication that political stability in the sub-continent is going to continue.
"Is it not the strategy under these circumstances perfectly clear?"
"Is it not in our own in
terests to take the whole of southern Africa as a whole, was good for the Republic.
Senator Horwood spoke of the World Bank's charter and continued:
"We too, in southern Africa need such an institution in which the political, the market-oriented and the technological interests and talents can be brought together within one single, impersonal framework, relatively removed from the inconsistent pressures of domestic politics in any of the participating States.

Union
"The extension of the customs union of southern Africa towards what one may perhaps call an economic development union is, I believe, a matter which ought to be very thoroughly explored by the members of the union."
But there would be tough issues to solve before such an idea could become a reality.

Development cooperation in southern Africa through the agency of free market forces, required clear-out actions by the governments and administrations of the participating countries.

This was complicated by the various stages of political autonomy of the States.
"The framework of inter-governmental cooperation between the Republic and the so-called BLS countries (Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland) is less comprehensive than that between the Republic and Bophuthatswana, Venda or Transkei, while the present status of Black States like KwaZulu, Ciskei and Lebowa involves even less autonomy of political and administrative action.

"Beyond these governments and States we have economic links with Zimbabwwe - Rhodesia, Malawi, South West Africa, Mozambique, even Zambia, each of which requires rather specific modes of political behaviour.

"We must, therefore, be careful not to generalise too broadly about the institutions of co-operation. We should rather adopt a hard, practical and pragmatic approach."

Dualism
Senator Horwood said that perhaps the most practical approach in development co-operation was to start at home and to broaden out the concept as others around gained confidence in the Republic's administrative methods and political style.

The economic dualism in southern Africa did not neatly fit into any regional framework.

There were economically under-developed people within the areas of high growth. — (Sapa)
Subsistence level for blacks rises

By Sieg Hannig, Labour Reporter

Sharp increases in the living costs of blacks on poverty income levels have been recorded over the six months up to October:

These increases have raised the Household Subsistence Level (HSL) for blacks in South Africa's five major urban centres by an average of 8.4 percent in half a year. More than half of the 20 black areas surveyed, including the East Rand, showed increases of 10 percent or more in the six months. Among the worst hit is Germiston, with an increase of 13 percent.

Johannesburg fared better, with an 8 percent rise which puts the HSL for a Soweto family of six on R172,36 a month.

**FUEL PRICE**

The Institute for Planning Research of the University of Port Elizabeth, which calculates the HSL, blames the upsurge mainly on the fuel price increase.

In addition it notes increases in site rentals and water accounts on the East Rand which accounted for a R6,50 rise in Germiston, the hardest hit town.

It also notes "in the East Rand towns, the cost of electricity has increased by effectively 56 percent." Increases in the HSL for coloured families of five were much lower generally, except in Johannesburg where they also amounted to eight percent for the six months up to October.

This brings the HSL for a coloured family in Johannesburg to R177,75.

For the entire year up to October, the HSL for blacks in Johannesburg rose by 9.3 percent and that for coloured people by 12.9 percent.

By comparison, the Consumer Price Index for the year up to September increased by 14.3 percent and the "food only" index by an average of 16.5 percent.

The institute says the difference could be due to the fact that the HSL covers a more restricted range of basic commodities.
Pass laws: Black Sash warns of ‘catastrophe’

Own Correspondent

IN the wake of the moratorium for “illegal” black workers, the Black Sash yesterday made a scathing attack on the pass system, saying it had never felt such a sense of “impending catastrophe”.

In an emergency report released yesterday, the Sash said the anger and bitterness of black workers, and the feeling of hopelessness of those who wanted to help them, had reached a peak never before experienced since its advice office opened.

“Never have we felt more urgently the need to try to communicate to white South Africans the reality of what is happening.”

For the first time in all its experience, the Sash had no hope and no comfort to offer to the unregistered and the endorsed-out, the report said.

The report opened with the words: “The Prime Minister said that a reckless or careless government could turn South Africa into a powder keg within a matter of days. We are now watching the fuse to that powder keg burn shorter by the day.”

The final straw to precipitate a disaster might well prove to be this year’s legislation introducing the fine of R100 on the employer of an unregistered worker. The significance of this legislation had been obscured by the three-month moratorium and by the general denunciation that the Mabert report had to be welcomed as a major step forward.

“The R100 fine is a direct result of Dr Mabert’s recommendations and goes hand in hand with the implementation of stricter control over the admission of contract workers by the labour bureaux,” the report said.

To date the only saving factor for the people controlled by the pass laws had been the total inefficiency of the system. The vast, ponderous and expensive structure of influx control had not been able to prevent people from moving to places where they could find work.

The necessity of earning a living for themselves and for the survival of their children compelled workers to take on “illegal” jobs. Workers benefited from urban work even if they had to go to prison as a consequence.

“Is there is a 72.7 percent improvement in living standards for a worker from the Ciskei who works illegally in Pietermaritzburg for nine months and spends three months in prison, and a 170 percent improvement for someone from Lobwana who works six months in Johannes- burg and spends six months in prison,” the Black Sash said.

The report stressed the serious implications of the latest legislation:

- The new fine meant that there would now be no more “illegal” work available.
- About 60,000 black workers had been registered on one-year contracts in terms of the moratorium.
- Many of them would not be in the same job at the end of the contract period and so would not be able to register again.
- Thousands had not fulfilled the necessary conditions or had not found a job or lawful accommodation in time to be registered.
- Thousands of new “bantustan” job seekers would be thrown into the labour market at the end of this school year.
- Many labour tenants, who are currently being removed from land in Natal, would be rendered entirely dependent on jobs which they were not allowed to take.
- Poverty, hunger and the disease of malnutrition have been a way of life for thousands of South Africans for many years. Workers in the homelands are not allowed to move to the cities to seek for work. If they do so, they are not allowed to register in jobs they have found.” the report added.
In the quiet farming town of Magaliesberg there is bitterness among black workers who are housed in a slum built against the fence of the local co-op, where they work.

Over 200 men, women and children have been neglected by the West Rand Administration Board (WRAB) because no township has been built to house them in the area.

Labourers at the co-op are up in arms — not over rents on the approved dwellings but because they say they have not been given a single nail to build their own shanty town next to the Magaliesberg Graan Kooperasie.

Fears of victimisation inhibit talk about the continuing reality of abject living conditions in the 30 shacks, while several bureaucrats ponder the fate of the blacks.

"I'm sure not even a pig deserves such a place for home," said a 61-year-old resident, who refused to give his name pointing out his shack.

The old man started his work with the Graan Kooperasie 12 years ago and warns a meagre R14 a week as a gardener. He told of spending days looking for scrap zinc, wood, iron and nails to put up a "house" when he got the Kooperasie job in 1967.

The Magaliesberg Graan Kooperasie provided the plot, where the shacks have sprung up, squatter fashion.

Kooperasie manager, Mr P D Viljoen, said he has been waiting three years for the Department of Health and Community Development and the West Rand Administration Board to approve a site for the firm to help build a "better township."

According to Mr Viljoen, the workers were not supposed to build on the site. They had done so until investigations were completed into planning a "compound of better standards."

"We want to house them under better conditions and we are prepared to build, but we have to wait on all these departments for a decision," he explained.

But the old man was adamant in his bitterness at staying in the poor conditions.

"It is not nice staying here and even if you write about our lives and fortunes, won't change by tomorrow," he said.

"We have all been born here and will have to work until we can't anymore," he added.

A WRAB spokesman said the accommodation the Graan Kooperasie workers are using at present is allowed as a temporary expedient pending further investigation by the board into the feasibility of establishing a black township in Magaliesberg.

Other residents at the shanty town were equally hesitant about talking about their unhappiness over bad conditions there.

"It is not nice here but what can we do?" asked a mother of three children aged nine, six and four.

"It's a struggle because we have no location, but there is nothing we can do for ourselves," another mother of seven said.

"A third resident added: "There is nothing we can do about our life situation here. All of us have our job because we need to live and that is why we have to stay."
The family that will be forced to live on... 80 CENTS
Mrs Albertina Bhengu (left) and Mrs Florence Gumede with their children ... they will walk to work.

By MAUREEN GRIFFIN

A BLACK mother of two who earns R7 a week as a garment marker in Marburg, will have to support herself and her family on 80c a week from next month.

Mrs Florence Gumede now has only R2.55 a week left to live on after she has put aside bus fare, rent and money for paraffin for her Primus stove.

When the weekly bus fare increases by R1.75 on October 1, she will have 80c a week left.

Mrs Gumede and her two children live in a one-room shack in the Gamalakhe township near Port Shepstone. Her husband deserted them while she was expecting her son, who is now three.

She leaves home at 6.30am every day to work at Marburg Manufactures, a clothing factory.

Her bus fare now is R1.50 a week.

The rent for her tin shack — one room which serves as bedroom, bathroom, kitchen and living room — is R2.50 a month. Her water supply comes from a tap attached to the outside toilet, and she warmed on a Primus stove which also cooks the family's food.

The paraffin for the stove costs R2.25 a week.

Her greatest worry since the bus fare increase was announced is not here she will find the extra money — she's so poor that an extra R1.75 a week is just another hardship in a chronically hard world.

But she fears other blacks in the township will allow her to go to work using the bus to work since they have boycotted the service.

"If they fight with me, I will have to walk. But I must go to work," she says simply.

Sole support

A neighbour, Mrs Albertina Bhengu, who is also the sole support of two children, is more vehement: "We will walk," she says. "We will not pay the extra fare.

Mrs Bhengu, who also works at the clothing factory, earns R10.50 a week sewing "overalls." She started there a year ago for R4.50 a week.

Another neighbour, Mrs Betsie Mako, who supports five children, earns R28 a month as a domestic worker. She and her family also live in a one-room shack. The paraffin for their Primus stove costs R5.12 a month.

"What will she do when the bus fares increase?"

"I don't know," she shrugs. "I will have to foot it to work."
Half-naked people live in open hovels

Story by John Murray
Pictures: Graham Gainsford

Half-naked men, women and children are living in open hovels and under iron sheets within shouting distance of affluent Johannesburg suburbs.

With the Film Trust Arena tent providing a backdrop and Gill谀's hill in the near background, The Star discovered several groups of families living in shanty towns.

In surroundings resembling a refuse dump, an old woman, crippled and walking with the aid of a stick, had just finished cooking a meagre breakfast for her five grandchildren.

An old, rusted refrigerator presented the only possible form of shelter in sight. She said her name was Mrs Evelyn Ngwenya, but she could not remember how old she was.

"We have been here since the middle of last year," she said, and sometimes her friends, who had staffed for her and the children stay with them.

Otherwise they sleep in the open.

The old grandmother was from Newcastle, Natal, originally, and she said that until the middle of 1973 she was in domestic employment in the Cape. She was then deserted and her arm in the direction of the big tent.

Then, among discarded pieces of motorbikes, an old rusted wheelbarrow and the wheel of a baby's pram, we found Mrs Freda Nkando, who is 85.

Something that could hardly even be called a shanty is where she and Mr. John Lobu are living.

She burst into tears when we arrived. Looking at the assembly of bits of corrugated iron, an old gate and old bedsprings, she said:

"People just came and burnt everything, they said all our clothes and blankets are gone."

Mr. Lobu, like all other young men in the area, was away looking for work. Mr. Nkando said she did not know how many people were there.

The Black Star said there was no glass for words, and it is here that these people are not legally committed to any area."
Avert a drift to poverty, Govt urged

Pretoria Bureau

AGAINST the background of higher oil and gold prices, it was the Government's duty to take urgent corrective measures to see that South Africa's man in the street did not drift towards poverty, the Progressive Federal Party's spokesman on finance, Mr Harry Schwarz, said yesterday.

He warned of the social dangers of a further impoverishment of the already massive numbers of poor South African families.

Mr Schwarz was reacting to a statement by the Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank, Dr Gerhard de Kock, who was reported at the weekend as saying that oil and gold price hikes would lead to a re-distribution of incomes in South Africa.

Dr De Kock said some sectors, including the gold mining industry, would be favoured while others, particularly the man in the street, would be detrimentally affected.

Mr Schwarz appealed for action to ensure that the inflationary burden was shared equally and not substantially by the working man alone.

The re-distribution of wealth was a touchy political subject both in South Africa and internationally.

Re-distribution of income away from the man in the street to the rich was political dynamite, which the Government should act at once to defuse.

South Africa could not afford this situation if social stability was to be maintained.

Mr Schwarz said the public would have to be satisfied that rising prices were inevitable and not just due to poor management of the economy by the Government or to exploitation.

There was no doubt the increase in prices, combined with the increased gold price, would have the effect to which Dr De Kock referred.

In the absence of corrective measures could it be assumed it was Government policy to allow a re-distribution of income from the working man to the richer sections of the community, Mr Schwarz asked.

South Africa benefited from the increased gold price. Mr Schwarz suggested that the extra taxation collected be used to subsidise the essentials of life.

"Prices of mealie meal and dairy products have already been raised, bread will follow shortly and so will transport and a mass of other essentials," he said.

A re-distribution of real income away from the man in the street was not only unjust, it threatened social stability and placed question marks over the manner in which the economy was being managed.

Pensioners on fixed incomes were hit not only by inflation, but by falling interest rates.

The Government refused to create investments for the elderly to protect them against inflation as was done in other countries.

Social pensioners were subjected to an archaic means test, unchanged for many years.

Salary and wage earners, if they received increases, found they were inadequate to keep up with the rate of inflation and living standards were dropping.

Food prices and other essentials were raised at regular intervals, yet profit figures also appeared to be increasing.

The consumer received inadequate protection under existing circumstances, he said.
MINIMUM WAGES
Bare survival

Poverty datum lines, once scorned by employers, are gaining ground — if only in the form of lip-service. But they still don’t cut much ice with the Wage Board.

The board has rejected objections lodged by Toucan and the SA Institute of Race Relations to its unskilled wage recommendations on the grounds that the Wage Act doesn’t allow it to take PDLs into account. PDLs, says board chairman Izak Claassen, are based on the cost of living of an employee and his family, whereas the board’s job is to set minimum standards for the breadwinner only.

So the board’s initial recommendations (FM September 22) have now been gazetted as legally-binding minima, despite the objections. The new minima, which set a benchmark for unskilled wages, will range from R15.60 a week for women workers in Bloemfontein to R18.40 for their counterparts in the Cape and R17.20 on the Reef. These figures are well below the PDL — which in Johannesburg stands at R168.16 a month (R39 a week) for a black family.

Black workers tempted to seek a better deal in the Transkei, however, are wasting their time. Four wage determinations just gazetted there set minima below even those in SA.

In the commercial distributive trade, a minimum starting wage of R30 a month, in rural areas, R45 in smaller towns, and R50 in major towns has been set. In the saw-milling industry, the figure is R2 a day for men and R1.50 for women, while in accommodation and catering it is R2, a day for all workers. Best off are employees in the motor industry, whose new daily minimum is R3.60.

In only one case — saw-milling — did worker representatives give evidence to Transeer’s Wage Board before it set the new minima. In the motor trade, the board apparently wanted to set the minimum at R2, but changed its mind when the Motor Industries Federation said R3.60 was roughly the going rate.

For the first time since it was started in 1973, the Natal Chamber of Industries’ quarterly survey of average wages of unskilled Africans in manufacturing has failed to register an increase. The index (December 1973 = 100) remained static at 190.12 in the December quarter year. This translates to a weekly wage of R34.26. The wage is a minimum cash wage excluding extras and applies to the lowest grade of unskilled worker.

Although wages remained unchanged in the last quarter of 1978 there was an increase of 7% over the year as a whole.
Squeezed in Soweto

The cost of living for Soweto residents continues to rise at a faster rate than the official Consumer Price Index, according to figures shortly to be released by the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce (JCC).

The JCC's latest budget for a family of five in Soweto calculates that the bread line in SA's largest African township had risen to R158.43 by November.

The JCC also estimates that recent price rises for bread and sugar, together with phase one of the Soweto rent increases and the proposed Pulco bus fare hikes, will push this figure up to R163.60 this month.

The JCC's calculations do not, however, allow for the recent fertiliser price rise, which is likely to push food costs even higher later this year.

November's figure of R158.43 compares with a budget of R137.76 for the same month in 1976 — a 15% rise in Soweto price levels. In this period, the CPI for the Witwatersrand area rose by 11.9%, a clear indication that the cost of living for urban Africans is rising faster than the official CPI indicates.
wooden boards to place alongside their beds.

All roofs are made of asbestos. Only the rain.

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dormitory was

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of medium the rest, the

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remainder are within the
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For an example photograph of

Separate kitchen
grubby. From waist-high side
Most of them are often dirty with cold water co

the CPI - 9.9%. The rise for the Reef however has been far in excess in some towns double the CPI (see table).

The chief cause, says Professor Johann Potgieter, who runs the survey, is accommodation cost - the administered site and house rental increases imposed by the Bantu Affairs Administration

Yet Potgieter finds that administered rises in the price of bread, sugar and other basic commodities have not had much effect on the HSL. "These increases affect the HSL items to a lesser extent than those in the CPI."

The explanation for that is that the HSL is based on an official minimum diet. The rise in the bread price is not included, for example, because the diet uses corn, rather than white bread.

In absolute terms, Windhoek remains the most expensive city for Africans (and coloureds) with Johannesburg and Cape Town not far behind. Semi-rural areas like King William's Town, Peddie and Umtata are the cheapest.

For coloured people, the burden has been somewhat lighter over the past year. Their overall HSL has risen by only 8.3% - less than the CPI. Three of the major urban areas - Johannesburg, Durban and Bloemfontein - do however show increases in the coloured HSL far above the CPI.

At present the black HSL is rising at a slower rate than during the middle Seventies, when it rose 42% in two years. But the general salary raise could get it going again. Says Potgieter: "It's obviously too early to predict the exact effect. But it's certain to be the most crucial factor in our next survey."

l off by a 6' wall. The rest of the dormitory but are still a dormitory has a completely sepa-

(See Fig. 2, p. 21.) The dormitory-sheds, see the whereas the rest tend to be very kitchen having only a r on which are paraffin cookers.

The porcelain sinks by contrast ink inside, there is usually a
THE BREADLINE

Effect of GST

The full effects of GST on black workers may not have been felt yet. That is the major conclusion which could be drawn from the latest Household Subsistence Level (HSL) released by the University of Port Elizabeth's Institute of Planning Research.

The HSL is the minimum an African family of six, or a coloured family of five, needs to survive. It does not include a number of items which make up a normal household budget and some quarters believe 50% should be added to the HSL figure to calculate a "decent" family budget.

The latest figures indicate that the African and coloured breadline rose 5.9% between April and October this year. The corresponding figure for October 1977 to this April was 3.8%. This 2.1% rise in the rate of increase may indicate GST's effects, but in some areas, notably the Reef, these have apparently not yet been felt.

The rise in Johannesburg's HSL for the April-October period was 1.9% (see table) and that in most Reef towns was negligible — in a few the HSL actually fell slightly.

UPP's Prof Johann Potgieter, who

conducts the HSL surveys, stresses that it is too early to pick up a definite trend in HSL rises directly attributable to GST. He adds that the relatively small increases in these areas are explained by stable or reduced prices in "seasonal" items such as food and clothing, which make up a large portion of the HSL.

In many areas, however, HSL increases over the last six months have

<table>
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<th>Household Subsistence Level October 1978</th>
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indeed been high. Cape Town shows a 10.2% increase for Africans (partly explained by a recent rent increase), Port Elizabeth 8.4% and Bloemfontein 9.2%.

Potgieter points out, however, that the percentage increase for the past 12 months varies little from centre to centre. On average the breadline over that period increased by 10.6% for Africans and 8.8% for coloured people. This is slightly lower than the 11.7% CPI rise over the same period.

The African HSL has tended to rise more than that for coloured people because, says Potgieter, Africans rely on mealie meal for their staple food and coloured people on bread. The mealie meal price has risen more rapidly than the bread price over the last six months.
Although many were unable to attend the prayers on the 1st of this month, the Will T. Beebe funeral was a moving service. The gathering was filled with warmth and affection, as we all gathered to remember a true friend and mentor.

The church family at St. John's Church was filled with gratitude for the love and dedication that Will T. Beebe brought to our community.

For July 1977:

Intentions:

- The family of Will T. Beebe
- Friends and neighbors of the Beebe family
- The congregation of St. John's Church

For the Pastoral Care Committee:

- All those in the congregation who have lost loved ones
- All those in need of prayer and support

For the children:

- All children in the congregation
- All children in need of prayer and support

For the elderly:

- All those who are elderly in the congregation
- All those who are elderly in need of prayer and support

For the sick:

- All those who are sick in the congregation
- All those who are sick in need of prayer and support

For the babies:

- All babies in the congregation
- All babies in need of prayer and support

For the lost:

- All those who are lost in the congregation
- All those who are lost in need of prayer and support

For the ones in need of help:

- All those who are in need of help in the congregation
- All those who are in need of help in need of prayer and support

For the ones who need to be remembered:

- All those who are remembered in the congregation
- All those who are remembered in need of prayer and support
Soweto—where poor pay more

An exclusive report by Consumer Mail's Vita Palestrant

By VITA PALESTRANT
Consumer Mail

PEOPLE in Soweto pay considerably more than those living in Houghton for household essentials and the difference would be enough to pay for two-thirds of the electrification of Soweto.

A comparative price survey carried out by the South African Council of Churches Ombudsman Office shows it is substantially cheaper to buy groceries in Killarney than in Soweto.

In the survey 13 essential items were priced in Soweto and Killarney, where Houghton residents shop.

Differences were substantial. For example, baked beans cost 24c in Killarney and 34c in Soweto—a difference of 11c or 45%.

The following list shows retail prices, with Killarney prices in brackets:

- Oats 55c (32c)
- Rice 45c (36c)
- Corned meat 64c (57c)
- Soap 25c (33c)
- Meat meal 50c (48c)
- Soap powder 66c (61c)
- Tea R1,50 (R1,03)
- Polished 46c (43c)
- Condensed milk 29c (32c)
- Torch batteries 50c (45c)
- Petroleum jelly 25c (21c)
- Scouring powder 39c (25c)
- Baked beans 35c (24c)

The ombudsman, Mr Eugene Roelofse, said: "There is not a single supermarket in Soweto and this means the poor must purchase their food at higher prices than the wealthy."

"Even if this crazy system costs each Soweto resident R1 a week extra, then on a population estimate of 200,000, which is ridiculously low, about R47 million a year is being taken out of the pockets of the poor unnecessarily. This is about two-thirds of what the electrification of Soweto would cost." He said Government interference and restrictions on black traders in townships had been directly responsible for this situation.

These restrictions, said, had largely strangled free competition and the development of low-cost, mass marketing.

"We welcome moves to lift these trading restrictions, but point out that the damage had already been done."

"Not all restrictions have been lifted. The Bantu Affairs Minister, Mr Cruywagen, is still dithering on this vital issue. The Government should stop looking at black areas as places which feed white areas with customers."

Mr Roelofse called on the Government to establish a special high-powered committee to tackle the cost of living in black townships.
Haggling over figures

There is a discrepancy between the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce (JCC) Soweto household budget figures released at the end of last month and Household Subsistence Level (HSL) calculations published last week by Professor Johann Potgieter of the University of Port Elizabeth (UPE).

Potgieter put the African breadline at just over R130 a month in the major urban areas, and also suggested that the rate of increase was down on last year’s. The JCC put the Soweto breadline for May at R152 per month, and calculated that it had risen by a staggering 10.3% between last November and February — the highest rise in six years. (FM April 29 gave some details.)

Potgieter puts the Soweto figure at R135 and calculates only a 4.3% rise since April last year.

Admittedly, the JCC took the proposed Soweto rent rises into account. But, even if the increases are discounted, this lops only R5.50 off its figure and reduces the percentage increase to 6.2% — still 25% a year.

Potgieter’s HSL is an absolute minimum, providing only for the barest of necessities for a family of six. But he tells the FM that 50% should be added to his HSL in each area to get a “decent” living standard. This would, to take Soweto, push his minimum up from R135 to just over R200.

The JCC also works out two figures a Minimum Living Level (MLL) — roughly equivalent in concept to Potgieter’s HSL — and a total budget for a family of five, which is arrived at by adding items like writing materials, amusements, personal care, and savings. This second figure (R152) it regards as sufficient for decent living — despite the fact that it is much less than Potgieter’s R200 final figure.

How then is the discrepancy between the very rapid rise in the JCC’s breadline figure and the much slower rise in Potgieter’s figure to be explained? One reason seems to be different methods of calculating food costs. Potgieter says he doesn’t include any processed or packaged foods “because these tend to rise faster than unprocessed foods due to extraneous factors like increased packaging prices.”

The JCC uses the Consumer Price Index as a guide, while Potgieter relies on field work in shops.

The FM tells the JCC it “tries to get away from the idea that Africans don’t eat so called ‘Western’ foods.” It therefore includes in its food basket items which Potgieter doesn’t.

Transport costs might be another area of difference. Potgieter says his figures calculate only for “the cheapest possible transport.” A train fare hike therefore wouldn’t be included if bus travel were cheaper.

Finally, the JCC has included anticipated rises as a result of the recent hike in the maize price, the newly-imposed sales duty, and so on. These would not have taken effect when Potgieter made his calculations. Potgieter concludes that his figures are “extremely susceptible to seasonal fluctuations.”

So the experts are divided. And many Africans believe that even the JCC figures are conservative. They point to the fact, for instance, that the JCC allows only a meagre R2 for medical expenses and R1.80 for education.

The most recent Department of Statistics figures put average African pay at the retail trade at R82 a month, with hotels paying a meagre R54 on average. Manufacturing wages, however, have improved to R141 a month.

If one accepts that business should be aiming at about R200 a month, there’s long way to go.
Optimism over low HSL rise

Own Correspondent

PORT ELIZABETH. — The household subsistence level (HSL) for blacks in South Africa showed another encouragingly low increase during the past six months, according to the latest survey of the UPE Institute for Planning Research.

The director of the institute, Professor J F Potgieter, has said the most striking feature of the latest survey, even when viewed over the past year, is the low general increase in the HSL of blacks.

During the past six months, by far the highest increase for Africans occurred in Kimberley, where the HSL rose by 5.1 percent. Otherwise changes ranged from 2.9 percent increases for King William’s Town and Uitenhage, to decreases of 1.1 percent for Cape Town, -1.5 percent for Brits, 0.6 percent for Bloemfontein and 0.7 percent for Windhoek.

For Durban there was no change at all since last October.

During the past year similar encouraging results were reported for Africans. The highest increases were in Uitenhage (8.7 percent) and Peddie 7.5 percent, while the lowest were in Durban 2.3 and Pretoria 3.5 percent.

"The average increase for Africans in the 13 surveyed centres over the past year was only 5.5 percent.

"In Port Elizabeth, African HSL rose by 4.6 percent over the past year and the increase for coloureds was 8.3 percent.

"During the past six months PE African HSL totals increased by 1 percent while for coloured people the total was 3.6 percent," Professor Potgieter said.

For the big urban centres African HSL levels range from R125.87 a month for Bloemfontein, to R134.98 for Cape Town and R135.15 for Johannesburg.
Poverty tightens grip on Blacks

By GERALD REILLY

Many Soweto and other Reef township families—there could be half—were living below the minimum subsistence level, the director of the SA Institute of Race Relations, Mr Fred van Wyk, said yesterday.

The Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce estimated this week that R151.92 a month was needed to maintain an African family of five.

Mr Van Wyk said the figures proved that poverty was tightening its grip on the townships.

They were hopeful at one stage that wages would rise ahead of price hikes. This has not happened, and more and more families are unable to maintain marginal living standards.

RELIABLE

He said there were no recent reliable figures indicating the number of families in Soweto living below the minimum subsistence level, but it could be as high as 50 per cent.

The last survey, made in 1972 when it was found that three in five Soweto families were living below or on the poverty line.

He agreed with the Chamber that the R151.92 would rise in the next few months.

"With higher rentals, higher basic-food prices and transport fares, more families are bound to suffer."

There was desperate need for relief and this should be the responsibility of the Government or employers, or both.

MR WHITMORE would be humane and an investment in security. Rising numbers of unemployed Africans who are hungry families constitute a serious security threat," said Mr Van Wyk.
Township poverty is growing — race body

PRETORIA — A large number of families in Soweto and other Rand townships — it could be as high as 50 per cent — were living below the minimum subsistence level, the director of the SA Institute of Race Relations, Mr F. van Wyk, said yesterday.

Earlier this week the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce estimated the minimum needed monthly to maintain a black family of five was R151.92.

Mr Van Wyk said if this were so, and he had no reason to doubt it against a background of recent price rises, then poverty was tightening its grip on the townships.

"Poverty there has always been, and there were hopes at one stage that wage increases would run ahead of price rises. However, this hope has not been realised, and more and more families are unable to maintain even marginal living standards."

The last survey, he said, was made in 1972 when it was found that in Soweto 60 per cent of families were living below or on the poverty datum line.

He agreed with the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce that the R151.92 would rise during the next few months "with higher rentals, higher basic food prices and commuter fares, increasing numbers of families are destined to fall below the minimum subsistence level."

"Not only would this be the humane course to take, but it would be an investment in security. Rising numbers of unemployed blacks with hungry families must constitute a serious security threat," Mr Van Wyk added. — DDC.
BLACK POVERTY

The haunting spectre

The spectre of poverty still haunts South Africa. This is clear from the latest brendline figures, released this week, from Professor Johann Potgieter of the Institute for Planning Research at the University of Port Elizabeth.

Potgieter updates his Household Subsistence Level (HSL) — formerly Poverty Datum Line — figures every six months to take account of rising living costs. As the tables show, costs for Coloured families have risen most sharply in Bloemfontein and Pretoria.

African families hardest hit by inflation in the past year are those in Johannesburg, the East Rand, Umtata, East London, and Windhoek.

Comparison of Potgieter’s figures with official earnings statistics shows that average African earnings in practically every industry are well below the family brendline. For example, the most recent figures show that African monthly earnings in June were R109 in manufacturing and construction, R91 in the motor trade, R84 in the wholesale trade and R70 in the retail trade.

Local authorities paid an average of only R78, while African workers in hotels managed to scrape together a meagre R51 on average.

The banking sector was the best payer, at R151.

Families with second breadwinners fare a bit better but the vast majority of African families still have to eke out a living at below-brendline incomes. Last year’s AMPS survey conducted country-wide by Market Research Africa for the SA Advertising Research Foundation revealed that 63.5% of African households had less than R80 a month on which to live, 25.4% between R80 and R149, and only 11.1% more than R150.

Staggeringly, nearly a quarter — 22.5% — had less than R20.

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Soweto family’s CoL is up to R152

By PATRICK LAURENCE

The increased site rentals will bring the minimum monthly cost of maintaining a Soweto household of five to R151.92, the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce said yesterday.

"By the end of May the budget will have increased to R137, a 14.5 per cent increase over the November 1976 budget of R137.76," a spokesman for the chamber said.

The further rise in the minimum budget between now and end of next month will be the result of increases in the price of maize, the higher sales tax on household items and the higher rail tariffs.

The chamber puts the new rental at R17.50 as against R12.40 for November last year, an increase of 44.35 per cent.

But the new rental includes site rental of R12 as against R5.50 in November, water and light costs of R3, and house rental of R2.00.

Only site rentals will go up next month by R5.50 or more than 80 per cent, according to a chamber spokesman.

The spokesman said: "I was given the R5.50 increase in site rental last month by Mr M. P. Wilsnach, director of housing with the West Rand Bantu Administration Board."

At R74.51 food is still the main item on the budget followed by rent. Clothing ranks third at R16.98.

In Pretoria yesterday the advisory boards of Mamelodi and Atteridgeville released details of proposed increases in site rentals. The proposed increase from R2.57 to R4.65 a month is an increase of more than 80 per cent.

Meanwhile, a Soweto Urban Bantu Council delegation headed by the chairman, Mr David Thebehli, is to meet two Cabinet Ministers in Cape Town on April 29 to discuss greater self-governing powers for urban Blacks."
African bus fares up 14 pc

Bus fares for Africans commuting between Johannesburg and the townships are to be increased by up to 14 percent on 30 September, effective immediately for all routes.

Mr. Hans Holben, chairman of the board of directors, said the increases would affect some 50,000 passengers daily.

The increases would affect the following routes:
- Aeroplane Avenue
- Kgalela
- 8th Avenue
- Nkosikazi Avenue
- Westgate
- Voortrekker
- Westgate
- Thokozani
- 3rd Avenue
- Jolia Avenue
- 2nd Avenue
- Ekonkoko

The chairman said the increases were necessitated by the company's need to maintain adequate services while improving the quality of transport.

They also informed the Transport Board of their intention to implement the increases.

Mr. Holben emphasized that all fares, including those for children, would be affected.

A special meeting of the trading and transport committee of the CBC was convened with Putco officials present to go into the question of fares.

In consultation with community leaders and Putco officials, another meeting would be held to discuss all fare increases.

Mr. Holben said, "We believe the increases are necessary to maintain a quality service."
submit an essay on any of the following topics not later

1. the pax Augusta advertised and to what extent was the

2. Aussenpolitik des Augustus u. die augusteische Dichtung

3. the 'Ara Pacis' Journal of Roman Studies 50, '60

4. Venus in a relief of the Ara Pacis Augustae American

5. 'Ara Pacis Augustae' JRS 51, '61 153-6.

6. evant passages in Brunt and Moore Res Gestae Divi Augusti.

7. Mason trials in Augustus' principate.

8. PDL

9. misused

10. claim

ALICE — A critical breakthrough in techniques of wage determination was disclosed by Prof. Edward Batson, head of the Department of Sociology and Criminology at the University of Fort Hare, when he addressed a management seminar in Bloemfontein.

He described how the Poverty Datum Line (PDL) and the Effective Minimum Level (EML) have been falsified by himself and his wife in South African social research for more than 30 years ago, had been misused and abused from time to time by being quoted in support of arguments and policies which in fact cannot claim their authority.

"He said he had protested against these wrong uses, and they had now ceased.

"Prof. Batson described the developments he had been working on over the past year in the hope of freeing the PDL from the abuses to which it had become subject in the field of industrial relations.

"In place of the specialised uses of a poverty datum line, a line from which poverty can be measured, I have generalised, a chromatic level from which welfare policy, welfare policy, or any other chromatic phenomenon can be studied. By means of this process of wage negotiation," he said.
Deur BURRIDGE VENTER

VOORDAT standpunt ingeneem word oor hoe loongapings tussen die verskillende bevolkingsgroep in Suid-Afrika gehanteer moet word, moet daar eers gekyk word na wat armoede is. Só het prof. S. P. Cilliers van Stellenbosch vandeesweek gesê op 'n seminar wat Perromnes gehou het.

Hy het gesê dat armoede nie maklik definieerbaar is nie, maar dat die drie benaderings van die "denker Reis" wel bruikbaar is.

Armoede kan eerstens benader en beskryf word as dit wat 'n mens of 'n huisgesin nodig het om te bestaan. Hier word geen luksesheid raakgesien nie en net die broodnodige word in die benadering genoem.

Die tweede benadering kom daarop neer dat lewend wat minder as byvoorbeeld 50 persent van die gemiddelde inkomste van die bevolking verdien, 'n arm mens is.

Alle negatiewe of nadelige aspekte wat op die gemeenskap as geheel kan inwerk, is die derde benadering van armoede. Hier word dus verwys na eksterne faktore.

Minimum

In Suid-Afrika is bas geadoe deur verskillende instellings om 'n minimum-loonskaal daar te stel, maar toenemend kritiek kan hier teen die gespreek word omdat die benadering van armoede nie lyd by sy volle waarde in geregeneer is nie.

Die instellings het gewoonlik net die eerste benadering in armoede gevolg, namlik dit, wat benodig word om te staan. Hulle het dit as die oorgedoen wat elke individu se behoeftes verskil en dat geen "huisgesin"-dieselde nodig het nie.

Voorts het prof. Cilliers ge…

eerste plaas by die basis le en nie by die klasse nie. Daar die bestuur se verantwoordelikheid.

Prof Cilliers het aan sy gehoor 'n paar riglyne gegee om die hoesse maatskapplike produkse uit werkers te kry teen die nuwe koste vir die werkgewers Dit kom keer op

Op al drie Reis se be

naderings ten opsigte van armoede in ag te neem

Ken eerder die individu as wat hy arbeit as 'n groot mag sien.

Stem opleiding nie as 'n "los nie, maar as 'n lantermyn-beloëning.

Onrealisties

Hierdie vlakke van inkome noem UNISA die minimum bestaansvlak en die minvul-

lende bestaansvlak. UPE noem hulle die huishoudelike bestaansvlak en die huishou-

delike effektiewe vlak.

Om die eerste twee vlakke van beide universiteite te gebruik, is onrealisties, aange-

neen dit net van teorestation aard is. Die ander vlakke is maklik meer bruikbaar, het prof. Cilliers gesê, maar daarop gewys dat beide universiteite van dit net nie in die "pad" daarvan nie.

Verder het die universiteit een persent van diens nemen met 'n huishouding van 33 persent van die hooi van die huishou-

ding se inkome het.

Riglyne

Dit is so dat produkse eers moet sty voor die werkgever self, aan werkers betaal kan word, net die professor gesê. Maar
THE HOUSEHOLD SUBSISTENCE LEVEL IN THE
MAJOR URBAN CENTRES OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA:
OCTOBER, 1975

by

J.F. POTGIETER

INSTITUTE FOR PLANNING RESEARCH
UNIVERSITY OF PORT ELIZABETH

Research Report No. 15

October, 1975
Port Elizabeth

ISBN 0 86988 092 6
‘Essential to fix minimum wages’

Labour Reporter

The compilers of both of South Africa’s national minimum or subsistence levels have made a strong plea in Johannesburg for minimum wages to be at least equivalent to these guidelines — about R110 to R120 a month.

The only prerequisite to the appeal by Professor P A Nel and Professor J-F Potgieter was that nobody should be put out of work as a result of the introduction of such a wage.

Their call was directed at several hundred personnel managers from leading firms throughout South Africa at the “Paypro” convention of the Institute of Personnel Management yesterday.

“It is essential to fix minimum wages,” said Professor Nel, referring to South Africa’s large percentage of illiterate and unskilled workers.

LOW MORALE

“Employees with incomes below their Minimum Living Level (MLL) or Household Subsistence Level (HSL) necessarily have very low productivity levels and low morale.

“Apart from the moral unacceptability of starvation wage levels, employers can only gain by the improved morale and higher productivity that paying at least minimum wages brings.”

The MLL as provisionally computed by Professor Nel’s Bureau of Market Research of the University of Port Elizabeth, stood at R112.82 for a Soweto family of six last month.

The HSL, calculated by Professor Potgieter’s Institute for Planning Research at the University of Port Elizabeth, stood at R119.89 for a Soweto family of six in October.

Both denoted the minimum required to maintain health, hygiene and clothing, said Professor Nel.

“But rational expenditure is assumed throughout,” he pointed out.

“As it is unlikely that persons at this living level know very much about dietary requirements or manage to curb unnecessary spending, the sum estimated for the MLL or HSL is at best a theoretical minimum.”

Professor Nel also made the following points:

• The income of other household members (besides the breadwinner) should be ignored in determining minimum wage levels.

• Every undertaking in this country is under an obligation to pay their employees the maximum wages their productivity allows.

WIDE GAP

• Firms should be willing to pay their employees equal wages for doing the same work, irrespective of colour, provided their production is equal.

• The living standard of Whites in South Africa is far higher than that of non-Whites. Every effort should be made to narrow this gap.

• The permanent solution to the problem of low wages lies in compulsory schooling and technical training.
BLACK POVERTY
Still widespread 7/5/76

Figures just released by the Institute for Planning Research of the University of Port Elizabeth show that poverty is still widespread among Blacks.

The Institute updates its Household Subsistence Level (HSL) — formerly Poverty Datum Line — figures every six months to take account of rising living costs. As the table shows, costs have risen more steeply in the PWV-complex than in other areas. In Springs, for example, the increase over the past six months is 12%.

Johann Potgelter, director of the Institute, says that increased rentals in some centres have had a marked effect.

The HSL for an African family of six is now approaching R130 a month in most of the big industrial centres. In some places, like Windhoek, it is even higher.

The FM has compared the HSL figures (which are for April) with latest available earnings data from the Department of Statistics (for December and January). The only sector where average African earnings are above the HSL is financial institutions. The reason why earnings are relatively high here is that this sector has a much smaller proportion of unskilled workers than most others.

Even allowing for the fact that the Department of Statistics figures are now a few months out of date, average earnings in all the other sectors are below the HSL.

Just how far below the breadline some families are is illustrated by the chart, which compares Statistics data with the Johannesburg HSL. For example, average African earnings in licensed hotels (R57 a month) are only 45% of this HSL. Workers on minimum rates are even worse off.

Potgelter's HSL figures for Coloured families are slightly higher than those for Africans, and Coloured earnings are higher than African. Even so, Statistics data show that average Coloured earnings in the retail trade, hotels, the GPO, and the SAR are below the HSL. In manufacturing and the wholesale trade average earnings are roughly at HSL levels.

The HSL allows for only the barest necessities. It comprises the cost of a rudimentary diet, clothing, fuel and lighting, washing materials, rent, and the transport of the breadwinner to and from work.

It makes no provision for income tax, transport for other members of the family, medical care, education, let alone savings and dozens of other items most White families would take for granted.
Breadline studies criticized

By BOB MOLLOY

BLACK WAGE RISES are a cause of inflation, have brought about an increase in liquor consumption and are based on the unproved notion that Blacks are living below the breadline, says a Port Elizabeth economist.

These views were circulated to Government officials, academics, employers and news media yesterday in a privately published pamphlet by Mr E V Glass, of Lovemore Heights, Port Elizabeth.

Mr Glass, who holds the BSc and BCom degrees and is a member of the Institute of Personnel Managers, describes himself as "an administrator in the field of remuneration".

The paper is a wide-ranging attack on academics who have tried to formulate a Household Subsistence Level (HSL) as a basis for a minimum wage.

(The HSL is based on the concept of the Poverty Datum Line in 1941 by Professor E Basin of the University of Cape Town who described it as the barest minimum required to stay alive.)

Mr Glass says that he first noticed something wrong with HSL studies when he found "Bantu earning wages equal to the HSL (who) seemed to enjoy a far higher standard of living than the minimum bare necessity level."

He gives figures to show that Black wages increased by more than 20 percent during the year following June, 1974, while White wages rose by 12.3 percent. This gave Blacks an actual improvement in standard of living of 5.6 percent while their productivity rose only by two percent.

"You can only consume what you produce and the effect must be inflationary," said Mr Glass.

Queruing the work of Professor J P Potgieter, director of the Institute for Planning Research at the University of Port Elizabeth, the author of the HSL, Mr Glass says that many of the quantities on which the study was based were "the subjective opinions of just one person working as a research assistant for the Institute of Race Relations."

Even the way in which the research was carried out brought the application of the HSL "seriously in question."

A study on liquor purchasing quoted which found that the average Bantu male spends 30 percent of his earnings on liquor. This rose to 36 percent in the lowest earnings group — those earning R15 a week.

From this Mr Glass concludes that "it is safe to assume that a very considerable portion of the average household income is spent on items not contemplated in the HSL."

He adds that in October, 1975, the BWF food component was increased by R9 a month a household.

"The normal diet of Bantu is fairly simple, and one cannot help question the need to introduce a diet which is more varied and sophisticated especially in view of the fact that the previous diet met all the nutritional requirements," Mr Glass said.

He said many South African employers with strong overseas connections were under pressure to improve Black wages along the lines of PDL studies.
Tenants pay more

Staff Reporter

Tenants of new houses in Soweto are being charged a rental of R19.95 to R20.95 a month — about R10 a month more than tenants of the old houses in the township are paying.

The new four-roomed houses have been allocated to 24 families who have moved out of single rooms or semi-detached houses in Soweto.

The houses have no inside doors, ceilings, plastering, electricity or inside toilets.

The chairman of the Soweto Urban Bantu Council, Mr T. J. Makhaya, yesterday condemned the rentals as exorbitant. Tenants settled in the township's older houses were paying only R10.60.

The West Rand Administration Board had also not consulted the council about the allocation of houses, he said.
R108 for survival

The minimum level of living of an African family of five in Soweto now stands at R108.66 a month says the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce.

The standard is made up of the bare essentials upon which a family in Soweto can survive, although in addition the Chamber calculated a monthly budget which includes several "luxuries" such as for amusement and sport and the stands at R118.02.
'Stop paying domestics pocket money.'

By PAM KLEINOT
Consumer Mail

THE BLACK SASH yesterday urged employers to stop paying "pocket-money" wages to domestic workers.

Mrs Joyce Harris, national president of the Black Sash, said domestics were often the breadwinners of their families. Her comments follow a report in the Rand Daily Mail yesterday that the Minimum Living Level (MLL) for a Soreslo family of five had risen from R137.60 to R175.25 between May 1976 and May 1977 - an increase of 19.9% or 13% a month.

The figures were released by the Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce who conduct a bi-annual survey. In order to arrive at the Effective Living Level, 80% is added to the MLL figure, bringing it to R290.81.

Mrs Sue Gordon, national organiser of the Domestic Workers and Employers' Project (Dwep), said yesterday Dwep recommended a minimum cash wage of R65 a month for a 44-hour week after conducting a survey more than a year ago.

"We call on employers to pay more than the minimum as they will realise that it is an inadequate wage for domestic workers who have families to support," she said.

However, employers who could not afford to pay the minimum wage should pay what they could afford but expect only a proportion of the work, Mrs Gordon said.

In a feature article published in The Star last week, Mr. Joydey Cook, a Rhodes University sociology lecturer, reported on an extensive survey on the plight of domestic workers in the Eastern Cape. The survey found the average monthly wage for full-time work - at least a 44-hour week - was R25.

She also found 85% of the 222 domestic workers interviewed worked on public holidays, 22% were given no annual holidays, and in one case a servant who had worked for the same employer for 17 years and was described as "one of the family" had not had a holiday during that time.

Stressing that the problem was not confined to the Eastern Cape, she said: "Domestic workers are the lowest paid workers in South Africa."

Referring to the 1976 census, Mr. Cook said 92% of all employed black women were domestic workers who were on the whole, "poorly paid, vulnerable group, exploited by their employers at critical levels."

The latest available figures show that while the highest average cash wages for African male domestic workers is R44 a month in the Witwatersrand area, the lowest average cash wage was R29 in Durban. For items causing women, the highest average cash wage was R44 a month in Cape Town.

3. I am required to prepare the income tax return for the company. The company's financial year ends on 31 December 1977. The company made a loss of R70,000 in the financial year 1977.

4. How does the answer to (3) change if the company made a loss of R70,000 in the financial year 1977?
LIKE A BLACK LIVING
JOHANNESBURG. — Compared with eight advanced Western economies, South Africa ranks second highest in terms of food price inflation over the period 1970-1973.

This was stated in a study published here yesterday entitled "Implications of Subsidizing Foodstuffs in South Africa," undertaken by the economics department of Natal University at the request of the Associated Chambers of Commerce.

The study states that food price inflation varied from 3.3 percent a year in West Germany to 11.5 percent in the United Kingdom. In terms of food price inflation relative to consumer price inflation, South Africa ranked fourth highest.

In France, the United States and the United Kingdom the relative rate of food price inflation was higher. The study found that unless the prices of basic foods were lowered by bigger State subsidies, there would be "serious social and political implications." It suggested that the subsidy on butter be removed, and "milk be cheapened and the high price of fresh milk and related foods be raised."

According to the study the consumer price index for Blacks and food price indices had contributed more to overall inflation for them than for other groups. This reflected the "trade-off" relationship between income level and the importance of food in the budget. The lower the income the higher the food price inflation.

This had important implications regarding income disparities. In this country and meant that Black income year being eroded at a greater rate than White income and this should be taken into consideration in any programmes aimed at reducing the income gap.

Urgent priority should be given by the Government to the rerouting of funds into the agricultural development of the homelands and the short-term needs of White farmers should not have exclusive State attention.

Assessing the study, although "they had commissioned the study as a positive contribution to the general debate on economic policy, they did not necessarily subscribe to the views it expressed."

"FOOD PRIORITIES"

According to the importance of agricultural development in underdeveloped countries, the study said that this applied to the homelands where "the past record has been dismal." The very viability of the policy of separate development was dependent on the development of these areas, making the rerouting of Government funds for this purpose a matter of top priority.

"Lack of concerted consumer action was one of the reasons for food price inflation. In the USA and Britain consumer pressure had forced the lowering of prices. Such consumer action did not occur in South Africa where there was, in addition, a statutory producer majority on the control boards. Among the other reasons for food price inflation, the study cited "structural defects" in South African agriculture."

Among these were the fragmentation of the system, many boards controlling related products and the marketing of these separately. Given Correspondent and Supply
At a meeting held in Pretoria last October, researchers from the Bureau of Market Research and the University of Natal agreed on the methodology to be used in calculating the Minimum Living Level (MLL). This is a new measure which has been specially evolved to meet the growing demands of private enterprise for a guide to wage setting. It should not be confused with the Poverty Datum Line (PDL) which is a concept utilized in the measurement of poverty. The differences between the two concepts will be spelt out in a forthcoming occasional paper to be published by this department.

The BMR now calculates MLLs for Africans, Coloureds and Indians in a number of urban centres in February and August of each year. This department has concentrated only on Africans in the Durban townships and has calculated MLLs for a mean-sized African family of 5,2 persons for December 1974 and June 1975. These MLLs are shown in the following table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>December 1974 (R)</th>
<th>June 1975 (R)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>48,38</td>
<td>50,13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
<td>12,13</td>
<td>12,56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation</td>
<td>7,20</td>
<td>7,43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fuel &amp; light</td>
<td>2,23</td>
<td>2,30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washing &amp; cleansing materials</td>
<td>2,87</td>
<td>3,34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transport</td>
<td>5,96</td>
<td>6,22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>0,80</td>
<td>1,82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1,75</td>
<td>1,87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Replacement of household equipment</td>
<td>3,21</td>
<td>3,64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taxation</td>
<td>1,07</td>
<td>1,12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>85,60</strong></td>
<td><strong>90,43</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

...
This table shows that the MLL increased by 5.8 per cent during the six-month period. The BMF figure for an African household of 5 persons in February 1975 was R87.76. This department's figure for June (R90.43) is therefore 3 per cent higher than the BMF's February figure.

In our calculations we have used the BMF's figures for three items, viz., medical, education and replacement of household equipment. The reason for this is that these items are excluded from the PDL and it is with the PDL that we have previously been concerned. These items had previously been examined by the BMF which is an organisation specialising in the collection of household expenditure data. This department, in contrast, undertakes work in a wide range of fields including transportation, development, regional and urban studies, socio-economic studies, etc.; research commitments in these fields, together with staffing and cost considerations, have made it increasingly impossible for us to devote the required amount of time to MLL studies. This, added to the fact that there are a limited number of university researchers in South Africa and that overlapping of research therefore needs to be eliminated as far as possible, and also because the MLLs calculated by ourselves and the BMF correspond so closely, has made us decide to discontinue producing MLL figures. We believe that the needs of businessmen in this field will be adequately covered by the BMF's biannual figure as well as by a slightly different measure produced by the University of Port Elizabeth.

However, as mentioned above, we do intend publishing an occasional paper within the next few months in which we will attempt to evaluate concepts such as the MLL and PDL, and we shall continue, whenever funds permit, to conduct poverty studies in different Black communities.

Durban
30 July 1975
POVERTY - M. L. L.

3-7-75 - 31-12-80
Rents go up for Vaal Blacks

"Vereeniging Board •
House rents and service tariffs for Blacks in the Vaal Triangle have been increased by the Board Administration with the approval of Black advisory committees, and urban councils.

The increases come into effect on July 10. They range between R5 and R10 a month and the board will continue to introduce the charges to reduce the incurrence by eight percent.

The director of the board, Mr John Koneke, addressing the board's foreman employees of Blacks yesterday, said the board had been obliged to make the increases because it faced a deficit of R175 000 on the housing, hostels, and service accounts.

The board does not make a profit on these accounts. In fact, in some cases, water is being sold at half its cost to the board to the consumer," he said.

But Mr. Koneke said the board appreciated that there would be cases of hardship where sick or unemployed persons were unable to meet the new charges.

"In these cases, we will aid individuals, even to the extent of writing off rentals owed," he said.

Mr. Koneke said the profits from beer and liquor sales would be put to better use for improving community services such as sports facilities and clinics.

CAPITAL

The board plans to provide electricity to 2,500 homes in Soshong (R130 000), to erect JH1 frames to live in Zwaans and to gradually replace the conventional street lights with those lights if funds permitted.

With the increase of capital at the board's disposal, attention could be given to ending the air pollution in Soshong as smokeless stoves could be installed in homes.
Low pay means labour unrest

Mr. George Grabham, the general secretary of the South Africa Federation of Trade Unions, who represents the interests of the workers in South Africa, said that the wages of the workers were so low that the standard of living in South Africa had fallen below what it was in the United Kingdom.

The British Government was not doing enough to help the workers. There were not enough houses for the workers in South Africa, and the conditions of work were too long.

Mr. Grabham added that the Government was not doing enough to help the workers. The workers should be allowed to form trade unions, and the Government should give them the right to strike.

The president of the Garment Workers' Union, Mr. Garbutt, said that the workers should be allowed to form trade unions and that the Government should give them the right to strike.
THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUBSIDISING STAPLE FOODSTUFFS IN SOUTH AFRICA - A PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION

A Memorandum Prepared for the Associated Chambers of Commerce of South Africa

by

Charl Piensar

Department of Economics
University of Natal
Durban
May 1975
Steep rise in household costs

EAST LONDON — Household subsistence levels (HSI) for blacks and coloureds in October this year show increases ranging from 0 per cent to 0 per cent compared to the same time last year.

Subsistence levels for the various centres are listed in a report of the Institute for Planning Research for the University of Port Elizabeth.

Mr J. F. Potgieter, who conducted the survey, said the HSI was a theoretical calculation of a family's minimum recommended income to satisfy basic short-term needs. It was calculated on a racial, area and family basis with an average of six members to every black and five to every coloured household.

The subsistence level for blacks in East London in October this year was R206,8, an increase of 13.5 per cent since October 1979. For coloureds it was R209,7, an increase of 12 per cent.

In King William's Town the HSI was R184,5 for blacks, an increase of 10.9 per cent and for coloureds R185,3 an increase of 13.5 per cent.

In Peddie the HSI was R179,6 for blacks, an increase of 15.4 per cent.

In Port Elizabeth the HSI was R184,10 for blacks, an increase of 0.1 per cent and for coloureds R190,1, an increase of 12.4 per cent.

In Queens town the HSI was R186,4 per cent for blacks, an increase of 18.4 per cent and for coloureds R179,6, an increase of 19.4 per cent.

In Umtata the HSI was R178,6, an increase of 20.2 per cent for blacks.

The report says that salaries and wages for blacks have been adjusted more readily than those of whites.

According to the report no legislation or institutionalised arrangements exist which compel authorities to adjust salaries and wages in accordance with the price index.

"The survey confirmed that the application of various principles which are regarded as essential for a system of complete salary and wage indexation is already common practice among organisations and that such principles are applied to a meaningful extent," the report said.

"Moreover, it was found that these principles are used in such a way as effectively to supplement or displace income in South Africa," it said. — DDR.
Six-month surge

The past six months have seen an acceleration in the basic cost of living for the poor, validating PE University’s Institute for Planning Research’s assessment of the situation as “unhealthy”.

The institute’s latest six-monthly survey of Household Subsistence Levels (HSLs) shows that in five major urban centres the increase for six-member black (African) families was 10% over the six months to October 1980, compared with a low 3.1% during the previous six-month period.

Over the 12 months of the survey period the increase was more than 19% (which can be compared with the all-income groups CPI rise of 12.8% from September 1979—September 1980).

The escalation of costs is shown by the fact that in the April 1980 update for blacks, only four areas experienced more than the 5% HSL increases that occurred in the preceding six months, but that the lowest increase in the current update is 6.9% (for Umtata—see table).

For five-member coloured families, the average increase in 10 comparable areas was 10.7% over the past six months, and 14.9% in the surveyed year.

Contributing factors for blacks and coloureds have been a 30% rise in the price of maize meal over the past six months; and 90% for beef over the survey year — more than 70% above April prices for cheap cuts such as brisket, and in excess of 100% at some stores.

Determining rents increases proved difficult. The Department of Community Development has changed the nature of calculating rentals for coloured housing schemes, and the new regulations mean that “a separate rental must virtually be calculated for each household.” For blacks in Soweto, graduated rent increases have been implemented from August 1980, and for the current HSLs only the first stage of the increases was taken into account.

Johannesburg has become the most expensive city for coloureds, and the second most for blacks.

The institute, which generally keeps comment to a minimum, does sound one muted warning: “One can only hope that the sharp rise of consumer goods over the past six months will level off in the near future.”

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Centre</th>
<th>HSL 1979</th>
<th>HSL 1980</th>
<th>% increase since Oct 1979</th>
<th>Oct 1979 (12 months)</th>
<th>Apr 1980 (16 months)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cape Town</td>
<td>206.00</td>
<td>206.39</td>
<td>1.9%</td>
<td>12.1%</td>
<td>15.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bloem</td>
<td>184.00</td>
<td>190.00</td>
<td>3.2%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>10.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Port Elizabeth</td>
<td>190.00</td>
<td>192.00</td>
<td>1.1%</td>
<td>12.8%</td>
<td>13.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>East London</td>
<td>189.00</td>
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Survey shows huge rise in living costs of poor

By GERALD REILLY

ROCKETING living costs for the poorer section of the population are highlighted in a survey to be released later this week by the University of Port Elizabeth.

The survey, compiled by the Institute for Planning Research, shows that in the 12 months ending in October the minimum subsistence level (MSL) for blacks will have risen by 15%, and for coloureds by 10.8%.

Even more alarming, according to economists, is that for the six months May to October, the increase in the MSL for blacks will be 11.3% and for coloureds nearly 10%.

And the chairman of the PPP’s economic commission, Mr Harry Schwarz, has made an urgent call for the Government to remove GST from basic foods and to slow down the unprecedented increases in food prices.

He was supported by leading trade unionists, who have pleaded with the Government for the past two years to abolish GST on basic foods like maize products and bread.

Mr Schwarz said any loss of revenue because of the removal of GST from essential foods would be a sound investment in security.

The institution claims the huge increase in blacks’ living costs is due mainly to the big escalation of food prices.

This is borne out by the Consumer Price Index for September, which showed that last month food prices rose by 5.8% and, for the 12 months to the end of September, by more than 20%.

The institute found the minimum wage needed for a black family of six in Johannesburg was R1077 and for a coloured family of five, R2112.

Figures for Pretoria are only marginally less.

Mr Schwarz said the rise in food prices was one of the biggest “calamities” to hit South Africa for a long time. The increases in the past few months had been “outrageous”, he said, “and I’m not satisfied the increases are due entirely to higher costs.

“The Government is neglecting this vital area and doing too little to keep prices at a reasonable level.”

A serious feature of ever-rising food prices was their socially destabilising effect, Mr Schwarz said.

“Action is necessary, not only because of the morality of pricing food out of the reach of many thousands of families, but also because of the dangers to the country’s security,” Mr Schwarz said.

The vice-president of the Trade Union Council of South Africa, Mr Steve Schepers, said Tucsa had repeatedly asked the Government to remove GST from basic food.

“However, the Minister of Finance has told us that administratively it would be too difficult to exclude some products from the tax.”
Jo'burg and Cape tough on a low income

PORT ELIZABETH — Johannesburg is now South Africa's most expensive city for coloured families, and second-most expensive for blacks.

This situation is reflected in the latest update of the six-monthly survey of the Household Subsistence Level (HSL) for these people by the University of Port Elizabeth's Institute of Planning Research.

The survey tables show Johannesburg is the second most expensive city behind Cape Town for blacks and the most expensive for coloured people.

The sharp average increase of the HSL — an average of 14.8 percent for black and 19.4 percent for coloureds — is attributed largely to increases in the cost of foodstuffs.

"It is evident that the low-income population groups are particularly hard hit since it is the basic food items that show the high increases," says the report.

It adds that from studying the current HSL levels, it is evident that the outcry from the public against soaring prices and high inflation rates over the past six months is well founded, at least as far as the HSL is concerned.

"It says the price of maize meal increased by approximately 30 percent during the last six months, adding a further R3.50 to the HSL budget."

"An increase of more than 70 percent was noted over the April price in cheap red meat cuts such as brisket — at some stores, increases of more than 100 percent were noted," says the report.

PE THE CHEAPEST

"It would appear that the high increase occurred mainly during the last four months, rather than the last 12 months — indeed an unhealthy state of affairs."

The highest HSL increase for the past six months (April to October) for blacks was in Cape Town — (18.2 percent). The average increase for blacks in 13 comparable surveyed centres in the past six months is 10.2 percent and 14.8 percent for the 12-month period.

The HSL figure for Cape Town is now R268.89, followed by Johannesburg (R290.12) and Bloemfontein (R215.56). The cheapest major centre is Port Elizabeth with R184.16.
'We may not survive till January,' say pensioners

Women to ask Court for order against pension authorities

Mercury Reporter

FOUR Inanda pensioners are bringing an application to the Supreme Court in Durban for an order that the Minister of Co-operation and Development or the District Pensions Officer pay their pensions on November 11 and hand over all money owed to them.

The application will be heard on November 10.

Miss Susan Gladys Mhlongo, Mrs Mxombi Joana Mthali, Mrs Funani Pungula and Mrs Mamiaze Pauline Hadebe say they have not received their pensions for the months of July and September.

Mrs Jillian Nicholson, supervisor of the Durban Black Social Service Office, has signed an affidavit saying she believed the four would not be paid in November either, since the pension clerk at Verulam had told her Miss Mhlongo’s name was not on the computerized list for payment. He had also told the other three applicants they would not be paid.

In an affidavit Miss Mhlongo, a disability pensioner, said: ‘I received a disability pension from September, 1974, until July, 1979. In July, 1979, I was informed by the Verulam Pension Office that my file had been lost. However, in September, 1979, my disability grant was again paid and has been paid until July, 1980.

‘I am wholly dependent upon this grant. My two daughters have had to leave school and I have received assistance from neighbours with food.

‘This assistance has now ceased as my neighbours informed me that they could not continue assisting me indefinitely. I have had to borrow money for food and am anxious that I will not be able to repay my debts. At the moment I am destitute.’

She said she had been told she could expect to be paid only in January. ‘I fear in the absence of appropriate relief I may not survive until January 1981.’

Mrs Mthali, a widow who is also on a disability pension, and in her affidavit: ‘Since I have not had my pension I have lived by begging and borrowing. Our circumstances are so desperate that we can afford to eat bread alone in the morning and depend on the charity of others for the rest of the day.

Her son is at school and since she can no longer pay for his education her daughter is trying to do so out of her R40-a-month wage as a domestic servant.

Mrs Punguza, an old age pensioner, said she relied on begging from neighbours for food. ‘I have recently been ill but have been unable to see the doctor.

‘The failure to eat properly is endangering my health and if I receive no money before January, 1981, I may not survive.’

Mrs Hadebe, a disability pensioner, repeats the tale with the unanimous final statement: ‘I fear in the absence of relief I will not survive until January, 1981.’

Miss Mhlongo has applied for R10 and Mrs Mthali, Mrs Punguza and Mrs Hadebe for R118.
New deal for black housing

Mr Appleton said formal approval had been granted to register a utility company to develop housing for blacks in the Western Cape.

The company, known as Ubuntu, will have 15 directors—eight from the local black community.

The company has an initial capital injection of R7.5 million provided by the private sector. It is hoped to register the company within the next six weeks.

EMPOWERED

The Government has empowered the local community council and the Western Cape Administration Board to enter into 30-year leasehold agreements with the utility company, renewable for a further 30 years.

In a variety of ways:
- Self-help option
- A contractable option
- A combination of the two

He said the company itself would consider the possibility of building specific houses for sub-letting.

The improvement centre in Guguletu has been provided at a cost of R500,000 and Ubuntu will have offices there.

Ubuntu will develop, subdivide, put in services and then sublet individual erven to tenants.

An individual tenant will be able to sell the sub-lease which will create a limited housing market among blacks in the Western Cape for the first time—and an opportunity of accumulating capital.

Mr Appleton said tenants would have the option of erecting houses.

R750 000 Guguletu centre opened

By accord to the 30-year-old leasehold system for blacks in the Western Cape, the Government had provided a living proof that it was prepared to move away from discrimination.

Mr Appleton, chairman of the Urban Foundation, said when opening the R750,000 multipurpose Ubuntu Centre in Guguletu yesterday.

The opening was attended by more than 500 people, including community leaders from Vrygrond, Guguletu, and Langka members of the Cape Town Community Council, officials of the Urban Foundation and members of the Western Cape Administration Board.

Mr Oppenheimer said that it was no secret that blacks in the Western Cape had suffered severe hardships, more especially where housing was concerned. This was due, to the coloured preference area policy, he said.

The policy did not only cause damage to the South Africans only but to the entire international community. He quoted Crossroads as an example.

He paid tribute to the Minister of Cooperation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, and to other Government authorities for their changed attitude and said they had shown courage.

The Ubuntu Centre will be run by the Ubuntu Utility Company which, although it has to be officially registered, will have more than R7 million to start with.

Funded by private enterprise and designed to assist members of all income groups, the company will enter into a registered lease with the Administration Board, to

acquire land and to make loans to local residents for building homes.

Plots will be leased to individuals for 30 years and leases will be renewable.

Besides office accommodation for community welfare organisations, the Ubuntu Centre will have a library, a teachers' resource centre, a day-care centre, and a sheltered employment workshop for 120 people.

The acting chairman of the Ubuntu Steering Committee, Mr Windsor Skweyiya, said the opening of the Ubuntu Centre was an historic occasion because for the first time Africans in the three townships will be in a position not only to control a facility of this magnitude, but to administer it by virtue of their majority in the Ubuntu Board of Directors.

There are eight black among the 15 directors who are on the Ubuntu Board.

He said the initial idea of the centre was conceived by community-based organisations.

"These bodies appealed to the Urban Foundation to investigate the advisability of training Africans to become skilled artisans," said Mr Skweyiya.

In an answer to their plea, the Urban Foundation built Masazikhe Building Unit to employ learners, bricklayers, carpenters and plumbers.

The training of the local people in the building trade was the actual building of the Ubuntu Centre itself, said Mr Skweyiya.
Black squatters in W. Cape. Official

New complete beyond the frame to frame. (A) does not exist. At the same time the government appears to have reached the point where it is no longer in terms of our readjustment goals and commitment to Christian goals - there is a removal of name, a recognition of people with the dignity of the children of God and of the human race. The aim is not to remove people from their homes but to provide them with the means to survive. The aim is not to punish them but to help them to live. The aim is not to break their spirit but to heal it.

The plight of about 5000 blacks in the Western Cape has become the focus of the government's formidable efforts to reconcile outdated ideologies with urbanization and the inevitable influx of blacks from impoverished rural homelands. JOHN BATTERSBY examines the official dilemma.

Official refusal

The official government stance is that about 5000 blacks are occupying areas in the Cape Province which can be ended only by an official refusal to validate their passes - a tactic which, while the government decides what to do with them.

The 5000 blacks who occupy the land are dehumanized and deprived of basic rights. However, by the end of 1980, some 4500 blacks have been evicted from their land. The government has made it clear that it is not interested in the future of the land and that its primary concern is the welfare of the black population.

In addition, there are about 145000 blacks who have lost their homes and are now living in shacks on the outskirts of the city. The government's solution to this problem is to provide them with temporary housing.

South Africa has been criticized for its policy of forced removals. The government argues that it is necessary to maintain law and order in the country.

On 10 October 1982, the government announced its intention to develop a new policy for the management of the black population. The policy, which is currently being drafted, aims to address the issues of forced removals and the rights of the black population.

South Africa has a long history of forced removals. The government argues that it is necessary to maintain law and order in the country.

The policy of forced removals has been criticized by many organizations. The United Nations has condemned the policy and has called for its immediate cessation.

Plastic shelters

Although the Department of Labour has launched the plastic shelter and color preference policy, there is strong political resistance to it. The government does not seem to be politically capable of breaking the resistance of the Group of Cape Nationalist MPs.

Following the ad hoc "legalization" of blacks in the Crossroads camp, new groups of blacks in the Western Cape - who became known as the Bush People - established themselves in the camp and maintained their existence.

The plight of the Bush People is similar to that of the Crossroads residents. They are forced to live in shacks and are deprived of basic rights.

The Bush People have been denied the right to vote and to be represented in the government.

The government's policy of forced removals and the resistance to the plastic shelter and color preference policy are examples of the government's inability to address the issues of the black population.

100 years ago

From the Cape Times, October 2, 1982

The Department of Labour has launched the plastic shelter and color preference policy, which is aimed at improving the living conditions of the black population.

The policy has been met with resistance from the Group of Cape Nationalist MPs. The government does not seem to be politically capable of breaking the resistance of the MPs.

The Department of Labour has also launched the color preference policy, which aims to improve the living conditions of the black population.

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The policy has been met with resistance from the Group of Cape Nationalist MPs. The government does not seem to be politically capable of breaking the resistance of the MPs.
The plight of about 5,000 black squatters in the Western Cape has become the focus of the government’s floundering efforts to reconcile outdated ideologies with urbanization and the inevitable influx of blacks from impoverished rural homelands.

EXAMINES THE OFFICIAL DILEMMA

by the retention of the antiquated and discredited policy of preserving the Western Cape as a Coloured preferential labour area.

Official refusal

The practical outcome of this official dilemma is that about 5,000 blacks are living a limbo existence in the Peninsula which can be ended overnight by an official refusal to validate their passes for a further period while the government decides what to do about them.

The 5,000 blacks with temporary statuses are dwarked, however, by the estimated 60,000 to 80,000 so-called "illegal" blacks who live a twilight existence in the Cape, although the vast majority of them are gainfully employed.

In addition there are about 150,000 blacks who have legal status in the Western Cape through their "section 10" rights.

The current situation in the western Cape has its roots in the appearance of Crossroads in 1975 - a squatters camp on the Cape Flats which is the home of more than 25,000 blacks.

Crossroads, which by 1978 housed about 20,000 people became the last refuge of some 8,000 "illegal" blacks and official calls for its removal became louder and more urgent.

A campaign of frequent raids by the police and administrative boards, officials undermined the morale of the residents by not allowing their re-

To the surprise of many, the final destruction of Crossroads seemed inevitable and the focus of the international media was centred on the sprawling shantytown.

The new Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Koornhof, who claimed a "new deal" for Crossroads.

Koornhof's deal involved the building of a New Crossroads and the relaxation of the pass laws for most of the 50,000 residents to allow them to remain permanent in the Cape.

A massive programme of administrative processing by the Western Cape Administration Board began in February 1981. It was announced that about 20,000 Crossroads residents would be granted permanent residence in the Cape.

The decision met with stiff resistance from a group of Cape nationalist MPs who remain the main obstruction to the removal of the so-called coloured preference policy in the Western Cape - a policy which has been denounced by coloured and black leaders, organized commerce and industry and a series of expert studies some of which have been subsidized by the government.

Plastic shelters

Although the Department of Labour, which has always been the board of the discredited administration boards, turned a blind eye to the coloured labour preference policy and there is strong resistance to it even in predominantly black areas, the government does not seem politically capable of breaking the resistance of a small group of Cape nationalist MPs.

Following the ad hoc "legalization" of blacks in the Crossroads camp a "new group of squatters" - who became known as the Bush People - established themselves or got jobs on the roads and the black town ship of Khayelitsha which became known as the Bush Flats.

Harsh official action which involved the re-dedication and cancellation of make-shift plastic shelter masses arrests, and of official harassment resulted in massive public relief effort to feed and clothe the desolate squatters.

The plight of the squatters which attracted widespread publicity and drew considerable public sympathy for their cause became a major issue between government and opposition in Parliament during the two short sessions in 1981.

In August 1981 Dr Koornhof announced yet another "repeal" whereby those of the Bush People who had not been granted legal status, while others were made the offer of jobs in other parts of the country.

However, official harassment of the Bush People continued and forced deportations of women and children being ferried in buses to the Cape from a village which was visited by the people who made their way back to the Khayelitsha area as soon as they were able.

On March 1 this year 57 of these Bush People began a fast in St George's Cathedral demanding that their position be legalized and civil protection could be focussed internationally attention on their plight.

The fast, which lasted more than a month resulted in a meeting with Dr Koornhof following which 900 Bush People were granted temporary permits.

The other 4,000 odd people who now share temporary status with the Bush People are "disputed" Crossroads residents who were not included in the original deal and who have been resident in Crossroads on December 31

1978.

These temporary permits expire at the end of June this year and will not be renewed until September 20 - last Monday - at the instruction of Dr Koornhof.

They have now been told by the Chief Commissioner for Co-operation and Development in the Western Cape Mr Timo Nkabinde that they must regard their residence and their cases would be considered on merit.

However the government has refused to re-

unite them with temporary status although official assurances have been given that their employment would not be affected.

The squatters have also been assured that they will not be arrested at this stage that those who were permitted to stay in the Western Cape would be settled elsewhere with their families and goodwill.

However "sterilisation" action would be taken against "illegal" blacks entering the Cape and the "firm action" would be taken against employers giving jobs to blacks in the Western Cape.

But nothing has been solved and the cloud of uncertainty is accompanied by the threat of intimidation remains.

It is a situation that has led to a report on the black affairs in the western Cape by Mr Ken Andrew, to accuse the government of "repressive war on the people who are suffering on the issue of attraction" on these displaced and desperate people.

Far short

"The question we must ask ourselves is what is it that makes life in a squatter camp or even on a desolate piece of sand in mid-winter - preferable to going back to the Ciskei or Transkei. The answer is that there are acute food shortages and little work in homeland areas, and people and families go there to watch their people starve," Mr Andrew said.

It is now clear that the long-awaited "new deal" for blacks - and reform of the homelands - is still a long way off.

In the meantime the government is likely to continue with its "controlled management of urban black influx" while hoping that massive financial inputs into centralization policies

From the Bible

"But thanks be to God! For in union with Christ we are always living, as in prison while in Christ's world-wide procession God uses us to make the known new life spread everywhere like a sweet fragrance."

(2 Corinthians 2.14)
CHILDREN at some schools in the Western Cape are so hungry they fight for sandwiches on their way to school, faint in class and beg for food during the lunch breaks.

A Kalbaskraal near Maimesbury, says he became worried at one stage about children who always looked ill on a Monday afternoon.

"I only give the one in Sub A some of the bread I bake myself. The others (her three primary school children aged 12 to 16) say I mustn't worry," she says.

PUPILS
Their children are all pupils at the Kershoelaagte school where some children walk about 16 kilometres to school and back every day.

Invariably they have no shoes and breakfast is a luxury. In winter the cold bites through scant clothing and it is so much harder to walk the long farms roads on an empty stomach.

"There's a lot of evidence that hunger and malnutrition in young children has a profound and long-lasting effect," says Professor Maurice Kibel of Red Cross hospital's Institute of Child Health.

He referred to a study done in the Transkei recently in which one group of school children were fed well while another was not.

EXTRA FOOD
"Those who had extra food showed better beneficial effects. It's self-evident that a child with an empty stomach can't learn and concentrate," said Professor Kibel.

Another recent report — from the Department of Internal (coloured) Affairs' psychological services — states that considering the many factors that can contribute to the social, emotional, intellectual and physical welfare of children, school feeding..."
FOOD

FOR the children of the Kersboslaagte school in Paarl the long walk to school on an empty stomach can end in a fight for a slice of bread.

EXTRA FOOD

"Those who had extra food showed beneficial effects. It's self-evident that a child with an empty stomach can't learn and concentrate," said Professor Maurice Kibel.

Another recent report — from the Department of Internal (coloured) Affairs' psychological services — states "In considering the many factors that can contribute to the social, emotional, intellectual and physical welfare of children school feeding is an important one."

Professor Kibel said this survey showed there was less truancy and absenteeism at schools where the children were well-fed.

"They are also taught proper feeding habits, caring and sharing incidents of fasting and stomach pains and requests for medication are lessened."

Burden

At its recent annual meeting, the Union of Teachers' Associations of South Africa (Utasa) passed a resolution calling on the Government to assist school feeding schemes.

"The price increase will add burden on these organisations. Teachers see that this will adversely affect academic performance of children and increase the drop out rate among pupils," Utasa said.

The latest bread price hike will cost the Peninsual School Feeding Association — which feeds about 130 000 children daily — an extra R$6 000 a year.

"I think the Government is responsible for this debacle solve it," said Mr. Harry Schwarz, PFP spokesman on consumer affairs.

"We are in recessionary times and people can't find money readily elsewhere. Not enough is being done in regard to school feeding in South Africa."

Approached for comment on possible Government assistance for school feeding, the private secretary for Mr. Owen Horwood, Minister of Finance, referred Weekend Argus to the various educa-
Why are men afraid of n

agreement introduciton this is an article by ELeen Miller The same with men. The article is about the issues in education and training. In the first part, the author talks about the importance of education and training. In the second part, she discusses the differences in education and training.

The author argues that the education and training system in the UK is not as effective as it should be. She suggests that the system needs to be reformed to better meet the needs of the students. She also suggests that there is a lack of diversity in the education and training system.

In the conclusion, the author summarizes her main points and suggests some possible solutions for improving the education and training system.

The article ends with a call to action, encouraging readers to support the education and training system and work towards a better future for all.

Mr. Wanamaker, the Minister of Education, has made a statement on the importance of education and training. He emphasizes the need for a more diverse and inclusive education system. He also emphasizes the importance of skills development and vocational training.

He concludes by emphasizing the need for a more collaborative approach between schools, employers, and the government to ensure that all students have access to high-quality education and training.

The article ends with a call to action, encouraging readers to support the education and training system and work towards a better future for all.
MAHER

TENS of thousands of people are using Natal's health services but only 96 percent of its patients are served by Transkei. An area of some 26,900 people, out of 5,000, live in Natal.

Dr. Fred Clarke, MEC for health in charge of hospitals, spoke of the "untold strain on our doctors and nurses" caused by having to serve Transkei and KwaZulu. He said the effect on medical staff was "absolutely soul-destroying" and that Natal's slender financial resources were being severely strained.

"Natal's biggest health problem is that everyone of our hospitals is bemused with foreign blacks for which we paid nothing with a nominal fee," he said.

"But there's no question of our turning them away. As doctors we cannot say 'take your pneumonia back to your own area.'"

"This money could be spent on Natal's own needs, but we shape well. But because we have to cope with this flood across our borders, less money is available for improving our own services."

Last year was a very hard year for Transkei with the exchange rate at R20 million. This year it will go up by more than 50 percent. "What a blow," says Dr. Clarke, "is like going backward, the way costs are rocketing."

The hospitals in Kokstad and Matatiele are particularly hard-pressed. Nurses are being trained as part-time doctors and run their own private practices in the border towns.

Three of Transkei's five part-time doctors are on call three nights a week and each of them has 150 patients. They are not paid more than three times a month, one of them said.

"We are the first port of call for people in Transkei north of Umtata," said assistant-medic Dr. John Lewis. "All these white people come to us and many of the blacks come to us, too."

Natal's medical aid with a difference as Natal thousands of homeland blacks in the Province

Dr. Fred Clarke, MEC in charge of hospitals... untold strain on doctors and nurses. "It's absolutely soul-destroying" Newcastle (R12m) and Greytown (R12m).

"We also desperately need to build hospitals at Cato Manor and Phoenix," Dr. Clarke said.

"The Cato Manor hospital would cost R20 million, plus R20 million."

"They are Zulus to come here and pay cash for treatment, although they have access to free treatment in Transkei," he said.

It is obvious that if health facilities there were up to scratch we wouldn't have to handle so many cases."

Roger Ellis, chairman of the board of Kokstad's East Griqualand and Umtata Memorial Hospital, was blunt about the state of Transkei hospital services.

"A major problem is that Transkeians don't think their own services are good enough. They still think that facilities which carry the white man's stamp are better. There is no real health service in the Transkei like travelling

A Transkei.
ALIANS FORK OUT FOR TREATMENT FOR TENS OF
PROVINCE'S OVERCROWDED AND UNDER-STAFFED HC

LEFT: James Rennie... the farmer who invited Marius Barnard to probe border health problems

LEFT: Mr Roger Ellis... no real health service in Transkei

RIGHT: Dr John Lewis... 30 to 40 percent are Transkei patients

PICTURES

Stabbing victim... crossed the border for treatment

A doctor handles... mobile clinic gave more than 19,000 treatments.

The Matatiele hospital is even busier, with occupancy figures sometimes soaring to 160 percent, when women with babies at the breast boost the statistics.

During August, the hospital admitted 27 white patients, 33 coloureds and 836 blacks — 98 percent of whom were from Transkei.

Last year’s African admissions totalled 9,912 all but a few of them Transkeians.

If they are unemployed or poor, as is frequently the case, they pay nothing.

People in employment are charged on a sliding scale, but the cost is never more than R5 a day.

Tuberculosis is a constant concern for both hospitals.

The estimated percent of Kokstad residents shopped in the town. “They go to 183 km away,” she said.

A housewife who agreed with this, added: “It’s cheaper there and you get a better selection. It’s the Transkei people who shop here.”

One of Matatiele’s part-time doctors said the town had become a black village.

“You can’t move here on shopping days,” he said. “We have three times the shopping traffic. Kokstad has and it all exists for the people from the Transkei. They come here to shop and they visit the hospital or their doctor at the same time.”

Kokstad residents agreed that the cross-border flow made a mockery of the Government’s insistence on border formalities which identify the dependent state.

Mr James Rennie, the Kokstad farmer who invited Dr Marcus Barnard to the town a week previously, in his capacity as Progressive Federal Party spokesman on health matters, was vehement about the border situation.

“It shows the homelands are just not coping with matters like health and that their problems are spilling over the borders,” he said.

Dr Barnard visited Kokstad as part of a tour of health facilities, but was refused entry to Kokstad Hospital by an embarrassed Dr Lewis on instructions from higher up, because of a misunderstanding over protocol arrangements.

“Dr Barnard had also visited the Ciskei and Transkei’s western border,” said Mr Rennie. “He found a chronic breakdown of health services in those areas.”

“Make no mistake we are extremely proud of our health services in the Ciskei, but it is clear they are endeavouring to prevent a breakdown in these border areas.”

“As yet, nothing drastic has happened, but everyone is overworked. I think a special case exists for devoting funds to health facilities in these areas.”

“Before Transkei became independent, Pretoria could send in teams to inoculate in those areas. Now they can’t. Our hospitals are having to cope with the overload.”

Both Dr Barnard and Dr Clarke urged the Government to allow health care to be provided transcending other boundaries.

Dr Barnard said the crux was whether health problems could be solved “within the ambit of our current...
OVERCROWDED AND UNDER-STAFFED HOSPITALS

LEFT: James Rennie, the farmer who invited Marius Barnard to probe border health problems

LEFT: Mr Roger Ellis, no real health service in Transkei

RIGHT: Dr John Lewis... 30 to 40 percent are Transkei patients

Stabbing victim... crossed the border for treatment

Treatment in Natal

Santa treatment centre in Matatiele which houses 250 patients and always full. Matron Janneke Janssena said the centre admitted 50 new cases a month and released an equal number. Ironically, however, 6th border towns are heavily dependent on Transkei trade in every form. Not only do the doctors make a good living out of the Transkeians. "This town is full of Transkei blacks at the end of a month," said Dr Lewis. "One day I walked down the street and someone stopped and said 'Hello, we've seen you today.'"

One doctor said the hospital's services to Transkeians were a bit the price we have for having them here. Our wholesale and retail trade depends on them." Mr Ellis estimated not more than 10 percent of Kokstad residents shopped in the town. "They go to Plettenberg, 165 km away," he said. A housewife who agreed with this, added, "It's cheaper there and you get a better selection. It's the Transkei people who shop here."

"You can't move here on shopping days," he said. "We have three times the shopping traffic that Kokstad has and it all exists for the people from the Transkei. They come here to shop and they want the hospital or their doctor at the same time. They always have.

One of Matatiele's part-time doctors said the town had become a black village. "I don't move here on shopping days," he said. "We have three times the shopping traffic that Kokstad has and it all exists for the people from the Transkei. They come here to shop and they want the hospital or their doctor at the same time. They always have.

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Kokstad residents said the cross-border flow made a mockery of the government's insistence on border formalities which identify the dependent state. Mr James Rennie, the Kokstad farmer who invited Dr Marius Barnard to the town a week previously, in his capacity as Progressive Federal Party spokesman on health matters, was vehement about the border situation. "It shows the homelands are just not coping with matters like health and that their problems are spilling over the borders," he said.

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Dr Clarke pleaded for all health matters—those controlled by provinces—to be directed by "those authorities closest to the people."

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Both Dr Barnard and Dr Clarke urged the government to allow health care to be unified, transcending other boundaries.

Dr Barnard said the crisis was whether health problems could be solved "within the ambit of continued State Health as well as care among the independent and self-governing states."

Dr Clarke pleaded for all health matters—those controlled by provinces—to be directed by "those authorities closest to the people."

"We have a staff of 20,000 in Natal. Surely we can cope better without having this division?" he asked.

The money going to State Health could come to the provinces."

He said the idea of the provinces handling curative health matters, while the State Health Department coped with preventive and promotive work, was a dichotomy which should be done away with.

"I believe medical services in the provinces should be handled by the provinces—provided sufficient funds are available."

PICTURES: Morris Reddy
The editor of this magazine, while visiting London, had an opportunity to inspect the newly opened hospital for the treatment of Tuberculosis. The hospital is situated in a beautiful location overlooking the Thames River. The architecture is modern and the facilities are state-of-the-art. The hospital has a capacity of 500 beds and is equipped with the latest medical technology. The staff consists of highly trained doctors and nurses. The hospital offers a comprehensive range of services, including diagnostic tests, treatment options, and support services. The hospital also has a research institute that conducts studies on Tuberculosis and related diseases. The hospital is open to the public for visits and tours, providing an opportunity for patients and their families to learn more about the treatment and care options available. Overall, the hospital appears to be well-equipped and staffed to provide excellent care for those suffering from Tuberculosis.
TRANSMISSION OF TB: PROPER PRECAUTIONS TO BE TAKEN

1. AVOID CROWDING. TB can be transmitted via the air. Therefore, avoid situations where there is crowdedness.

2. COVERING THE MOUTH AND NOSE. When coughing or sneezing, cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve to prevent the release of droplets containing the TB bacteria into the air.

3. AVOID DIRECT CONTACT. Avoid direct contact with people who have active TB. This includes not sharing utensils, towels, or other personal items.

4. AVOID SLOWING THE PROGRESSION OF TB. Early detection and treatment are crucial in slowing the progression of the disease. If you have been exposed to someone with TB, seek medical advice immediately.

5. REGULAR CHECKUPS. Regular checkups and medical examinations are important to monitor the progression of the disease and ensure prompt treatment.

6. AVOID CONTAMINATED ENVIRONMENTS. Avoid environments that may be contaminated with TB, such as overcrowded or poorly ventilated areas.

7. AVOID INHALING CONTAMINATED AIR. Avoid inhaling contaminated air, especially in areas with high humidity or poor ventilation.

8. AVOID CONTACT WITH INFECTED ANIMALS. Avoid contact with infected animals, such as cows or hogs, as they can also spread TB.

9. AVOID EATING UNDERCOVER. Eating under a tent or in a crowded area can increase the risk of TB transmission.

10. AVOID EXPOSURE TO INFECTED AIR. Avoid exposure to air containing TB bacteria, such as during respiratory procedures or in areas with high TB prevalence.

11. AVOID UNINHIBITED USE OF THE LUNG. Avoid using the lung when it is not necessary, such as during leisure activities or social gatherings.

12. AVOID EXPOSURE TO INFECTED WATERS. Avoid exposure to infected waters, such as in swimming pools or rivers.

13. AVOID EXPOSURE TO INFECTED FOOD. Avoid exposure to infected food, such as raw or undercooked meat.

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OUT FOR TREATMENT FOR TENS OF CROWDED AND UNDER-STAFFED HOSPITALS

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LEFT: Mr Roger Ellis... no real health service in Transkei

RIGHT: Dr John Lewis... 30 to 40 percent are Transkei patients

Stabbing victim... crossed the border for treatment

PICTURES: Morris Reddy

Mature in Natal

The treatment centre at Matatiele, which has 250 patients and always full, was visited by James Janneman, who said the centre could not cope with the influx of patients and released an appeal for more staff. The centre is primarily dependent on the trade in every town, not only the doctors. A good living out Transkei, he said.

"Every time I see a black at the post office, I think of the families we have left here. Our services are 'a bit the price we have to pay for having them p here."

Dr Ellis estimated that 40 percent of Kolstad patients seek help in the hospital. They go to Plettenberg, 150 km away, he said. A housewife who agreed with this, added: "It's cheaper there and you get a better selection."

One of Matatiele's full-time doctors said the town had become a black village.

"You can't move here on shopping days." he said. "We have three times the shopping trade that Kolstad has and it all exists for the people from the Transkei. They come here to shop and they visit the hospital or their doctor at the same time. They always have a problem.

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"We have a staff of 300 in Natal but we can cope better without having this division," he asked.

"The money going to State Health could come to the provinces."

He said the idea of the provinces handling curative health matters, while the State Health Department coped with preventive and promotive work was a dichotomy which should be done away with.

"We believe medical services in the provinces should be handled by the provinces — provided sufficient funds are made available."

State Health as well as care among the dependent and self-governing states."
Schoolboy killed in District Six

previously called Hanover Street.

Mr Farris van den Schriek of Waram Estate said the dead boy was his cousin and had been roller skating when he was hit by a car, which had been driven by Edward Ramides. He had been to hospital but the doctors could not save him.

His friends had been skating in the road at the time of the accident.

entrances had been pushed aside to allow traffic through.

- In it is reported that Charles Jacobs of Eton Grove died after falling out of the back of a truck that was pulling a trailer.

Housing shortage the cause of illness says MoH

Dr. Rex Cooper said that overcrowding was the biggest remaining factor which spread infectious conditions such as pulmonary tuberculosis meningitis and influenza.

This was stated in the annual report of the Department of Health for 1981.

WAITING LIST

Dr. Coogan said there was still a huge waiting list for houses and that consideration would have to be given to alternative housing standards.

- A secure form of tenure
- A serviced site
- Assistance to build plans prepared by a competent authority
- Social services
- Regarding infant mortality rates, Dr. Coogan said the recent rate for whites, listed at 9.4 deaths per 1,000 live births in 1981, was comparable to any African or European city and was better than most.

The mortality rate for coloured infants, which had declined from 32.2 deaths a 1,000 births in 1975 to 18.6 deaths a thousand births in 1981, was greatly encouraging, according to Dr. Coogan’s report, and he hoped these efforts would be directed towards this section of the community.

- The black rate does continue to decline (from 59 to 1,000 live births in

Black Persons Bill must be scrapped entirely, women told

EYES RIGHT! Theresa de Bruyn of Goodwood and Lyndi King of Butha-Buthe brush up on their military manners for the national ice-skating championships at the Good Hope Centre next month. Taking the salute is Western Province coach Raymond Wilson, who has choreographed the drill of 16 toy solders for the junior precision drill section Raymond is a former world and British ice-skating champion. In 1968 he represented Britain in the Olympics.

JUDGMENT on an application to imprison the cases of accused in the murder and terrorist trial. Mr. Oscar Masha and 17 others were arraigned before the Special Court of Mr. Whitehead, Mr. Slabbert, for the State.

This was decided in the Supreme Court of the Union of South Africa, yesterday by Mr. Justice Wilkinson, hearing the application on behalf of Mr. Whitehead, Mr. Slabbert, for the State.

Mr. Whitehead said to the court that there is no evidence that would indicate that a difference of opinion would be the advantage of the occasion.

Opposing the application, Mr. Slabbert said that he had no good reasons why he should be given a different court as he was not aware of the evidence and the State involved, but also he is not in the position of justice.

STATUS
Mr. Justice Wilkinson.

Student Reporter

IT WAS not enough for the Government to "take out parts" of the Defence Bill as the Minority Movement and Settlement of Black Persons Bill - it must be scrapped entirely, Mrs Mildred Lusea told the United Women’s Organisation last night.

Mrs. Lusea was speaking at a meeting of the organisers by the UWO and they had not asked for this permission.

To cries of "Out! Out!" the two left without offering any explanation. One later returned to say he was carrying a "bleeper" and not a tape recorder.

A resolution was passed rejecting the Bill and "other influx control and all repressive laws."

It called on public re-
Perlemoen exporting alleged

A man appeared in Cape Town Magistrate's Court today charged with attempting to export 245 kg of perlemoen without a permit and exporting them on July 2 from Table Bay docks.

Mr. Lawrence Quat, 41, of Crawford, pleaded guilty to both charges but asked to be allowed to meet with a magistrate Mr. D Cronje before the case was set down for October 20.

The hearing was postponed until October 20.

WHERE TO STAY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

How often have you travelled a long way, only to find that the hotel that really suits you is just down the road from the one you're booked into?

Make sure it'll never happen again, with "Where to stay in Southern Africa". The first detailed, single-volume guide, conveying usable information on more than 200 establishments all over Southern Africa. Sophisticated casino-hotels, exclusive game lodges, cottages and camp-sites, they're all there.

"Where to stay in Southern Africa" — be sure that where you want to go is where you want to stay.
POVERTY - GENERAL

1981 - 1982
Three-cent meals keep poor from starvation

Almost 200 people were fed a full meal of stew, beans and cooked vegetables yesterday — all for three cents.

Cape Town’s underprivileged and down-and-out are fed every weekday, summer and winter, for three cents by the Service Dining Rooms in Canterbury Street.

The service was started 44 years ago by Miss Doris Syfret after she asked a drunk, undernourished man in the street why he spent his money on liquor and not food.

His reply was that he couldn’t buy a meal for 2½ cents, but he could get some wine.

“Miss Syfret decided that she would start a centre where anyone could get a full meal for a tuppence (2½ cents) but he could get some wine,” Miss Syfret later told the story.

“The fresh landed hake is collected from the docks on Mondays and Wednesdays by volunteer helpers, some of whom have been with the Dining Rooms for 20 years,” Mrs. Turner said.

“The fish has saved many from starvation and helped others over bad patches until they’ve become self-supporting again,” she said.

Mrs. Turner said a large departmental store in Cape Town gave the Dining Rooms all their chipped crockery every three months.

“We need more people”

“We are fairly self-sufficient at the moment,” she said. “But we do need a few more people to help us in the Dining Rooms, as well as more vegetables, cheese and kitchen equipment.”

The Dining Rooms have a regular staff of seven people and about thirty voluntary helpers.

“Last winter we make huge tons of soup and sell it in Mowbray, Vredenburg and Heidelberg for one cent a cup, but we intend to start soup kitchens in Elta’s River and Macassar with the help of local residents.”

“We get many more people coming to the Dining Rooms in winter because, for the price of a meal, they can sit under shelter as most of them don’t have homes,” Mrs. Turner said.

“The majority of people we serve are hobos and beggars, but we get a lot of people from all races and people who are out of work and can’t afford more expensive meals.”
Consumer Mail's Questions

How the poor battle higher food prices: and who's to blame

By PRY. Sisters and Sophia Tena

Consumer Mail

Poorly prepared and overpriced food is the main cause of the high food prices. Consumers are being forced to pay more for their groceries. This is because the cost of producing and distributing food has increased. In addition, the demand for food has increased due to population growth. This has led to a shortage of food, which has driven up prices.

The government has taken some steps to address the problem. They have increased subsidies to farmers and reduced taxes on food. However, these measures have not been enough to bring prices down. Some experts believe that the government should do more to ensure a stable food supply.

Other factors that contribute to high food prices include the high cost of transportation and packaging. These costs are added to the price of food before it reaches the consumer. In addition, some retailers add their own markups to the price of food.

Consumers can take steps to reduce their food costs. They can buy in bulk to take advantage of discounts. They can also look for coupons and special offers. In addition, they can choose to buy generic brands instead of name brands.

The situation is likely to continue until the demand for food decreases or the supply increases. In the meantime, consumers should be prepared to pay more for their groceries.
Motlana warns on hunger's effects

By PAT SIDLEY

UNLESS food was available to all, and at reasonable prices, blacks would be compelled to organize themselves to get rid of the high prices — using any means at their disposal.

This threat was made yesterday by Mrs Sally Motlana, president of the Black Housewives League.

She called on the conference to seek a common way to enable all in South Africa to have enough to eat.

Mrs Motlana also suggested that a proposed donation for agricultural research (to enable farmers to farm more efficiently) should be used instead to train illiterate black workers.

She was reacting to an offer made by the chairman of Pick 'n Pay, Mr Raymond Ackerman, to donate R50 000 to agricultural research and R10 000 per year thereafter.

Mrs Motlana, addressing the group of white industrialists, said, "I've heard a lot about inefficiency."

"The majority of your workers are black and illiterate."

"Could the money not be used in this field to upgrade these workers who know nothing about hygiene and have not been to school?"

She said money to train black farmers would not be worthwhile without the land on which to farm.

Mrs Motlana appealed to the conference to consider the problem of starvation in South Africa first.

"We as mothers do not want to produce criminals. As long as children are starving, they will become efficient at stealing. They will be efficient in stealing in your homes to get money for food."
Survey finds black pupils malnourished

Times higher than in Johannesburg

PORT ELIZABETH — Ten per cent of black school beginners in the urban area of Albany are malnourished, according to a nutrition survey of Grahamstown and the district areas.

Double this number of malnourished children was found in rural areas, the survey found.

The study, by Rhodes University researchers working with the Eastern Cape region of the Department of Health, found more malnourished children between the ages of five and eight in rural areas than in urban centres.

As a follow-up to the survey, the department is now going to study the incidence of malnutrition among black and coloured pre-school children in the region.

The surveys follow wide press coverage in late 1975 of official reports which showed that nearly one-third of all black babies born in Grahamstown died before they were one year old.

Figures released by the Medical Officer of Health showed an infant mortality rate in the city four times as high as the national average and nine times higher than in Johannesburg.

Although the figures were disputed at the time by health officials — on the grounds that they were based on inaccurate birth figures — the controversy prompted the Regional Director of Health Services in the Eastern Cape, Dr J D Krynauw, to initiate surveys among black children in the area.

At the time it was considered too difficult to locate and study an adequate sample of pre-school children. So researchers, aided by nurses and a dietitian from the Department of Health, started with children entering school for the first time.

The project was undertaken by the Rhodes Institute of Social and Economic Research and initially used the famous Boston scales for measuring malnutrition.

But the study ran into difficulties almost immediately, as the Boston scales require the weight and height of a child to be measured against the age of the child.

Few children in the survey had birth or baptismal certificates and other methods of determining age proved unreliable.

The project then switched to the American National Centre for Health Statistics charts in which weight is measured against height.

Unlike the Boston scales, which use as a control group children from privileged Boston society, these charts use children from all United States race and economic groups.

A report on the project said pockets of undernourished children were found throughout the rural areas of the region and could very often be traced back to conditions of work and services on individual farms.

Researchers found extremely low wages (in one case R16 a month) and almost nonexistent conditions for labourers on some farms, but an "adequate standard of income" on others.

In a statement, Dr Krynauw said it had been suggested that there were more potential sufferers of malnutrition among pre-school children than reports from the clinics suggested and that the next survey was designed to assess the true situation.

"The department contends that no pre-school child need suffer from malnutrition if full use is made of its skimmed milk powder scheme to combat kwashiorkor," he said.
Poor are in despair over the rocketing food prices

ROCKETING food prices were hitting the pockets of every South African, but worst affected were low-income earners — widows with young children, the disabled and pensioners.

The Department of Statistics has issued figures showing that the cost of living went up by a record 16.2 percent in the past year.

Figures showed that, with the biggest increase in the cost of food, the lower income group was hit hardest.

Their cost of living went up by 20.6 percent, for the middle income group by 17.2 percent and for the higher income group by 14.2 percent.

Weekend Argus interviewed a number of coloured pensioners — who received R62 a month from the Government — at the Cape Flats Distress Association’s service centre this week.

MEAT

Their attitudes towards the ever-increasing prices ranged from despair to stoic acceptance.

All the pensioners spoken to said they seldom ate meat. If they did buy meat, it consisted mainly of bones.

Mr Derry Finch, warden of Cape, said bones were nutritious but did not fill bellies.

Recent rises in the prices of offal and sugar shocked most of them.

"Where is it going to end more than one asked.

Mrs Gladys Abrahams, 72, of Skeenberg, said she had about R10 left for food after she had paid her rent, water, electricity and burial insurance out of her monthly pension. She said the food she bought never lasted until the end of the month. Once it was finished, her children had to provide for her.

Mrs Abrahams diet consisted mainly of vegetables and baked beans, and fish twice a week.

She sold it at first remember when last she had eaten meat. "Oh yes," she said after a pause. "I had a sheep's trotter last Sunday."

MRS CLARISSA CRIGHTON with her one-year-old baby, one of four children. 'Every time wages go up prices go up too,' she says.

"Every time one goes into the shop the food is more expensive," remarked Mrs Elizabeth Johnson, a 78-year-old Retreat widow. "It is getting more and more difficult every month to come out. And prices are always going up — they never come down."

Mrs Johnson said she also found cooking her children very difficult because transport costs were so high.

Mrs Marry MacMaster, 72 of Retreat, also lives alone on R62 a month. She said her rent, electricity and water cost her about R32 a month.

She managed to buy fish and chicken "every now and then" but by the end of each month said she usually ended up living on coffee and bread.

Few of the pensioners interviewed said they ate fresh fruit, eggs or cheese or drank milk.

Some were remarkably stoic about their situation. "We just have to cope," said 58-year-old widow Mrs Sarah Sayers, of Morning Glory. "The people who give us the money had to struggle to get it, so I'm grateful for it."

Mrs Clarissa Crighton, 34, of Factret, has four children. Her husband worked at a power station and after deductions, brought home about R100 of his R250 salary every month.

Mrs Crighton said her husband's wages had gone up by almost R50 a month in the past year. "But we haven't seen any of it. The moment people get paid more money, prices go up again."

PENSIONER Mrs Sarah Sayers, 83: "We have to be grateful for what we get."
Peninsula poor

THE sprawling squatter community of Vrygrond shows the type of socio-economic problems Share is tackling — at the source of many ills.

WHAT DEVELOPS: Children roam the streets with dangerous 'toys'.

REPORT: Sylvia Vollenhoven
PICTURES: Willie de Klerk

THE Peninsula's poor are getting even poorer, with socio-economic problems ranging from malnutrition to teenage pregnancies increasing.

This was said by a social worker based in the Ginsy Park/Retreat area.

The problems of poverty in the area have prompted a far-reaching community project called Share.

Share acts as an umbrella body for 12 organisations which have formed education, health, religion and social welfare committees.

HIT BY BOOM

'The country's economic boom has had an adverse effect on these people. Their incomes have not kept pace with the cost of living increases, and this means they are getting poorer, said the social worker, who asked not to be named for professional reasons.

'Something had to be done to try to solve the worsening socio-economic situation.'

A Retreat day hospital doctor said Share was started when he and his colleagues realised that treating a person for a disease while ignoring the social conditions which caused the illness was futile.

INVOVLEMENT

'We invited teachers, school principals, social workers and other professionals in the area to talk about the problems facing us.'

'We found that in many cases the different agencies were duplicating work and there was very little communication between them,' the doctor, another professional who cannot be named, said.

Continued on Page 13...
ROAD TO NOWHERE: The lack of recreation facilities is shown here. Children play in car wrecks and their make-believe trips in an area of too few playgrounds sometimes lead to wrecked lives.

At present a group of workers are being instructed in how children with learning disabilities can be assessed. "Too many of these children are regarded as mentally-retarded," the doctor said.

PREGNANCIES

Share is also tackling the lack of sex education in schools. Teenage pregnancies in the area are not only

DISCUSSIONS

In an effort to combat this problem, Share aims to initiate mothers'/daughters' discussion groups and send health visitors to give sex education in schools.

Share (Social Welfare, Health, Action, Religion and Education) leaders say they aim to take the feelings of the community to the authorities, and pressurise them for reforms.

Continued on Page 12

Now that the first phase of Share — coordinating the work of the 12 agencies — is under way, the next step is getting grassroots community involvement.

"We are training voluntary helpers in different aspects of community work."

"People would much prefer to help and advice than face someone in a white coat," the doctor said.

increasing, but the girls are also getting younger. Many mothers are between 13 and 15 years old.

"This is mainly because of a breakdown in the family unit. The parents have to work and children look after younger brothers and sisters."

"Added to the poor education and the over-crowded conditions under which they live," the doctor said.
What is the infant mortality rate for:
(a) Blacks, (b) Coloureds, (c) Asians and (d) Whites in the (i) urban and (ii) rural areas of South Africa in 1989?

The Minister of Health, Welfare and Pensions
D.F. Malan

Data is not yet available for 1989.

Exposure of young children to long distances from their homes to their schools is not only a cause of road accidents and road deaths, but it also leads to the neglect of child workers.

Maintenance

Making provision for covering future expenses such as insurance and maintenance must be excluded in computing the present value. This points to the desirability of designing to meet costs borne by the lessor such as insurance and maintenance, which have been incurred on the basis of determining the amount attributable to the demand for a cash price to capitalise, rather than obtaining a cash price to capitalise the present value. This points to the desirability of

similar to the investment allowance in the benefit of any investment tax credit.

13.
These folk are all lost and are dearly missed by someone.

Homelands: A picture of starvation.

Page 24 | September 11, 1981
Living standards of blacks show fall

Post Reporter

DESPITE statistics which showed that black earnings had increased in the last 10 years, black living standards had dropped, a top anthropologist at the University of the Witwatersrand, Dr Jeremy Keenan, said in Grahamstown today.

Speaking at the 11th congress of the Association for Sociology in Southern Africa, Dr Keenan said research findings had also shown that in spite of the recent "boom period", the black share of the net national income had declined in the last three years and was now less, in proportional terms, than it was in 1973.

"Not only has the black share of the cake got smaller but it would seem likely that the actual piece of cake may also have got smaller in the last two or three years," he said.

Research on individual households in the economically "better-off" parts of Soweto had shown that between July, 1979, and December, 1980, the real wages in the form of take-home pay of more than 70% of the residents fell by an average of 14%.

With the onset of boom conditions in 1980, it had been widely assumed incomes would ease, and jobs would increase, he said.

But black unemployment had continued to increase and workers were becoming more dependent on overtime work to prevent their real earnings from falling. Pension deductions from the wages of black workers had become "central" and "sensitive" areas in the last few years, he said.

Although the general recession in the economy since 1976 had led to an absolute decline in black employment, the pick-up in the economy from mid-1978 was "particularly sluggish" in job creation.

By the end of 1978, more than 2 million blacks were unemployed, he said, with unemployment rising by at least another 0.5 million each year from 1977 to 1980.

Rapid price rises were a major factor that had eroded the living standards of blacks, he said. This was particularly significant in the food industry, which had played a major part in causing the rapid increase in the rate of inflation during the past year.

"Indeed one reason why this economic growth has not benefited the black population is because the food industry in particular was able to set prices which have assured excessive profits in many branches of the industry and has been the major contributor in driving up inflation," he said.

"Most sectors of the food industry denied this sort of accusation. The food industry in particular has been particularly reticent and careful not to release information that would furnish proof of these charges," Dr Keenan said.

Food consumption, instead of expanding in line with population growth, had declined in real terms since 1976.

"What is horrific about this is that it would appear to have been brought about, at least in part, by certain deliberate cutbacks in production — for example in the meat industry — to generate a recovery in prices," he said.

"And this in a country said at a time when infant mortality rates in some of the homeland areas are in the order of 400 per 1,000 in the first 12 months of life," he said.

(cont'd)
MORE than 70% of households in Grahamstown's crowded townships are living below the breadline — and the problem is worsening.

This was revealed after the Rhodes University Delta Society, a community-oriented organisation, recently completed a study calculating the 1981 Poverty Datum Line for Grahamstown.

The study, undertaken by students, took six weeks to complete and was based on the lowest retail costs of basic foodstuffs, fuel, electricity and clothing available for families.

Factors such as schooling, entertainment, insurance and bad budgeting were not taken into account.

"Grahamstown is a poverty-stricken area. With inflation running at 15% a year, I would say more than 70% of households in Grahamstown are living below the breadline," a spokesman for the society said in an interview yesterday.

The society worked out that a family of six would need an income of R188.37 to live above the breadline.

"This does not account for luxury items, though it is likely that some people will buy cigarettes and similar items," the spokesman said.

Last year the Institute for Social and Economic Research in Grahamstown calculated that 66% of households in Grahamstown's townships had a total income of less than R150 a month.

According to the spokesman, the major problem in Grahamstown was unemployment — which was increasing with the arrival of people from the Ciskei.

"There are no industries or jobs for the people here and the problem is getting worse because people from the Ciskei are arriving here — from the frying pan into the fire.

"Some MPs are aware of the problem and the need for industries but they are faced with a difficult task," the spokesman said.

The Delta Society is trying to obtain permission from Grahamstown's Town Clerk to send the findings of their survey to people with their electricity accounts, to make them aware of the problem.

Students are also holding meetings with employers in Grahamstown to give them details of their findings.
BLACK POVERTY

Lombard's lustre

SA could break the back of black poverty by the end of the century, said Pretoria University's Jan Lombard in his keynote speech at the annual convention of the Institute of Personnel Management (SA) in Pretoria. However, Lombard, who is masterminding the new development bank, emphasised that this goal could not be achieved without continued black urbanisation. And at least one half of the increased demands for skilled manpower in manufacturing would have to be drawn from the non-white population.

If all the obstacles could be overcome, though, the reward would be almost priceless — not less than the drawing of the sting of current, grossly unequal living standards between the different ethnic groups. This conclusion follows from the results of economic projections carried out at the Bureau of Economic Policy at the University of Pretoria.

Lombard envisages that an average real rate of growth of 4.5% — which he regards as reasonably attainable if we mobilise our labour resources — would lead, in the year 2000, to an economy in which present inequalities in living standards would be greatly reduced.

The examples of possible progress are staggering. The average urban black food consumption per capita could rise from 0.45% of white consumption in 1980 to 0.70% of white consumption in 2000. White consumption standards would nevertheless rise too, although by a modest 10%. So, absolute black food consumption standards would be almost four fifths of current white standards.

To show the progress in relative standards already achieved, urban black food consumption in 1980 was only 30% of white consumption per capita.

The possible advances in relative housing standards could be equally remarkable. Lombard projects that white housing standards would increase by 10%, coloured and Indian housing standards by 100%, and the standards of urban blacks by 200% (equivalent to an increase, in real terms, from an average cost per dwelling of R6 000 per dwelling to an average of R18 000 per dwelling).

This tempo would mean an explosion in black housing construction — from about 15 000-20 000 units per year in the 1970s to more than 120 000 units per year in the 1980s and to a rate of 150 000-200 000 units in the 1990s.

On education, Lombard assumes the introduction of parity in basic primary and secondary educational services and open tertiary facilities. Under these assumptions, total expenditure on education rises from R2 324m in 1980 to R4 460m in 1990 and R9 900m in 2000. Yet given the assumption about economic growth, the percentage of gross domestic resources to be devoted to education would rise only from about 4.5% in the 1970s to 7.2% by 2000. A diversion of resources to education on this scale will, though, have its price — significantly increased taxes.

There will also have to be timely provision of the necessary additional urban infrastructure to accommodate all this growth. Here Lombard puts in a plea which touches on sensitive political nerves — that part of SA's future surplus capacity to create physical capital be diverted to the less developed areas.

This policy would of course divert a proportion of future urban growth to the black homelands.

There is a catch though — the question of political rank. Lombard admits that his scenario could be thwarted by "political disruption". Black material expectations have risen and will rise further. In the present context, such expectations have become extensively politicised, with the rise of a Marxist trend.
Survey: 66pc living below poverty line

GRAHAMSTOWN — More than 66 per cent of black families here are living below the poverty datum line (PDL), a survey carried out by a local organisation has shown.

The Delta Society of Rhodes University has come to this conclusion after comparing basic requirement figures for this year with income figures extracted from surveys completed in 1979 and 1980.

The PDL is an indication of the lowest expenditure a family must meet in order to maintain minimum standards of health and decency, the Delta Society says in a statement.

It adds that the PDL is calculated from the lowest retail costs of certain basic commodities — food, fuel and lighting, clothing, cleaning materials, housing and transport to and from work for one member of the family.

Delta explains that the figures provided exclude schooling costs, household implements and furniture, entertainment, insurance or savings payments, communication costs, personal and health care and do not allow for bad budgeting.

The final figure for basic requirements for a family of six is made up of food (R110.63), washing and cleaning materials (R24.37), clothing (R35.37), transport (R6.00) and rent (R12.00) — making a total of R186.37.

Comparing these figures with others produced by the Institute for Social and Economic Research in Grahamstown showing that in 1980, 66 per cent of black households here had a total income of less than R150, Delta has calculated that, allowing for an inflation rate of about ten per cent over the year, the figure may be taken to R165 a month — well below the required minimum total of R186.37 — DDR.
Survey shows El

is one of cheapest

Cities to live in.

East London - border

The survey shows that East London is one of the cheapest cities to live in. According to the findings, the cost of living here is lower than in other major cities, making it an attractive option for those looking to save money.

The survey was conducted by a leading research institute and involved a comprehensive analysis of various factors, including housing costs, transport, and utilities. The results were based on data collected from a representative sample of households in East London.

Residents of East London have reported that the cost of living is significantly lower than in other major cities, with affordable housing and transport costs being key factors. The survey also highlighted the area's vibrant cultural scene and close proximity to London, making it an attractive destination for both locals and tourists.

The survey findings have been welcomed by local authorities, who have sought to encourage more people to move to East London, highlighting the area's affordability and potential for growth.
A powerful defence of private enterprise — and at the same time a stingy attack on its political application in South Africa — was issued this weekend by the Zulu leader, Chief Gatsha Buthelezi.

"Support for free enterprise is born out of faith in the future — out of hope. You must understand that it has no justification in experience for us."

Chief Buthelezi said in a special message circulated to leading businessmen on the eve of Prime Minister P W Botha’s scheduled meeting with business leaders in Cape Town on Thursday.

The chief continued: "We have seen what goes for free enterprise deprive us of our land. We have been trampled by it into the dirt and the poverty we experience.

"We have seen the coincidence of wealth with political power as a facet of free enterprise."

Blacks were selected targets for the worst of free enterprise, Chief Buthelezi declared.

"The decision has always been 'If you don't protect the poor and the destitute, then they must be slash.'"

"My agony is that I cannot win a successful fight against black poverty as the white government fights against white poverty. The 'poor white' was lifted out of destitution by political forces. The 'poor white' was voted into power. My people cannot vote me into power."

"A great many blacks today were convinced that the country faced a socialist future, but the majority were still willing recruits for free enterprise," said Chief Buthelezi.

"I brood on being dependent myself. I am a willing recruit for free enterprise now. How long can I hold this position personally is one thing. How long my people want me to hold on to it is another thing."

As president of the Inkatha organisation, he said, he presided over people who were mainly workers and peasants. "They have what one can perhaps call middle-class tendencies. They want better jobs, they want homes; they want progress in their standard of living and they want their children to live in a fairer world."

We reject the armed struggle because violence is intrinsically dangerous and also because in our case it just will not work. We are willing candidates for free enterprise because we can see it working for some of us, and we hope it will one day work for all of us.

"I do not believe you can go it alone with the South African government," Chief Buthelezi told...
candidates for free enterprise because we can see it working for some of us and we hope it will one day work for all of us.

"I do not believe you can go it alone with the South African government," Chief Buthelezi told businessmen. "I do not believe that you can go it alone even if you took your black directors with you. You would not make it if you took the whole black middle class with you.

"I would not dream of crossing a bridge into the future if I had to leave the workers, the peasants and the destitute shanty-town dwellers behind me. You would do so at your peril. More you would do so at our peril."

Because such blacks had so few prospects, the future was not secure, Chief Buthelezi said.

And "if the lack of confidence among entrepreneurs and lack of direction at cabinet level continues for too long, if backlogs in life-supporting facilities, which the state has to supply continue if the free enterprise system does not become free beyond what is comfortable for Verwoerdian theoreticians, then free enterprise will not be able to do what I hope it will do.

"Social and political unrest will grow to the point where even force to back day-to-day administration will break down."

The Prime Minister had to understand that democracy and free enterprise went hand in hand. "Businessmen should clearly understand that they should tell Mr. Botha that his leadership will destroy us all if it is not working visibly and progressively toward power-sharing," Chief Buthelezi said.
The rural woman's needs are basic — and education.

"When we talk about food here one is thinking in terms of quantity and quality," said Mrs Mosala but for a rural woman the "menu" begins have it abundantly.

"Is this the abundant life Christ meant that they may have?"

Mrs Mosala further remarked on the great injustice suffered by these women in the rural areas rather than contesting their rights in the courts. This is the inhibition created by the paralyzing power that engulfs her," said Mrs Mosala.

"Fear"

The national president Mrs Minam Msmang spoke of the importance of re-education of the mind toward fearlessness.

"Many a times one cannot achieve some things in life through fear which breeds lack of confidence in oneself," she pointed out.

"Each one of us has the power to be what he or she wants to be and to do what one wants to do.

"The mind is coloured and conditioned by the matters with which it chiefly concerned. It engages continuously with thoughts of resentment, depression and that it will absorb them into itself and sooner or later this mental condition will affect one's personal character"

"Peace"

Mrs Msmang pointed out some of the states of mind which if unattended to invite disaster. Talking about the pressures in the world around us she said, "We need tranquillisation not by drugs but by realisation of the peace that lies below the surface of trouble and turmoil."

"The overstrained nerves can weaken the will to a point of complete breakdown of the personality. Painful crisis of nature do not occur in a mind that has been perverted through and through with positive thoughts that help to establish a calm attitude to life and maintain equilibrium."
PC man to head poverty eradication organization

Staff Reporter

A NATION-WIDE campaign to eradicate poverty is to be started by the Congress of the People (Cope), a political organization headed by President's Council member, Mr Lofty Adams.

The campaign will be launched at a congress at the Heerengracht Hotel on tomorrow.

Cope's congress had no link whatsoever with the Congress of the People at Kliptown in the 1960s, Mr Adams said.

Announcing the campaign to pressmen yesterday, he said he aimed to get rid of poverty by "helping people to help themselves."

Mr Adams said he intended mounting a touring exhibition that would "show people everything that could be done to eradicate poverty."

People would be taught handicrafts. This would be accompanied by political action which would form a "very subtle attack on the system."

Mr Adams said poverty-stricken people should get together and start communal factories to turn out hand-made merchandise.

Socio-economic self-help alone would not solve the political problems of South Africa and political freedom had to be accompanied by economic freedom. For this to come about, the Western powers should explore avenues for increased investment in South Africa.

"Political cowards"

People who advocated economic sanctions were "political cowards who were worse than terrorists," he said.

"Economic sanctions are the vilest and most reprehensible form of terrorism. They are part of the total onslaught by the United Nations, the Organization of African Unity and the communists."

Mr Adams said Cope would call on the government to abolish the Separate Amenities, Race Classification and Group Areas Acts and establish a unitary education system.

Motions rejecting the management committee system and urging the government to reinstate coloured people on the common parliamentary voters' roll will also be tabled at the congress.
Very few escape the squalor...

Mrs X was delighted as she waited for the travel truck so that she could leave behind the squalor of the transit camp, but there were others who were not so lucky or didn't seem to care.

Mrs X has asked us not to use her real name. Her reflections on the life she has had to lead, however, give an insight into the sufferings of people struck by chronic community poverty.

We found her sitting in the doorway of her corrugated iron transit camp dwelling keeping an eye on the movements of other children who had huddled in a heap in the hot sun, with the steel frame of a broken-down tent frame.

In my middle-class household, her experiences would probably have been referred to as ‘rubbish’, but to Mrs X, they are ‘more’.

COUNCIL

In the council house it can only be better,’ she said. Mrs X knew that the classrooms were not perfect, but at least she would be living in a free-standing dwelling.

For Mrs X, five other adults and three children it will be a blessing after their two years in this transit camp home. ‘A person is not perfect, but at least you strive for better.

Not all in the transit camp, however, share her views. ‘Many like it here, but it is not for me.’

DEPRESSING

To the newcomer the camp is depressing. To Mrs X it is much more.

It is an area typified by violence, drunkenness and unemployment.

‘From Monday to Sunday it carries on. They don’t know when it is Sunday.’ The people need to come and hold open-air church services. But of the people made fun of God’s word, nobody comes.’

And, the lawlessness! Mrs X said the appeared to be a gathering ground for groups of wrongdoers from other areas.

DANGEROUS

‘Your life is in danger if you walk around the dark at night. You will get hurt, even if you don’t look for trouble.’

Fear, however, keeps outsiders from the people in danger even if they hear screams.

‘You cannot do anything. You must protect your own possessions.’

‘When I first came here, I had to give up my job, because the youths were molesting my daughter.’

SAUNTERED

While talking to her, a boy of 10 sauntered. It was not her child, but a neighbour’s daughter.

His parents work, so the children don’t go to school.

Caught in this web of poverty and circumstances and without the proper discipline, the children are likely to remain in the twilight world. They are unlikely to achieve much.

‘Life must offer something better’; this was soon afterwards the removal truck arrived.

Massive ‘upliftment’ needed—Prof Theron

Enterprise system, the commission

Eliza Theron Commission’s views on the chronic community poverty experienced by a section of South African society are as relevant today as it was during the Thos according to Professor Eliza Theron who headed the commission.

The commission found that up to 60 percent of the subsidised community could be grouped as low or middle-income earners faced with oppressive social problems. Many of the members of this group have lapsed into such a state of physical and mental decline that they are actually living in chronic community poverty.

The drunkeness, the violence, the immorality and the lack of motivation of the lower bands are not facts about today’s society. They describe this group’s life style which is due to circumstances in which they have been trapped for generations,’ the Commission said.

Definitive, however, stems largely from a restrictive environment. It often represents a defensive adjustment to the poverty-stricken living conditions of the people who live in an advanced society.

The commission found that once this life-style has become set, life to the individual becomes a sort of maze that leads nowhere.

It was the commissioner’s view that the group had such a negative attitude to life and their aspirations were already blunted that the mere provision of better opportunities would not achieve much.

Instead, a massive scale upliftment programme was suggested to come to terms with the chronic community poverty.

RESOURCES

Resources—could prove to be a problem, both with the State and private enterprise had a role to play.

If private enterprise did not spontaneously play its part, steps could be taken by the Government to secure the co-operation, although much jeopardise some of the traditional freedoms attached to the private
Causes of SA poverty to be probed

'The first part of the investigation will be to collect data. Many people have been involved in research on poverty, and we hope to get an overview of the present situation by coordinating the information available,' Professor Wilson said.

'We will draw on the work done by universities throughout the country, as well as by anybody working in these areas such as doctors or lawyers. Where there appear to be gaps we will initiate research.'

STUDIES

'Then we will do several micro studies to give depth to the macro picture. We could, for example, investigate whether households headed by women are more likely to be poor.'

While it was obvious that the majority of the urban poor were situated in the rural areas, urban poverty would also be investigated.

One of the aims of the project will be to generate public debate and to stimulate policy discussions on how best to facilitate equitable development. The results of the study will be presented at a national conference at UCT in September 1983. An independent commission could then be formed to summarise the findings and make recommendations for action.'

SOLIDARITY CALLING

WARSAW — A clandestine radio station, Radio Solidarity, began broadcasting here yesterday calling for resistance against the military authorities in the name of the suspended Solidarity Trade Union — Sapa-Reuters.

DEM

NEW

world crisis

stable to

security

trouble
CAPE TOWN — The Carnegie Corporation of New York announced in Cape Town today that it was initiating a second scientific enquiry into poverty and development in Southern Africa to run over 18 months.

The philanthropic foundation, with a 35-year history of grant-making for educational purposes in South Africa, said the inquiry would be administered and co-ordinated at the University of Cape Town.

It will be directed by Professor Francis Wilson, economist and head of the university's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru). He said the inquiry's aim would be to analyse and generate public debate about the nature, causes and extent of poverty in South Africa and to stimulate policy discussions on how best to aid development.

The skills of university scholars, lawyers, nurses and other concerned individuals from all segments of society will be sought. The results of their work will be presented at a week-long national conference at the University of Cape Town in September next year. A commission may then be formed to make recommendations for short and long-term action.

Fifty years ago, the corporation supported the first such inquiry known as the Carnegie Poor-White Study, which documented the plight of the Afrikaner poor, most of whom were isolated in rural areas. The five-volume report aroused widespread public concern and its recommendations made people more aware of the size of the problem and about strategies to counter it.

A similar concern about poverty today, mainly affecting Blacks, gave the impetus for the second independent inquiry.
Enquiry into development and poverty in SA initiated

CAPE TOWN — The Carnegie Corporation of New York is to initiate a second scientific enquiry into poverty and development in Southern Africa. The project is to run over 18 months.

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A similar concern about poverty today, mainly afflicting blacks, gave the impetus for the second independent enquiry.

It will run from now until September next year.

All who want to be associated with the enquiry, by helping to prepare papers for the conference, should write to Saldru, at the School of Economics, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700.

All work will be drawn together at the conference. Final results and recommendations for action are expected to be reported publicly during the following year.

The Carnegie Corporation has provided an initial £30 000 (£150 000) towards costs of the research programme — Sapa
Bureaucrats are keeping the slum residents in limbo

RESIDENTS at Winterveld, the huge slum north of Pretoria, are still confused about their fate. Meanwhile the South African and Bophuthatswana Governments are studying a development report on the area.

The top secret report, details of which the Sunday Express can now reveal, was submitted to both governments by the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) late last year.

An inter-governmental management committee was formed to discuss stabilisation and legalization of the Winterveld community and to examine different attitudes and individual preferences.

Winterveld was given to Bophuthatswana just before the homeland opted for independence in 1976. According to the report, in a pre-independence agreement South Africa agreed to help Bophuthatswana resolve the Winterveld dilemma.

The slum area has been a point of dispute between the two governments—the homeland maintaining that, as many residents were resettle from the Republic, they were South Africa's responsibility.

But South Africa said that Bophuthatswana, as an independent state, should take responsibility. In the interim, living conditions in the area have continued to deteriorate.

The report has found that:
- Most of the people live in what could be called sub-standard conditions. This is said to be due mainly to the reluctance of the tenants to invest cash and labour where no secure form of tenure is available.
- There is uncertainty regarding the legal status of non-Tswanas.
- Bophuthatswana does not benefit from taxes and rates from Winterveld.

The report does not state who receives them.
- 75% of the families have at least one member working in the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vereeniging area.

It has been recommended that for development purposes Winterveld will be divided into urban and agricultural areas. Those who do not want to remain will choose where they want to go outside Bophuthatswana.

The first phase of the development will involve the construction of between 1,000 and 2,000 serviced sites. Education and health facilities will also be built.

There are 1,688 agricultural holdings in private ownership. Some of the plot owners rent grounds to tenants. The population is estimated to be at 105,000.

In the Eshuus area, up to 100 families are accommodated on one plot. The majority are non-Tswanas. But 65% of the residents want to remain in the area.

The sizes of the plots vary from four morgen to 20 morgen.

More than 75% of the plot owners have been staying in the area for up to 20 years.

A spokesman for the Winterveld property owners, who did not want to be identified, said the deliberations over the area have taken a "long, long time."

"People are getting desperate and angry," he said.

"For how long must we wait until a decision is reached?"
Whether the new inquiry will have the same success as the previous one will depend on several factors among which not the least is that it should not be saddled with the same ideological blinkers. In this connection a heavy dose of research is needed. The majority of the scholars of the University of Cape Town have an institution which "everybody" calls "the University of Cape Town," the impression of trying to really assist the government. The problem is that poverty among blacks definitely has a rural origin—thus a problem which starts in the homelands and for which a solution will have to be found there, so that similar problems will not merely be exported elsewhere; A solution therefore embraces intensive investigation into industrial decentralization and rural development; for example, in areas where an advanced process of political devolution is already in motion.

In order to be most effective, impartial and constructive proposals on this matter will have to be done in conjunction with the overall strategy of decentralization with which the government is presently occupied.

In brief, it is a special test that awaits the University of Cape Town as an academic institution. In this case it could act constructively, and for the umpteenth time act like merely another institution tackling and "objective" inquiry—purely with the aim of poking a finger in the government's eye. The choice is theirs.
BY ANTHONY SWIFT

Bridging Poverty into the Nations' Focus
Dear Editors,

It seems there are no limits to the resources capital has to draw from. In its attempt to contain and control the current political and economic crises seriously threatening the "stability" of Southern Africa, imperialism would appear to have chosen an unlikely bed-fellow in Saldru.

Don't those unsympathetic philanthropists at Carnegie realise who they've selected as a means of investigating 'poverty'? After all, the Burger has been quick to point out the dangers of choosing a radical organisation in a 'left' university - in particular, the way the 'facts' are susceptible to slanted interpretation.

So why has Saldru been selected, if Carnegie's controllers are in fact shrewd tacticians? I suggest the following reasons as part of it:

1. Saldru will produce an accurate analysis of the conditions creating poverty - tempered perhaps by awareness of who's providing the funds.
2. The facts produced and solutions proposed will be difficult to swallow - but capital is quite capable of adaptation if it has to.
3. A radical set of proposals are necessary in the face of the radical challenges to capitals' dominance.
4. A certain ideological legitimation is given - the USA's 'concern' to 'really' solve S.A.'s problems.

So, in fact, Carnegie are no fools. By choosing Saldru they've played a trump card. The radical intelligentsia are to be used as part of capital's strategy to reconsolidate its position in changing conditions!

But, of course, Saldru's fully aware of this, and the project will throw up criticisms of capitalism's role. In this way, the intelligentsia is part of the 'struggle'. Who will benefit most from the critique?

The tricks on us? Capital will most benefit! We've been coopted!

It's a whole tacky and dangerous business, the upshot of which is more than likely a set-back in the proletarian struggle.

Sincerely,
Sceptical
Carnegie inquiry into SA poverty

DURBAN — A scientific inquiry into poverty in South Africa has been launched by the Carnegie Corporation of New York, it was announced yesterday.

The aim of the investigation is to generate public debate about the nature, causes and extent of poverty in South Africa.

Professor Francis Wilson of the Department of Economics at the University of Cape Town, who will be co-ordinating the study, said yesterday the inquiry would be held over the next 18 months.

"We hope to draw on the knowledge of a wide range of academics and professionals like lawyers and nurses and any other concerned individuals," he said.

This is the second investigation into poverty done by the philanthropic foundation, the first being the Carnegie poorest white study which documented the plight of poor Afrikaners 50 years ago.

The results of the study will be presented at a week-long national conference at the University of Cape Town in September 1983. After this a commission may be formed to summarise the findings and to make recommendations for short and long-term strategies to cope with poverty — DDC.
Carnegie probe into poverty in SA

Mercury Reporter

A SCIENTIFIC inquiry into poverty in South Africa has been launched by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

The aim of the investigation is to generate public debate about the nature, causes and extent of poverty in this country.

Prof Francis Wilson of the Department of Economics at the University of Cape Town, who will be co-ordinating the study, said yesterday the inquiry would be held over the next 18 months.

"We hope to draw on the knowledge of a wide range of academics and professionals and any other concerned individuals."

The results of the study will be presented at a week-long national conference at the University of Cape Town in September 1983.

Prof Wilson called on those who would like to be associated with the inquiry to write to him at the School of Economics, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700.
Spotlight on the Southern African poor

Staff Reporter

THE NATURE, causes and extent of poverty in Southern Africa will be the subject of a university-based scientific inquiry over the next 18 months, initiated by the Carnegie Corporation of New York.

The study is the second inquiry on poverty in Southern Africa to be supported by the corporation—a philanthropic foundation which has provided educational grants in South Africa for 35 years.

It will be administered and co-ordinated by the University of Cape Town and will be independent of all government bodies and political parties.

The aim

According to the director of the project, Professor Francis Wilson, head of the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit at UCT (Saldru), the aim of the study will be "to undertake an analysis of, and to generate public debate about, the nature, causes and extent of poverty in South Africa and to stimulate policy discussions on how best to facilitate "equitable development"."

Saunders, chairman of the university committee to oversee the project, said the inquiry hoped to draw on the knowledge and skills of scholars in all universities in Southern Africa and involve members of the professional community such as lawyers and nurses.

The results of the study will be presented at a week-long national conference to be held at UCT in September, 1983. A commission could then be formed to summarize the findings and make recommendations for action strategies. Final results and recommendations for action will be reported throughout the year.

Fifty years ago the corporation supported an inquiry into the Afrikaner poor, most of whom were isolated from economic progress in rural areas. According to organizers of the study, its results and recommendations made people aware of the extent of the problem and initiated strategies to deal with it.

Professor Wilson asks that anyone interested in helping to prepare papers for the conference write to Saldru, School of Economics, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, 7700.
Dead centre of an Easter bunny

By Joan Waite
Little Jonathyn Beldon got an Easter surprise when he broke open his Good Friday chocolate bunny — inside was a rolling mouse.

The carcass, whole but in an advanced state of decay, was encased in the chocolate.

Mrs Merle Beldon of Berea said it was only luck that had stopped two-year-old Jonathyn from biting into the egg.

He was about to eat it when he saw his big sister break her egg into pieces and did the same.

"Next I heard him shriek and say there was something inside. As soon as the egg was broken, we could smell it. It was disgusting and we were eating breakfast as the children were unwrapping their eggs!"

The egg had been bought by Mrs Beldon.

US to pay for study of SA poverty

CAPE TOWN — The Carnegie Corporation of New York has announced in Cape Town it is initiating a second scientific inquiry into poverty and development in South Africa.

The philanthropic foundation, with a 85-year history of grants for education in South Africa, said the 12-month inquiry would be administered and co-ordinated at the University of Cape Town.

It will be directed by Professor Francis Wilson, economist and head of the University's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit. He said the inquiry's aim would be to analyse and generate public debate about the nature, causes and extent of poverty in South Africa and to stimulate policy discussions on how best to end and development.

The skills of university scholars, lawyers, nurses and other concerned individuals from all segments of society will be sought.

The results of their work will be presented at a week-long national conference at the University of Cape Town in September next year.

A commission may then be formed to make recommendations for action.

Fifty years ago the corporation supported the first such inquiry, known as the Carnegie Poor-White Study, which documented the plight of the Afrikaner poor, most of whom were isolated in rural areas.

A similar concern about poverty today, mainly affecting blacks, gave the impetus for the second inquiry — Sapa.

Bad debt for Swazis

The Star's Africa News Service

MBABANE — Swaziland's High Commissioner in Kenya is financially embarrassed because five Ministries will not repay money borrowed by Swazis allegedly wanting Namibian citizenship.

In his latest report the Auditor-General explains that the advances, totalling almost R8,000, were made to individuals representing various ministries.

Kruger Park lecture series

A series of illustrated lectures on the Kruger National Park will be held at the University of the Witwatersrand's Centre for Continuing Education this week.

The first lecture is tomorrow at 8 pm when Mr. B. W. Kruger, the park's information officer, will describe its history, geology, soils and vegetation.

The next evening will be devoted to a lecture on the bird and mammal life of the park. On Thursday, Mr. G. G. Kruger will deal with management techniques, and the final lecture on Friday will cover problems related to tourism in a nature reserve.

The cost for the series, at 9 Jubilee Road, Parktown, is R2.50 per person or R2.50 for a lecture. For further details telephone 642-4631.

Tomorrow in The Star

Marathon problems?

Marathon men... how do their women cope?

Grey Panthers leader...

The indomitable 75-year-old who leads America's Grey Panthers

INFO

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Tells you where to buy, sell or hire all the

Getting fashion
'No hunger' in SA

There is no hunger in South Africa, the general manager of the Development Corporation for Economic Development, Dr J van Marle told delegates at the conference of the National Council of Women of South Africa yesterday.

"South Africa is a food exporter and I refuse to believe there is not enough food for all," said Dr van Marle, guest speaker at the NCW seminar on rural areas.

Responding to questions after his speech, Dr van Marle said there was a "big difference" between starvation and malnutrition. He said he accepted there were people suffering from malnutrition in South Africa, but not that they were starving.

In his speech Dr van Marle said there were many people in rural areas, but few were productive.

"Individuals must be allowed to purchase land and be permitted to do subsidy farming," he said.

Dr van Marle said there were vast tracts of undeveloped land in homeland areas ideal for farming. He called on tribal leaders to encourage their people to develop this land.
Getting to grips with the problem

People living in shanty areas like this have faced a lifetime of poverty. Will it be different this time?

THE WORLD THROUGHOUT

The campaign throughout the world. It's a 25 million dollar campaign. The University of Cape Town, the University of the Western Cape, the University of Southern Africa, and over 5,000 students from around the world. The main aim of this campaign is to raise awareness and funds to support the efforts of these universities in combating poverty in their respective regions.
Situated in a remote part of the Karoo, more than 50 km from a main coast inland area, with a dwindling population and apparently few attractions for either tourist or industrialist, Burgersdorp had become a dying town.

Appeals to government departments fell on deaf ears and Provincial assistance from far away - Cape Town was not forthcoming.

"Finally we decided that if our town was to survive, then we, the people of Burgersdorp, would have to help ourselves," said former mayor, Mr Vic Olivier.

After he and a number of other leading citizens had discussed the matter, they decided to invite the director of the SA Rural Trust, Mr Vic Allen, to visit the district.

And with Mr Allen's help just two months ago, the Burgersdorp people began to find opportunities for economic development in both the town and the district, including Venterstad and Steynsburg.

Research soon proved that the town received 30 percent of its income from a railway workshop and township established by the South African Railways and Harbours.

Other income was derived from farming activities, and a limited number of small industries and other minor sources.

"One of the first conclusions we reached was that if instead of sending all our produce from the district farms to the markets in natural condition, we were to process some of it locally, we would be adding value and earning income for local people," Mr Olivier said.

The products involved were wool, beef, wheat, onions, lucerne and sugar produces.

Exploration proved that there were also low-grade coal deposits, the extent of which has not yet been stab-

lished, that natural clay suitable for the manufacture of ceramics was available on one of the farms and that high-grade bentonite existed in the district.

The "discovery" of natural resources soon began to change the attitudes of most people and they began making plans to process or in some other way add value to local products before exporting them to large centres.

Among the plans put to imple-

ment are the establishment of feedlots to fatten cattle before selling them to market, processing pigs and boer goat production, manufacturing animal feed from local grow producers, establishing fish farms in the IF Verwoerd Dam, making curcass meal from offal, pressing onion oil for the cosmetics market and using the clay for pottery.

Mr Vic Allen of the SA Rural Trust also envisaged the establishment of a pasta-making factory for the region.

Already in existence is a Stormberg cheese factory which, with a capacity for expansion, now has the capacity to produce sheep's milk cheese.

Also in full swing is a furniture factory which started small but which now has difficulty in coping with its order book.

The owner, Mr Albert van Wyk, has trained a number of young coloured and black women to operate the factory in accordance with a stated development policy in the town.

"All our people will benefit from the economic progress," Mr van Wyk said.

Mr Hennie Kruger and his wife Aasie, who started a factory making overalls, have also trained township women to operate the industrial sewing machines.

Another project which is already under way is a leather works making wallets, belts and saddles.

"There is now no fear that Burgersdorp will become a ghost town," Mr Olivier said. "We feel the Rural Trust people regard our activities as a model for other small communities to follow."

...thanks to the people of the town.
Workers tense over East Rand sackings

By STEVEN FRIEDMAN
Labour Reporter

FACTORY tension over retrenchments is growing on the East Rand

Metal and Allied Workers Union shop stewards from 72 factories in the area met on Wednesday night, a union spokesman said yesterday. They vowed to fight further retrenchments.

A union organiser, Mr Moses Mayekiso, said shop stewards from Wadeville, Germiston and Alrode took resolutions which accused employers of working overtime while retrenching workers.

Seifisa's director, Mr Sam van Coller, said yesterday there were no provisions in the metal industrial agreement on claims that some firms worked overtime while retrenching, leading to union charges that employers were firing workers in order to cut costs.

Workers believed employers could cut production in other ways.

The firms felt this was the province of the Metal Industrial Council and the Steel and Engineering Federation, said Mr Mayekiso.

More East Rand firms are retrenching workers and shop stewards are determined to fight it. Workers are very angry — they say they are the only ones who suffer when the economy runs into trouble," he said.

Workers believed employers could cut production in other ways.

Court Reporter

AN URGENT application was brought to the Rand Supreme Court yesterday asking for an interim interdict restraining the Johannesburg Stock Exchange from approving the proposed takeover scheme involving Greaternam Stores.

The application was brought by Dawn Laan Investments (Pty) Limited against the Johannesburg Stock Exchange, Griffin Holdings (Pty) Limited, Greaternam Stores Limited, Kirsh Industries Limited, Kielmet Limited, Metro Corporation Limited and others.

Judge Paul Goosen granted the interdict for ten hours a week for the court to take part in a joint enquiry into concern about excessive overtime.

At the same time, the agreement did not allow an employer to work more than ten hours a week without council permission.

"We are quite prepared to discuss this issue with unions, but we cannot lay down over-

Urgent move to halt Kirsh deal on Greaternam

Investment, said that Dawn Laan was the holder of 55,900 non-voting shares in Greaternam.

He told the court that there were 3,951,294 Ordinary Shares in Greaternam.
Carnegie funds black poverty probe

The Carnegie Corporation of New York has initiated a second Enquiry into Poverty and Development in South Africa, to be administered and coordinated at UCT over the next 18 months.

The Corporation is a philanthropic foundation with a 55-year history of grantmaking for educational purposes in South Africa, and has provided an initial $200 000 towards the cost of the research programme.

Aims

The Enquiry will be directed by Francis Wilson, economist and head of the University's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru) of the School of Economics. Its aim, Professor Wilson said, will be 'to undertake an analysis of and generate public debate regarding the causes, nature and extent of poverty in South Africa and to stimulate policy discussions on how best to facilitate equitable development.'

The Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Stuart Saunders, who is chairperson of the University Committee to supervise the project, said the Enquiry hopes to draw on the knowledge and skills of scholars at all South African universities and to actively involve members of the professional community and other concerned individuals from all sectors of South African society.

The results of their work will be presented at a week-long national conference at the University in September 1983. A Commission may be formed to summarise the findings and recommend short and long term strategies for action.

First enquiry

Fifty years ago (1927-1932) the Corporation supported the first Enquiry into poverty and development in South Africa, generally known as the Carnegie Poor White Study, which documented the plight of the Afrikaner poor, most of whom were isolated in rural areas and excluded from the benefits of economic progress.

The five-volume report aroused widespread public concern about the process of impoverishment.

A similar concern about poverty in the same area today mainly affecting blacks provided the impetus for establishing this second Enquiry. It will be university-based, and independent of all government bodies and political parties.
By SOPHIE TEMBA

OPERATION Hunger, the food distribution campaign run by the SA Institute of Race Relations, desperately needs funds to feed thousands of starving children in the homelands and other parts of the country.

The head of the operation, Mrs Ina Perlman, said yesterday, "Progress has been made, but the campaign has started, and we are worried, because we need funds to feed more than 40,000 hungry people - mostly children - during the winter months."

Operation Hunger has a feeding scheme in the Cusken run by the Nahoon Methodist Care Supplementary food parcels are distributed monthly to destitute families and aged people.

In the Lelubu district in the Northern Transvaal, food distribution is handled through clinics treating cases of malnutrition.

In drought-ravaged KwaZulu, Operation Hunger set aside R12 000 to feed about 23,000 children, most of them at pre-school age, three times a week on thick vegetable and soya soup.

Mrs Perlman said that because of drought and floods in KwaZulu, more people would have to be fed this winter.

Operation Hunger was started in October 1982 to help undernourished children, mostly in the homelands.

During its first 19 months, the operation collected R250,000, but about R200,000 has been used on feeding schemes and other projects.

Self-help and marketing projects have been launched by the committee to help mothers gain income in areas where they cannot find employment.

In KwaNdebele, monthly food parcels are distributed to 841 families, and self-help projects involved women in sewing classes and crafts workshops.

In Dennilton, a project is under way in which women mend school uniforms to be sold at low cost. It is hoped to extend the services to a new area in KwaNdebele known as Frischgewacht, and to Onverwacht in the Free State.

A teacher at a KwaNdebele school commented, "Since Operation Hunger came into existence, we have had a single report from any of the schools that malnutrition has claimed a life."

In the pockets area of Tzietz and Tshabangu, areas near Mafikeng, schemes are to be extended to feed school children, the aged and destitute.

In Soweto, R500 has been spent to start a "meals on wheels" service for the aged.
## Mercury Reporter

HIGH rents in Phoenix, Durban City Council's gigant housing scheme for Indians, is still a major problem facing a large number of tenants, according to a survey released yesterday by the Phoenix Indian Child Welfare Society.

It found that 53 percent of the families interviewed in Units 2, 3, 4, 5 and 10 spent more than a quarter of their income on rent — leaving very little money for food and clothing.

Another 'startling feature' found by the survey was that more than 50 percent of the families in the units where the survey was carried out lived below the poverty datum line.

'High rents coupled with increased transport costs have placed added burdens on the families, many of whom were forced to settle in Phoenix after being uprooted from their homes closer to Durban,' says a report to be tabled at the society's first annual meeting in the Stonebridge Community Hall on Sunday at 2.30 p.m.

The report also stated that the number of families who had sought the assistance of the society because of the lack of finance, had increased from 100 to 383.

The characteristic low wages of the tenants, high rents, increased transport costs and rising food prices manifest themselves in the undernourishment of children, a feeling of hopelessness among many families, and eviction.

In addition to providing assistance to the hard-pressed families, the society plans to make urgent representations to the Durban City Council for a reduction of rent and for the staying of eviction procedures.

Sunday's meeting will be opened by Mr B A Naidoo, chief professional representative of the South African National Council for Child and Family Welfare. He will deliver the guest address.

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**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.

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Any dishonesty will render the candidate liable to disqualification and to possible exclusion from the University.
Dear Editors

In the last issue of VARSITY there was a letter implicitly criticising Saldrum for accepting funds from the Carnegie Corporation in order to organise the Second Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty and Development in South Africa.

It is important to place on record that at no stage has the Carnegie Corporation imposed any conditions, either explicitly or implicitly, on the research to be undertaken or on the conclusions to be drawn. Furthermore, the Carnegie Corporation has a high reputation for its independent research into matters of public policy in various countries, including the United States, Nigeria and South Africa.

All those involved in the present Inquiry will be doing their best to uncover the truth about poverty in South Africa. The source of funding should not, in any way, 'temper' the analysis undertaken, and I reject your correspondent's suggestion that it might be otherwise.

May I conclude by asking your correspondent just two questions:
(1) Is it or is it not a good idea to undertake research into poverty and development in South Africa?
(2) If it is a good idea, how best could such research be funded?

Yours faithfully,
Francis Wilson
Director
ONDERSOEK
NA ARMES
VERBREED

27. 5. 1982

Deur Ons Kerksake-verslaggewer

DIE NG Sendingkerk se akseie vir die bestryding van armoede, wat tydens die Sinode in September met 'n kongres begin, sal voorlopig hy die Carnegie-ondersoek na armoede en ontwikkeling in Suid-Afrika inskakel.

De Dirk Marais, voorstel-baar van die NGSK se redelingskomitee, sê die Sinodale Kommissie vir Diafonale Dienste (SKDD) het aanbeveel dat die Kerk se ondersoekwerk by die Carnegie-ondersoek inskakel en suksesvolle samesprake van dié verband met kontakpersones gevoer.

Die Kerk is verheug om die geleentheid Hein sal ook geprobeer word om soveel kerkers moontlik te betrek. Omdat die bestaan van grootkaal armoede bekend is – dit is al deur verskeie ondersoekse aangetoon – sal 'n groot deel van die werk op akseiprogramme ter bestryding van armoede gemiks wees.

-MENSEWAARDIGHEID

'n Kongres oor armoede in die bruin gemeenskap word op 29 en 30 September tydens die Sendingkerkse Sinodensitting gehou. Die eerste voordrag oor die Bybelse perspektief oor die verskynst van armoede en die rol van die kerk sal deur dr. Allan Boesak, studentleraar van die ge- meente Bellville, gelewer word.

Mr. Pieter le Roux van die instituut vir sosiale ontwikkeling van die Universiteit van Wes-Kaapland sal oor Die rol van mensekaplike strukture en menswaardigheid in die verskynst van armoede praat. Op die tweede dag sal Die rol van die gemeenskap in die bekämping van armoede deur mnr. Lionel Louw, 'n docent in maatskaplike werk van die Universiteit van Kaapstad, behandel word.

Die onderwerpe sal in groep bespreek en besluite geneem word oor die akseie verder te voor.
Call for urgent action to curb diseases

Urgent action is needed to prevent severe malnutrition and to control infectious diseases in the homelands, says an article published in the South African Medical Journal.

A study conducted in southern Lebowa says that more attention needs to be paid to attracting South African doctors to homeland hospitals and to training nurses to work in these rural areas.

Dr W. C. Booth of the department of pediatrics of Baragwanath Hospital and the University of the Witwatersrand conducted the study of children under the age of five years admitted to the Jane Furse Memorial Hospital in southern Lebowa in 1980.

Gastro-enteritis, respiratory problems and kwashiorkor were found to be responsible for 50% percent of 1,328 children aged less than five years admitted to the hospital in 1980.

**PROTEIN**

"Urgent action is needed to prevent the many cases of severe protein energy malnutrition still seen and to gain better control of infectious diseases in these areas," Dr Booth said.

He said a major part in the campaign should be played by the agricultural spheres.

"The shortage of doctors and paramedical staff was serious and encouragement to work in the rural areas should start at student level."

**GRASSROOTS**

Also, greater emphasis needed to be placed on the training of nurses at primary health care and on the training of less qualified people who could play important roles in the overall health care of the rural people of South Africa by providing health/nutrition services at grassroots level," Dr Booth said.

The Jane Furse Memorial Hospital was one of four in southern Lebowa, serving a population of approximately 120,000, he said.

Many of the medical problems in young children seemed to stem from overcrowded conditions and shortage of medical and paramedical staff at hospitals and clinics, the majority of men being migratory workers, inadequate local food production and open water supplies susceptible to contamination.
EAST LONDON — Teachers, students and their communities were fighting a desperate struggle against poor health services, bad environments, hunger and hostile education authorities, Mr. Lionel Kearns said at the Cape Professional Teachers’ Association (GPTA) conference here yesterday.

He was addressing more than 500 delegates on The “Teacher, the School and the Community at the Crossroads.”

Mr. Kearns is a GPTA committee member and principal of the Baleme Primary School in Elsies River.

He said that prescriptions “from above” were daily narrowing the space for initiative for the teachers. The attitude that the regional office officials sometimes took towards principals, and the abuse of their authority, could serve no good purpose.

“MISCONDUCT”

He was particularly concerned about the wide interpretation given to the “misconduct.” He quoted the case of a teacher who has been transferred for “routine reasons.”

When the teacher resigned, he received a letter from the Department of Internal Affairs saying he could no longer teach at any schools falling under that department.

“How must one interpret this? What are the implications? When ‘Routine transfers are talked about?’” Mr. Kearns said.

THIRD WORLD

Referring to other problems encountered by teachers, he said many schools operated in Third World conditions. Health services and state-aided feeding schemes were essential.

Furthermore, not only in schools but in communities there was a complete lack of sport and relaxation facilities.

School social workers were in urgent need for children who came from homes which were frequently economically depressed and beset with social problems.

Partly, teachers faced the difficult problem of helping to lead a community robbed of its rights.
Enough food but poverty rife — MPC

SOUTH AFRICA produced enough food last year to supply 112 percent of the optimum energy needs of its population, yet malnutrition and the diseases of poverty — scurvy, kwashiorkor, rickets and others — were still rife, said Dr John Sonnenberg, MEC, yesterday.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Service Dinning Rooms organisation, Dr Sonnenberg said the prevalence of poverty and malnutrition among all racial groups, but especially among coloured and black people, was "an expression of the social chaos in South Africa".

THE POOR

He went on: "The situation for the poor in South Africa is deteriorating daily, helped along by the deepening recession, inflation and worsening unemployment, and it saddens me that this sort of situation is allowed to exist in the midst of so much wealth."

He said it was common cause that poverty among blacks had a rural origin, where 75 percent of households had incomes below the poverty datum line into which a Port Elizabeth study fixed a country-wide average of about R300 a month for a black family of six in a coloured family of five. The figure varied in different centres, he added.

INFLATION

"Poverty is not caused only by ignorance," Dr Sonnenberg said. "There is little that any of us can do about inflation, which ran at 16 percent last year. But there is even less that those living on or below the poverty datum line can do about food prices which rose by 25 percent, as they did last year."
Global soup kitchen fails to fill need

Project food aid has been of little or no value and should be scrapped, argues Tony Jackson.

(To be continued...)

Nothing appears to make more sense than to send the surplus food grown in the North to feed hungry people in developing countries. Most people's idea of food aid comes from TV pictures of bags of supplies going to feed refugees and victims of floods, earthquakes or droughts. In fact only about 10 percent of the multi-million rand food aid industry is concerned with emergencies. The bulk of food goes to the governments of poor countries for them to use as they please. It is a form of budgetary support.

From the 1960s critics increasingly complained that a large part of such aid never reached the poorest people in the receiving countries because the food was sold to the middle classes and the military.

In response a refinement of the system was introduced: "Project food aid" was to have a definite development component. This would be achieved by linking food distribution to socially useful development projects and also by directing the food aid to those most in need. Project food aid now accounts for over 20 percent of total food aid.

The theory is that food aid can be used as a development tool through Food For Work projects while those most in need—mothers, infants and young children—can be contacted for supplementary feeding through Mother Child Health centres (MCH) and school feeding programmes.

Three major international agencies specialise in operating food aid: the UN's World Food Programme (WFP), and the two United States voluntary organisations, CARE (Co-operative for American Relief Everywhere) and CRS (Catholic Relief Services). Together they distributed food to more than 60 million people in 1979. Their turnover of US-donated food alone was worth over $500 million. These "people to people" projects sound too good to disbelieve. Mr Edouard Saouma, director-general of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, described the WFP in April 1980 as "an irreplaceable tool for development." The Brandt Commission endorsed the linking of food aid to promotion of agriculture and employment in the South. Against such endorsements it almost sounds churlish to ask, "Does it work?" After 25 years of intense effort and the creation of the massive organisations to operate it, has project food aid satisfied the criteria set for it? Has it stimulated development? Has it improved nutritional levels? Has the learning ability of poor children been increased? With some honourable exceptions the answer is no.

Food For Work projects that provide genuine development gains for the participants are hard to organise and supervise. "Make work" projects abound, productivity and quality are low and long term value to the workers is slight.

One island off Haiti boasts about 300 km of roads built under FFW. Yet there is no commercial traffic of any kind. The few vehicles that do use the roads belong to missionaries and food agency staff. The islanders continue to travel on foot, by mule or by boat.

A survey in Lesotho discovered that productivity on FFW projects was four to eight times lower than on similar projects where the workers were paid in cash. These figures are better than in other countries.

In Bangladesh where there are over 7 million recipients each year of food aid from the United States alone, Food For Work projects have generally benefited the local landowners through provision of roads and irrigation ditches. The landless labourers involved have to look for more Food For Food work.

While some useful resettlement and re-forestation work has been reported under Food For Work, the general experience is of little or no lasting development worth to the participants. They might have worked better and would have been better off by being paid the rate for the job.

Similarly, supplementary feeding has failed to improve nutritional levels in children. Since poverty is their basic problem mothers simply use extra food as a substitute for the ration they would normally give their children. It helps the family budget a little but doesn't get any more food inside the infant.

If the claims for the usefulness of project food aid are not being fulfilled, why hasn't the whole been blown up a long time ago? The answer is that it has and many times by frustrated field workers.

Regrettably, the lessons they report back are often hard to take in the head offices where the major headaches are finding more ways of handling out the US and the EEC's largesse.

Tony Jackson is the author of "Against the Grain," published by Ozias this month.
THE Mgah area of KwaZulu, near Krankop, is one of South Africa's many hardship areas. The people, still suffering from last year's devastating drought, have again experienced almost total crop failure.

They are vulnerable at a time when the maize price has gone above the monthly earnings of some families and when depression threatens to eat away at the jobs on which the area relies.

Many people lost all their cattle in last year's drought when prices were fetching R5 a head. Now many are almost totally without their own resources.

Lulha Ndlovu planted mealies this year but got 'nothing'. Her husband is away looking for work — he last worked last winter. She says she can earn up to R25 a month doing farm work on local sugar farms but maize meal in her area costs R29.60. She has nine children and a bag of maize does not last her a month. She survives by begging.

A group of women, who listened to me interview her, said their story was the same. "We all have nothing here," they said.
'HERE WE ALL HAVE NOTHING'

When I asked what they thought of the meal-price hike, they shrugged their shoulders as though like the drought, it was an act of God.

Mrs Ndlovu showed me round her food store — it contained only two-thirds of a bag of commercial maize meal.

'How would you get through the winter, she said she was afraid because she did not know where to look for food.'

Florence Jali had a similar story. She has six children, some of whom look plainly undernourished. According to a community worker, who was my guide, they were bordering on famine.

Their 'granary', Thebebelele, does not yet have the food for the day, sometimes bringing in R20 a month. Granny, who looks well into her fifties, had tried to get a pension but was told she was too young to apply. 'We got less than a bag of maize, she said, and Mrs Jali. Her husband was away looking for work but had not found steady employment for three years.

A nurse told me that already there were a few cases of malnutrition coming into hospital. This was worrying as early in the year, 'We did not expect to see them till later. The bad time normally is October—November."

She said hospital statistics did not reveal the true situation because many people were registered under other ailments, of which malnutrition was in fact the root cause.

Mahl, just below Dse Kop, is one of those scenically superb areas that hides human misery. Much of the land is steep, rugged and dry, with three boreholes and the Tugela River serving an estimated 15,000 people.

The trouble with the water is that it is too far away. In addition, the weak and the elderly, who most need it, cannot get to the distribution points. For this reason, the nurse believes the real answer is to make water accessible to more people in the area.

One family I came across who did have access to water were working on a beautiful vegetable garden with spinach, beetroot, carrots and tomatoes. 'We are very healthy,' they said.

One place where it seems to be partly solved is in the KwaZulu Government help primary school, Ntunamhlabeni.

During last year's drought, the school introduced a free meal of fortified soup and biscuit supplied by the Durban Red Cross. The Red Cross is now supplying 27,000 children in 25 primary schools throughout KwaZulu.

The vice-principal, Christian Ngako, said 50 percent of the pupils arrived at school hungry. Some had to walk 16 km to get to school — much of it uphill. Many left for school on empty stomachs, either because their families were poor or their parents also had great distances to go to get to work and left too early to feed them.

Before the school feeding scheme was introduced, the first and only meal many people got was after they had walked home.

Even now, the new principal, Thamsanqa Tlwela, said many of the children didn't look bright and awake and had trouble concentrating.

Even so, the teachers said there had been an improvement. Attendance had also greatly improved.

'At first people were suspicious of the feeding scheme because it was free,' said Mr Ngako. 'Now everybody wants it. We even get requests to admit under-aged children to the school because of the food.'

KwaZulu Secretary for Health Dr Mordecai Gumedi said that even staple foods such as maize and bread had become too expensive for the average black family.

Handouts were just a palliative.

What was needed was a new policy aimed at providing the basic needs of all South Africans, such as safe water, adequate land for planting and employment.

LYDIA Ndlovu in her empty kraal... One man and his dog — but not much else... And the tears of a hungry child tell the story of a hungry South Africa.
People are dying all over South Africa as famine takes its toll.

Openion Hunger, which funded relief feeding schemes during last year's drought, is currently receiving reports from various parts of the country that make it clear that this year they will have to double at least last year's relief budget. Appeals for relief aid are coming in from as far afield as Omvurweni, the resettlement area in the Free State, and Ekuvensi, the resettlement area near to Limchill and Ladysmith in Natal, where mission workers are asking for 1000 bags of maize meal to help 1000 people "in dire financial straits" through the winter.

Other areas that are worrying the Natal Red Cross Society in Durban are Mahlabatini, Ensellini, Nguta, and Msinga. The vice-chairman, Mrs Inka Mars, said that parts of these areas would almost certainly require relief feeding, in addition to the school-feeding programmes already being supplied by the society.

Meanwhile, in the Cape region, the South African Red Cross has recently alerted Operation Hunger that a school-feeding programme would be needed in the area of Namaqualand covered by the towns of Okeef Namaas, Springbok and Steinkopf. A detailed survey commissioned by the Red Cross shows that of 508 children medically examined in this area, nearly 22 percent were suffering from various forms of malnutrition. Among teachers questioned 75 percent thought that malnutrition was an important factor in high school failure rates. Ina Perlman of Operation Hunger, which is run by the Institute of Race Relations, says in many areas there is nothing to harvest and in resettlement areas the buying of maize meal from local shops is beyond the reach of many people, even without the recent price rises. To help assess the situation, Sunday Tribune reporters went to just three of the hardship areas and this is what they found...
WHEN THE CROP FAILS...

BY DAVID NIDDRIE

WILLIAM Krissel, born in October 1978 in the Northern Transvaal homel of Sovenga, was, says his wife Josephine, already on his way to the Other World when they brought him to her.

But, with his liver swollen and his stomach, feet, hands and cheeks ballooning out with the fluid his body could not longer get rid of, he clung to life for seven days.

On May 23 he died to become another statistic in a battered blue book in the tiny kwashorkor ward at Sibalaco Mission Clinic east of Petersburg.

He was the seventh this year, with only five months — normally the mildest months — gone. Last year, none of the 400 or so kwashorkor admissions to the hospital died.

Outside, Sister Josephine, one of the two nursing sisters at the clinic, points to the mission's meagre land — sprawling hectares of dust bowls, with only an occasional ready stick to indicate the crop that wasn't.

"The rain was so bad, we didn't even bother to harvest. We just let the cattle in to give them something to eat."

Throughout the Transvaal, the story is the same. With rains between half and a quarter of their normal level, says agricultural expert David Cooper, the province's black rural areas have had almost total crop failure.

"There is nothing for them to eat and even if there are good, early rains later this year, there will be nothing until March next year."

With more than 20 million people in the Transvaal homelands, Gazankulu, Lebowa, Kwandebele, Kanyawane and the two independent homelands Venda and Bophuthatswana — relying at least partially on the food they can grow, nutrition-related diseases are likely to rocket.

Mr Cooper, who runs agricultural projects for a rural development organisation, EDA, says around 70 percent of rural black children are "on the brink" of kwashorkor.

Even in a good year, 50,000 children under the age of five die in South Africa because they do not get enough food.

"And it doesn't matter that last year was almost miraculously good. People still go hungry because pressure overcrowding depletes the land and eats the potential crop," said Mr Cooper.

As a result, nothing can be saved for the lean times.

"The cattle are okay now but the pasture is thin, so as winter progresses their normally low winter milk output will be even lower.

"By September, some will be dying. Those which survive will not calf because of their poor condition."

Result: No milk next year, no matter how good the rains.

Even without the drought, millions of black rural families should, theoretically, just lie down and die.

Figures released by World Vision, which operates 42 feeding schemes in South Africa, put the average income per head at R430 a year in Bophuthatswana and R230 in Venda.

Caskel and Transkei crops are equally low.

Comparing these figures with the recently calculated household living level of R340 a month, David Cuthbert of World Vision said the problem could only get worse.

The situation in Lebowa and Gazankulu is no better. For those who can find local temporary work, monthly payment is officially set at R42.

Employment on local farms brings in little more than 50c a day.

Unemployment estimates — outside the "independent homelands" — are at least one million and rising fast.

Adding to this already bleak picture, is the recent meagre meal price increase to R26 a 50kg bag. This serves an average family just under four weeks.

Donations to Operation Hunger can be sent to P.O. Box 97, Johannesburg, 2000.
One in ten will be dead by end of year...

By Ingrid Stewart

By the end of this year, at least one out of every 10 children living in the Ciskei's "healthiest town" will be dead.

The town is Mdantsane, the black dormitory to East London.

The infant mortality rate 120 km away in Grahamstown has been described as terrifying and is way above the national average — 200 deaths for every 1000 live births.

The cause of all these deaths — directly or indirectly — is malnutrition.

And these are the ones the health authorities know about.

They are reported in the local papers as saying they cannot reach the bulk of malnourished children in their areas in the Eastern Cape.

"Hunger here is a year-round problem," says Mr. Aly Johnson, regional director of the Border region of the Red Cross.

Appeals for help come almost daily, as do the cases of malnourished children to the area's provincial hospitals, and the Red Cross's dilemma is deciding how to spend their money, allocated for hunger relief most effectively.

CARE, another agency, run by the Methodist Church in East London, the Red Cross is determined not to use its money on one-off food parcels handed-out to the needy, says CARE organiser, the Rev. Steve Fourie.

"As Christians we have to give some assistance to the individual when we know people are starving. But we feel uncomfortable with the dependence and paternalism that is built into giving people hand-outs."

Eric Mugogo, whose family lives in Chaluma, a resettled area about 50 kilometres from East London, told how he battled to find work in the port.

He has to support his wife, daughter and two children.

Six years ago, in desperation, he took a job working underground on a Reef mine.

He has been there ever since, sending home just over R100 a month.

Other families who depend on a migrant breadwinner's salary told how the money "just stopped coming".

This has meant that mothers have had to go out to work, leaving their children in the care of unsuitable guardians — teenage sisters or physically handicapped grannies.

At Chaluma we found dozens of children who were told, had no one to look after them or feed them while their mothers were at work.

Babies are taken off the breast, and left in the environment of food scarcity where they soon display symptoms of undernourishment and, in extreme cases, kwashiorkor and marasmus.

Such family dislocation is rife in Grahamstown, where the migrant labour system has taken its toll.

Mr. Fincham's surveys have shown that families working on white-owned farms are better off because the family unit has remained intact.

"But in the final analysis, with perhaps over half the black children in Grahamstown and 16 to 20 percent of those on the white farms, at risk of being undernourished, the situation throughout the region is unsatisfactory," says Mr. Fincham.

"By participating in our surveys the Department of Health has shown its willingness already," he says.

But he also points to Government resources which are being cut back, coupled with the problem of malnutrition when the same money could be spent eradicating it.

For example, it costs about R30 a day to treat a malnourished child in hospital when R2 a month in a bulk-buying scheme could supplement the feeding of the same child and keep it adequately nourished.

"Is it going to continue putting its resources into a cure for people who are destined to die from degenerative and incurable diseases, when the scarce resources could be used to improve and maintain the level of health of the young who have their whole lives in front of them?"
6 000 people in settlement camps live 'appallingly'

By RUTH GOLEMBO

THE 6 000 residents of two Eastern Cape resettlement camps are living in "appalling conditions" and suffering considerable hardships during the cold winter weather.

Mrs M Bryant, wife of the Rev Peter Bryant, Anglican priest of St Paul's Church in Parsons Hill, Port Elizabeth, recently returned from the settlements of Glenmore and Kamaskraal near Pediene and described the conditions as "extremely bad".

She said the 1 000 residents of Kamaskraal and the 5 000 residents of Glenmore were moved there about two years ago.

"They were dumped there by Government buses with three days' rations and nothing more. The people are living in home-made tomato-box shacks and the only proper buildings are the toilets provided.

"They have no income because there is no work for them there and they are suffering from cold as well as malnutrition-related diseases.

"Some families of six have only two blankets between them and they suffer during the bitterly cold nights," she said.

Mrs Bryant said conditions are expected to get even worse when the residents are moved again. They are due to be moved into Pediene itself at the end of the year.

An urgent appeal is being made for donations of blankets and food for the 6 000 who are desperately in need of help.

A Pediene Resettlement Fund has been established in conjunction with the Rector of St Peters' Church in Pediene, the Rev Alf Dlamini, to direct donations to the needy residents of both the camps.

Mrs Bryant said that the Rev Dlamini would acknowledge by letter all donations received and the donors would be informed of how their donations were used.

Donations of food or money can be sent to the Pediene Resettlement Fund, PO Box 39, Pediene, 5640.

There will be collection points for blankets and clothing at St Paul's Anglican Church in Parsons' Hill, Holy Rosary Convent in Central, St John's Community Centre, 8th Avenue, Walmer, and 15 Askewton, South End.
CRIP OF POVERTY
LIVING IN THE LOW

The irony of the situation is that the very people who are suffering the most from poverty are not even aware of their situation. They are trapped in a cycle of poverty, and the government is not doing enough to help them. The government should be doing more to help the poor, and not just give them handouts. The poor should be given opportunities to improve their lives, not just be given a handout. The government should be taking a more proactive approach to poverty, not just a reactive one. The government should be doing more to help the poor, and not just giving them handouts. The poor should be given opportunities to improve their lives, not just be given a handout. The government should be taking a more proactive approach to poverty, not just a reactive one.
Sister

“Now she must use her money to buy food and clothes for her children. She must pay school fees, buy books, and buy other things. She needs all these things, but she must remember to save money for her child’s future.”

MRS Doris Mbanja, a young woman who heads the community council, has records of domestic earnings R15 a month or less for working seven days a week.

In view of the rampant unemployment, however, it is difficult to find work for workers willing to work for whatever money they can get.

The communal employment program is a source of income for the residents. Many community councils, local businesses, and the administration board, schools, the hospital, and the railways are acknowledged as the main employers. The local council employs several people. In the railway station, there are always at least three workers. Some are employed full-time, while others work on a part-time basis.

The railway work is acknowledged as the best paid for men, but the work can be dangerous. The railway station is one of the busiest places in the town, and accidents can occur.

Mrs Mbanja is one of the hardest workers in the community. She works seven days a week, rain or shine.

“Five years after all the sales talk we can still show a growth in the community. The people are satisfied with the council,” she said.

The streets are now cleaned regularly, and there is a new electricity system in the community. The shops are now well-stocked, and the mail is delivered regularly.

Mrs Mbanja said, “The people are satisfied with the council. They are happy with the progress.”

Frustration

Mrs Mbanja said the economic and administrative strangulation was forcing many people into deeper frustration.

The streets are dirty, and the people are frustrated. They must work hard to make ends meet, but they cannot afford to buy the things they need.

“People have to work hard to make ends meet, but they cannot afford to buy the things they need.”

They have to eat, so they look for a job, no matter how hard.

“We must work for infrastructure in all these small towns. People are frustrated. They must work hard to make ends meet.”

Locations

The physical separation of the people is now clearly evident. Mrs Mbanja can remember when the African people lived in the same community. She can remember when the coloured people lived in the same community. The old location was on the edge of the white town. It is now called the “Strawberry location.”

Some of the people have moved further away, and the community is now divided into several sections.

Delegation

“Mrs Mbanja said,” A delegation went to the council to present theneeds of the people. They explained that the community was being forced to live in poor conditions, and they asked for help.

“Mrs Mbanja said,” We want a fair and just solution to our problems. We want our voices to be heard.”

Delegation met an administration official a few days later, and he told them that the council could not be held responsible for the situation. He said that it was the responsibility of the Government to improve the conditions of the community.

Stoned

The councillors were stoned by the crowd, and the police were called in to protect them. The stone-throwing continued, and the police used tear gas to disperse the crowd.

In spite of the lawyers, Mr Mbanja has decided to continue as a community councilor. “I want to stay and continue with my work,” he said.

The community councilors believe that they must use their positions to fight for their rights. They must fight for their survival.

“According to the law, we have a duty to protect the community,” said Mr Mbanja.

Advocate

“We have lots of friends here. David Curry, the editor of The Advocate, is one of our friends. He is always there to help us.”

As one African family moved out of their house, the advocate, Mr Scephe swazi, also moved out. “I have no problems living here,” he said.

Veld

“We were separated from the people we had to go to this appointed place in the veld. They looked at my house and said it was worth 30 pounds. I finally got 100 through a private sale, and I stayed here.”

The 100 pounds took me as high as the window.”

As one family moved out of their house, another family moved in. “We all went to the new house of the Police,” said Mr Scephe swazi.

Stranger colored people entered the veld and were intermingled with the coloured people of the veld. “Stranger entered the veld,” said the coloured people.

Burden’s father had a family of coloured people, but they were intermingled with the coloured people of the veld. “Burden’s father had a family of coloured people,” said the coloured people.

The area where Cullens are coloured people, and they are intermingled with the coloured people of the veld. “Cullens are coloured people,” said the coloured people.

The President’s Council promised to improve the conditions of coloured people. “The President’s Council promised to improve the conditions of coloured people,” said the coloured people.

Jail

Even coloured people on the streets of Langenhorn can tell you where to find the home of the Rev James Arthur Calata. He is old and gravely ill, and he often goes to hospital.

No one remembers the details very clearly. All they say is that jail did not help him, and he remained in jail.

When he dies, they say, his funeral will be a great event. “When he dies, they say, his funeral will be a great event.”

MR Sipho Mafana and his wife, Sinah, in the kitchen of their house, with grandchildren.

The coloured residents were moved to Michaelsdal and the town of Beit Street was bulldozed.

In spite of the separation, Mr Mbanja said, “The coloured people are not the same as the white people. The coloured people did not divide the two communities, Mr Mbanja said.”

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CHILDREN of Longchile at the ruins of the beer hall, burnt down in May 1980 after a stormy meeting about rent increases.

THE wall separating the “poor white” section of Caledon from the open field where the African and coloured people used to live. Daubed on the wall are the words: “Verwoerd, go home. You are a deceiver.”
Fifty thousand children under the age of five may die in South Africa this year because they do not get enough food, Mrs Ina Perlman, an Operation Hunger organiser warned yesterday.

"To add to this tragedy, the number of children in drought-stricken areas who are dying of malnutrition and starvation is expected to increase sharply in the coming months as unemployment in those areas worsens."

Among the malnutrition-related diseases most common in the rural areas are kwashiorkor and marasmus.

"Low income and the erosion of subsistence farming have led to a growth in malnutrition and related diseases in the rural areas," says a report by the South African Institute of Race Relations.

"The overpopulation of the rural areas has been exacerbated by the resettlement of large numbers of people who have been uprooted as a result of the implementation of various facets of Government policy."

Furthermore, an examination of the share of public revenue the homelands receive from the public purse are not sufficient to allow for any real development of the magnitude required to halt the cycle of increasing deprivation," the report says.

Appeal to Operation Hunger for relief aid have come from as far afield as Onverwacht, the resettlement area in the Free State, and Nababeep, O'Koop and Stenkopf in Namakaland.

In Namakaland it was found that malnutrition was a contributory cause for various infectious, dental caries and poor school performances in children.

The institute's report notes that in kwaZulu, which is the most densely populated homeland with 3.5 million people, the land can only support 1.5 million. Operation Hunger supplies soup to 27 schools in the homelands.

"We were all aware that the kwaZulu drought in 1980 dramatically highlighted what was in fact an on-going and country-wide situation - vast unemployment and the virtual destruction of subsistence, agriculture through resettlement and the lack of work."

93 SCHEMES

"These have all led to a situation where the majority of young children in the rural areas are malnourished," said Mrs Perlman.

The organisation runs 93 feeding schemes at a cost of R15 000 a month.

Donations to Operation Hunger can be sent to PO Box 97, Johannesburg 2000.

South Africa's infant mortality rate for rural blacks is 240 in every 1 000 births, as against 12 a 1 000 for whites. Operation Hunger, the South African Institute of Race Relations' hunger relief organisation, daily receives reports of malnutrition, hunger and disease in South Africa's underdeveloped rural areas. EUGENE SALDANHA reports.
FUNDAMENTAL changes to society and to South Africa's socio-political structure would have to take place before a workable strategy against poverty could be realised. Professor Francis Wilson, economist and head of the University of Cape Town's Southern African Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldu), said last night.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Western Cape Society for Social Workers, Professor Wilson described the proposed build-up to a week-long national conference on poverty in Southern Africa, which is scheduled for September next year.

The conference, and a wide-ranging scientific inquiry into all aspects of poverty, particularly among blacks, will be financed by a R200,000 dollar (R178,000) Carnegie Foundation grant to UCT, which is being administered by Saldru.

Saldru will co-ordinate the research, distribute funds and arrange the conference.

"Our goals for this conference are to collate the existing facts about poverty in Southern Africa and to plug any gaps in our statistical structure so as to create a macro and micro-perspective that will provide an irrefutable document on poverty in Southern Africa, to generate a debate on poverty which will set people thinking and discussing apartheid, capitalism, inflation and all the other causes of poverty, and to think through strategies for action.

"In the short term these strategies will involve social work and the provision of some relief. In the long term the strategy will demand an examination of socio-political causes, and ways of changing these."
In the United States, the Third World is a term used to refer to the vast majority of the world's population, who live in countries that are not considered economically developed. The term is often used to describe the countries that are part of the Global South, which includes countries in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

The Third World is characterized by a number of factors, including low levels of economic development, high levels of poverty, and a dependence on the export of primary commodities. Many Third World countries also face challenges such as political instability, civil war, and natural disasters.

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition of the importance of the Third World in global affairs. This has led to increased investment in development projects and a greater focus on the needs of people living in these countries.
The year income would lead you a merry dance...
The essence of the criticism of the Genadendal Management Board is that it is no longer autonomous; that decisions are not taken by the people, but by officials of the Department of Internal Affairs, according to the Rev Chris Wessels, head of the Genadendal Moravian Church.

"Because the power is no longer in the hands of the people, their aspirations are not met. Problems are rarely solved and very little development takes place," said Mr Wessels.

Mr W S Grobler, Director of Rural Areas and Settlements with the Department of Internal Affairs, admitted that his officials—and not the people—took decisions.

"In a sense we were forced to," Mr Grobler said.

"For years the Genadendal Management Board was too concerned with their autonomy and with politics rather than development, with the result that they ran into trouble.

"They were so political that if, for instance, a butcher wanted a licence, and he did not belong to the correct political party, he would not get it.

"There were many internal problems in the board which culminated in it being successfully sued for defamation of character by one of its former members. It was left to my department to come to the rescue of the board by advising them to pay R7 000 won by the claimant instead of incurring further legal costs.

"Then there were some funds of the board that went missing."

"We handed over to the people a timber project we had started but had to take it back as the locals lacked management skills."

"BOYCOTTED"

"With all these problems we eventually had to appoint members to a new board and we had to stand our people to them," Mr Grobler said.

Mr Wessels said the members of the present board had to be nominated because the residents boycotted the elections last year.

"They are thoroughly disillusioned with the board and wanted nothing to do with it. They saw the board having no teeth whatsoever."

"Few capable leaders genuinely representative of the people are prepared to serve on the board, whether elected or nominated. They see it as little exercise because although the board may be autonomous, its mem-Act in turn replaced bers, being black, have no the original one, the Mission stations and government where the real power and finance is to be found."

One nominated member has resigned. He is Mr I Balle, principal of the well-known Emile Weber Seniors Secondary School.

Although Mr Balle preferred not to comment, a close associate said Mr Balle had resigned "mainly for religious reasons, but also because after serving for one month it had been apparent the board was merely a puppet body."

IN CONTROL

Mr Charles du Plessis, chairman of the board, declined to comment when approached at his home in Genadendal. He suggested Cape Herald return to Genadendal in about a week.

The Genadendal Management Board was established in terms of the Rural Coloured Areas Act of 1979 which replaced an Act of the same name passed in 1963. The 1963

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NOTE CAREFULLY

1. Enter at the top of every page.
2. All work must be legible, but need not be typewritten.
3. All answers must be on separate sheets of white A4 paper.
4. All answers must be written in English.
5. All answers must be numbered.
6. All answers must be signed.
7. All answers must be submitted by 10 September 1993.

An answer book is to be returned only to the invigilator before the examination time.

In any event, there is no exclusion from the
Village to be developed soon - official

Genedental is on the verge of being fully developed, according to Mr W S Grobbelaar, the Director of Rural Areas and Settlements of the Department of Internal Affairs.

"For years the Genedental Management Board refused to accept a town plan we had in mind, but last year the new board did."

"With the board's approval of the plan I can safely say that we are just on the doorstep of getting things going in Genedental," Mr Grobbelaar said.

The plan makes provision for the erection of a new police station, post office, clinic and office block for the board.

ROADS

New roads will be built and existing ones will be improved and widened. A few nursery schools will also be added.

Several agricultural projects are in the pipeline, including a scheme to form water-basinities.

"We intend to supply the whole of Cape Town with water-basinities from Genedental," said Mr Grobbelaar.

His department is also to supply the money for the construction of five houses, which will be sold to residents.

The money earned from the sale will go to the board which will use it for other projects or to build more houses.

CRITICISED

But this new plan has been sharply criticised by residents in Genedental and also by Mr Harold Wessels, a lecturer in the Geography and Environmental Studies Department of the University of the Western Cape.

Mr Wessels said his students regularly met Genedental to conduct surveys and research. This is his sixth year of involvement with the village.

In a nutshell, the problem with the plan is that it was conceived by a few white officials in Cape Town and is imposed on the people.

"They have taken Genedental and made it fit the plan, instead of making the plan fit the place," Mr Wessels said.

"When people rejected the plan, the Government merely sat back and no development took place. There was no attempt to change it to suit the people."

PROBLEMS

One of the problems with the plan is the building of new roads and the widening of existing ones.

"This will destroy the beauty of the place but worst of all, one of the new roads will cut straight across the people's farmland.

"Also, houses are also going to be demolished to make way for the roads," Mr Wessels said.

Another bone of contention is the site chosen for the new police station, clinic, post office and office block.

FARMLAND

It is situated on fertile farmland.

"When asked about these complaints, Mr Grobbelaar said: "People in these areas always complain: 'What they don't realise is that you cannot splash a town around like a pancake. There is only one central area and that is where everything must be built.'"
Money flows in for hungry

By Pamela Kleine

At least R21,000 a month has been earmarked for Gaxankulu and Lobowa after The Star’s recent reports on the food crisis in the Northern Transvaal.

The Star has also been inundated with calls from concerned people wanting to make donations.

The latest donation comes from World Vision, a Christian aid agency, which will contribute at least R1,000 a month for a feeding scheme north of Seshego in Lobowa, where 100,000 children are estimated to be malnourished.

This was a pilot scheme, said Mr. David Cuthbert, of World Vision, who said the agency had also offered to set up other feeding and development programmes in Lobowa.

"Depending on how successful our 48-hour fast in September is, we are prepared to contribute a minimum of R1,000 a month feed money for the feeding scheme in Seshego alone," he said.

Mrs. Ela Perlman, chairman of Operation Hunger, has earmarked R10,000 a month each for Lobowa and Gaxankulu for feeding projects.

"Feeding schemes have already been set up through the Nazareth Church in Makhado, Gaxankulu," The Star reports.

The Lobowa Department of Health has agreed that four of its hospitals — Masana, Jane Furse, Kshahane and Groephoek — will distribute powdered milk and high protein flour.

"Since the Star report on the grim drought in the Northern Transvaal more than 100 people have phoned Operation Hunger to offer their assistance," Mrs. Perlman said.

"This year the percentage in drought-stricken areas could be even higher."

Mrs. Perlman has urged anyone wanting to become involved in Operation Hunger to attend its annual meeting on August 25 which will be addressed by Professor Lucy Waggstaff, of the University of the Witwatersrand.

Donations may be sent to Operation Hunger, PO Box 97, Johannesburg.

"I have often been asked whether the amount of food allocated is enough," Mrs. Perlman said.

"This is a special time of the year when people need help."

Mrs. Perlman added that she hoped that the amount of food allocated would be enough to help feed the hungry.
New group to fight starvation in EL, Ciskei

EAST LONDON — Starvation and malnutrition is a much greater problem than most people realise according to the chairman of Hungerrelief, Dr Ben Navid.

Quoting a number of statistics, Dr Navid said that half of Ciskeian children between the ages of 2 and 3 years old showed some form of malnutrition.

He said it has been estimated that 20 out of 1,000 children in the Ciskei die before they reach their first birthday.

Hungerrelief, a new organisation formed to combat starvation in East London and Mdantsane, provides food parcels to a number of families.

"This may be just a drop in the ocean, but to those families it is a very important drop."

Each food parcel, he said, contained 38 kilograms of food and cost about R30.

Dr Navid said the food parcels were not planned to sustain a family, but to help them until they were able to feed themselves.

"Handouts are temporary until the people are on their feet. We have a scheme to help people grow their own food with advice from the Institute for Social and Economic Research (Iser) at Rhodes University and from the Department of Community Medicine at the University of Cape Town."

DDR
Housing crisis at root of poverty

THE housing crisis, which forced people to live in poor, overcrowded conditions, was one of the major causes of black poverty and lack of skills, said Mrs Lucy Mvubelo, general secretary of the National Union of Clothing Workers, at the Tucsa conference yesterday.

Mrs Mvubelo was speaking to a motion which was carried unanimously, calling on the Government to appoint a commission of inquiry to investigate the housing crisis.

High rents forced young people to abandon their schooling so that they could go out to work, and overcrowded conditions affected the learning ability of children, said Mrs Mvubelo.

"Housing is not merely a matter of bricks and mortar. It affects the total lives of people," she added.

PENSION FUNDS

In another resolution the conference expressed concern that the Government committee investigating pension fund matters had not yet begun the second phase of its investigations into the possible introduction of pension schemes for all workers.

Mr A Malherbe of the SA Society of Bank Officials said he was concerned at the withdrawal last year of legislation providing for the preservation of pension funds.

The proposed legislation had been used by the "ungodly" to whip up fear and resentment among unskilled workers who went on strike to get their pension money paid out, said Mr Malherbe.
Boesak to speak on poverty tonight

Religion Reporter
A CONFERENCE on "community poverty" will be held at the Ned Geref Sendingkerk Centre in Belhar tonight and all day tomorrow.

The findings of the conference will come before the Sendingkerk synod on Friday for debate and decision, as part of a nation-wide attack on the problem of poverty.

Today's session at 7.30 pm will be opened by Dr H M Beets of the Sendingkerk's Pastoral Service. Dr Allan Boesak, Assessor of the synod and President of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, will speak on the role of the church in meeting the crisis of poverty.

Tomorrow, two sociologists will lead the discussions on poverty with the aim of setting up a national programme to deal with poverty.
God's on the side of the poor against the rich — Boesak

Religion Reporter

THE Bible made it quite clear that God always took the side of the poor and oppressed against the rich and the powerful. Dr Allan Boesak told a conference on poverty last night.

Dr Boesak, Assessor of the Ned Gedief Sendingkerk, told the Sendingkerk conference that in the Bible the stranger, widow, orphan and oppressed were mentioned "in one breath".

Jesus Christ said his ministry was to "bring good news to the poor, proclaim liberty to those in prison, give sight to the blind and set the downtrodden free".

DISCIPLES

He issued the same instructions when he sent his disciples out to spread the Gospel to the world.

Dr Boesak said some took offence whenever he said this, but both the Old Testament and the New Testament left no doubt that God was "unconditionally" on the side of the underprivileged.

It was as part of the same action by God to bring relief to the powerless that the rich were condemned. The rich and powerful had the means to see to their own interests — the poor, the exploited, the oppressed did not have these means. That was why God offered them his protection.

FUNDAMENTAL

This meant that it was fundamental for the church not only to assist the "poor" — which included all the categories in the biblical definition — but to seek and treat the causes of poverty.

"God does not want people to live on the charity of others. He wants nobody to be a prisoner of poverty or oppression."

Dr H M Beets of the SA Geestig, speaking for the Sendingkerk Pastoral Service, organisers of the two-day conference, said poverty was not only a financial but a political issue.

The Theron Commission, looking at the situation of the coloured community, had seen the community "trapped in social poverty".

SOLUTIONS:

When the country had a "poor white" problem, the Ned Gedief Kerk had taken an initiative in seeking solutions and in wanting legislative action. Whites had been able to improve their lot because they had had political power.

The Sendingkerk, on the other hand, operated among poor people. Yet it had persistently over the years asked the Government for better and more adequate housing, pensions and education.

The conference continues today with an analysis of the social structures in South Africa which play a role in this "community poverty."

Motions from the conference will come before the Sendingkerk synod tomorrow for debate.
'Most doomed to poverty by apartheid'

Religion Reporter

CONTINUED - apartheid doomed the majority of people to increasing poverty and was "bringing us nearer to a destructive conflict".

Mr Peter le Roux of the Institute for Social Development, University of the Western Cape, told the Sandtonkereck yesterday that if South Africa did not dramatically change its structures "one can but fear for the future".

"The gap between rich and poor in South Africa is greater than in most countries of the world.

"As much as 95 percent of all material wealth and 70 percent of the national income is in the hands of whites."

The structures - bounded by a host of apartheid legislation aimed at maintaining wealth and power in white hands - held most South Africans captive to a system of poverty.

"If existing structures remain unaltered or only marginal changes are made, there is little doubt that eventually a revolutionary socialism will be instituted in South Africa, as has been the case so often in other countries."

ROOT PROBLEM

Speaking at a conference on community poverty, Mr le Roux said separate development was the root of the problem.

"Even Cabinet Ministers have tried to declare that petty apartheid is dead but we all know how human dignity is still denied day after day."

"Two aspects of separate development are ignored in the South African situation - firstly, the enormous price non-voting citizens of our country have had to pay and must still pay to lay the foundation stone, and secondly that the basis of the policy is false."

SENSELESS

Mr le Roux said the "homeland" policy was also senseless. More people were forced into areas which, as a result of official policy, could not offer employment opportunities or the infrastructure to meet their needs.

"Capitalism, based on the so-called 'free market' policy, provided no solution. The system was designed to enrich the powerful at the expense of the poor and powerless. Revolutionary socialism also offered no solutions."

What was needed was a social democracy as in Holland, Germany, or the Scandinavian countries.
Blatant discrimination ‘still in force in W Cape’

THE most blatant form of colour discrimination is still in force in the Western Cape,” Mr Pieter le Roux, a sociologist at the University of the Western Cape, said yesterday.

He told a conference on poverty that the price of apartheid included the disruption of family life on a grand scale. A total of 78,192 coloured families, or 400,000 people, had been moved by the end of last year, compared to 2,239 white families.

Families and communities had been torn apart and people who had been near their work or recreational facilities now had to travel long distances. Many had lost beautiful homes to live on sandy plans, and business men had sold their premises for a song to move to the “gated communities”.

The Group Areas Act had been used on a large scale to enrich the wealthy at the expense of the poor.

Even so-called decentralisation was based on political considerations. “One of the most blatant examples of decentralisation with no economic justification is Atlantis.”

“Poverty could far more effectively be combated if an attempt had been made to develop the Cape itself rather than create a separate ‘coloured city’.”

“In this way the movement of precisely the poor in South Africa is limited and their freedom to live where they wish is restricted. The political structures make worse the problem of poverty.”

Discrimination in education had had “disastrous” results for individuals. Not only was their potential inhibited, they were doomed to a system of poverty at the very time that economic growth was being hampered by a lack of skilled manpower.”
Church call to combat poverty

Religion Reporter

APARTHEID, which deliberately created a community of poverty in South Africa, had to be rejected as a heresy, the Rev Lionel R Louw of the University of Cape Town's Department of Social Work, said at Belhar yesterday.

Mr Louw, a minister of the African Methodist Episcopal Church (AMEC), said the Christian church had a special role to play in combating poverty because it was the single most important institution in South African society.

Speaking at the Sondelkherk conference on poverty, he said "Apartheid purposely promotes poverty, and the Church must present an alternative that is acceptable in terms of Scripture.

ACTION

"The maldistribution of expenditure on education and the differentiation in incomes for different population groups are examples of the results of apartheid."

The Church was challenged to action not only to combat poverty but to prevent it. In a programme of action, it had to use all its resources, its buildings, its personnel and its organisational abilities and leadership for the good of the community.

"Community involvement must be regarded as the duty of the believer," Mr Louw said.

* See page 13.
Feeding group's bread up

LONDON—After three-
and-a-half years in pow-
er, the British Prime
Minister, Mrs Margaret
Thatcher, and the Con-
servative Party were
more popular with voters
than they were 12
months ago, a Gallup
poll of public opinion re-
ported today.

But it said doubts re-
amained over rising un-
employment, the Falk-
lands conflict, the cost of
living and the Govern-
ment's refusal to meet
pay demands by lower-
paid staff in the National
Health Service.

The poll reported that
when people were asked
to say what was the best
thing the Government
had done, the three most
mentioned items were:
reducing inflation, ending
the Argentinean occu-
pation of the Falklands
and curbing the power of the
unions—Sapa-Reuter

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"Hungry children
cannot study"

Staff Reporter

THE Union of Teachers'
Associations of South Af-
rica has called on the
Government to scrap the
bread price increase and
help the voluntary pri-
ivate school feeding
schemes with financial
support.

The call was made in
resolutions at the Utasa
annual meeting in
Johannesburg.
The price rise would
increase the hardship of
an already economically
staggering parent com-
munity, the resolution
stated.

"No child can partici-
pate adequately and suc-
cessfully in the academic
programme on a hungry
stomach.

ADMIRABLE

"The voluntary school
feeding schemes are do-
ing admirable work in an
attempt to feed children.
The price increase will
place a well-nigh impos-
sible burden on these
organisations," the resolu-
tions say.

"We must see that the
price increase will ad-
versely affect the aca-
demic performance of
children and increase the
drop out rate among
pupils.

The meeting also re-
jected the system of in-
ternal exam timetables
and called for an end to
"inconsistent de-
signation of the profes-
sional status of the prin-
cipals if the departmen-
t continues to make it
so that all schools
follow internal timeta-
bles laid down by it.

MISs Dorothy Peters
and Mr Rodney Wilson,
Sandy Bay Conservation
Trust, display exam
bumper stickers distributed to
students at the oldest car in
Cape Town, read by
Mitchell. Trust Bank lay off/try wey van San

City raises rents

The Council took this
to $40 in an effort to make
the market viable.
It is now a financial
drain on Cape Town's
rate account.

The fish is
fruit a
from
Food subsidies: poor gain least

By Colleen Ryan and
Harriet Ferguson

South Africa's poor are not getting the full benefit of government subsidies because distribution of funds shows imbalance, says the chief economist of the South African Agricultural Union, Mr Johan Willemsen.

He said people in poverty-striken rural areas survived mostly on maize meal, yet the maize subsidy was only R85 million a year — 5.7 percent of maize meal sales.

In contrast, the bread subsidy was R191 million — 27 percent of bread sales.

"If the aim of subsidies is to protect the poor against cost increases, the maize subsidy should be bigger," and Mr Willemsen. The imbalance caused a shift in demand as more people began to eat bread.

Consumers should rather be encouraged to buy more maize because of the huge maize surplus each year.

Food subsidies now total R279 million, or 20 percent of a total annual food bill of R1.3 billion.

The R191 million for bread is the biggest single subsidy.

The maize subsidy — recently increased from R75 million to R85 million — is the second largest.

The government also contributes R2 million a year for a brown wheat flour subsidy.

The consumer price of butter is subsidised by R1 million a year.

Farmers' interest rates are subsidised by an annual R36 million — only one-tenth of the amount paid on consumer subsidies.

Mr Willemsen warned that while food subsidies increased rapidly, less money was being made available for agricultural research.

It was essential that more money be spent on agricultural research to increase efficiency and improve crops.

"Agriculture does not have the necessary research to see it through the next 10 years."

"We are not advocating a reduction in vital food subsidies, but it is essential that attention be given to research."
Fighting for food

CHILDMREN GO HUNGRY TO SCHOOL

Her reaction is almost echoed by Mrs Deha Boomzaaier of Red Cross hospital's Institute of Child Health. "I only give the one in Sub A some of the bread I bake myself. The other three primary school children aged 12 to 16 say I mustn't worry," she says.

"Those who had extra food showed beneficial effect. The list is self-evident that a child with an empty stomach can't learn and concentrate," said Professor Kibel.

"They are also taught proper feeding habits, care and sharing. Incidents of fighting and stomach pains and requests for medication are lessened."

"There is a lot of evidence that hunger and malnutrition in young children has a profound and long lasting effect on their learning ability." 

"It is bound to have an effect on the incidence of malnutrition which is worse in the rural areas. Bread is the staple diet of all the poor sections of the community, young and old," said Dr Coogan.

MR F W de KLERC, the Minister of Internal (coloured) Affairs said his department was "sympathetic towards the application of schemes by outside organisations" and it was made easy for them to operate the schemes in the schools.

"As to whether the State should get involved financially in such schemes... (It is) not in the domain of the education authorities, but of the Department of Health and Welfare," says Mr de Klerk's statement.

"To our knowledge they (Health and Welfare) are busy with an investigation into aspects of the matter," he said.

Mr de Klerk said the Minister of Education and Training, Mr D W Steyn, held the same view and identified himself with this statement.
Call for more funds to counter famine

By SOPHIE TEMA

OPERATION Hunger needs a massive injection of funds to counter the grim effects of drought in the rural areas.

If the critical drought afflicting the country continues, Operation Hunger will need about R40 000 in every famine-stricken area to feed the starving masses.

The existing commitment of the project is R20 000 a month in every area.

Operation Hunger, a project started by the Institute of Race Relations in response to appeals by voluntary organisations for co-ordinated action on rural hunger, is now feeding 58 000 children a day.

Mrs Ina Perlman, regional secretary for the institute, said "Massive funds are also needed for boreholes in the areas to help people through the drought."

The institute receives daily appeals from various rural areas to start feeding schemes for starving people who claim they have not had rain for nearly two years and cannot grow any crops.

Appeals have come from as far afield as Namaqualand.

One of the latest appeals is from a women's organisation. "I have been instructed by our women's branch to seek help from your organisation.

"We live in a rural area where starvation is rife. We are concerned about children who come to school cold and hungry every day."

"These children appear dull not because they are like that but because of empty stomachs they cannot concentrate."

From Elim, agricultural groups claim they have had no crops this year and have appealed to Operation Hunger for maize meal, dried beans and peanuts to see them through until the drought breaks.

Where dams and boreholes have dried up conditions have become so critical that even schools and clinics have been affected.

Mrs Perlman said at a clinic near Bushbuckridge the assistant of a nurse attending to a maternity patient had to run almost a kilometre to a dam to fetch water — two buckets at a time.

"And, where rivers have not completely dried up people who use water from them are running a risk of contracting water-borne diseases."

"The situation is critical and even if we get rains, Operation Hunger will still have to feed people in the drought-stricken areas up till March or April next year. And this will mean we need R20 000 more every month in each area."

The drought in the Eastern Cape has forced a drop in meat prices because farmers are keen to sell their livestock to minimise their losses, Supa reports.
The campaign of peace.

Peace

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Mother of 5 starves to death in City

BY STEPHEN WROTTESLEY
Crime Reporter

The body of a middle-aged woman who died on October 5 after not eating for at least a month was found in a house in Kew Town, Athlone, yesterday.

Police made the gruesome find when they were called to 87 Eland Street, the home of Mrs Christine Leibrandt, 32, and her five children. They found Mrs Leibrandt dead and her five "children", Phil, 13, Gerald, 11, Mavis, 10, Richard, 9, and Yvonne, 19, in various stages of starvation and very weak.

Police went to the house after Mr Charles Leibrandt had been told that his wife — the two were separated — was seriously ill and needed an operation.

The five children, described by neighbours as looking like skeletons, were taken to hospital by ambulance.

The family were members of a religious sect and had not eaten for 40 days.

Mrs Leibrandt told neighbours before becoming a recluse in the house that she had had a vision.

She said she had been told to wait for "the Lord to come and fetch me and my family".

A neighbour, Mrs Dorothy Kiewitz, 48, said she had lived next door to the family for some years. They had been actively involved in religious work in the area.

"They lived according to the church and did not want to accept charity," she said.

"They did not worry a lot."

Then Mrs Leibrandt told Mrs Kiewitz she had had a vision. The family became reclusive.

Several months ago, according to neighbours, they were evicted from the house and lived in their yard, leaving their furniture outside their house.

"It was good furniture and was just left out in the rain," another neighbour, Mrs Fatima Dienie, said.

After a few weeks, Mr Leibrandt paid the rent apparently, without Mrs Leibrandt's knowledge, and the family was allowed back in the house.

Yesterday, Mr Leibrandt was contacted at work and was told his estranged wife was ill.

She needed an operation and his authorization was required.

He went to the house with a man, believed to have been his employer, and when he discovered his wife was dead, he called the police.

Mrs Kiewitz said she believed the children intended burying their mother in the backyard.

Mrs Dienie said the children looked like "human skeletons" when they were taken away.
Homeland poverty causes urban influx

Staff Reporter

Absolute poverty was now lived in the homeland up from 40 percent in 1986. The overall population had increased by 66 percent between 1970 and 1990.

The government should be grateful that employment is being offered to starving people instead of proposing massive fines to penalize employers of so-called illegals.

...
Athlone woman starves to death

The body of an Athlone woman, who had "seen a vision" and not eaten for more than a month, was found yesterday after police had been called to the woman's house and discovered her five starving children.

The body of Mrs Christine Leibrandt, 55, of Eland Street, Kew Town, was already decomposing and it is believed she had been dead for more than 10 days.

A vision.

Her five children, aged between 19 and 33, were found in various stages of starvation and taken to Groote Schuur Hospital by ambulance.

It is believed the children stopped working six weeks ago after their mother had "seen a vision" and the family had not eaten for more than a month.

Earlier yesterday the woman's estranged husband had been contacted by neighbours who said Mrs Leibrandt was ill and needed an operation.

A neighbour, Mrs Dorothy Kiewiets, said she had looked over the high fence surrounding the house and seen the woman's children digging a shallow grave in the backyard yesterday.

"Six weeks ago Mrs Leibrandt told me she had seen a vision and God had said that her work on earth was finished and that she should wait for God to come and fetch her and her family," Mrs Kiewiets said today.

"The children stopped working and the family was seldom seen after that."
Prof tells of inquiry into SA poverty

Staff Reporter

SOUTH AFRICA had enough food for export, yet many of its children died from starvation. Professor Francis Wilson of the University of Cape Town's Department of Economics, said yesterday.

Professor Wilson was speaking at the weekly meeting of the Institute of Citizenship in the Cathedral Hall in Queen Victoria Street, Cape Town, on "The Carnegie Inquiry into Poverty and Underdevelopment."

The inquiry, which started in March this year, is funded by the Carnegie Corporation. Professor Wilson explained how the inquiry would work, saying data had to be collected, debate generated and people "made to think."

The inquiry will cover South Africa south of the Limpopo River, focus on poverty in all communities and culminate in a national symposium where papers on all aspects of poverty in Southern Africa will be presented.

"Poverty is endured at this stage primarily by blacks, but there are still pockets of acute white poverty. Eighty percent of South Africa in not urban and not homeland and in the plateau alone lives a quarter of black South Africa," he said.

Professor Wilson said the inquiry would be of no use if it merely "mismatched a few academic egos" and did not involve people from the areas studied. He said there was room in South Africa for much imaginative and interdisciplinary work.

"The facts of poverty are politically powerful and people can use the absence of information on poverty as an excuse for doing nothing about it."

He suggested that studies of children under the age of five could yield valuable information about the level of poverty in different communities.
Talks on housing vagrants planned

MEMBERS of the City Council and representatives of the Cape Town Welfare Co-ordinating Committee are planning to meet soon to discuss providing hostel accommodation for Cape Town’s estimated 500 vagrants.

Miss Linda Christiansen, the secretary of the committee and branch director of the National Institute for Crime Prevention and Rehabilitation of Offenders (Nicro), said she had been told by a council spokesman yesterday that she would be asked on Monday to arrange a meeting of council representatives.

Although negotiations had started in March, there had been a delay because council representatives had been on leave, said Miss Christiansen.

"According to the spokesman, the representatives had only returned recently — I was told that I would be informed when we could meet," she said.

The issue of hostel accommodation goes back to June this year when the City Engineer, Mr Jan Brand, suggested that hostels should be provided to ease the vagrancy problem in the City.

The committee had been called in to meet the council and make recommendations for the establishment of hostels."
Homelands: Poverty facts

PRETORIA — Real economic growth in the black homelands has been almost negligible for the last five years, according to statistics which make a mockery of claims that all’s well on the ‘homelands front.

From figures compiled by the Bureau for Economic Research, the poor internal growth of the self-governing homelands in recent years become painfully apparent.

Snail’s pace domestic growth in the independent states is also exposed.

One of the most startling facts to emerge is that, if inflation is taken into account, the per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of the self-governing homelands increased on average by only R2 from 1975 to 1980.

‘Minimal’

This shows the minimal extent to which the self-governing states — Kwazulu, Lebowa, QwaQwa, Gazankulu, KwaNgwane and KwaNdebele — have been able to generate domestic economic activity.

The GDP, per capita in these areas, increased from R44 in 1973 to only R46 in 1980, calculated at 1970 prices to make allowances for inflation.

This reflects an extremely slow per capita improvement in productivity.

Real per capita GDP growth in the independent states — Transkei, Bophuthatswana, Venda and Ciskei — was only marginally better.

In Transkei, real per capita GDP increased from R70 in 1975 to R80 in 1980 (calculated at 1970 prices)... in Bophuthatswana it increased from R117 to R159, in Venda from R50 to R60 and in Ciskei from R50 to R70.

Other facts from the Bureau’s 1981 report include:

• More than 5.2-million black in the self-governing states are economically active in 1980.

• More than half (3.3-million) of the people in the self-governing states have no education or unspecified education.

• Although the number of pupils attending schools and writing matric has risen rapidly, matric pass rates have dropped in all the black states since 1978.

Hospital bed

The ratio of people in each hospital bed in the black states averages about 339 compared with 327 for blacks and 61 for whites in South Africa. In QwaQwa, however, there are 639 people for each hospital bed.

But, the Gross National Product (GNP) of the self-governing states increased from R1,954 million in 1975 to R2,283 million in 1980 — not allowing for inflation running at about 16 percent annually.

A large proportion of the GNP comes from migrant-workers or commuter workers.

The GNP of the independent states increased from R1,226.8 million in 1975 to R3,663.7 million in 1980. More than half the GNP for 1980 came from migrant and other commuter workers.

Sapa
Poverty in 'national states' that white SA ignores

The first two articles by BARRY STREEK, a South African political journalist who has made a special study of the homelands.

WHITE South Africa has been warned that a mass of disease and development is taking place in rural areas of the country, particularly those areas which the government regards as "national states".

It has been warned by officials of the Department of Health that there is a lack of facilities for the prevention of disease and an insufficient number of health care workers.

Because of their horrific implications for everyone in South Africa, even those who are not themselves affected, these outbreaks have received some coverage in the newspapers.

Other diseases

But there are other diseases which have put South Africa on the map, diseases such as the 1978 cholera outbreak, the 1979 typhoid meningitis epidemic, and the 1980 measles outbreak.

And that shocking fact has not received very much coverage in the newspapers. Let alone television or the radio.

White South Africa should also have been warned by the extent of the TB epidemic. Some 50,000 cases are reported every year — and some surmises have shown that this may just be the quarter of the TB, however, no matter how many die of it every year, is not an old story, with little news value.

If white South Africa has not been warned by these stark facts of human suffering, then it should have been warned by the communications of inquiry.

The Bophuthatswana commission, for example, found that people in the tribal areas of the region had an average annual income of R100 in 1975 — precisely R8.32 a month.

The Quail commission, appointed by the Ciskei government, found that the total per capita income was R180 a year in 1975.

It concluded that "an independent Ciskei would be, in absolute terms, a very poor country."

The Wieschen commission, whose recent report to the Bophuthatswana government has largely been ignored by the media, strongly warned that there was increasing dissatisfaction with the lack of development.

"Frustrated"

It said that the "people generally, both rural and urban are disappointed and frustrated because of the lack of development, and the lack of essential services and amenities."

In the 16 proclaimed towns in Bophuthatswana, 340,000 people are crowded into 26,000 houses — 13.08 per house.

A recent University of South Africa study has worked out the incomes of the people living in those wonderful tributes to the policy of separate development the "national states" regarded by Pretoria as independent.

Bophuthatswana and Ciskei are the richest of the Umassa figures R38.83 a person a month (or R430 a year), a finding that is the same as the 1980 report.

The Quail commission, for example, found that "South Africa has the only economy that can be described as a squatter camp."

Then one could go up to the equally rich Lydenburg area and then on to Burgersfort, where a courageous Catholic missionary runs a hospital for the poor.

What are the reasons for this lack of employment for the people so so desperately in need of work.

From there, one could cut across the "national state" of Lebowa to Groblersdal.

Where the tarred roads end, where the electricity lines stop, where the large towns with absolutely no prospect of survival from the soil begin — that is where your poor people live.

On humanitarian grounds, it is inexcusable that white South Africans could be so blind to this suffering within their own country.

What is worse is that this poverty exists side by side with considerable wealth.

The Quail commission for example, found that a few kilometres away people are struggling to survive on an average of less than R36 a month — 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

The growth rates and the relocation of black people from white South Africa, the situation of poverty and hunger, are the missing broadcast on TV and radio.

Indeed, it is clear that children in wealthier areas have access to food and drinking water, while in the starving areas in India their poverty could be alleviated if they were told about the starving people in South Africa instead.

(To be concluded)

Sun City A few kilometres away people are struggling to survive on an average of less than R36 a month — 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

Vervolg in 'n ander room
most unequal income distribution among the 60 countries of the world for which data are available.

Health spending in the Ciskei, one of the areas where health care is most urgent, was three times as low as the rest of South Africa outside the homelands.

Then, there are those temples to white wealth and opulent living styles: the constellation of casinos.

Here, the people with money spend something like R1 million a day, more than R800 million a year, on gambling. They win back about R280 million.

In these casinos, but particularly in Sun City, the world’s top entertainers are brought out at high fees. The world’s richest-ever golf tournament is held.

But a few kilometres away from there are people struggling to survive on what the UNISA survey showed to be, on average, under R36 a month. You couldn’t even stay for a night, without food, drink or gambling, on that monthly income.

And if the outbreaks of the diseases of poverty, and if the commissions of inquiry and academic studies do not convey the realities of life for the majority of South Africans, then one should just go to some of these places.

**Eastern Transvaal**

One could go to the Eastern Transvaal, for example. From the spectacular beauty and intensive farming in the Barberton- Nelspruit-White River area, one could go behind the hills, out of sight, to the sprawling slum of Pienaar where some 60,000 people live in what can be described as comfortable homes.

**Total contrast**

I went to Groblersdal for the first time this year, a place which most white South Africans have never heard of, and I was quite overwhelmed by the beauty of those farms.

Yet, just over the hill, out of site of Lebowa, thousands of people were living in conditions which can only be described as a total contrast.

From the Groblersdal valley, one can travel down to Pretoria through more of these farms.

Where the tar and the farms end, Kwandebele begins.

During the 1990 census it was found that 160,000 people were living on the six impoverished farms that constitute Kwandebele, but everyone knows that is a very conservative estimate.

Yet, this slum is scheduled to be the next “independent” homeland where Holiday Inns have promised to build a casino, one that will rival Sun City.

In 1981, Dr Piet Koornhof, the Minister of Co-operation and Development, revealed in Parliament that half the people in Kwandebele lived in resettlement camps.

There was no doctor in the homeland, nor a hospital, but “approximately 214” nurses.

**Very poor**

The extent of deprivation may be worse in Kwandebele than elsewhere, but all the areas of South Africa which have been classified as “national states” are very poor.

With large population...
Hidden 'cities' are steeped in poverty

The second of two articles by BARRY STREEK, who has made a special study of the homelands. The first appeared last Saturday.

IF THE 'cities' of South Africa were ranked by size of population, places like Maritzburg, East London and Kimberley would come very low down on the list.

Indeed, places like QwaQwa, Onverwacht, Sekukuneland, Eerstehoek, Dundonald and Giyani would be the larger 'cities' of South Africa. Certainly they have the people there.

However, if the cities of South Africa were ranked by infrastructure — just basic things like electricity, sewerage, water, roads — these rural concentrations of people would probably rank below just about every dorp anywhere in South Africa.

For years, the politicians and planners have been saying that South Africa will have to build 50 cities the size of Soweto by the year 2000.

Those cities are being created on the homelands. Hidden behind the hills, where white people are meant to have permise, these 'cities' are mushrooming often with very little in the way of basic urban requirements.

Sixth largest

QwaQwa, for instance, where the population has rocketed from 24,000 to at least 230,000 in 12 years, spent a miserable R120,000 on housing for its so-called citizens last year. But in terms of population it should be the sixth largest city in South Africa.

They used to describe it as the capital, but they like to regard it as the Sotho national state. When the Onverwacht resettlement camp is transferred to QwaQwa, the minute homeland will consist of two of these larger 'cities' in South Africa. There are at least 160,000 people in Onverwacht, the place, which Dr Lapa Munnies and health facilities like Houghton — and burnt his political fingers once again.

To place Onverwacht in some sort of context, one can look at the size of Maritzburg, which according to the 1980 census had 128,300 people and 187,000 in the whole district. Or the East London district, which had 164,180.

If one travels from Armeo to the Oshoek border post on the way to Swaziland, one will go through a series of towns — sometimes known as the Dundonald area — where there are some 150,000 people, yet there are no even the usual zinc toilets, there is no water laid on, the nearest hospital is 100km away.

Also in the Kgangane homeland is the Beresteboek area, which the 1980 census found had 132,420 people, and that is undoubtedly a very conservative estimate.

Swaziland, it seems, is keen to incorporate structureless cities.

Urbanization

What is clear is that there is a process of urbanization going on, as the planners predicted, but it is at the cheapest possible cost to the South African government, which can then pretend that they are the responsible of the 'national state'.

It has immense implications for strategies aimed at the elimination of poverty because in these places there is no possibility whatever of agriculture providing either employment or food.

It is also an indication of some of the realities which one faces when one looks at one of the most serious challenges facing South Africa today — how can poverty be eliminated?
In the end, however, it is not the development of strategies, or the writing of newspaper articles, or commissions of inquiry, that will count, however valuable they may be. What will count is the will to do something, the determination by everyone to eliminate poverty in South Africa. We need to be able to say, honestly, that every child, no matter how poor its parents, has a reasonable chance in life. We cannot say that today and we should know it.

In South Africa today, thousands upon thousands of children are condemned to a life of struggle and hunger if they are beyond the age of five, which many don’t. The SA Institute of Race Relations has estimated that three children die every hour in South Africa from malnutrition. The South Africa of today has failed to construct a society which will fulfill our obligations to those children.

Moreover, Professor Hanks said in his call for a positive rural land-use strategy: “It is a matter of survival.” And indeed it is.

(Concluded)
Cape's chronic poverty

Grim picture of life on wine farms in Wellington district

Staff Reporter

A PICTURE of staggering poverty among coloured families on wine farms in the Wellington district has emerged from a scientific investigation.

It was found that the average cash wage of breadwinners was R17 a week.

Only 3.4 percent earned more than R30 a week, 13.5 percent between R25 and R29.99, 25.8 percent between R18 and R24.99, 36.3 percent between R14 and R17.99, 15.4 percent between R10 and R13.99, 4.2 percent between R5 and R8.99, and 1.4 percent earned less than R4.99 a week.

The report, written by Mr Kobus Piennar, a Wellington community worker, is based on 227 interviews on farms in the district. There are 196 farms with a total population of 7,149 coloured people and 974 whites. The interviews involved first-hand information on 1,257 coloured people, or 18 percent of the population.

Other findings include:

- Seventy-five percent of children born in 1981 were illegitimate and of the 768 children directly involved in the study, 392 (51 percent) were illegitimate.

- Fifty-five percent of mothers were aged between 16 and 29 when their first children were born and 18 percent were between 10 and 15 while the average age at which women first gave birth was between 17 and 18.

- Thirty-four percent of the population were illiterate (excluding preschool children).

- Ten percent were unemployed (only a fraction because of health reasons; the others worked at less than a living wage).
Thirty-four percent were given liquor — in terms of the “dop system” — three times a day, 15 percent twice and 17 percent once a day.

Thirty-two percent told researchers they were given no leave, 38 percent said they were never given increases and 54 percent were never given bonuses.

Only half the employees said they were given paid sick leave and slightly less than half received free medical services.

Three percent contributed to pension funds administered by their employers.

There was no old-age home or creche for the farm families, and

Only 14 percent of houses had electricity.

The report quotes earlier research showing that the poverty datum line for a five-member coloured family in the Western Cape agricultural sector is now R193 a month, which is well above the average income of a breadwinner in the Wellington district even if payment in kind is added to the cash wages.

The report estimates the cash equivalent of such rewards to a family of five as R86 a month, R20 for food, R5 for medical services, R5 for wood, gas and so on, R40 for housing, R3 for work clothes, R5 for transport and R5 for liquor.

Average

The total average theoretical income for a breadwinner is thus R154 a month (R68 in cash, R86 in kind) and if the income of other family members is added this rises to a R245,20 average.

“The condition of chronic poverty in which a large part of the coloured population of Wellington district finds itself is apparent from this,” the report says.

“A large percentage of breadwinners cannot read, write or calculate and thus have very little insight into the extent of their financial problems.”

Problem

The problem of alcohol abuse assumes “terrific proportions” in the area, the report says, with large numbers of shebeens.

Mr. Plenar writes that he encountered a small number of farmers who encouraged alcoholism on their farms “since this removes the worker’s attention from the appalling conditions in which he must live.”

The report pays tribute to those farmers working for the upliftment of their workers and gives examples of farmers cooperating to supply land for sports facilities, for example, and improving housing for their workers.
Johannesburg — The most affluent 10 percent of South Africans account for about 60 percent of the country's tax revenue, though this group receives only 30 percent of all personal income.

The study focuses on income distribution and cross-contagion within the broader context of social, economic and fiscal policies. The report does not draw any conclusions on the contribution of the lower income groups and the direction of cross-contagion within the more affluent 10 percent.

The research also says the 60 percent of the population contribute only about 20 percent of personal income.
‘210 families could subsist on pass fines’

Labour Reporter

ABOUT 210 families could have subsisted for a month on the fines imposed in October on pass law offenders by the Langa Commissioner’s Court.

According to the Athlone Advice Office report for October, more than 2,000 people appeared in court and were fined more than R50,000.

This amount could have provided about 8,000 people with a bare diet of mealie meal and bread for a month. It could have bought 3,000 large (12.5kg) bags of mealie meal and 60,000 loaves of brown bread.

Women

This could have fed more than 10,000 children under five years of age for a month, says the report.

Many of those fined were women from Transkei or Ciskei who had come to the City to find work so as to be able to feed their families in the rural areas.

According to trade unions and community organizations, a large number of blacks in Cape Town subsist on mealie meal and bread.

The Institute of Race Relations estimates that about three children die every hour in South Africa from malnutrition.

In March this year, the household subsistence level for blacks in Cape Town was estimated at R238. Many, if not most, black households in the City live below this figure.

With R50,000, about 210 families could have lived at the household subsistence level for the month of October.

Instead, most of that money fills the coffers of the Western Cape Administration Board (WCAB).

The WCAB receives the money of those fined for being in the area “illegally”, the bulk of the fines.

The Department of Justice receives the money of those fined for being found without a pass.

In 1979, the WCAB received R381,029 in fines, R165,380 of which was paid by employers of “illegal” labour.

“A large part of the WCAB’s funds are used to support an inspectorate whose job is to arrest people for being in the City illegally,” says the report.

Two percent

If all those who were fined had refused to pay their fines, they would have faced a total of 60,000 days or 167 years in jail for failing to comply with the country’s influx control laws.

The 2,000 arrested during October comprise about two percent of Cape Town’s black population. Thus, one in 50 Cape Town blacks were arrested during October.

The Department of Co-operation and Development has estimated that about 42 percent of Cape Town’s black population are “illegals.”
Tutu warning on rural areas

Staff Reporter

BISHOP Desmond Tutu, the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches, last night warned that increasing unemployment, poverty and disease could lead to "serious trouble" in the rural areas.

Addressing the annual meeting of the Mowbray Inter-Race Group (Mirog), he blamed the situation on the apartheid policy of dumping people in "non-viable" homelands and appealed to the government not to drive blacks to "using desperate means".

"My question is: How long will a man sit and watch his children starve while other people are enjoying more than enough food? How long will it be before he becomes desperate?"

Bishop Tutu said there were pressures to the government's constitutional strategy — stripping blacks of their citizenship and wooing coloureds and Indians into the larger to "gang up" against the blacks.

But anything short of genuine political participation with blacks was a "dangerous frittering away of time", he said.

The intentions behind the Orderly Movement and Settlement of Black Persons Bill were quite clear to seal off the urban areas in an effort to "peel off" as many blacks as possible.

Bishop Tutu said that although the government was dangling a "fat worm" in front of the coloureds and Indians, the aim of the constitutional proposals was "clearly unashamed white hegemony".

He warned coloured people and Indians that if they went along with the proposals and helped the government retain the status quo, "the blacks might one day say 'You helped to oppress and exploit us'."
Poor spend half of wages on rent

Staff Reporter

ABOUT 70 percent of household heads in rented homes in the Peninsula’s coloured areas fall below the breadline, while average rents are beyond the means of most tenants, according to a paper by the Urban Problems Research Unit (UPRU) at UCT.

The paper, entitled “Public-Housing Rents: Some Issues,” was written by two researchers, Professor David Dewar and Mrs Vanessa Watson.

According to the paper, the very lowest income group, earning less than R70 a month, were paying up to half their income in rent.

SEVERE

The paper cites Mr A of Atlantis who earns R61 a month and rents a five-roomed sub-economic semi. Mr A pays R26.17 a month in rent, leaving him with R24.83 a month for food, clothes, transport and fuel.

“Given that the household subsistence level (HSL) allows an absolute minimum of R207.28 for these items, it means that Mr A is spending eight times less than the absolute minimum on the basic necessities.”

Those earning between R70 and R150 a month were “experiencing severe difficulties” and after their rent had been paid, were living on less than the minimum laid down by the HSL.

CALAMITY

In Atlantis, for instance, only with incomes of about R200 was there sufficient over to meet other basic necessities. Only 22 percent of households in Atlantis fell into this category.

Survival was possible with contributions from other family members.

“Any calamity, such as illness, death, imprisonment or old age will place the family in crisis. If there are no family members or friends that can be called on to help, the choice will be starvation or eviction, possibly both.”

On average each tenant in Divisional Council housing fell behind with rent six times in 1989.

EXCESSIVE

Transport costs were also seen “as excessive burdens for those forced to live in new townships.”

About 50 percent of Atlantis residents had to commute daily to Cape Town to work. If only one member of the family was working, the minimal cost of this journey was R22 a month.

Changes in the rent structure and state subsidies were required.

Rents should be tied to what could be afforded by the household head and not to construction costs of housing units.”
Poverty - General
1983
JAN. — DEC.
Africans hungry — book

Staff Reporter

About 20 million people in 17 African countries are undernourished, according to an editorial in the Food Industries Yearbook.

At the same time, only 33 percent of food reaches the starving. The rest is squandered, mainly, for political reasons such as revolutions, civil wars, refugee movements and ineffectual administrations.

Against this background, the population is increasing faster than elsewhere and is expected to treble by 2025.

Double production

"To keep disaster at bay, agricultural production must double by the turn of the century — a requirement that leaves even UN officials sceptical," the editorial says.

Undernourishment and starvation are likely to increase unless the discrepancy between agricultural and food production and the population increase is checked.

South Africa, occupying four percent of Africa's land, with six percent of its people, produces 36 percent of its maize, 18 percent of its wheat and 10 percent of its meat, the editorial says.

Less food available

But 10 percent less food is available for South Africa now than a decade ago, despite a doubling of grain imports to 11 million tons a year.

Because of its position, climate, resources and infrastructure, however, South Africa can deal with the crisis.

But education toward agronomic efficiency is a priority in neighbouring states. The establishment of food-processing factories, particularly in self-governing states, should accelerate to enable South Africa to cope with its growing needs and those of its neighbours.

The yearbook also says the "back-to-nature" movement is influencing the food and beverage industry worldwide, with more interest in products with a natural image.

People in the industrialized world are showing a growing concern with health principles and becoming more selective about what they buy, with a tendency towards low-calorie and sugarless products and juice and mineral water instead of soft drinks, and an increased consumption of yoghurt and honey.
Mr ROBERT SKOSANA, who is in charge of water rationing for the black township.

with rows of "doem-doems" to be filled.

Parched community cries

Out for water
They feed 120 000 of the hungry

By Jon Qwelane

More than 120 000 black children are being fed by Operation Hunger — a wing of the SA Institute of Race Relations, in conjunction with several self-help organisations — in a bid to combat the effects of the drought that has gripped the country.

The institute expects to add more people to its scheme.

At least 17 committees under the Black Housewives were working in collaboration with the SAIRR, and more were being formed every day, said the Transvaal secretary of the SAIRR, Mrs Ina Perlman.

"Over the past few months, Mrs Perlman has visited some of the country's drought-stricken areas and she said in some areas the situation was "absolutely shocking."

In Tzaneen in the Northern Transvaal, Ramathibana on the Botswana border, Brandfort in the Free State and parts of the Northern Cape the situation was "absolutely terrible", said Mrs Perlman.

She said there were 27 feeding schemes in kwazulu alone.

"In the Ngqushu district of kwazulu the situation is very bad, with the medical clinic having to do without water because its tank is empty. We have already sent cattle fodder to the area to help relieve the starvation of cattle."

She said the institute had been given a "fantastic" offer of milk, which would be distributed in the Lebowa homeland.

"Malnutrition has always been a problem, which the drought has now compounded. In several areas I saw children with rust-coloured hair and distended stomachs, which are clear signs of undernourishment."

"Our office in Grahamstown reports that the situation there is absolutely shocking," Mrs Perlman said.

Normally 50 percent of the death rate among blacks related to children under the age of five, a study carried out by the University of Cape Town showed.

"One can well imagine what figures the drought will produce," Mrs Perlman said.

She said that in 1981 the institute had fed 50 000 children, but the figure had since soared to 120 000 and was expected to grow.

"With our limited resources we are trying our best, and will welcome any assistance."

"It must be understood that the Institute does not impose itself upon the communities it is helping, but is assisting people through local organisations," Mrs Perlman said.

See Page 4.
Since it was formed 33 years ago World Vision has provided emergency aid to many countries. The Southern African branch recently budgeted R4,5 million to feed the needy.

By Sol Makgabutlane

World Vision of Southern Africa has budgeted R4,5 million for 176 projects throughout the sub-continent this year.

The money, said Mr David Cuthbert, support director of the charity organisation, was raised by World Vision International in the USA, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa and Europe.

Mr Cuthbert said most of the funds would be used to feed needy children of all races.

World Vision has been involved in a number of projects in Southern Africa. The projects aim to help the children and families, provide emergency relief and rehabilitation and foster community development and Christian leadership.

Mr Cuthbert said more than 20 000 South African children — 80 percent of them black — depended on the organisation for existence. The organisation had introduced a scheme whereby private individuals were requested to "sponsor" a child for R21 a month for at least a year. This enabled the child to be fed, clothed and educated.

The sponsor received a magazine every two weeks and other information about the child's progress. At present 14 000 of the 20 000 children were being sponsored by people living overseas, he said.

The organisation was formed 33 years ago. In September 1962 it provided major emergency aid to Iran after an earthquake ripped through the country.

A year later it provided aid to victims of famine in Indonesia when a volcano erupted, leaving hundreds dead and thousands homeless.

Ten years later, in 1973, a devastating earthquake rock Managua, Nicaragua. World Vision hastened to ship emergency food, clothes and other household supplies to the affected areas.

In 1974 the organisation built 4 000 houses and a hospital in Phnom Penh, Vietnam, to accommodate people displaced in the mounting internal strife.

In 1977 a hurricane swept through Mexico and World Vision International responded with food and other life-saving commodities.

Two years later the organisation co-operated with other agencies to help Khmers fleeing Thailand as a result of heavy fighting in the country.

Three years ago the organisation helped Ethiopians who fled into neighbouring Somalia as fighting intensified.

At present World Vision International is still providing aid to Lebanon.

World Vision of Southern Africa is actively involved in community projects such as the Better Living Centre in Johannesbsurg and the Lehobonong Community Project in Soweto.

Mr Cuthbert said his organisation, which employs a staff of 80 throughout the country, did not provide money alone to communities.

"We educate them to help themselves by teaching them skills such as sewing, candle-making, crocheting, knitting, making bedsprads and correct farming methods. We realise that if we give them money only it will be back to poverty for them when the money dries up."

He cited the Emmaus Project in Bergville, Natal, where meali fields of the local farmers — which yielded a mere four bags an acre — were turned into fertile lands that enabled the farmers to export.

For the first time in my life I see food grown on our farms going into town for sale instead of us having to buy it from our families at the trading store. It's a miracle," said a local farmer Mr. Nathaniel Manya.

World Vision raises some of its funds by organising its well-known "Forty-Hour Famine" every year.

Mr Cuthbert said hundreds of children benefited from the project, which was supported by about 55 000 South Africans of all races.

In conclusion, Mr Cuthbert cited the case of two-year-old Lamphile of Acornhoek in the Eastern Transvaal, who was diseased and emaciated before the organisation came to her rescue. After diagnosis and continued medical attention the little girl was quickly restored to good health.
Many pupils are chronically poor

TEACHERS should stop showing their middle-class values down the throats of children who are largely chronically poor, said Athlone principal and Cape Teachers Professional Association executive member Randal van den Heever at Robertson at the weekend.

He was speaking of the socio-economic challenges facing the teaching profession at a mun­-congress organised by the CTPA.

Present figures, he said, showed that more than 60 percent of the coloured community were chronically poor.

The economic progress of teachers in recent years has led to the development of a middle class who could afford their own homes and shiny motor cars.

"We are inclined to pass our middle-class values onto the children, even though they largely come from a deprived background," he said.

"In the classroom teachers were often only to glad to get rid of the deprived child, who presents behaviour problems and struggles to come to grips with his work."

"Teachers were inclined to have their 'favourites' who more often than not were from well-to-do families. This leads to a greater feeling of rejection by the deprived child and hastens his departure from school," he said.

"Many of these children do not have a youth in the normal sense of the word," he said.

GANGS

The lifestyle of poor communities often leads to the children lining up with gangs, he said. Part-time work by children to lessen the financial burden of families often leads to these children leaving school at an early age, and so dooming the child to a lifetime of unskilled work.

The quick transition from adolescence to adulthood of these children takes place at a time when the child is neither physically nor psychologically prepared for it.

"If teachers wished to make a contribution to solving poverty, then they should strive to keep these children at school for as long as possible," he said.

The problems of South Africa had long ceased to be one of colour, but rather one of class and the granting of the vote to coloured people will not eliminate the chasm between the haves and have-nots, he said.

Mr van den Heever also dealt with the increasing drug abuse by scholars.

"Principals," he said, "were inclined to deny the existence of the problem, because of the stigma attached. There was, however, no denying that the problem was there.

He urged teachers to be on the look out for the problem, not to do so discreetly so as not to lose the trust of the children.
Mrs Marjota Kemp, a social worker with the African Christian Institute, who has been appointed a community worker with the society from April 1, said in an interview that it was not uncommon to find families living in cars.

She said that the economic recession, with its resultant cut-down on overtime work, shorter working weeks, redundancies and layoffs caused a flood of applications to the ACHV for relief help.

Mrs Kemp, who worked in the Sidwell area, said some people lived in "desperate circumstances" in the suburb.

She said that in the past people had looked down at the Community Development flats in Algoa Park. But today this accommodation was sought after and the flats were fully occupied.

She said that the family which had been living in a car in a backyard in Sidwell had returned to Port Elizabeth after trying frutlessly to obtain work and reasonable accommodation in the Transvaal.

The breadwinner in the family was awaiting his first payout from the Unemployment Insurance Fund. The four younger children were placed in boarding school as a temporary measure until the family could find its feet again.

She said many applications for relief aid were from families where the breadwinner was awaiting UIF payouts.

Others were from families which just could not cope financially. They did not have the money for their rent and for food for their families.

She said it was pitiful to see how many trekked to the Reef with the false hope that jobs were plentiful there and that the streets were lined with gold.

They returned disillusioned and even worse off than when they had first left Port Elizabeth.

Others trekked from the north down to Port Elizabeth.

Exploitation and poverty in wake of the recession

A FAMILIY OF SEVEN - A BAND, WIFE AND FIVE CHILDREN WHO HAD FALLEN ON HARD TIMES WERE LIVING IN A CAR IN THE BACKYARD OF A HOUSE IN SIDWELL WHEN THEIR PLIGHT WAS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF A SOCIAL WORKER.

By SHIRLEY PRIESSLY

The breadwinner in the family was awaiting his first payout from the Unemployment Insurance Fund. The four younger children were placed in boarding school as a temporary measure until the family could find its feet again.

The world had turned upside down for the family. They were once well off, but now they were living in poverty.

The family was interested in finding work, but they were unable to find any. They were forced to live in a car in a backyard.

Mrs Kemp said that the family was not the only one in a similar situation. There were many families in the area who were living in poverty due to the economic recession.

She urged people to come forward and seek help from the ACHV if they were in need.

"It's a vicious circle," said Mrs Kemp. "Depressed surroundings encourage people to turn to alcohol and drugs as an escape. Abuse of alcohol then led to a further crop of problems in the family relationship and the quality of the home life."

Many PF families in dire straits

Depressed surroundings encouraged people to turn to alcohol and drugs as an escape. Abuse of alcohol then led to a further crop of problems in the family relationship and the quality of the home life.
Plan to freeze Sidwell for rehabilitation project

By SHIRLEY PRESSLY
SIDWELL is to be frozen within a month and will be rehabilitated, according to the regional representative of the Department of Community Development, Mr A C Verwey.

He said an application for the freezing would be laid before the Minister of Community Development, Mr S F Kotze, for his signature, and then advertised in the Government Gazette.

A State committee for Sidwell would then be appointed and a rehabilitation project — as opposed to an urban renewal scheme — would get under way.

"The whole area will be looked at," Mr Verwey said.

He agreed that Sidwell was in dire need of attention.

Mr Verwey said that the department was busy surveying 174 plots in Algoa Park which would be made available for purchase by families earning less than R650 a month.

He added that 90% bonds would be available from the Department of Community Development, in keeping with the new trend to provide serviced plots for people who required subsidised housing.

The chairman of the Sidwell Ratepayers Association, Mr Stanley Schultz, said that the slow delay in reaching a decision on the future of Sidwell, and the long wait for it to be frozen, had resulted in a deterioration in the suburb.

Property owners had been reluctant to spend money on improving their properties because of the uncertainty regarding the future of the suburb.

Speculators had bought houses and allowed them to deteriorate to such an extent that some might have to be demolished.

Mr Schultz said he hoped that a combined effort by the authorities would result in a suburb where people could live comfortably and yet still be near their work.

A social worker with the Afrikaanse Christelike Vrouevereniging, Mrs Marlies Kemp, was reported in the Evening Post yesterday as saying that some people were living in "desperate circumstances" in the suburb.

In a report Mrs Kemp said Sidwell needed urgent attention from the authorities.

It was a mix of industrial, commercial and residential areas, with its resultant problems.

In particular, she said there was a dire need for more and improved recreational facilities.

She pointed out that the nearest swimming bath was at North End and children had to cross busy streets to reach it.

There was no cinema in the suburb or in the immediate vicinity.

The Director of Housing for Port Elizabeth, Mr W K Molyneaux, said there was a shortage of white municipal housing in the city. He described the waiting list as "considerable."

This accommodation was restricted to families earning under R650 a month.

He said that from now on subsidised housing would only be built for people earning under R150 a month.
CAPE TOWN — It was unlikely that South Africa could absorb the expected increase in the number of black work-seekers over the coming decades unless changes were made in the structure of the economy and of the labour market, a report on Urban-Rural Interaction in South Africa said today.

The report, compiled by the Unit for Future Research, which forms part of the Bureau for Economic Research at the University of Stellenbosch, was presented by Dr Philip Spies, deputy director of the bureau and head of the UFR, to Mr Jan Steyn, executive director of the Urban Foundation, the University announced today.

In a summary of the main findings Dr Spies said:

"South Africa is confronted with a major and growing problem of social degradation and poverty in black rural areas."

"These problems, unless checked in the rural areas, will assert themselves on urban centres inside and outside the black national states and may contribute significantly to economic, social and security strains in urban areas over the coming decades."

Dr Spies said a large part of the urban problems of the future would be rural in origin.

"The administration of the flow of black people to urban centres has reinforced the original situation of poverty, resource degradation and social decay in the rural areas."

"There is still considerable agricultural potential in most of the black national states and a correct approach to agricultural development can make important contributions to development in rural areas."

The report went on to say unless the labour intensity of industrial technology increased, the country had to accept growing unemployment as a way of South Africa's economic life.

Current educational programmes of the Government and industry and those proposed by various organisations were only part of the answer.

The other part was developing appropriate technologies for the various development situations in South Africa through research and development, allowing interest rates to find market-related levels, sound exchange rate policies and reconsidering aspects of the Factories Act.

The current approach of the Government to the issue of interest rates and the rate of exchange could make a positive contribution to this situation — Sapa.
Probe high misery of unemployed as SA econ

RETIRED AND the shortage of sub-economic housing for whites in Port Elizabeth have forced many families, some with small children and babies in arms, to live under appalling conditions for which they have to pay high rents.

The plight of these families was first highlighted in an article in the Evening Post last week. Further investigations have revealed that the situation is more serious than was at first evident.

Many families are crowding into barely furnished rooms in rooming houses or bunching into backyard shacks with no water, electricity or sanitary facilities.

Some houses in Sodwell, owned by landlords who are never seen, are in such a bad state of repair that during rainy weather there is hardly a dry spot.

Tenants tell of a lack of hot water, missing windows, faulty plugs and outside toilets. They cannot complain to their landlords for fear of eviction.

Rents of between R120 and R140 are being asked for rooms in Sydenham — as much as is charged for one-bedroom flats in the sought-after Hill area — and amenities are virtually non-existent. A backyard shack in Sodwell fetches between R40 and R60.

When news of an empty shack is received, women walk to try to get there first. Their men cannot get there. They are standing in queues at factories, trying to find work.

This week, in the company of social workers of the Afrikaanse Carstelike Vrouevereniging (ACV), the Evening Post visited several of these families.

The situation revealed was horrific.

In Wynne Street, Sydenham, we found Mrs J and her three children, aged seven, six and two. A three-year-old daughter was being cared for by relations.

Mrs J's room is furnished with a double and a single bed, a wardrobe and an old desk. There are no carpets or mats, chairs or table. Bedding is supplied by Mrs J.

"The family is charged R120 a month and is to be shared by 20 adults in the rest of the house."

The family is out of work and with the rent.

They were in the room, with Mrs J's sister, "well and they are on the floor in there because there is not space in the bed for them by the family of five."

Before the eviction, they had a R87 flat in Parktown.

Mrs J said she heard back yard room baking. "Back yard room?" she said. "I want water and her children had to be clean school."

She is petting the "weasel" and "lines them under the conditions for eviction."

In Wright Street, the front door has been broken for two years. A child has collapsed and the house has fallen.

Mr and Mrs J have three children in the kitchen.

When she and her husband came from bullock, they looked for work in Port Elizabeth they had. "Now they live on the left is shared by a family of five. They gain entry through the room on the right, where an unemployed man lives."

By YVONNE STEYNBURG
nemployed in hovels

15/3/83

ightlights of many conomy dips

... a month — and the
... be shared by the more
... 20 adults and children
... the rest of the house
... the family eats on the
desk in the room.

"J is out of work and
the family is falling behind
... the rent.

... they were glad to get the
... Previously they lived
... Mrs J's sister in Sid-
... they had to sleep
... in the lounge.

... before the misfortunes of
... displacement the family
... a R5 flat in Algoma.

... heard about a
... yard room for R40, but
... said it had no light or
... and her eldest child
... to be clean to go to

... petrified of upset
... The family is
... the constant threat of

... Wright Street, Sidwell,
... to walk to the back
... kitchen to see Mrs B.
... front doorknob has
... broken for a long
... the front wall has
col... and the small semi-
... house is in a
... state.
... found Mrs B and her
... children in the tiny

... she and her hus-
... came from Vander-
... in December to
... for work in Port Eliz-
... they had nowhere to
... they live in one of

... the two dilapidated shacks
... in the back yard.

... The shack has a boarded
... up window and make-shift
... lighting.

... The only place to wash is
... the so-called "bathroom", a
... small black hole off the
... kitchen, with a boarded up
... window and no hot water.

... The toilet is next to the
... shacks in the back yard.

... To boil water in the
... kettle the fridge has to be
... unplugged from the only
... plug in the kitchen.

... This plug is completely
... loose and has many danger-
... looking electric wires
... leading to the outside
... shacks, dangling from it.

... The ceilings and walls
... are heavily stained by the
countless leaks in the roof.

... The rooms have a musty
... smell even in the dry, sunny
... weather.

... "My mother has just had
... a letter from the agent
... advising that the rent is
... being increased to R77.60 —
... and she has also been told
... to repair the front wall
... herself or be evicted," Mrs
... B said.

... Her husband had just
... obtained work, she said, and
... until they could get other
... accommodation she had to
... make the best of the shack.

... She said they could not
... complain — just around the
... corner was a family sleep-
... ing in a car.

... "What else can we do?"

... Mrs Judy du Toit, execu-
... tive member of the ACV,
... said her organisation had
... accommodated desperate
... families in some of their
... centres until they could get
... a room somewhere...\n
The only plug in this rented house in Sidwell is in the kitchen. It is also
used to connect wiring for light in a two-roomed outside shack. The
Offers pour in for poor PE families

BY GARTH KING

AN Evening Post report yesterday on the desperate plight of some poor white families in Port Elizabeth has triggered a flood of offers of assistance.

Offers of food, prayer and foster care have inundated the Sidwell offices of the Afrikaanse Christelike Vereeniging (ACVV), which runs a welfare programme in certain suburbs.

Social workers said today they were delighted with the increased public awareness of the plight of the needy.

The Evening Post also received many offers of assistance, which were referred to the executive member of the Eastern Cape ACVV, Mrs. Judy du Toit, at 515338.

A women’s prayer group at the Pentecostal Holiness Church in Walmer has volunteered to help collect non-perishable foods.

General Motors has offered boxes of tinned food.

Several people have offered their services as temporary foster parents.

Mrs. Du Toit said today that heightened public awareness of the plight of those affected by relocations and the acute subsistence housing shortage for whites would boost self-help programmes scheduled to be launched on April 1 among depressed groups in Sidwell, Sydenham and Forest Hill.

She said that with the onset of winter offers of blankets and clothes would be greatly appreciated.

Non-perishable foods were also needed because most of the families did not have refrigerators, she said.
Call for training in ‘poverty law’

By MARTINE BARKER

THE NATURE of the South African legal system and the fact that it is heavily weighted against most South Africans poses problems for legal-advise clinics, the convener of the University of Cape Town’s Legal Aid Centre, Mr Andrew Corbett, believes.

In addition to this, says the final-year law student, law schools in South Africa do not teach students enough about dealing with “poverty law”.

The emphasis at universities, he says, is on aspects of the law which will affect wealthier members of society, such as company law — and on graduation most students join practices providing for these needs, charge a great deal for their services and ignore the huge complex of social security law problems.

Even within the UCT legal-aid clinics, says Mr Corbett, there are some students participating in the programme because they feel it will give them practical experience which is good for their curriculum vitae, not because they perceive the need which exists in the different communities served by the clinics.

The centre runs clinics in various Cape Town suburbs, but because the 70 students who run them are not qualified legal practitioners, they can only assess cases, try to resolve problems through negotiation and where court representation is needed, refer cases to the State-run legal aid board or to private attorneys.

Each clinic has a lawyer who advises students on difficult cases.

Mr Corbett says the centre is trying to get social-work students involved in the programme as well, since it is fairly common for social problems to arise.

Rights

But more important than simply trying to solve problems as they arise, he believes, is the role of the centre in educating people to a knowledge of their rights.

He sees the legal-aid centre as expanding to a point where it serves as a resource centre for autonomous community-based advice offices, and as being able to assist advice offices get off the ground.

The centre puts out pamphlets on particular problem areas but a need exists for more.

Most South Africans are legally denied the human rights regarding housing, work, family life and education that whites in the country take for granted, says Mr Corbett.

And this means that even before such barriers to getting legal assistance as poverty, ignorance of their rights, the fact of inadequate training of lawyers and the fact that poor people generally live far from the centre of towns where lawyers usually have their consulting rooms, the majority of black people start out at a distinct disadvantage.

Mr Corbett says many lawyers feel threatened by alternatives to their services such as legal-aid clinics.

But, he says, the clinics in no way impinge on the constituency of professionals — they merely provide assistance to people who would otherwise be denied access to legal help.

The students see different types of problems in different communities.

At the centre’s campus office, more complex issues affecting staff and students arise — small accident claims, lease and rental difficulties crop up frequently.

Occasionally people who do have the means to pay for professional assistance go to the clinic for “cheap help”.

In 1982, although no final figure is available, Mr Corbett estimates that the centre dealt with about 2,000 cases at its 10 clinics.
One in four under-15s malnourished

Community Affairs Reporter

AT a conservative estimate one in four South African children under the age of 15 is malnourished, according to a paper published by the Bureau for Economic Research of the University of Stellenbosch.

The paper, by Tania Vergnani of the bureau's unit for futures research, says that about 2.9 million children under the age of 15 in South Africa, including the independent homelands, “show signs of malnutrition.”

This figure includes 1.5 million children who, according to international standards, suffer from second-degree malnutrition.

The figures are based on surveys by the Department of Health and various regional studies.

The report says that malnutrition will continue to be a major problem in South Africa unless it is checked by positive policy and practical measures.

“As current evidence strongly suggests, about a third of South Africa’s black, coloured and possibly Indian children are malnourished — the long-term implications on the whole society can only be surmised. They are, however, grave enough to warrant immediate action.”

New strategy

Interviewed about her paper the author says “Malnutrition is just one indicator of very grave social problems in South Africa. It is linked to poverty and underdevelopment and the basic political, socio-economic and cultural conditions in this country.”

“Any programme to combat malnutrition will have to form part of a total strategy to change these conditions.”

In an attempt to plan such a strategy the UN for Futures Research is to hold a closed meeting on April 22 with leading business people, academics, doctors, nutritionists, and representatives of food industries from all parts of South Africa.

May worsen

In her paper Miss Vergnani said the situation was likely to worsen. On the basis of present figures she estimated that by the year 2000 about 4.3 million South African children under the age of 15 could be at risk of or show signs of malnutrition.

“Apart from the obvious effects on health, malnutrition would most likely affect a child’s brain development. The earlier it occurs in a child’s development the more lasting, serious and even irreversible the consequences.”

The fact that a large percentage of South Africa’s black, coloured and Asian children suffered from malnutrition had important implications for the educational system.

Handicapped

“Schoolchildren are in many cases ‘survivors’ who may have been permanently handicapped by malnutrition before entering school. Even if this is not the case, a hungry child is apathetic, shows low concentration, lacks motivation and shows low achievement.”

She says malnourished children cannot benefit fully from the education provided for them and this may be one of the more important factors contributing to the high drop-out rate at black schools.

“In 1981 about 18 per cent of all black schoolchildren in ‘white’ South Africa left school at the end of the standard A school year.”

Big problem

“In some homeland areas the figures are even higher — for instance, 55 percent of Transkean and 38 percent of Ciskean pupils left school without substandard A.”

She said malnutrition would remain a major problem in South Africa unless “positive policy measures such as employment programmes, fair wages, food subsidies, school feeding, nutrition education, rural development and family planning” were taken.

She suggests that priority should be given to combating malnutrition in pregnant mothers and in children up to the age of two.
Rive to examine quality of life in EL-Border area

PORT ELIZABETH — Mr Louis Rive, who was appointed by the Government as a one-man commission to study ways to improve the quality of life of the blacks in the Eastern Cape, is closing his office in Port Elizabeth and moving to East London.

In an interview he said he has concluded his work for the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage black townships with the R300-million blueprint for the provision of new services and upgrading of existing services that will soon be presented to the Cabinet for final approval.

"It is my personal view that the problems in the East London-Border area will have to be solved in order to create enough employment to stop people east of the Fish River moving west of the river to look for jobs," he said.

He will now look for ways and means to improve the situation in the East London-Border area which also includes Transkei and Ciskei according to the original assignment by the government.

For this reason he closed his office in Port Elizabeth.

The East Cape Administration Board will make an office available for Mr Rive in East London.

When asked whether he will use the same strategy in planning improvement in the East London-Border area, Mr Rive said planning for development will be determined by the money available for his R300-million project for the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage area. "It will have to use a different modus operandi," he said.

Mr Rive has approached several overseas investors for capital for the Port Elizabeth-Uitenhage project. "Some react very positively, but in other instances there is strong political resistance to investing money in South Africa," he said.

Bridging finance will be made available very soon by the government to start with the R300-million project in Port Elizabeth and Uitenhage until overseas capital is available.

Mr Rive said the total amount of bridging capital will depend and how soon overseas money will be available.

— DDC
Black poverty is 'political poverty'

Staff Reporter

POVERTY amongst blacks in South Africa was "political poverty", the Rev Sol Jacobs, Director of Development of the South African Council of Churches, said when he launched the Western Province Council of Churches' Compassion Campaign in Athlone yesterday.

He said the consequences of resettlement for black people were that they were regarded as "political amenities" and that 70 to 75 percent of them were forced to live below the poverty line.

Under the auspices of the SACC, Compassion Campaign aims to raise funds to assist the council's programmes for resettled and unemployed people.

The campaign, usually lasting a month, was started some years ago by the Anglican Church. The object was to raise funds throughout the month for needy projects.

The Month of Compassion was usually August, but this year the SACC has started the campaign earlier in order to raise more money.

Mr Jacobs, who has done extensive research into problems caused by resettlement and involved in development schemes for unemployed and resettled people in various places, described the child mortality rates in the camps due to starvation as "staggering".

"The details vary from one area to another but the common factors are the grinding, unlimit ed poverty and the desolation," he said.
Medical Reporter

ABOUT 2.1-million children in South Africa, excluding the homelands, suffer from malnutrition, says Dr J P Kotze, director of nutrition of the Department of Health and Welfare.

Dr Kotze was speaking at a conference on the socio-economic implications of undernutrition — Strategies For The Future — organised by the Unit for Future Research at Stellenbosch University.

Dr Kotze said about 3 885 children a year could be expected to die of malnutrition which was “rather a sad thing”, but this figure appeared to be “quite a lot lower than the figure which has been mentioned in the last week of 36 000 children”. He said the situation could be expected to deteriorate with the drought.

Dr Trudy Thomas of the Cecilia Makiwane Hospital in Mdantsane said: “Hunger in the homelands is very widespread and often very severe, frequently causing illness and even death.”

One survey found that 60 percent of two-year-olds were under-nourished and that at least one in 10 was suffering from severe sickness.

Figures for seven and eight-year-olds in sub A were even more startling in the urban areas 75 percent of children were undernourished, rising to 83 percent in the rural areas. In one classroom in a resettlement area, 25 out of 27 children were malnourished, in another, 18 out of 19.

Dr Thomas said malnutrition had to be regarded as a norm or, more accurately, an abnormality of this society. “Malnutrition often begins before birth. Death in the womb is disturbingly common in our black children. Even those born alive are often already stunted.”

Dr Thomas attributed malnutrition to a wholesale breakdown of family life against a background of almost universal poverty. This, in turn, was a result of rural impoverishment, huge unemployment, chaotic and inadequate social services, migrant labour, urbanisation and squatter policies which negated any attempt to find a livelihood.

She said if one took 100 babies with kwachaerkor, three quarters had been deserted by their fathers and some by their mothers too.

MALNUTRITION in South Africa is not the result of a shortage of food but of widespread poverty, according to economist Elizabeth Dostal.

Speaking at a symposium on malnutrition organised by the Institute for Futures Research at Stellenbosch University, Mrs Dostal said enough food would be produced to feed the growing population until at least the year 2000.

At present there were surpluses of maize, wheat, fruit and sugar and some surpluses in dairy products but people were unable to buy the basic food they needed.

She said more than 50 percent of black families in this country did not earn enough to feed a family.
**Klein Opias Leon**

Schuster, be- en radio-grapjes

Klein Opias Leon

**Hongersnood vir SA voorspel**

Eie Buro STELLENBOSCH. — Groot hongersnood, wat kan lei tot opstand en revolusie, wag op Suid-Afrika. Vanwoeding het reeds ernstige af

Minder vlei en melk is in die volgende 20

voorgesig en base ernstig. Een uit

haar buite die land wees.

Maar vir ander bevol-

kingsgroep is die ge-

volge base ernstiger.

Feste waaroor kommer bestaan, is.

- Teen die jaar 2 009
gaan daar na verwagting
5,2 miljoen werkloosie
in die land wees.
- Armoede soos dit
gen in Suid-Afrika mani-

festeer, kan lei tot op-

stand en revolusie.
- Sowat vijf persent
van alle blanke kinders
op laer skool is ondergewig. In die geval van bruin en

Indiërs-kinders is dit 30

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d van Toekomsstudies aan

die Universiteit van Ste-

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van Heerden, hoof van

die departement hou-

boordlike aan dieselfde

universiteit, prof. L. Sch-

lemmer, direkteur van die

Sentrum Toegepaste

Sosiale Wetenskappe aan

die Universiteit van Na-

tal, dr. J. P. Kotze, direk-

teur van Voeding van die

Departement van Ge-

society het dr T

Thomas, 'n geneesheer

aan die Cecilia Makhwana-

hospatiaal in Oos-Londen.

Mar Peter Moll, 'n

woordvoerder aan die

Universiteit van Kaap-

stad, was nog 'n spreker.

Hy het gedit dit is uiter-
noodsaaklik dat die

broodpys stapelvoe-

sel van armes — so lag as

maanlik gehou moet

word.
Rural poverty could threaten the towns

Since the growth of South Africa's metropolitan regions the problems of the rural areas have been increasingly divorced from the daily lives of city dwellers. But as rural poverty worsens it is going to stretch a hungry, even violent, hand into urban streets.

This is the conclusion of a report, "Urban-Rural Interaction in South Africa," published by the Unit for Futures Research at Stellenbosch University.

The editor and head of the unit, Dr. Philip Spies, concludes that a major and growing problem facing the country is social degradation and poverty in rural areas. Unless checked, he predicts, they could jeopardise the security and economy of urban areas over the coming decades.

He explains: "The urban areas of South Africa were in the past relatively isolated against most of the rural problems, but not the least because of the restrictions on the movement of blacks towards towns and cities.

"It is expected that socio-political pressures for removing these controls will persist and that the rate of black urbanisation will increase in future due to the depressed state of affairs in the black rural areas."

"Massive squatting and housing problems in major cities would affect the social, economic and security environment in these areas especially if industry cannot create jobs to match the increase in job seekers."

The report also criticises the restrictions on black movement for leading to increased poverty, resource degradation and social decay in the countryside.

"About the chances of rural economic growth materialising he is sceptical, without a "fundamental" change in the structure of the South African economy." Employment opportunities are becoming scarcer. The gap between urban incomes and rural incomes is widening.

The link of migrants (whom Dr. Spies sees as socially disruptive) and commuters between the city and the black rural areas is becoming more important and more crucial to a growing number of poor in the black national states. Black agriculture can supply generally only a small percentage of the income of the rural population."

However, as there is considerable agricultural potential in most of the black national states, he feels a "correct" approach to agricultural development could make important contributions to development in rural areas.

"But unless the labour intensity of industrial technology is increased," Dr. Spies concludes, "we must accept growing unemployment as the way of South Africa's economic life."

"Current educational programmes of the Government and industry, and those proposed by various organisations, are only part of the answer. The other part is developing appropriate technologies for the various development situations—both urban and rural."

Mike Nicol looks at a disturbing report

Mike Nicol, a former reporter on The Star, is now a Cape Times-based freelance writer.
Malnutrition linked with influx control

Medical Reporter

ONE could not talk of malnutrition in South Africa and ignore the breaking down of squatter shanties in Cape Town, according to Professor Francis Wilson, Professor of Labour Economics at the University of Cape Town.

Professor Wilson said at a symposium on the socio-economic implications of malnutrition, "Malnutrition is a symptom of a socio-economic disease in our society which we have to come to grips with."

Malnutrition was linked with urbanisation, influx control, migrant labour and housing policies

Hungry

He said the official view was that squatters whose shelters were broken down night after night "shouldn't be there."

"But the alternative is for the women to be in the rural areas, hungry. Part of their strategy against malnutrition is to get into the city where they can at least be near their men and have jobs."

He said malnutrition had a number of implications for the business community. Among them were:

- If people were dying of hunger, each person had a moral obligation to do something about it.
- There was a link between poverty and hunger on one hand and business on the other. Because the mines, for instance, employed migrant labourers, they had to consider the social and economic consequences of breaking up families and the poverty in the rural areas.

"The mines have a responsibility to consider the men not simply as labour units but as human beings, with wives and children and grandparents, and they are as much part of the mining industry as the labour units."

Even if the mines cannot change the migrant labour system, they have to do some hard thinking about their relationship with those living in the rural areas.

Prevention

Professor Wilson suggested the mines could, for instance, help with rural development schemes. It was cheaper to prevent people from going hungry than to cure them when they suffered from malnutrition.

Hungry children could not learn.

"We need to ask ourselves what lay behind the dropout rate whereby in 1978, of the children who had started school in 1963, 69 percent of the whites got to standard 10 against four percent of the blacks."

Policy

"There are all sorts of reasons, but one of the reasons could be that the black children can't keep going all the way through because they aren't getting enough to eat."

Among the suggestions which came out of the conference was that a national food policy be developed for South Africa, that a subsidy be paid on basic foods and that minimum wages be set for all workers, particularly domestic workers.

It was also suggested that food control boards channel surpluses of food to schools, old age homes or specific groups which were at risk of malnutrition.
Hunger appeal pays off 27 APR 1985

Welfare Reporter.

About 293,300 meals can be served to starving children in the drought-stricken areas of South Africa as a result of an appeal by Operation Hunger in Johannesburg and Sandton last Friday.

The street-collection raised R14,668, which included anonymous cheques for R5,000 and R3,000.

Operation Hunger had only a week to organise the collection, but an appeal for collectors through The Star swelled the number to about 300.
Even the sunflower bows
Operation Hunger provides a cushion where
Operation Hunger launched

By Stephen McGuffin

About 1.5 million people facing starvation in rural South Africa may benefit from a drought appeal launched today by a big supermarket chain.

Operation Hunger, launched by Checkers, is aimed at encouraging the private sector to aid Government relief efforts.

The supermarket chain has also announced a weekly R100,000 subsidy on essential food items.

The managing director, Mr Gordon Utian, said this would enable customers to get some relief from soaring food prices.

"Initially we are asking all those in business organisations with which we have to participate to do something," he said.

Participation could be in the form of donations of suitable food, or money to buy food.
Fund is curbed by finances

EAST LONDON — Lack of funds and the large area involved prevented the Mayor's School Feeding Fund from extending its services to the rural areas of Gisela, the chairman of the fund, Mr A. Addieson said.

Mr Addieson was commenting on a statement in the Ciskei Parliament by the Deputy Chief Whip, Chief N. Mavuso, on the need to feed hungry schoolchildren in rural areas.

It costs the fund R70 000 to provide 20 000 primary school children in Duncan Village, Buffalo Flats and Mdantsane with fortified biscuits and soup. Mr Addieson said.

The Fund was started in 1960 by Mr Addieson then Mayor of East London.

Primary school children are provided with fortified biscuits in summer and soup in winter.

The Fund relies on donors in East London and fund raising efforts and R9 000 a year contributed by primary schools in Mdantsane.

Mr Addieson said unless the contributions continued and were further supplemented, it would be impossible to carry on the work.

He said the fund would like to increase its activities — DDR.
**Hunger warning by Natal doctors**

Argus Correspondent

DURBAN. — Doctors working in KwaZulu have warned that thousands of people may starve to death this winter.

Others would succumb to diseases such as typhoid, cholera and measles, the doctors said.

The worst drought this century has brought on a crisis in the already impoverished hinterland where malnutrition and unemployment are rife.

The medical superintendent of Charles Johnson Memorial Hospital at Ngquto, Dr Arthur Coetzee, said more than half the malnourished children who were admitted to the hospital died.

"And we only get to see the tip of the iceberg. There is no way of telling how many will die before they reach us," he added.

**Maize price increase**

As the winter drew on, he expected more and more children suffering from starvation to be admitted. He feared that the recent maize price increase would exacerbate the situation.

"Because of the drought, there has been a total crop failure in the area and people have to buy food." The hospital had a 120-bed children's unit. Most of those admitted suffered from malnutrition or a combination of malnutrition and infectious diseases.

Dr Coetzee said the hospital was overcrowded because of this. It was stated in a report to the KwaZulu Health Minister, "We have to accept that it is normal for KwaZulu patients to be ill and die on the floor underneath the bed of another patient."

"What relatives think of this practice, I shudder to think, but since most of them have no voice at either local or Government level, it doesn't seem to matter."

Doctors at other KwaZulu hospitals said they also faced a crisis this winter.

At Madadeni Hospital near Newcastle, 40 people had been treated for typhoid in the past month.

The medical superintendent, Dr Leslie Stewart-Smith, said that since January the hospital had treated 82 typhoid victims.

Many of the cases, he said, could be attributed to the chronic drought, which caused standards of hygiene to drop.

Doctors at a mission hospital in the Tugela Ferry area said cholera was endemic.

Throughout the region the water supply situation is desperate. Many people have to walk up to four hours to get sun-

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**Swazis smuggle water**

Argus Foreign Service

MBABANE — Swazi villagers in the south of the country are so short of water that they are crossing into South Africa and smuggling supplies back home.

The favourite method of the villagers in the Luvuvhu area is to drive across in trucks at night with empty barrels to be filled up.

A spokesman for the Rural Water Board said: "People are literally begging for water."

**Prices**

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Store fights starvation

MASS starvation and possibly death in drought-stricken and hunger-ridden parts of the country is likely to be averted if an anti-hunger appeal sent out by a major supermarket chain is successful.

Cheekers supermarket this week launched a massive campaign aimed at fighting starvation in the country, especially in the homelands. The campaign is led by the supermarket's managing director, Mr. Gordon Utian.

Mr. Utian said the supermarket would make available a sum of R100 000 every week to help subsidize basic foodstuffs. Among the food earmarked for subsidy is maize meal — a staple food for millions in the country — milk powder, soya products and tinned meat and fish. The products will be varied daily to help consumers make the best of the offers.

The Government was also urged to remove GST charges on basic foodstuffs.

Mr. Utian called on other companies in the private sector to participate in the scheme.

Cheekers initiated the campaign, he said, but this did not mean the campaign belonged to the chain.

Outlining his plan for the participation of other companies, Mr. Utian said companies producing the most suitable types of food could give merchandise stock and, where safety is assured, date expired merchandise which is not normally sold. Other companies could give cash and nominate a company through which the products will be channelled. Service sector companies could give cash and make facilities available through which the public could participate.

The stock will be advertised under the "Save-a-Rama" banner and will be advertised on radio and television.

Mr. Utian also called on the public to support the campaign. Food bins will be made available at all Cheekers and Big D supermarkets for members of the public to donate whatever they can afford.
Call to send in Famine funds

THE Christian aid organisation, World Vision of Southern Africa, has made an urgent appeal to the public to send in sponsorship money raised during its 40-Hour Famine appeal in September last year.

Communities with no food, left to see themselves through, winter are making increasing demands on World Vision's resources.

About 47% of those people who took part in the 1982 40-Hour Famine campaign have not yet sent in money they collected.

Since 1979 World Vision of Southern Africa has been running an annual event called the 40-Hour Famine.

Last year 50,700 participants raised the record amount of R576,000. To date, the campaign has received close on R2 million in four years.

At present 30 projects are supported by these funds, and about 200,000 children receive at least one nutritional daily meal.

Sixteen of the projects, many in South Africa's drought-hit areas, have moved from straight feeding to self-help.

World Vision's fifth Famine will take place over the weekend of September 9 to 11 this year, with an income target of R3 million.

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**South African Allied Workers Union (SAAW)**

26
Supporters hold back famine aid

Nearly half the people who took part in World Vision's 40-hour famine last September have not sent in the sponsorship money they collected. World Vision said that 50,708 participants raised a record R570,000.

The organisation has called on these people to send in their money as soon as possible. Communities with no winter food were making more demands on its resources, World Vision said.

World Vision of Southern Africa has been running the annual 40-hour event since 1979 and has collected R22-million.

Its fifth famine will take place from September 9 to 11 this year.

UNIONS OPERATING IN THE WINTER STAR

Bakery Employees Industry
Roland Dmaakwerkersverenig
Brewery Employees Union (Cape)
Cape Divisional Council Workers
Cape Town Gas Workers Union
Cape Town Municipal Workers Association
Chemical and Allied Workers Union
Cinematograph Projectionists Union (Coloured)
Diamond Cutters Union of South Africa
Domestic Workers Association
Escom (Cape Western Undertaking) Salaried Staff Association
Escom Workers Association
Federated Mining, Explosives and Chemical Workers Union
Garment Workers Union of South Africa
Garment Workers Union (Western Province)
General Workers Union
Golden Arrow Officials Staff Association
Jewellers & Goldsmiths Union
Kimberley Municipal Coloured Workers Association
Kimberley Shop, Assistants, Warehousemen, Clerks Association
Kimberley Transport Workers Union
Liquor & Catering Trades Employees Union
Munisipaliteit Vredenburg-Saldanhahe Workersvereniging
National Union of Engineering, Industrial and Allied Workers
National Union of Laundry, Cleaning and Dyeing Workers (Cape)
National Union of Security Officers
S.A. Canvas & Ropeworkers (Cape)
S.A. Domestic Workers Association
S.A. Karweierswerknemersvereniging
Tramway and Omnibus Workers Union (Cape)
Transport Workers Union (Coloured & Asian)
Weskaapse Plofstoef en Chemiese Operateurs Vakbond
Western Province Sweet Workers Union
Worcester Munisipale Werknemersvereniging.
The Crucial Question

 Were you a parent of a child who was bullied at school? Were you aware of the signs of bullying in your child or did you only discover them when it was too late? Were you able to identify the warning signs and take steps to prevent it from happening again? Did you realize the importance of educating your child on how to handle themselves in such situations? Did you seek help from professionals or other parents who had also been through the same experience? Did you feel isolated and alone? Were you able to find support and guidance to help you navigate through this difficult time? Did you learn from this experience and implement strategies to ensure it doesn't happen again? Did you feel empowered and motivated to make a difference for your child and other children who may be experiencing the same struggle?

It's important to remember that bullying is not just a problem for our children, but a problem for our communities as well. It's time to stand together and address this issue head-on. Let's work towards creating a safe and supportive environment for all children, where they can grow and thrive without fear of bullying.

Let's make a promise to ourselves and our children: we will be their champions, we will listen to them, we will support them, we will empower them to stand up for themselves, and we will work towards creating a world where bullying is no longer a problem.

Let's make a difference. Let's be the change we want to see in the world.
Call for health services in Soweto

Post Reporter

THE lack of health services in Soweto could have contributed to the high incidence of measles in Port Elizabeth, Dr J Rawlinson, from the State Health Department in Pretoria, said today.

"There is no blame here or a regular mobile unit visiting the area. It would be wonderful if someone would donate a mobile unit," he said.

There were chairs in New Brighton, Site and Service, Zwede and Walmer.

One of the worst-hit areas of the local measles epidemic has been Soweto, which has no health services whatsoever.

Mobile units recently visited Soweto after the measles outbreak started.

He said the City Health Department did not have a regular mobile unit visiting black areas.

There were two mobile units running on a daily basis where people could be inoculated against various diseases such as diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus, polio and measles.

One was for whites and the other, Mobile Health Unit No 2, visited only colour areas including Windvogel, Salt Lake, Algoa, Klimskool, Mussonvale, Helensvale and Gelvandale Extension.

Dr Rawlinson, who is here to monitor the outbreak of measles, yesterday visited Soweto and Zwede.

Yesterday another 27 cases were reported and most of them came from Soweto and Zwede, he said.

This brings the number of notifications for this year to 241 — more than four times the amount of cases notified throughout last year. There have been 137 deaths from measles or its complications this year — nearly triple the number of deaths reported for the whole of last year.

According to figures released by the East Cape Administration Board, there were 8 471 shacks in Soweto occupied by 80,000 people. In Zwede there were 7 063 houses with 79,000 inhabitants and in the 11,652 houses in KwaZakhe 100,026 people lived.

Dr Rawlinson's study will look at the reasons why the epidemic occurred, why the immunity of the community failed, and factors contributing to the severity of measles in various communities.

He said there was an interplay of various factors. The drought had played a large role in contributing to the seriousness of measles with many from rural areas flocking to Zwede and Soweto.

He has requested the aid of Dr Stewart Fisher, from the Department of Community Health at the University of Cape Town, to help him collate statistics. Dr Fisher, who was in Port Elizabeth about three weeks ago to do a study on the high mortality rate of measles and factors associated with it, will be arriving here next week.

Dr Rawlinson was very hopeful that the incidence of measles would drop soon. Some of the extra mobile units immunising people specifically against measles had been withdrawn as attendance levels had dropped. However, the units were still operating in Soweto and Zwede.

From April 18 to April 20 more than 12,000 measles vaccinations were administered.
145 children have died in PE’s measles epidemic

Scourge of the slums

By KEN VERNON
Weekend Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — Another eight children died of measles complications in Port Elizabeth this week, bringing the death toll for this year to 145 — almost triple the number who died from the disease last year.

A further 83 cases notified bring the total to 1,286 for the year, more than four times that for the whole of last year.

These facts were disclosed at a Press conference held by health authorities here yesterday afternoon.

The Regional Director of the Department of Health, Dr Japie Krynow, said the number of cases in Port Elizabeth appeared to be decreasing, but there had been a marked increase in deaths and cases in the rest of the Eastern Cape.

That was particularly in the Divisional Council areas of Dora, Smalldell, Kei River and the municipal areas of Grahamstown, Queenstown, East London, Uitenhage and Adelaide.

Dr Krynow said he had unofficially been informed of a higher incidence of measles in Catoe.

Port Elizabeth’s epidemic continues to baffle health officials in the city.

The deaths have continued in spite of a huge immunization programme by local health officials.

A medical expert seconded from the Department of Health in Pretoria, Dr J Rawlinson, has found that more than 80 percent of the dead are children under the age of 16 months, and all of them children under 2½ years.

The children are as much victims of poverty, squalor and overcrowding as of the deadly virus.

“Measles is a disease of the slums when it attacks in this virulent form,” says Dr Rawlinson. “It is spread through contact, coughing, touching and so on, and it attacks those whose resistance is lowest.

“The children of the slum make a perfect target.”

More than half the cases of measles — and half the deaths — reported here have been from the sprawling shanty squatter town called Soweto.

It was recently described by Dr Marcus Barnard, Opposition spokesman on health, as “South Africa’s worst slum”. It shelters between 80,000 and 90,000 people under rusted corrugated iron and packing cases in unhealthy and overcrowded conditions.

Storm water drainage is non-existent. Stagnant, garbage-clogged pools abound, and “long drop” toilets are cheap by jowl with shacks.

Refuse and sewage is collected twice a week, but in an ill-defined and rapidly expanding area the services often break down and the only alternative is to dump refuse in the street or the back alley.

The conditions prompted Port Elizabeth’s Medical Officer of Health, Dr J Sher, to remark that he was fighting “not only a highly contagious disease”, but socio-economic conditions beyond his control.

The conditions are not unique in South Africa, and health officers are asking why the outbreak happened here.

Part of the answer is in the cause of Soweto’s existence. The influx into a poor health area of large numbers of people with little or no immunity has created a pool of people susceptible to disease, and who are able to infect many more people.

In such a way the “collective immunity” of a community is destroyed, says Dr Rawlinson, and the only way to combat the spread of the disease is large-scale immunization.

Immunisation

“But effective immunisation is hampered by not knowing exactly how many people there are to be immunised, and by the fact that many may be illegally resident in the area, and so reluctant to bring their children forward until it’s too late.

“In addition, unless the health service infrastructure is of a high standard, there is the risk that immunisation may not be carried out effectively.”

A VIEW of Port Elizabeth’s Soweto where health authorities are fighting a running battle with measles.
Operation Hunger

This winter, Operation Hunger aims to feed 4 million mouths, helping to alleviate starvation and improve nutrition in underprivileged areas. 

By BRUCE COHEN

How YOU can help

Operation Hunger needs the help of everyone. If you can help, send your donation to Mrs. Ina Pedersen, Operation Hunger, PO Box 97, Johannesburg 2000.
SACC starts fund to aid the hungry

The South African Council of Churches (SACC) has launched an emergency nationwide relief campaign to offset the effects of severe unemployment and the drought which is ravaging the country.

Details of the plan, which includes the establishment of a Hunger and Relief Fund, were outlined by the SACC's director of development, the Rev. Sol Jacobs, at a press conference yesterday.

The secretary-general of the SACC, Bishop Desmond Tutu, said the council had already given R50,000 to the fund, and also declared 1984 the Year of Water to encourage Christians to provide food and water for all needy communities.

The SACC's emergency campaign will be implemented in three stages.

Stage one: all member churches will be asked to,

- Provide food and water for depressed rural communities.
- Initiate bulk-buying schemes in drought-stricken areas.
- Encourage Christian families to adopt a family which has been hard-hit by drought and unemployment.
- Supply schools and creches in urban and rural areas with basic foods and necessities.

The second part of the programme is an "education for awareness" scheme, which will be conducted at two levels, said Mr. Jacobs.

"The education awareness campaign will be conducted among church members as well as people affected by the drought."

"We will teach people how to solve their short-term needs created by the drought by using film aids, distributing pamphlets and giving lectures."

The third part of the programme will concentrate on long-term measures such as initiating self-help schemes, the training of drought relief officers and teaching people affected by the drought about the political implications of starvation in the homelands."
Schools aid hunger victims

By Olga Horowitz

Fruit and vegetables brought to Jewish nursery schools this year to celebrate Shavuot, the harvest festival, will be sent in an Operation Hunger truck to kwaNdebele, about three hours away from Brunkhorstspruit.

"It is our normal practice to send the fruits of our celebration to a Soweto nursery school," said Mrs Brenda Aftargan, supervisor of the Mina Lapato nursery school in Emmarentia.

"We are so troubled this year by the picture of starving children in the homelands that we have asked other Jewish nursery schools to combine with us so that we can send a full truckload."

"We would prefer offerings such as potatoes, pumpkins, beans, oranges and other non-perishables."

The Randburg and Oxford Hebrew nursery schools and Emmarentia Primary School are joining in the project.

Shavuot is on May 18, but schools will observe the festival on May 17.

"The reason this whole drought situation is so terrible is because there is a 'normal' chronic state of hunger to be found in many areas," said Mrs Ina Perlman, of Operation Hunger.

"The drought can only worsen an already dreadful condition in which 2.9 million children under 15 years of age are showing signs of protein deficiency and 1.5 million under 15 show signs of second-degree malnutrition."

"Among black people 55 percent of all deaths are of children under five. Among coloured people 45 percent of all deaths are of children under five and the figure for white children is six to eight percent."
DEBORAH MABLETSA, a director of the Urban Foundation, believes the South African education system needs a complete overhaul.

Johannesburg-based, she speaks at the annual meeting of the South African Institute of Race Relations (SAIRR) in Cape Town tonight.

"She's obviously a dynamic woman — she's become the director of what she's done. Her record speaks for itself. It would be interesting to hear why she feels she has a place in the Urban Foundation, knowing there is a certain group opposed to it," says Hazel Bowen, regional secretary of the Cape Western Region of the SAIRR.

On the telephone, Mrs Mabletse's voice is stern at first. It mellows as she moves into her subject.

"Poor education"

"The dynamics of social change is in education," she says.

"For more than 30 years education has been neither compulsory nor free — for blacks. This means that millions of blacks have suffered with poor or no education. And although the De Lange Report recommended a unitary system of education under one ministry, which was applauded by educationists as a positive step, this was ignored by the Government."

"The State doesn't have a mandate to segregate schools. Expectations have been raised. The blacks, especially the youth, equate segregated education with inferior education. They see the present educational system as based on ideological separation and therefore entrenching discriminatory practices."

"The Institute of Race Relations runs a bursary programme which involves about 5,000 people a year. They process about 1,200 applications a year. This is a significant contribution to the education of blacks."

Tonight Mrs Mabletse will focus on the role of the South African Institute of Race Relations in the present reality of South Africa.

She says, "The institute is engaged in a wide variety of projects, like Operation Hunger, a feeding scheme which is of immense value, particularly in the light of the drought. They are engaged in relief work and development." "You have to deal with basic needs first. But the question really is, shouldn't the causes of poverty and misery be attended to, because relief is, at best, a temporary measure?" Her speech, lucid and calm, remains so when asked why certain people boycott the Urban Foundation.

"There are people who feel that the Urban Foundation has come too late upon the scene and that the polarisation between black and white is already so great that what is going to solve our problem is a revolutionary change. They say the Urban Foundation raises standards of living and therefore neutralises the revolution." "But this again is debatable. Some of us believe that if you enhance the quality of life, people will no longer settle for less. And revolutions are run by the middle class. I believe it is important that the standards of people should be raised. So we are asking the private sector to put its money where its mouth is."

The question, then, is surely the private sector can only improve the lives of a special few? Is there not a need for law to be changed? And she answers, "If the standard is raised for only a special few, you are dividing and ruling, which is right. But even in socialist countries, we see that people can never all be on the same wavelength."

The institute's AGM is at 8pm, Room 3B, Robert Leslie Building, UCT.
Lenasia plan to beat hunger

By Michael Tissong

"Operation Facelift" has started a campaign in Lenasia to collect food for those who have been hit by the recession.

Mr Basheer Lorgat, a member of the "Operation Facelift" committee, said the scheme had the support of the township's largest supermarket and would start tomorrow.

Some shoppers would be asked to add a non-perishable item to their list of goods and then donate this to the committee for distribution.

Drought

"Millions of people have been affected by the slump in the economy and by retrenchments. And the drought has compounded the situation. Malnutrition will face these people soon," Mr Lorgat said.

"We will also get the schools involved. On a specific day schoolchildren will be asked to bring one item each from home. That is likely to be a very successful way of collecting donations because there are tens of thousands of schoolchildren in Lenasia."

FARM SCHOOLS

"The committee will collect the donations from the supermarket and from each school. They will then be distributed to needy families and to the farm schools near Lenasia," Mr Lorgat said.

Last December and January the committee was involved in a "bread-at-cost" campaign during which almost all the traders in the township sold bread at cost price for six weeks.

Mr Lorgat suggested that organisations in other parts of the country start similar schemes.
**Soup kitchen for Duncan Village**

EAST LONDON — A soup kitchen feeding scheme has been initiated in Duncan Village by two nursing sisters concerned at the plight of “hundreds of hungry people” there.

Dr J. Krynauw, the regional director of the Department of Health in Eastern Cape, said the sisters, who were employees of the department, could not be named for professional reasons.

“At the moment we have two soup kitchens feeding 200 pensioners,” one of the sisters said.

“They get very little pension money, R30 every two months, and have to pay rent from about R26 to R34 per month, depending on the size of the house. Many are also supporting grandchildren and, so there is very little money left over for food,” she said.

Twenty five kilograms of soup a month had been donated and the soup was cooked on pressure stoves at two distribution points.

One point was at the Community Centre and the other at the Mental Health Workshop, both in Duncan Village with one sister in charge of each.

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Emergency measures to combat famine

PORT ELIZABETH — The Eastern Cape, Ciskei and Transkei, are preparing an emergency programme to combat a possible disastrous famine this winter in the wake of the crippling drought in many areas.

In an attempt to alleviate the effects of the drought, during the winter and stave off the threat of famine, various country-wide organisations have launched crisis hunger relief programmes.

The Red Cross, the Institute of Race Relations through its Operation Hunger, and World Vision, have banded together to form a committee to coordinate the funds made available by public response to the drought crisis.

If these organisations do not succeed in feeding millions of people, the situation will be disastrous, says Mrs Ina Perlman, organiser of Operation Hunger.

She said the chances were that families would starve and the death rate of black children under the age of five, which was already high, could become worse than ever.

This winter would not only be one of hunger and malnutrition among the very old and very young but also one of family starvation.

Help on a massive scale was needed from the public, Mrs Perlman said.

And it is already being given to Ciskei and the eastern part of the Eastern Cape which are, among the areas hardest hit by the drought.

But some organisations, being dependent on public donations, are hampered by lack of funds and can provide only limited help.

The Minister of Health for Transkei, Dr. Charles Bikitsa, said the drought was worse than usual and the country was experiencing great food shortages.

The government was to step up its relief programmes.

Sir T Saula, secretary for the Department of Welfare, Sport and Cultural Affairs, said the Transkei Government expected to feed one million people.

— SAPA
Spectre of death stalks street urchins

By Yussuf Nazeer

The shadow of death hangs over hundreds of abandoned "children of the streets" in the Transvaal. Black social workers fear many of these unwanted waifs may die of exposure during the bitter winter cold that lies ahead.

The children, aged from seven upward, are from broken or paralysed homes. Some are illegitimate and others are runaways from correctional institutions.

In ragged, tattered and ill-fitting clothes, they sleep in streets begging for food, money and clothes to survive.

"In this poor area, no government assistance reaches them," said Mrs. L. K. Mkhize, who is a hostel for children in Orlando. "They are always hungry and cold.

"I have seen many children who have been taken away and abandoned," she continued. "We have been in contact with children from the outlying areas who are always hungry and cold. They are often found in the streets at night,

One of the children who has been abandoned is a boy named Solly. He is three years old and has been sleeping in the streets for weeks. His parents, who are both unemployed, have abandoned him. The social worker who found him said he had no place to go.

Another child, a girl named Nokuthula, is five years old. She was found in a back alley, crying and covered in dirt.

"She was so cold and hungry," the social worker said. "We have given her some food and clothes and are trying to find a home for her."

Mrs. M. K. Nkosi, a social worker, said: "These children need our help. They are suffering in the streets and need attention from the authorities.

"We need to work with the police and the community to find homes for these children," she said. "We cannot abandon them to their fate."

The children have been taken to a shelter where they are given food, clothing and medical attention. A social worker said: "We are doing our best to find homes for these children."

Abandoned children reach out for clothing and blankets brought to them yesterday by Mrs. S. N. Hlengini from a Muslim welfare body.

Some are orphans, others are runaways from poverty-stricken or broken homes.

*Pictures by Dole Vududoda*

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The 'survival pack' — kids who scrounge for food

By Yussuf Nazeer

Poverty Near (12) hitch-hailed from Dube, Natal, in search of a job. He ended up with an accident — "my survival pack" — in Johannesburg's streets, children who scrounge for food in alleys, corners and even front doors.

Last week he was shot through the arm by a man named Smit, who limed him on a Joburg Park. He opened fire.

"I thought he was a ghost," Povery said. "I had been told to take him to a street where he was wanted for Xuya's treatment.

The night before the pack, who fought like wolves over some old clothing that was thrown out to them, had slept in the void on the outskirts of Lenasia.

Pover was reluctant to speak about his home or whether he had any family except to say that he came here to look for a job because there was no hope for him on a farm in Dube. Poverty is a distant uncle.

He sticks with the pack because they share a common basis and a given hope. There is always a meal to be found in Lenasia.

Daniel Machite (14) says he was born somewhere in Soweto. He is sick. His nose runs, he swears water and he breaks glue to escape his money. He too cannot read or write. "I do not know where my mother or father are. I sleep in the void and I beg for food," little Daniel said softly.

Daniel is among the smaller and weaker members of his "survival pack." Although he fights fiercely to hold on to whatever clothes are given to him, he always loses in the end. The bigger and stronger members simply take what they want.

Pet Mungomo (18) is from Dube. He has a sister. "I want to learn to read and write," he said. "But I left home long ago. There is nothing there for me.

Sara Mecile (14), from Germiston, Andrew Jotha (10), from Soweto, and Senzo Mabika (18), from Orlando, all said they were forced to fend for themselves.

Some of these lost children said they were orphans. Others said they were cleansed by their parents ill-treated them. Some said they had no father and their mother was battling to make ends meet.

They all longed for homes of their own. But none of them complained about their lilacs, their injuries sustained in fights with the bullies in the pack, or the toy cold they endured when sleeping huddled together in the void, parks or alleys.

They said some of their friends died in past winters. They do not think of death. Survival is their concern.
A victim of kwashiorkor in the Northern Transvaal. The drought has been responsible for this disease

Starvation threatens a continent

June 1983

BARRY SHLACTER, an Associated Press reporter based in Nairobi, has compiled this report on the drought in Africa

CONCERN is growing over the possibility of mass starvation in Africa as a drought affects wide swaths of the continent.

Things are so bad in Ethiopia that heavy rains have only added to the misery of crop-failure victims. Cattle too emaciated for slaughter are being sold by Zimbabwean farmers to the leather and glue industries for R7.20.

Trees and pastureland are being suffocated by advancing Saharan sands in Mauritania, one of the countries worst hit by the drought of the 1970s and unable to cover its food needs even in the best of times.

Zimbabwe's considerable maize reserves have so far prevented starvation. But authorities fear trouble spreading from drought-crippled farms could cause social damage and leave the country deeply in debt.

Harare has committed about R119-million to drought relief, a heavy burden on a country whose total gross national product is R4.89 million.

The "Sarmattian" — a dry seasonal wind blowing south from the Sahara Desert — has been unusually long this year, whipping up brush and forest fires as well as contributing to an upsurge in respiratory diseases.

In South Africa, a R350-million
are being sold by Zimbabwean farmers to the leather and glue industries for R7.90.
Trees and pastureland are being suffocated by advancing Saharan sands in Mauritania, one of the countries worst hit by the drought of the 1970s and unable to cover its food needs even in the best of times.
Severe drought could lead to an almost total loss of staple food crops in Mozambique's central and southern regions, affecting four million of the country's 10 million people, the United Nations disaster relief office said.
In Ethiopia, rains came too late for last year's crops — and this year arrived a month too early, catching tens of thousands of drought victims who were living out in the open near relief and food distribution centres.
"It is bad for the people suffering from the drought. They have no shelter," said Mr Hans Dall, chief representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital.
Some affected areas are practically inaccessible because roads are poor or don't exist, and the Ethiopian government has issued appeals for aircraft for food drops.
"No doubt there is death from starvation, especially among children," Mr Dall said. "No comprehensive death toll has been released by the Ethiopian government or by international agencies. But authorities have asserted that 3.5 million Ethiopians are affected in some way by the drought.
Drought has stricken Lesotho, Botswana, Zambia, Swaziland, parts of Mozambique and Zimbabwe for two consecutive years, damaging the main, 1983 growing season in the Southern African region.
Outlook bleak
In most of the Sahel, an arc of countries south of the Sahara Desert stretching from the Cape Verde Islands to Chad in Central Africa, rains have yet to begin. In Northern Africa, light scattered rains covered grain-growing areas of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia but did not make up for a generally dry April.
The outlook is bleak, said the FAO Director-General, Mr Edouard Saouma, who in early May appealed to donor countries to increase food shipments to the continent to meet an estimated 2.6-million-ton shortfall during 1983-84.
Zimbabwe, once a net exporter, will now have to import foreign maize to make up for drought-related shortages, he said.
Zimbabwean farmers, only recently the hope of black African countries to replace South Africa as the region's chief food supplier, haven't harvested full crops for two years. People sit down daily in the country's north to what is now a staple food — baked grass.
Since the rains stopped in 1981, 300 000 head of cattle have died from starvation and thirst. Scattered rains brought relief to some areas this year, but thousands of cattle continue to die every week.
"It's hell," said an exasperated Mr Gary Magagula, president of the Zimbabwe National Farmers Union. "My only advice to black cattle-owners would be to sell now while they have something left."
eden in a country whose total gross national product is R4.89 million.
The "Sarmattan" — a dry seasonal wind blowing south from the Sahara Desert — has been unusually long this year, whipping up brush and forest fires as well as contributing to an upsurge in respiratory diseases.
In South Africa, a R350-million emergency programme has been launched by the government to combat a drought which has brought reservoirs to their lowest levels in decades and ruined harvests on white farms that normally export food to a third of black Africa.
Unlike elsewhere in Africa, the threat of starvation is far less serious in South Africa because of ample grain storage facilities, irrigation systems and hospitals. But child deaths from kwashiorkor, a protein deficiency disease, have climbed sharply in the country's black homelands.
Associated Press reporter James Smith, who recently toured seven clinics, hospitals and missions in Lebowa, one of the worst-hit homelands, said children were believed dying in the hundreds from kwashiorkor.
"The scandal is that there are twice as many children with kwashiorkor, but that there are kids with kwashiorkor here at all," said Dr Peter Grant, acting superintendent of Lebowa's Jane Furse Hospital.
"South Africa has such wealth and resources."
'Selling' water
The severe drought, which officials said was a phenomenon that occurred about once every two centuries, caught South Africa by surprise.
"We have never had a crisis like this ... we have never had a contingency committee," said Mr Ray Haslam, chairman of the Natal emergency water committee. Mr Haslam said Durban might run out of water by August.
Dr Stephen Knight, Superintendent of the Bethesda Hospital in northern Natal, says patients tell him drivers are trucking supposedly free water to Zulu villages and then charging for it, sometimes R10 for a 19-litre drum.
"Besides water, the people have no food. No crops have come in from the fields," said Mr Mike Mhlanga, an administrator at the hospital.
Incidents of typhoid have been reported in tribal areas of Transvaal and Natal, and farmers in Transvaal are having to kill off breed stock and allow only the young to live.
Wild game is suffering badly. A private reserve near the Kruger National Park had 35 000 animals in September, but after forced culling and starvation, the stock is down to 7 000.
At Londolozi, a private park also in Eastern Transvaal, rangers said they were shooting 100 or 200 impala every night to allow more threatened species to graze.
In middle-class white neighbourhoods of Johannesburg, authorities won't allow householders to empty and refill swimming pools because of the drought. They can only replace what is lost through evaporation.
And South African Breweries has disclosed it is trying out American technology that requires one-half the 10 litres of water previously needed to make a litre of beer. — Sapa-AP
A small sample of life under apartheid

By PHYL LIS LEWSEN

Yet the tax burden for a household of six was R34 a year And the prevailing feeling was total disillusionment with "homeland" government's capacity to bring any relief

The profiles of migrant labourers in a male city hostel are even more bleak and depressing

The researchers were all professionally trained black social workers (most of them African)

Regrettably, the presentation is poor, with numerous textual errors and inconsistencies

The sociological passages are not well presented, but the individual profiles are deeply revealing and enhanced by the sensitive photographic illustrations

It is a book which, despite its faults, shames the white reader in a society built on massive exploitation and amazingly patient — but lessening — endurance of suffering

More than 2,000 interviews were conducted, and though the statistical percentages are inaccurate — the samples are too small — the individual personalised histories are totally convincing

In the impoverished Nqutu district a third of the women interviewed had no cattle the paucity and the poverty of the land leaves very little produce for domestic consumption and practically nothing for sale Hunger is the ongoing reality People survive on the brink of starvation

School days for 50% of children who attend mean nine hours away from home, with only a drink of water for lunch.

Except for money and gifts from migrant men, folk, pensions for the aged are the chief source of income

Only two families in the sample owned a blanket per person

Lively, conspiratorial meetings with active trade union organizers among urbanised workers forms an interesting chapter

The profiles of women at work in a dress factory are also very well done and reveals the burden of illegitimate children whose fathers disappear

The effects of the painful and debasing overcrowding among the massive proletariat and the familiar and heartrending plight of persecuted squatters are other appalling indictments of a situation that needs not only good will, detailed knowledge and compassion but thoroughgoing structural overhaul

The brilliant concluding photograph shows children dancing and jumping in a bleak wilderness "But who can hold a child from his freedom flight" asks the caption And answers "For he who holds a bondsman will surely become a bondsman himself"

* APTHEID — OUR PICTURES * BY Y S MEER AND M DO MIBA Institute for Black Research
Drought forcing blacks to move

Mr Errol Moorcroft
Parliamentary Staff

THE devastating drought in black homelands was forcing black people to move to towns and cities in increasing numbers to escape starvation, the Assembly has been told.

Mr Errol Moorcroft (PFP Albany) said the effect of the drought in the black homelands was "nothing less than a disaster of major proportions."

He appealed to the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, to "face up to the reality of the situation and not to take evasive action behind clouds of teargas and rolls of barbed wire."

Speaking in the debate on the budget vote for Dr Koornhof's department, Mr Moorcroft said "King Canute ordered the rising tide to recede and he failed. This honourable Minister is ordering the black tide from the homelands to return, but he too will fail."

Mr Moorcroft, the chief Opposition spokesman on agriculture, said the Minister was underestimating the forces that drove people to leave the security of their homes to enter the "forbidden" white areas.

"A man might sit back passively and watch his crops wither and his cattle die, but when his children start dying then he will move. And he will move to wherever he has a chance of finding work to save his family."

Explosive

He said "Sending these people back solves nothing — rather does it build up an explosive situation in the rural areas."

"It is my great fear that the spark of revolution in this country will not come from our teeming urban townships, but rather from the poverty-stricken homelands. And that spark will be carried into our cities by people who have nothing to lose."

Starvation

In a grim outline of drought conditions in the black homelands, Mr Moorcroft called on the Assembly to consider the following facts:

- This year alone more than 130,000 cattle had died of starvation and disease in the homelands.
- Transkei had calculated its loss of livestock at R100-million.
- Ciskei had lost 10 percent of its national herd since January this year. If so many had died before winter, at least another 20 percent of the territory's cattle would die during this winter.

Mr Moorcroft quoted the director of Transkei's veterinary services, Dr Carlos Santos, as saying the worst was still to come.

Go-ahead for SWA council

The Government has given the go-ahead for the proposed new State Council in South West Africa.

In a statement, the Prime Minister, Mr F W Botha, said the Administrator General of the territory, Mr Casper Uys, CP, Barberton, who moved that the Minister's salary be deducted, said Dr Koornhof was doing his duty by introducing the measure to safeguard the territorial integrity of South West Africa.

CONSERVATIVE Party speakers provoked the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, to react angrily to what he called "personal insinuations" urging the debate on his budget vote.

Early in the debate Mrs Helen Suzman (PFP Houghton) moved on behalf of her party that the Minister's salary be reduced.

The Conservative Party, when the debate resumed yesterday, introduced a motion calling for Dr Koornhof's salary, in excess of R54,000, to be deducted altogether from his department's budget.

BACKED OFF

While the PFP condemned the Minister for "inhuman treatment" of blacks in the Western Cape and the removal of blacks from "black spots" such as Driefontein, the CP argued that the Minister had backed off from removals and that consolidation of the black national states had come to a standstill.

Mr Casper Uys, CP, Barberton, who moved that the Minister's salary be deducted, said Dr Koornhof was doing his duty by introducing the measure to safeguard the territorial integrity of South West Africa.

Dr Piet Koornhof

When Mr Uys introduced the motion, Mr Horace van Rensburg, PFP Bryanston, told the Minister across the floor "Never mind, there is always the Salvation Army."

Another Conservative Party speaker, Mr F van Staden, Koedoespoort, said that whites in urban areas were extremely dissatisfied with the influx of blacks which was being permitted by the Government policy resulting in blacks taking over white areas.
City slums report 'being considered'
Homelands could ‘spark’ revolt

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — Repatriation of black people to the homelands would build up an explosive situation in the rural areas, Mr Errol Moorcroft (FFP Albany) said yesterday.

Speaking during debate on the Co-operation and Development vote, he pleaded strongly for more government aid to the drought-stricken homelands.

When drought and poverty drove white farmers to the cities in the 1930s, the government of the time “pulled out all the stops”, providing jobs, schools and housing.

In contrast, blacks presently in the same position were seen as a “squatter problem” and “illegals”.

“The components of persecution are well-known — dawn raids, armed police, dogs, search lights, barbed wire, tear gas, prosecution, fines and deportation.”

He called on the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, to face up to the reality that the country did not have a squatter problem, but an urbanization problem.

‘Black tide’

“The minister is ordering the black tide from the homelands to return, but he too will fail.”

Blacks were not coming to the cities to seek wealth, but for “bread to put into their children’s mouths”.

“It is my great fear that the spark to a revolution in this country will not come from our teeming urban townships, but rather from the poverty-stricken homelands, and that spark will be carried into our cities by people who have nothing to lose.”

Replying, the Deputy Minister of Land Affairs and Development, Mr Henkie van der Walt, said the government had “gone out of its way” to assist the homelands in surviving the drought. The homelands had been assisted in the creation of temporary jobs, securing water supplies and black farmers had been given access to loan funds.

Govt bid to finalize consolidation process

Political Staff

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY — Consolidation of Ciskei would be finalized with legislation during the current parliamentary session, the Minister of Co-operation and Development, Dr Piet Koornhof, said yesterday.

Transfer of an additional 82,000ha — promised to Ciskei since February last year — would be entrenched in legislation this session.

Speaking during the debate on his Budget vote, Dr Koornhof said the government was trying to finalize the consolidation process as swiftly as possible.

With the exception of KwaZulu and KwaZulu, the Cabinet had virtually reached finality on land consolidation throughout South Africa.
Firm launches hunger fund

A MEALIE-MEAL producing company, and its mills in cooperation with two charitable organisations, has launched a fund to feed thousands of children starving in famine-stricken parts of the country.

Working in co-operation with the National Red Cross and "Operation Hunger," Tiger Oats and National Milling have donated R10,000 in maize products and transport to be delivered to the hardest hit points, a statement released by the companies said.

The food, especially the mealie-meal, will be channelled through the Induna Children's Food Fund started by the two companies.

Initially the companies will concentrate on the supply of free mealie-meal to centres started by Operation Hunger, which is being run by the South African Institute of Race Relations (SIRR) in Lebowa, Gazankulu and Venda.

Later on the fund will extend its operation to KwaZulu, Ciskei and Transkei plus other areas such as Onverwacht, where recent reports of crop failures are causing concern.

The two companies have followed the example of a major shopping chain which started its hunger relief fund two months ago.

Checkers, which aims to feed 1,5 million people in the countryside, has already raised R130,000 since its project was launched in May, according to a statement released. 

LOADING UP: Food for the affected rural areas
The House of Hunger

Disease in South Africa

A critical analysis of medical services in South Africa.

A new series researched and written by FAROUK ASVAT

In the house of hunger diseases occur more frequently, last longer, and lead to higher mortality rates, irrespective of the quality of medical services available, because of poor nutrition. In South Africa the impoverished environment (social, economical and political) is the primary determinant of the state of health of the population; and the prevalence of preventable diseases, due mainly to malnutrition and infection, is leading to unacceptably high mortality rates in blacks (Africans, coloureds and Indians), while whites suffer mainly from rare, non-infectious, and at this stage preventable diseases.

The disease of apartheid permeates the entire fabric of South African life, segregating health services by race and resulting in drastically desperate levels of disease incidence and life expectancy between blacks and whites. Ill-health occurs as a result of the grossly unequal distribution of health services (acting against blacks and rural areas), and the innumerable effects of the status quo: the migrant labour system, violence in the townships, neo-slavery on the farms, mass removals, enforced poverty and malnutrition, and the psychological stresses of apartheid.

And western, capitalist medicine, as practised in South Africa, displays the ineffectiveness of costly and high-risk medicine. On the other hand the limited number of procedures which are applicable to widespread diseases are usually very expensive and require a minimum of personal skills, equipment and hospitalization; and can be taken over within months and used competently by millions of non-professional technicians; and distributed over extensive, especially rural, areas.

But the traditional cultures of Africa have seldom appeared worthy of honour and respect, though it is an important part of the African renaissance to have challenged this judgment, pushed it aside, and Jao claim to Africa's possession of modes of social thought, action and belief that are unique, valuable and fruitful of civilizing virtue.

Particular distortion has surrounded the 'witchdoctor'. It is imperative to distinguish black magic and sorcery as practised by evil ones, from the functions of the medicine-man, the latter being usually an honest man who has considerable knowledge of his client's needs and tries to help him. The medicine-man may in addition be a witchdoctress (who does not thought to have been bewitched), a diviner, or a herbalist (an expert in the use of medicinal plants).

There is thus urgent need for an alternative approach, an approach that will draw the man and woman and child in the street, and especially the

From today we start a new series on health researched and written by FAROUK ASVAT. The series will include a critical analysis of medical services in South Africa. Apart from his interest in health, Farouk Asvat has read his poems from many community platforms and his collection The Time of Our Lives was recently published by Black Thoughts Publishers.
Foot on the Bear

That’s Tiny Stars

Surge to the Cities

Drought May Start

Weekend Argus Bureau
Drought may start surge to the cities

Weekend Argus Bureau

PORT ELIZABETH — Top officials have warned that there is an imminent danger of an influx of drought-impoverished Ciskeians and Transkeians to South African cities, including Cape Town.

The chief director of the East Cape Administration Board, Mr Louis Koch, and the chief commissioner of the Department of Co-operation and Development in this area, Mr George Reynolds, echoed the stern warning by Mr Errol Moorcroft, PPP MP for Albany, in Parliament this week.

The jurisdiction of these officials includes the drought-stricken Border areas around East London, King William's Town and Queenstown.

Accelerated

"We will have to be alert for an accelerated urbanisation so that we can be prepared," Mr Koch said.

"I am not aware of a noticeable increased migration to cities, but this is definitely a reality we will have to look at."

A place were such a process was likely to manifest itself first was Mdantsane in Ciskei, on East London's doorstep.

It was difficult to measure such a migration, particularly as those entering areas illegally would attempt to do so unnoticed.

However, Administration Board inspectors in townships would soon realise if the number of people to a housing unit was changing drastically.

There would also probably be a significant increase in the number of people prosecuted under influx laws, but the urbanisation would also be from farms within South Africa to the cities.

One way of neutralising possible large-scale urbanisation because of the drought would be to remove the motivation for moving from drought-stricken areas by providing aid to reduce the effect of the drought, said Mr Koch.

Mr Reynolds agreed that it was likely that drought-stricken people would stream to cities to find an alternative income. "This will worsen our current housing problems considerably."

Mr Moorcroft said in an interview that his warning referred not only to the Eastern Cape, but also to the Western Cape, Durban and the Pretoria/Witwatersrand/Vereeniging area.

Squatter camp

It was difficult to measure the degree of migration, but the Western Cape squatter camp populations were probably increased by the drought.

The Langa courts there were already working flat out to deal with the prosecutions for illegal entry into the area.

"One gets the feeling that squattting in Port Elizabeth has almost got out of hand. There appears to be a build-up of illegal people in cities."

Such an influx would also increase arrests for crime through desperation as unemployment was high and employers would be scared to provide work for those from other areas.

Asked to comment, Ciskeian Government officials said statistics on migration from rural areas were not available.

Feet on the beat — that's 'Tiny' Strydom

By BRUCE HOPWOOD
Weekend Argus Reporter

"All the skollies knew who I was. They used to call me the 'oubaas van jare,'" he says.

It is not surprising that he can't recall any pleasant situations or even being in fear of his life while walking his beat. Just over 2 m tall this
Open education needed for 'non-racist' society

By MARTINE BARKER

An undivided education system was a matter of high priority and was a prerequisite for a non-racist South African society, delegates to the Cape Teachers Professional Association in Worcester were told yesterday.

In a paper presented to the congress, Mr D A Piedt of Oudtshoorn said the fundamental emphasis on ethnicity in South Africa frustrated growth in the country. The government should realize that teachers could play a vital role in helping to solve some of the fundamental political problems threatening peaceful change.

Only last month the Minister of National Education had indicated to the Urban Foundation that the principle of free association (among teachers of different races) could not be recognized since it was in conflict with the white electorate to which the government was responsible.

The minister had indicated that he believed education would not benefit from an open education system. Such a system would only lead to confrontation, he had said.

‘Against the grain’

The minister’s statements went completely against the grain of the aims of the CTFA and had to be rejected.

Turning to the problems facing farm schools, Mr Piedt called for decentralization of essential facilities as a means of solving some of them.

Another delegate to the congress, Mr C B Scholtz of Walvis Bay, said country church schools had outlived their purpose and farm schools no longer met required standards.

Mr Scholtz called for drastic changes to the system to enable children who were handicapped in their knowledge as a result of growing up in a poor socio-economic climate to overcome this.

It was time to take immediate steps to rectify the situation, he said.

Mr Scholtz also proposed centralizing such schools as this would bring children to better-equipped schools with properly qualified teachers who would be more inclined to take up country posts if their service conditions were improved.
UNEMPLOYMENT HITS FOOD COMPANY PROFITS

A high rate of unemployment among black people in rural areas, aggravated by retrenchment programmes, has hit the earnings of Jabula Foods.

So have changes in the eating habits of black workers as their employers now buy more sophisticated products.

The directors say in the annual report for the year to March the company's product range is designed chiefly for the black consumer and is sold in rural areas and to large employers of labour.

Operating profit before tax and LIFO adjustment fell by 15.9 percent in the year to March to R2.320 million (R2.761 million).

Earnings after LIFO adjustment fell by 31.3 percent to 87.7c a share (127.7c).

Turnover fell by 1.6 percent and gross profit margins were reduced.

HARSH CLIMATE

"The disappointing results for the year are not unexpected and should be viewed in the context of the harsh economic climate and severe drought conditions which have prevailed, as well as fierce competitor activity," the directors say.

High black unemployment with continuing influx of labour from rural to urban areas has eroded the disposable income of the black consumer.

"Reduced remittances received from urban-based family members combined with dwindling income from drought-ravaged crops have impacted severely on the spending power of urban blacks.

"These factors, coupled with the shortage of water with which to brew beer, have led to a decline in the sales of both soup and beer powder.

EXPECTATIONS

"The institutional market has seen a metamorphosis in the dietary expectations of the black worker.

"Eating habits have changed and feeding schemes are now being designed to include more sophisticated products, meat and fresh produce.

"The directors say a new, highly motivated management team has been appointed and new, more sophisticated products have been developed.

"The company intends to consolidate its position in its present markets while diversifying into new ones."
Drought forces trek of workers from the Karoo

PORT ELIZABETH. — The central Karoo’s crippling drought and the onset of winter are making Beaufort West, the largest town in the area, a “mecca” for poverty-stricken farm labourers who are trekking along major trunk and dirt roads in caravans of donkey carts loaded with families, furniture, poultry and other possessions.

The “trek” labour exodus from major towns like Carnarvon, Murraysburg, Victoria West, Fransburg, Prince Alfred Road, Langsbury and Loxton (areas called the Nuweveld in the north and the Koup in the south) is not unusual, but this year’s disastrous drought, said to be one of the worst in history, and the already freezing cold weather in the Nuweveld, Sneeuwberg and Winterberg mountain ranges, are driving entire families towards Beaufort West.

Snow peril

According to Mr Solly Essop, chairman of the Karoo Farm Workers Union, if it now snowed in Karoo’s mountainous regions “many will perish in the mountains.”

“There is not much work in Karoo towns any more because of the crippling drought, and coloured labourers are trekking into our area by the thousands,” said Mr Essop, a Beaufort West businessman and former member of the old Coloured Representative Council (CRC).

Willing hand

“Already about 30 to 40 families are out-paupered near Nelspoort, about 80 km from Beaufort West. Schools, churches, town and divisional councils, white farmers’ unions and co-operatives, farmers’ themselves and shopkeepers are giving a willing and helping hand, while the Department of Internal Affairs has sent many social workers and other staff into-the-field to assist these desperate and illiterate people.”

Below: Mr Solly Essop. Left: Mr Schalk Frieslaar, of Victoria West, shows the snare he and his hungry companions use to trap dassies and hares along the way.

Still only 25 years old, Mr Schalk Frieslaar, has trekked through the Karoo from Rootpoort, Sterkfontein, Murraysburg, Waaiwindfontein, Soupoort, Fransburg, Brandfontein, Oppermanskraal, Victoria West, and Nelspoort.

Mr Pieter Lund, chairman of the Beaufort West Farmers’ Union and a member of the area’s Koup Divisional Council, confirmed “conditions can become critical.”

Survey

“However, we have all put our heads together and believe through a spot-check survey employment for these luckless north and central Karoo trek-labourers exists in the Berenville and Loo-damka areas to the east,” said Mr Lund.

“But we doubt these people will be keen to make the trek to these areas because they are traditionally not from that part of South Africa. If they now have to live by trapping hares, dassies and other small game with outdated snares, then they must really be going through bad times.”
**THE HOUSE OF HUNGER**

MALNUTRITION has assumed crisis proportions in South Africa. With the present drought, the rising price of our daily bread, and the reduced opportunities to earn our daily lives, hunger rages through the black community like an awful epidemic.

Whites in South Africa enjoy an exceedingly high standard of living, there being no white children with malnutrition. Every hour at least four black children die of malnutrition, burying more than a hundred every day, so 32 000 to 48 000 black children die every year. In a land that dumps "surplus" fruit into the sea to maintain the market price. (The above figures are based on Prof Moosa, head of the Paediatric Unit at King Edward VIII Hospital, Durban estimates.)

Another estimate made by G S Fehsen, and published in the South African Medical Journal in 1975 (using the 1970 population census and deaths due to gastroenteritis—assuming that only 50 percent of the children are in a land where the greedy feast on braaivleis and boerewors (South African whites have the highest incidence of coronary heart disease in the world) then we have sufficient indictment against those who rule our lives.

The 16-year study at King Edward showed that 45 percent of the admissions to the paediatric unit were due to protein calorie malnutrition. In 1975 at this hospital alone there were nearly 4 000 admissions due to protein calorie malnutrition, and almost 1 000 of these children died.

But the frightening aspect is that the situation is getting worse. In 1960, 33 percent of the admissions at the hospital were due to malnutrition (11 percent due to the more severe form, marasmus), whereas in 1975, 50 percent of the admissions were due to malnutrition, and 36 percent of the overall admissions due to marasmus.

**Records**

Post-mortem records also reveal that malnourishment on a large scale is endangering the lives of black children in South Africa. The mortality rate among young children is on the increase.

**We continue our series on health by Farook Asvat and take a critical look at the problem of malnutrition which has assumed crisis proportions in South Africa—especially among blacks.**

65 percent of the children were malnourished. One general practitioner alone saw 130 cases of protein calorie malnutrition (98 with kwashiorkor, 32 with marasmus) during a six-month period in 1979. The doctor, in addition, saw 128 children with pellagra. A study of African and white children in the Transvaal in the early 1970s showed that 75 percent of the African children suffered mild to moderate grades of protein calorie malnutrition, and that none of the whites were undernourished.

Professor Moosa, head of the Paediatric Department at King Edward VIII Hospital, estimates that at least two to three percent of the eight million African children in South Africa suffer from malnutrition, i.e. 160 000 to 240 000, and if 20 percent of these children die (as happens at King Edward) then between 32 000 and 48 000 black children die each year from malnutrition alone.

Focus on Health

**Food**

These statistics are only the tip of the iceberg. Between 10 and 12 percent of children who die are a result of malnutrition and its consequences. Other diseases (tetanus, kwa-orkor, diarrhea) call for additional hospitalization. The increase in life expectancy (from 30 to 35 years) means that a greater number of children reach an age where they stand a greater risk of malnutrition. 30 percent of children who die are either suffering from, or suffering from the sequelae of malnutrition.

But black children admitted to hospital with malnutrition represent only the tip of the iceberg. In Sweden 40 percent of the children between the ages of 1 and 4 admitted to hospital with malnutrition have been malnourished for more than two years. But black children admitted to hospital with malnutrition usually represent cases in which the condition is acute. The number of black children who die from malnutrition is much greater than the number of black children who are admitted to hospital with malnutrition.

Food obviously underlines all other diseases. In conclusion, unless 30 percent of black children are admitted to hospital with malnutrition, they will surely die from malnutrition. Therefore, we can make it a legal obligation to report the condition of children under age 3 who manifest any signs of malnutrition. A number of black children die from malnutrition and not a single white child died from that cause. But black children continue to be malnourished, while white children are not.

In conclusion, this is the year of the child. The year of the child in every sense of the word.
By SAN VIVIER, Municipal Reporter

THE State's new housing policy and plan to sell State-owned houses will do little to solve Cape Town's housing crisis, according to City Engineer Mr Jan Brand.

Mr Brand painted a bleak picture of the housing problems facing the city when he addressed a meeting of leading businessmen, Government officials and academics last night.

The problems included shortages of money for new homes and maintenance, land, jobs, lack of equal opportunity and poverty.

In 10 years' time residentially zoned land for coloured people would have to support 257 000 more people to meet the job opportunities which would be generated by the presently zoned industrial land — yet it was declared Government policy not to provide any more residential areas for coloured people in Greater Cape Town.

Overcrowded

"Without additional residentially zoned land, Cape Town will become a reservoir of labour living in severely overcrowded conditions," Mr Brand said.

There was already overcrowding in the housing estates in Valhalla Park, for instance, an average of 273 people lived in a habitable room. In Bishop's Court, by contrast, an average of 0,44 people lived in a habitable room.

In Manenberg the average bedroom floor area was 2,12 sq m, in Valhalla Park, 2,65 sq m and in Mitchell's Plain 5,88 sq m. The average

space requirement according to the Slums Act was 322 sq m.

In South African prisons, 3,5 sq m was provided for inmates in single cells while 8 sq m was provided in shared cells.

Graphs shown during Mr Brand's address illustrated that there was a direct relationship between crime rate and overcrowding.

At the end of April there were nearly 35 000 people on the City Council's waiting list for homes and the demand was growing. In the past six months there had been nearly 6 000 new applications.

Mr Brand said he knew of a family who had been on the waiting list for 20 years.

Statistics showed that 8 500 new homes were needed annually to wipe out the backlog and to provide homes for new families but the City Council, the private sector and self-help schemes would provide only about 3 000 new homes every year in future.

Sales tax

"Taking into account that an average house cost R14 000 — of which the Government would pay R7 000 — R35,5 million was needed every year to provide the remaining 5 500 homes.

There were various ways to raise funds for housing, Mr Brand said:

An extra 0,4 cents general sales tax in the rand would provide R15 million for the area, or the City Council could increase electricity, water and rates charges.

space requirement according to the Slums Act was 322 sq m.
Pay more heed to poverty says UCT Professor

Staff Reporter

Too much weight has been attached to South Africa's much-feared population explosion and too little to poverty, Professor Francis Wilson, of the Department of Economics at the University of Cape Town, said today.

Addressing about 800 delegates at the 15th annual congress of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce, Professor Wilson called for a change to this order of priorities.

To loud applause he said that if South Africa coped with poverty the population would look after itself.

RESEARCH TEAM

Professor Wilson, presently part of a Carnegie Foundation-sponsored research team investigating poverty among blacks in South Africa, said population growth could only be controlled if people were "better off."

He said economic growth was not sufficient. " Tremendous as it was, it could itself create poverty.

He said there could not be growth without the redistribution of wealth.

DROUGHT

Speaking at length on the "horrendous" poverty in South Africa, particularly in the rural areas, he said it could not be said that people were poor because they were lazy.

Referring to the drought, Professor Wilson said poverty would not evaporate when the rain came.

He said one of the root causes of poverty was that over the past 100 years great wealth had accumulated in the cities as a result of the migrant worker system. The problem was that people had not been able to move to the cities to participate in this wealth.

Professor Wilson said: "The situation now is that we have this tremendous wealth in the cities, and a terrible overcrowding of hundreds of thousands of people in areas which cannot accommodate them."

"The solution is not to take these people back to the land, but to provide the facilities here in the city. People have to understand that "poverty" has not always existed in this country, we have created it ourselves."

"It is time we stopped perpetuating the idea that poverty is inevitable. We had better stop thinking this way, and actually do something about it," Professor Wilson added.
Poor will die at home, says Azapo of new hospital rule

The new hospital ruling in the Transvaal that outpatients must pay bills in full before treatment will result in poor people staying away and dying at home, Azapo claimed today.

The health secretary spokesman of the "Azanian People's Organisation," Mr. Abu Baker Asvat, was commenting on the new payments policy, announced by the Director of Hospitals, Dr. Honne Grove.

The policy is that inpatients, to whom a day tariff is applicable, must pay a deposit on admission. Where a non-recurrent tariff applied, as with outpatients, the patient "will be expected to pay the full amount on admission." A patient will not be refused treatment if he cannot pay but will be expected to arrange payment as soon as possible.

The ruling would increase hardship in the townships, particularly among "people who are battling to make ends meet and who are living a hand to mouth existence," Dr. Asvat said.

Health services should be the duty of the State — available to one and all, and free of charge, he said.

Mr. Isaac Mogase of the Soweto Civic Association said the ruling was "a terrible situation."

Mr. Tom Manatha of the Soweto Committee of Ten said the ruling was "ugly and inhuman."

People attacked in the street or involved in serious car accidents were not likely to have cash on them when taken to hospital, he said.

"The ruling is a horrifying idea. The Government is responsible for the health of its citizens," he said.
Fate of Hundreds

By Norman Nagele

Spottiglot

ON WINTERVELOT

HEART-OF-WINTER

[Image: Rocket ships flying in the sky, with text mentioning "ON WINTERVELOT" and "HEART-OF-WINTER".]
Blacks urged to establish co-ops

A second resolution called on the government "to recognize the impoverishing effect" of its policy of uprooting and resettling people, and demanded that regional development be undertaken without the "unnecessary resettlement of whole groups of the population".

Nafcoc also criticized the government's policy of demolishing squatter shacks as "barbaric", "completely heartless" and "uncivilized". The policy did not take into consideration the "extreme suffering" caused by the measure, said the resolution.

It called on the governments of "the various States in Southern Africa" to join forces with all socioeconomic agencies "in order to evolve a housing policy that will endeavour to satisfy the nation's needs for shelter".

Land Acts

The conference also passed a motion "recognizing that for as long as South Africa maintains the Land Acts, for so long will the advancement of black business be thwarted". Changes in the Acts were needed within "the shortest time possible".

The conference expressed itself "strongly against the continued exclusion of blacks from all organs of government" and reaffirmed "its conviction on the futility of any social accommodation which does not include the black people of South Africa".

Nafcoc called on the government to issue South African travel documents "to all black people of South Africa and its neighbouring States, regardless of their residential attachment to any homeland, independent State or black area whose passports are not accepted as a result of the diplomatic non-recognition of such States".
A bag of mealie meal stands between many and starvation

By Anthony Duigan

A bag of mealie meal a week is all that stands between almost 55,000 rural families and starvation — and the number dependent on this tenuous supply of basic food will increase by thousands during the coming weeks.

The channel for a network of feeding points supplying these needy people is the three-year old Operation Hunger — a tiny relief group working under the SA Institute of Race Relations in Johannesburg.

"Right now we are committed to feeding 380,000 people with more feeding schemes in Transkei and Oakey still to be set up," Operation Hunger organiser Mrs Ina Perlman said.

In March/April about 150,000 people were getting food relief in the northern Transvaal and KwaZulu where Southern Africa's worst drought in memory has already bitten deep.

Drought

As the full impact of the drought is felt, the numbers needing aid is rising dramatically. At the same time the generosity of the public and community-spirited companies filled the breach. As funds flowed in during the last two months, more lorries laden with fortified foods headed for the far-flung drought areas.

Since the end of March about R750,000 in cash and kind has been given to Operation Hunger.

"This has been sufficient to give one 12.5kg bag of mealie meal a week to each family of seven, as well as 200g of dehydrated soup which is enough for two high-protein 'meals a week,'" Mrs Perlman said.

A gift of R50,000 from the Johannesburg City Council will also be heading Operation Hunger's way — the result of a plea by Councillor Mrs Rae Graham during last month's municipal budget meetings.

Despite the surge of donations during the past few weeks, Mrs Perlman is still worried about the ability of Operation Hunger and other aid agencies to meet the ever-growing demand. Besides the feeding schemes still to be set up, Operation Hunger anticipates another 20,000 mouths to feed in Lebowa before the winter is out.

Aid to date allows for less than R2 a head needing assistance.

"We are going to have to feed people in some areas into next year while they wait for early crops," Mrs Perlman said. "I believe the really critical period will be reached by the end of November."

Terrified

"I've now reached the stage where I'm terrified to look at my in-basket because of the heart-rending appeals which are still coming in."

Soweto doctor, community leader and a founder of Operation Hunger after research he did on rural poverty in 1979, Dr Nkhoti Motlana, said he was delighted with what had already been achieved by the group.

"What pleases me more than anything is the way women's groups are being set up in many rural areas to promote self-help projects like vegetable gardens to produce fresh food. It's not just a case of handing out free food," Dr Motlana said.

Dr Motlana and Mrs Perlman appealed for more gifts in cash and kind. They emphasised that everything collected went into the kitty for feeding the hungry.

Administrative costs are borne by special grants from trust funds or private enterprise and there was continual liaison with other relief agencies like the Red Cross and World Vision so there was no duplication.

Contributions can be sent to Operation Hunger, P O Box 97, Johannesburg 2000.
Ten million are facing death from starvation

Disaster is imminent in five Southern African countries

Argus Africa News Service

BULAWAYO — At least 10 million people in five Southern African countries will need emergency food aid if they are to survive the winter. This horrific figure, which does not include South Africa or the independent homelands, is calculated from estimates given by officials in Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland.

Relief workers believe it is, if anything, conservative.

The drought in Zimbabwe has been described as the "biggest single national disaster of the century." A bank which carried out a survey said the hardship suffered during the war years would be "small in comparison" with the misery to come.

Many farmers are expected to be forced out of business and agricultural officials estimate that several hundred thousand head of cattle will be lost.

In a big rescue operation, 270,000 cattle are being airlifted from Matabeleland to Mashonaland at an estimated cost of R60-million.

In the parched game reserves of Hwange and Gona Re Zhou, 500 elephants and several hundred hipoons will have to be culled.

Estimates of the number of people, mainly subsistence farmers, who will have to be fed by the Government vary from three to five million.

Neighbouring Mozambique has no maize surplus to cushion the blow in its rural areas.

At special briefings, Government Ministers have pleaded with Maputo-based diplomats for large amounts of urgent aid to save an estimated four million people from starving to death.

THE agony of drought-stricken western Zimbabwe ... bleached bones on stony soil amid trees stripped of all their lower leaves.
Africa faces famine: UN call for rescue operation

The continent faces its worst disaster, reports the London Observer

LONDON — A slim but devastating Doomsday Book is about to drop on the desks of the world’s aid-giving Governments. It describes what threatens to become the worst disaster ever to hit the much-battered continent of Africa.

The report, by the Food and Agriculture Organisation, gives details of 18 African countries facing famine through drought, pestilence and war, and pleads for an immediate rescue operation.

It is the first report of its kind ever issued by the United Nations agency.

More than 120 million people live in the 18 countries, which urgently need more than four million tons of grain. If they are to fend off starvation. And the number of nations on the critical list is expected to grow as the crisis spreads through the continent.

Great patches of Africa are blighted by drought, in some countries the worst on record. War has interrupted harvests elsewhere and the cattle disease, rinderpest, is destroying herds in 14 countries.

The drought is at its worst in southern Africa, which now faces its second successive year of bad harvests. This year it is expected to yield only nine million tons of grain, half its normal crop, and five million tons less even than last year’s drought-affected harvest.

Kipling’s “great, grey-green, greasy Limpopo river,” which runs through the heart of the region, has been reduced to a meandering stream by the 18-month drought. It is possible to walk across the once mighty river.

So little water is coming down the Limpopo and other rivers in southern Mozambique that the Indian Ocean is flowing inland, forcing its salt water far upstream and making irrigation impossible.

The markets of Maputo, normally overflowing with food at this time of year, are now nearly bare. Outside the city people are reduced to eating roots and leaves from wild plants.

The people are heavily dependent on food aid from abroad to survive. But the aid promised so far will run out in October, and there will be nothing to feed people until the next crop is due in in April.

Despite the crisis, the country has so far been offered less than half as much aid as it had last year.

A similar story elsewhere in the region. Botswana has also had virtually no harvest this year, producing only 25,000 tons of maize, the region’s staple food. Lesotho, Swaziland, SWA/Namibia and Zambia are also in crisis.

Only Zimbabwe is likely to grow enough food to feed itself, but with 81 percent of the country affected by drought, its harvest is only about half what it should be, and it will not be able to export food.

In North Africa, farmers are anxiously scanning the skies for the rains which are supposed to come at this time of the year but have not.

Last year Cape Verde, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Senegal were all hit by drought and are still suffering. People are also starving in Gambia.

The Ivory Coast, Benin, Togo and the Central African Republic also face food crises.

Some rain has at last fallen in Ethiopia, but three million people there still face famine, and will need generous food aid to get them through the next six months.

Tanzania is also in difficulties and so is Somalia.
Urgent need for food aid — experts

Five countries in Southern Africa are listed in shock report

Argus Foreign Service

ROME — Five Southern African nations are cited in a shock report drawn up by a “task force” of famine fighters as being urgently in need of external food aid.

It warns, for instance, that Swaziland’s rural population is now in a state of “economic distress”.

The special task force on the problems of food shortage Africa has just submitted its first situation report to the Rome-based Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), a United Nations agency.

It urges that 600,000 tons of emergency food aid be sent to 14 of the 18 worst-hit African countries.

In its 18-page report, the task force estimates that about R60-million is needed to help protect livestock against diseases, to rehabilitate crop production and for pre-emptive measures against future crises.

The Southern African countries named in the FAO report are Botswana, Lesotho, Swaziland, Zambia and Mozambique.

They require external food assistance for relief programmes and to cover overall supply deficits resulting from the second consecutive year of drought.

Some of the reasons for countries’ problems are extraordinary in Ethiopia’s case, for instance, the experts blame “military operations in various regions” which “disrupted agricultural and food supply activities as well as ongoing settlement and agrarian reform operations.”

Drought in Botswana has not hit only crops. There is now a lack of pasture and water for livestock, too — and “no improvement is expected until the next rainy season around November.”

The report says R22.25-million should be spent to help farmers in 13 countries in the quest for recovery of food production.

Yet another R14.5-million should be earmarked for supplementary animal feed and crash vaccination campaigns, particularly against rinderpest.

It also calls for a further R23.4-million for preparedness and/or post-emergency measures in 10 African countries.

Exceptional

The report, drawn up by the experts from the FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP), specifically highlights the plight of those 18 nations whose “exceptional needs are over and above the normal assistance provided from national and international sources.”

They are Benin, Botswana, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritania, Mozambique, Senegal, Somalia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia.

Mr M Rikind

President Moi

EXILES

Curb dissidents in Britain, Moi urges Ministers

Argus Africa News Service

NAIROBI — President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya has urged Britain to curb the activities of African dissidents in London.

He made the appeal in discussions with Mr Timothy Haison, Britain’s Minister for Overseas Development, and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Minister of State in charge of African affairs.

According to the official Kenya News Agency, President Moi did not refer specifically to the small number of Kenyans in exile in Britain after an unsuccessful coup attempt last year.

But the Kenya Government is known to be unhappy about their activities.

According to the agency, President Moi said democracy in Africa was younger than in Britain and added “You should restrain these dissidents from Africa who choose to attack their home governments from your soil.”

DETENITIONS

Two released by court rearrested

Argus Africa News Service

HARARE — Zimbabwean police have rearrested two men who were released by a court while being held in connection with the murder in Harare of Malawi’s opposition leader, Dr Atlasu Mopaka.

The re-election of a local radio announcer, Mr Brighton Matwere, and an assistant hotel manager, Mr Greenson Muhango, was ordered by the Home Affairs Minister, Dr Herbert Ushekwunze.

The Minister said the escape of a third suspect, Mr Kanyama, was a
Five countries in Southern Africa are listed in shock report

The Argus Foreign Service
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It also calls for a further R22.4-million for preparedness and/or post-emergency measures in 10 African countries.

Exceptional

The report, drawn up by the experts from the FAO and the World Food Programme (WFP), specifically highlights the plight of those 18 nations whose "exceptional needs are over and above the normal assistance provided from national and international sources."

They are: Benin, Botswana, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Ethiopia, Ghana, Lesotho, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Senegal, Somalia, Swaziland, Tanzania, Togo, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

In Zimbabwe's case, the "crop failures are most severe in normally food self-sufficient areas," the report adds.

In Zambia, the experts found that maize production was below average and there was a threat of rinderpest in border areas.

EXILES
Curb dissidents in Britain, Moi urges Ministers

Argus Africa News Service
Nairobi — President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya has urged Britain to curb the activities of African dissidents in London.

He made the appeal in discussions with Mr Timothy Raison, Britain's Minister for Overseas Development, and Mr Malcolm Rifkind, the Minister of State in charge of African affairs.

According to the official Kenya News Agency, President Moi did not refer specifically to the small number of Kenyans in exile in Britain after an unsuccessful coup attempt last year.

But the Kenya Government is known to be unhappy about their activities.

According to the agency, President Moi said democracy in Africa was younger than in Britain and added: "You should restrain these dissidents from Africa who choose to attack their home governments from your soil."
Ciskei — pomp veils an island of poverty

By PHILIP VAN NIEKERK

A formation of motor-cycles, blue lights flashing, led a motorcade of black limousines through Zwelitsha to the Ciskei Government buildings.

Watched by a few curious onlookers, including ragged children from some nearby Match-box houses, President Lennox Sebe and assorted dignitaries in top hats and tails emerged from the limousines and marched down a red carpet into the building.

A tawdry army band played Nkosi Sikelelwa Afrika, the national anthem of the Republic of Ciskei.

This image of pomp — the trappings of "independence" — is not the usual one which greets a visitor to the Ciskei.

Travel down any dusty side road and all you see is overgrazed land, skinny cattle and lots of very poor people — in short, a rural slum.

This tiny island of poverty in the Eastern Cape has been propelled back into the news headlines by the recent removal and arrest of Lieutenant-General Xhanti Charles Sebe, former commander of the Ciskei Combined Forces, and 11 of his henchmen.

But this instability at the top, which invites inevitable comparisons with the "banana republics" of Latin-America and Africa, is underlain by a deeper human tragedy.

Had the Ciskei Government listened to its own appointed Quail Commission, it would never have taken "independence" from South Africa. Had it done so, fears over the Ciskei flagpole crashing to the ground at the moment of "independence" 18 months ago, had a grounding in hard fact.

The commission, which advised Ciskei against taking "independence", painted a grim picture of human existence in the territory.

It found infant mortality high and malnutrition widespread, with rates among young children of 27 percent for kwashiorkor and 40 percent for marasmus.

It found unemployment to be massive, with the labour force made up mainly of commuters and migrant workers, and the output by the farm population to be an "abnormally low figure" of about R40 a year per capita.

The Ciskei's internal population jumped from 364,806 in 1970 to 630,000 in 1980, largely as a result of the government's policies of influx control and relocation — the dumping of thousands of "surplus" people into the already overpopulated homeland.

Boundaries were juggled and thousands of people were moved, many into resettlement camps, as the 19 scattered pieces of land which made up the Ciskei homeland in 1972 were moulded into one unit.
The winter of impending death

From LEIGHTON MARK in Laatshoep

All over the country children with matches stick in their hands playing and foraging for food. They are often seen in groups of two or three, wandering about in search of something to eat. The local authorities have warned residents against feeding the children, as this could lead to malnutrition.

The situation is dire, with many children suffering from malnutrition and dehydration. The government has appealed for international aid to help alleviate the crisis.

In addition to the children, the elderly and pregnant women are also at risk of malnutrition. The government has set up food distribution centers in affected areas, but these are often overstaffed and poorly organized.

The situation is particularly acute in rural areas, where access to food is limited and the infrastructure is inadequate. Many families are forced to survive on a diet of roots and tubers, which are low in nutrients.

The government has announced plans to expand food distribution centers and increase food aid, but more urgent action is needed to prevent a humanitarian crisis.

The U.N. has called on the international community to provide immediate assistance to help the affected populations.

In summary, the situation in Laatshoep and other affected areas is dire, and immediate action is needed to prevent a humanitarian disaster.

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*All information is fictional and for illustration purposes only.*
Daisies — and despair

By KEVIN JACOBS
Weekend Argus Reporter

BEYOND Namaqua-land's myriad wild flowers an unending drought is blackening the land, forcing farmers from their homesteads and leaving hundreds of farm labourers workless and destitute.

Cape Town representatives of a volunteer emergency feeding programme are preparing to visit parts of the region next week to assess the need for urgent food aid.

They have been told that members of at least one drought-ravaged community in the north of Bushmanland are slaughtering their donkeys to avoid the burden of feeding the animals.

A community worker in the region says farm labourers are among the most severe casualties — as farmers leave their farms and head for the mines, the labourers either take to the roads in a region with few or no work opportunities, or squat hopelessly on the abandoned farms.

There are no statistics available to reflect the situation, but churchmen ministering particularly to the coloured communities say the situation is depressing.

No work

The Rev Japie Appel- liss, a Pofadder, said this week “At the moment we have a big problem.”

He said the situation was forcing many farm labourers to become migrant workers He believed many farmers in the region had left their farms, some to work on mines in the vicinity “At the moment there is no work here,” he said.

Many coloured families were left with no labourers to do their work. Many were forced to move in search of work “They need food and clothing. If only they could get a little bit of extra soup, or something, they would be a bit better”.

She and Ms Hazel Bowen, regional manager of the SA Institute for Race Relations — which set up Operation Hunger in 1980 — will visit some communities in the region next week to assess the situation.

“We want to visit the communities that we provide with food, and also some of the clinics, to see how things are,” Ms Morris said.

Flowers

“The interesting thing is going to be seeing the beautiful flowers — and malnutrition at the same time”.

One rural church minister based at Otjiwarongo told the Operation Hunger workers of a community in the north of Bushmanland, where donkeys were being slaughtered because of drought and hunger. The minister was visiting Otjiwarongo this week and could not be contacted by telephone.

In Pofadder, the Rev Appeliss said: “The flowers here are very pretty, but life is not so good.”

Children

Earlier in the week, Mr N H Patterson, chairman of the Cape region of the SA Red Cross Society, told the annual meeting in Cape Town that the organisation was feeding 5 500 malnourished schoolchildren in greater Namaqualand every day.

Regional director Miss B Penaar said the feeding scheme had been operating for some time, but that the situation had been aggravated by the drought.
UK poverty survey

LONDON. — Seven-and-a-half million Britons are living in poverty and 750,000 in "intense poverty," according to a new survey published in the London Sunday Times.

More than seven million Britons have had to go without food for some period over the past year because they did not have enough money, the paper reported.

The paper said the survey conducted by Market and Opinion Research International (Mori) is the first detailed examination of poverty in Britain for more than a decade.

It showed that 10 million — or one in five of Britain's population — cannot afford even a week's vacation a year and one in seven households have been in serious arrears with bills for utilities such as gas.

The survey was commissioned by London Weekend Television.

The paper pointed out that the study, rather than concentrating on income levels to determine poverty, defined it in terms of what the people questioned considered to be necessary for a decent life.

Two-thirds listed home heating, an indoor toilet, a damp-free home, a non-shared bath, three meals a day for children, and money for public transport.

Other necessities included a warm winter coat, two pairs of all-weather shoes, a refrigerator, children's toys, food and drink for Christmas, a joint of meat once a week and a washing machine.

Fifty-one percent listed a television set as a necessity.

Those considered to be poverty-stricken include Britain's three million unemployed, the country's 900,000 single-parent families and the elderly. — Sapa-AP
Drought — Hungry Children Faint

Captain in the Desert

Duty to Plume

The Cape Times, Friday, August 26, 1938

Televi!

Preventive measures to the contrary, the municipality of the province of the Cape, in cooperation with the government of the Cape, has issued a proclamation that all persons shall be prohibited from wasting water during the drought. The proclamation states that the water supply is inadequate to meet the demands of the population, and therefore all persons are required to conserve water by using it only for essential purposes. The proclamation further states that any person who is found guilty of wasting water shall be subject to a fine of not less than R100. The proclamation is effective immediately and will remain in force until further notice.
Breweries back down on offer

Staff Reporter

PROTESTS by small liquor retailers over a "conditional discount" of five percent offered them on 340ml bottles of beer resulted in a capitulation by Ohlsson's Breweries yesterday.

A condition of the discount was that a minimum of 144 cases of the dumplings be bought at one time, promotional pamphlets told liquor retailers last week.

One small retailer, Mrs. Helena Nel, co-owner of the Minne Bottle Store, Simon's Town, termed the campaign "force buying."

"I don't have the space nor the money to buy in such quantity. They are victimizing the small retailer and I would have to reduce my profit to compete with the chain bottle stores." The pamphlet sent to liquor retailers said the promotion would "play a part in fighting inflation and give the hard-pressed consumer a greater incentive to increase his purchase of beer and for you to increase your profits during this difficult trading time."

An urgent meeting with the manufacturers was called by the Western Cape Hotel, Bottle Store and Restaurant Owners' Association yesterday to clarify the position.

According to the chairman of the association, Mr. Steven Roin, Ohlsson's Breweries had given an undertaking that any retailer taking part in their promotion would qualify for the discount. The promotion offers, among other things, prizes for window displays.

"They gave us an undertaking that the discount would be permanent reduction and anyone entering would qualify for the five percent discount. They agreed that at no time could they stipulate conditions," Mr. Roin said.

He believed the stipulation could have been against the Competition Board rules.

"It's a free-enterprise system—you can't have conditional buying or selling," he said.

When contacted, Mr. Raymond Howard, marketing manager, for Ohlsson's Breweries, Western Cape, said his company's main intention had been to help the consumer.

This was not long-term reduction in price, but a promotional campaign."
"Operation Hunger", the relief organisation which more than half a million people in drought-hit areas rely for the necessities of life, is in danger.

Well," says Mrs Ina Perlman, the organisation's national manager. "If we are to go bust we may as well do it in style."

Not that Mrs Perlman intends sitting back and going bust. But the demands on Operation Hunger have grown so dramatically that it is now estimated that R150 000 will be needed each month from December to keep up the food relief chain which is all that stands between hundreds of thousands of people and starvation.

That sort of money is hard to come by. At present Operation Hunger is receiving less than a twentieth of that amount — between R5 000 and R7 000 a month — and the load of responsibility for so many people sits uneasily on Mrs Perlman.

"Thanks to the generous response we have had so far — and, in particular, for the large donations in kind from people like Premier Milling and Checkers — we will be able to maintain our present level of feeding until the end of November."

Then the crunch will come. Even if it rains early in the season the drought-stricken areas will not be able to reap anything for several months.

"Operation Hunger's role will remain crucial for many months as rural areas struggle to overcome the crushing effects of the prolonged drought," Mrs Perlman said.

"At the moment we are getting more appeals for aid — an average of four to five a day — than during the winter months, and, at this point, how can we refuse? But something always happens to bail us out."

As it did before the real extent of the drought became known and Mrs Perlman visited several struggling villages in Bophuthatswana. Women in three of the villages, desperate to keep the family fires burning but with no resources except their willingness to do what they could to help themselves, asked Operation Hunger for help.

With nothing in the kitty and without the permission of her committee, Mrs Perlman committed Operation Hunger to helping the three villages.

"It must have been one of my worst moments," she recalled.

But when she returned to her office she found a cheque from the United States for more than R50 000.

"Basically, the feeding is a crisis solution only. Our philosophy is to develop the community as a community and we give only short-term food relief. In the long term we try to motivate people to search for water so that the land can become self-sufficient in food."

The aim of the food relief is to give families who have no resources between 50 and 60 percent of the protein they need — this works out to two protein meals a week plus a daily meal meal supply.

In the many school feeding schemes being supported about 60 percent of each child's protein needs are met — and undernourished children thrive even on this.

Some children in these schemes pay 10c or 20c a month towards the costs of school feeding and families sometimes contribute what they can, up to a few rand a month, says Mrs Perlman.

The appeal of Operation Hunger is basic. It costs 5c a child a day to keep pellagra and kwashoorkor at bay. For a family it costs about 70c a person a week to supply the basics for survival.

In the medium term Mrs Perlman is trying to get as many companies, service clubs and other organisations who are interested in doing something practical for the drought-stricken to team with rural communities.

But it is the human problem that disturbs the sleep of Mrs Perlman and sometimes causes her hope to waver as she wonders what will happen when December comes and those half million men, women and children are relying on her for their next meal.

Mrs Perlman may be reached at 724-4441 or 724-2916. Donations may be sent to Operation Hunger, P O Box 97, Johannesburg 2000.
KEEPING STARVATION AWAY

Pensioners have to eat pet food

Staff Reporter

MANY pensioners have to eat pet food to hold starvation at bay, the Meals-on-Wheels for the Aged organisation reports.

"Most of these people who have been rejected by both society and their immediate families are forced to subsist on a meagre Government pension of R138 a month," according to Mr Neville Mandy, national director of the organisation.

"Some pay as much as R120 a month to rent what are little better than tumbledown backyard hovels.

"This leaves little over to pay for either heating or food," he said.

From October, the social pension for whites will increase from R158 a month to R162, for coloured and Indian people from R63 to R69 and for Africans from R49 to R57.

Meals-on-Wheels for the Aged currently operates 32 kitchens and 47 special panel vans throughout the country to deliver nearly 200,000 hot meals a year to the needy.

Mr Mandy said this only scratched the surface of the problem as the organisation was limited by severe financial constraints.

A spokesman for the organisation in the Western Cape said that not all recipients were aged.

She cited a Zimbabwean woman whose husband was killed in the bush war and who was now destitute in Cape Town.
Feeding scheme based on rubbish

Garbage gardening catches on in township

By CLIFF FOSTER

RUBBISH that blows around in black townships can help to feed their hungry inhabitants, say pioneers of a new gardening scheme in Grahamstown.

Used to form compost in trench gardening it can enable a plot to yield four times the amount of vegetables it would normally yield.

Rubbish is the basis of a gardening project launched by Mrs Rosemary Smith, social worker for Grahamstown Area Distress Relief Association (Gadra), and supervised by 72-year-old Mr Dudley Hall, former chairman of the Young Farmers' Association in Zimbabwe who saw the system worked successfully there.

This week Mr Hall demonstrated the simple process which he claims could keep a small family (two adults, three children) adequately supplied with vegetables.

A trench 10 metres long, three metres wide, one metre deep, is filled with alternate layers of rubbish 15 centimetres deep and soil five centimetres. On the top of this vegetables are planted and the plants protected by a mulch (grass clippings or dead weeds).

Red worms convert the rubbish into humus which feeds the plants. Bacterial action also sets in.

A further advantage is that the plot requires far less watering than a normal plot. The trench lasts for several years.

Africans in Grahamstown did not need any urging to participate in the scheme when told that 24 unprepared plots were being made available alongside the TB clinic run by the East Cape Administration Board.

Within 24 hours all plots had been taken, and this week the allotment was being worked.

Water tanks will collect run-off from the clinic roof.

A second allotment of 12 plots has also been opened up by Gadra, and the method has taken root in the townships — all in the space of four weeks.

'This is the answer for Africa,' according to Mr Hall, who pioneered similar schemes in Zimbabwe.

'We've had a very enthusiastic response from the people in the townships and hopefully the prospect will expand and other organisations will become involved.'

He said modern technology was out of place in Third World countries where more emphasis should be placed on the peasant farmer in agriculture.

Mrs Smith described the scheme as 'the most exciting thing I have been associated with'.

The allotment at the clinic has been fenced and loganberries are to be planted against the fence.

'A lot will no doubt get stolen, but then does it matter?' said Mr Hall. 'At least they will be feeding Mr DUDLEY HALL of Grahamstown showing "the answer for Africa" — gardening. Mr Hall, who pioneered similar schemes in Zimbabwe, claims a trench system of gardening, using refuse for compost, could help feed hungry blacks in South African townships.
SAIRR scheme will feed 8,500 children

EAST LONDON — Nine rural school feeding schemes, involving approximately 8,500 children, would be organised by October 15 in the Border and Ciskei by Operation Hunger under the auspices of the South African Institute of Race Relations, the Institute's annual report for the Border region said.

Mrs Roselle Frasca, regional manager of the Institute, said in her report that food would also be distributed to an additional 35,000 people through family feeding schemes at medical clinics in the Border and Ciskei.

The school feeding schemes are at resettlement areas, at Otten near Whittlesea, at Tsweltswele near the Pineapple Research Station on the old King William's Town Road and at Dambazi. Mrs Frasca said.

The school feeding schemes of Operation Hunger are in addition to the Mayville School Feeding Scheme which involves 20,000 primary school children in 43 schools in Duncan Village and Mdantsane, according to Mr Archie Heppel, honorary organiser of the scheme.

Mrs Frasca said the educational programmes of the Institute had been going very well this year until mid-April when Ciskei teachers and students were banned by their education department from attending. This could not be confirmed by the Ciskei educational authorities yesterday.

The cultural programme had, however, been very successful and included an art festival and classes in karate, music, modern dance and fine arts which were all well attended, Mrs Frasca said. — DDR
Down in the dumps and hungry

Men, women and children sort through the unguarded refuse tip in Turffontein, Johannesburg, yesterday. "Scavengers" scale the fence daily to search for anything they can sell for food.

BY DIANNA GAMES

IN A daily battle for food or anything that might bring money for food, a desperate population — "the scavengers" — waits in the background for refuse tips to be left unguarded.

Yesterday, a member of the public saw a labourer at the Germiston refuse tip grab pieces of food from the rubbish. These he walked away with.

Keeping the "scavengers" out of rubbish tips poses a big problem, the Johannesburg City Council said. Mr John Yeats, the council's assistant chief solid waste engineer:

"Some people, even women and children, set up shanties at the sites and wait for the guards. Up to 30 or 40 of them line the fences at around R30 a day, just waiting," he said.

"This has happened for some time, but the problem is increasing with unemployment and has become a way of life for people, who mostly come to get the metal and copper to resell.

"We will have to get more extra security possibly guard dogs," he said.

Johannesburg has two refuse tips, one in Turffontein and one in Sandton.

Mr Yeats said the Sandton dump was the worst, possibly because Alexandra Township was nearby.

Two weeks ago, the fires of the "scavengers" set the tip alight. It had taken the whole night to extinguish the fire, he said.

"Though no food is dumped at the Krugersdorp refuse tip, the municipality, there also has problems, said a spokesperson.

People had broken into the waste, took all the food and caused damage amounting to R4 000.

There was a guard, but the rubbish tip was very large, he said.

Germiston City Council, however, says it does not have a problem with people breaking into the tip. The rubbish tip is fenced off and strictly guarded.

The Medical Officer of Health for the Johannesburg City Council, Dr B. Richard, said no cases of poisoning resulting from a "slap-up diet" had been reported to him. He doubted that people went to the tips for food or that waste would form a person's main diet.
Queueing to buy water in a parched land...

By WILMAR UTTING
MR Hans Schoeman, Conservative Party MP for North Rand, is doing a roaring trade at his roadside stall near Brits — selling water to residents of the parched villages of adjacent Bophuthatswana and GaRankuwa.

Thousands of villagers are the main customers for the chickens, goats, vegetables, cattle and sheep sold by Mr Schoeman at his prime trading spot right on their doorstep.

A shortage of water they are also the victims of water racketeers and saboteurs.

Water dealers are buying in bulk from Mr Schoeman and selling at a huge profit — up to R1,60c for 200l, or as much as 27 times the price charged by the Pretoria city council. Some of the dealers, who are turning over up to R200 a day, are suspected of the regular sabotage of the few water pumps in the villages.

Mr Schoeman, 68, was at the centre of public controversy three years ago when he was surprisingly given the Transvaal Board for the Development of Peri-Urban Areas for his “Elite Cafe” on a coveted trading site near De Witt station.

It is on the main road adjacent to Bophuthatswana and GaRankuwa, midway between Brits and Royston, where 30% of the village of Ramogodi, one of the main entrances to Bophuthatswana, is supplied from a gushing pipeline.

Thirsty people can drink from the dam free of charge and pay for each drop they carry away.

For a 200l drum he charges R5. A conservative estimate keeps count of the water we are not sellers of water. We are suppliers, at only 50c a drum.

“I know the water men buy it and then make money out of their own people. They have no heart for each other,”

“The local chief complained to the government that my husband was taking all his people’s money. But President Mangope told him to leave my husband alone. We are helping the people.”

Mr Bertus Redman, general manager of the Bophuthatswana Water Corporation, said from his office in Mafeking, “I will get someone there as soon as I can.”

Children with cans, traders with carts — all queueing to buy the precious water.

And children are also drumming-up business.

One of his regular customers, Mrs Sarah Mhlanga, pays him between R2.50 and R3.80 a month for two drums delivered twice a week. Those 800l have to meet all the weekly needs of a household.

One of a number of juvenile dealers, Lucas Malepe, 13, is the family provider, selling water from his donkey-drawn cart at R1.50 a drum.

On Friday when the Sunday Express team spoke to him, he had just taken four drums to a household of seven, a distance of less than 2km from the dam.

He had a further five orders waiting, at R2.50 each. He would finish before lunchtime, taking in R14.20, profit R14.

And children are also drumming-up business.

Mr Schoeman was refused a licence to sell mineral water — but selling ordinary water is paying well enough.

Each day villagers with canisters, children with donkey carts and the entrepreneurs with tankers and tractor-drawn carts queue up to buy tens of thousands of litres of water from his dam, supplied from a gushing pipeline.

Thirsty people can drink from the dam free of charge. But they pay for each drop they carry away.

For a 200l drum he charges R5. A conservative estimate keeps count of the water.
ONE OF a number of juvenile dealers, Lucas Malepo, 18, is the family provider, selling water from his donkey-drawn cart at R1.30 a drum.

On Friday when the Sunday Express spoke to him, he had just taken four drums to a household of seven people. The distance of less than 2km from the Transvaal Board for the Development of Per-Urban Areas (REDA) to the village of Ramogodi, one of the main entrances to Bophuthatswana.

One of his regular customers, Mrs. Sarah Mpho, pays him between R23 and R25 a month for two drums delivered twice a week. Those 500l of water cost her R2 at R2.50 each. He would finish before meeting all the weekly needs of a household.

Some of the dealers, who are turning over up to R200 a day, are suspected of the regular sabotage of the few water pumps in the villages.

Mr. Schoeman, 68, was at the centre of public controversy three years ago when he was surprisingly given general dealers' rights by the Development Board for the Per-Urban Areas for his Elite Cafe on a well-traveled trading site near Pretoria.

It is on the main road adjacent to Bophuthatswana and GaRankuwa, midway between Pretoria and Roslyndale, and directly opposite the area of Ramogodi, one of the main entrances to Bophuthatswana.

Other applications by white traders were rejected on the grounds that it was against government policy to allow them to operate within 5km of a black territory.

Mr. Schoeman said he was worried that the council would encroach his trade. "I'm worried others will chase me out of business," he said. "I can't compete with them."

"I know the water men buy it and then make money out of their own people. They have no heart for each other.

"The local chief complained to the government that my husband was taking all his people's money. But President Mwana said I must leave my husband alone. We are helping the people."

Mr. Bertie Badman, general manager of the Bophuthatswana Water Corporation, said from his office in Maleng, "I will get someone there as soon as I can. I didn't know Mr. Schoeman was selling water."

"The water story of that area is a tragedy. How can someone trade on tragedy?"

"Mr. Badman said he was aware that the pumps were similarly sabotaged. It was assumed this was the work of people interested in keeping the villages dry.

"We are planning to pump water to the area and set up taps no more than 1km away, so that the farthest people will have to walk for water is half that distance."
A HEALTH survey among rural labourers in the Durbanville district located 38 children—some only three years old—with active venereal diseases.

The comprehensive survey, published in the SA Medical Journal, was carried out three years ago by the Divisional Council’s health department.

Their initial findings, recorded in the council’s 1980 health report, caused such shock waves among community leaders that the Durbanville District Child Welfare Society was founded as a result, according to Dr L.R. Tibbit, the council’s medical officer of health.

‘‘This trail-blazing society has since worked closely with farmers towards improving the living conditions and increasing their wages, among other things,’’ he said.

Aggressive

They also started an aggressive family planning programme, 286 of the 897 farm workers questioned on this subject had said they were ‘‘not interested’’.

A total of 6,197 people on 783 sq km of rural land were tested Durbanville’s urban population was not included.

‘‘The greatest shock was the high percentage of people with sexually transmitted diseases.’’

While these usually show an average of 1.79 percent for all groups in the Western world, Durbanville’s average was 14.9 percent for men, 23.8 percent for women and 6.9 percent for children.

Overcrowding

Dr Tibbit said the smaller children usually did not contract VD through sexual contact.

‘‘They have endemic syphilis, which is usually contracted through sleeping closely in the same bed with infected people, usually parents. It is therefore caused by overcrowded living conditions.’’

‘‘The type of venereal disease the survey found among the children was indeed horrifying—some were only three years old, with syphilitic teeth.’’

The thorough survey had brought closer collaboration between health services in the entire metropolitan area as a result, he said.

‘‘We have, in fact, formed a committee to co-ordinate the efforts of all the medical people now treating venereal diseases.’’

‘‘These are the towns and city councils, Cape Divisional Council clinics, the teaching hospitals, the school nurses and day clinics of the Province.’’

Treatment had now been standardised, he said.

Unexpected

‘‘We are making really co-ordinated attack on venereal disease in which we use our mobile clinics to visit the rural areas.’’

Dr Tibbit praised the Durbanville committee for its determined effort to improve the quality of life of everyone in the community.

Some of the survey findings were totally unexpected.

‘‘Malnutrition, which we had expected to be a big problem, was not a marked feature of this survey. It found that 2.8 percent of the children were underweight, while 0.5 percent of the adults were malnourished—a much lower figure than was expected.’’

‘‘The aged were, on the whole, also found to be in good health.’’

Preventable

The greatest problem remained care of the children.

Besides the 3 percent positive tuberculous cases discovered among them, they were also found to have rampant dental decay.

‘‘Again, this is a solvable problem. Dental decay is preventable with proper cleaning of teeth and a correct diet,’’ Dr Tibbit said.

He added that his department was dealing with the excellent cooperation from the farmers in the area.

‘‘They have allowed their labourers to attend clinics whenever necessary and have made sound efforts at improving the housing, the quality of life and health of those living in the district.’’
Plans to solve rural poverty

Staff Reporter

CIVIL engineers could help to solve problems of poverty and development in rural areas, as the country's politicians were not providing any satisfactory solutions, Professor Francis Wilson of the University of Cape Town's Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit, said yesterday.

'Speaking at the South African Institute of Civil Engineers', seventh quinquennial convention, Professor Wilson said there were other facets and dimensions to poverty than having no money.

He said inadequate water supplies existed in some communities, whose quest for food was upsetting the ecological balance.

Poverty existed in urban slums, in the "black States" and in the country districts, where it was acute.

'BASIC needs'

Professor Wilson said children under two years were breast-fed and not "generally" subject to malnourishment, but children aged two to four and women were vulnerable.

Others became vulnerable through bureaucratic problems, such as pensioners who did not get their pensions.

He said 'drought', recession, relocation and technological changes were the main causes of poverty. Increased mechanization had reduced the need for agricultural labour.

'Sad reality'

Another speaker at the conference, Dr S M Motsuenyane, said South African black entrepreneurship's "sad reality" was that it had been developed within a severely restricted and restrictive environment.

The president of the National African Federated Chamber of Commerce, Dr S M Motsuenyane, said that until the late 1950s, both the government and the private sector in South Africa did little to promote or advance the development of entrepreneurship among blacks.

This was mainly because the primary role of blacks in the industrial and commercial life of the country was seen to be the provision of unskilled labour to white entrepreneurs, he said.

The first positive steps were taken in 1969 with the development of Bantu Investment Corporation to help promote economic development in the homelands. However, problems such as lack of capital, training and education still faced black entrepreneurs, he said.
'Human problem' of poor and elderly facing Wrab

By LIN MENGE

ALTHOUGH a Cabinet committee decided way back in March (see cut-out) that "new applications for the 39-year home ownership scheme should no longer be considered", Wrab is still selling a few single and semi-detached houses every week under home ownership.

Since July 1, when the 99-year-leasehold Big Sale started, Wrab has sold some 255 properties under home ownership. In most cases these were to tenants of semi-detached houses, who did not immediately buy under the discount, but who are able to do so now. So why are home ownership sales of singles and semi-detached houses still going on?

Is Wrab being difficult? No, they say, it is a human problem. They are faced with the poor and the elderly who can’t afford the cash to buy under the Big Sale discount, who are simply not interested in 99-year-leaseholds, but who are fearful of losing their homes if they don’t buy, or they get a loan to buy under home ownership.

As the problem isn’t any, that is where the Big Sale sticks fast in Soweto, with numbers of elderly tenants who don’t want to know and have nowhere else to go.

Lucky Soweto buyer

HOME FRONT

Homefront Reporter

"There is always something new out of Soweto, and this time it is the first re-sale of a house bought in the Big Sale. So what happened? It was sold at a loss.

The house was bought from Wrab in September for R1 500. It was re-sold, privately, this week for R1 390.

Solly! No there are more important things in life than money, to some people anyway. In this case the person who bought the house decided to return to the homeland, so he sold the house to a relative. He was not interested in making a profit on the deal.

The buyer is twice lucky, he not only acquired a house, but he got it at the Big Sale discount price.

The number of houses bought in the week October 12 to 18 in Soweto in the Big Sale was 20, bringing the total since July 1 to 304.

Highest prices fetched were for homes on larger than average stands. Three-roomed homes in Orlando West ranged from R4 477 to R2 503. Four-roomed homes in Mitchells Plain and Newlands in Cape Town sold for R3 906 to R3 767. In Mofolo South (R1 563), in Kagiso (R1 590) and in Diepsloot (R1 493 to R1 515). Semidetached in Zola fetched R1 244 to R1 315.

Council helps staff housing

By JEANETTE MINNIE Municipal Correspondent

TWELVE black Johannesburg city council employees yesterday became the first recipients of the council’s new housing gratuity fund.

The gratuity fund is being made available to employees of long standing service who do not belong to the council’s Pension Fund.

Employees qualify for the housing gratuity if they have completed either 10 years of unbroken service or if they have 15 years of actual service, even if the service was broken. The gratuity is paid out when the employee reaches the age of 60, or becomes medically unfit for work, or becomes redundant because of re-organisation. If the employee should die after having qualified for the gratuity, it is paid out to a specified member of the family.

But because employees also need to secure their future before they retire, the council is willing to pay out up to 50% of the gratuity to qualified employees on the condition that the money is used for housing purposes.

Yesterday the mayor of Johannesburg, Mr Alan Gold, who handed the first gratuity payments to the 12 employees, said the council initiated the scheme to assist its black staff to buy, build or improve their own homes.

The gratuity scheme was drawn up by the council’s Staff Board under the direction of its chairman, Mr Jeppe de Klerk.

Eighth of the employees yesterday received gratuity cheques which cover the full purchase price of their homes from Wrab.

Three employees received cheques as advances to build houses on stands which they own in the homelands.

Another employee received a gratuity cheque to purchase a house in Soweto and a further amount to improve his home.
Concern over lack of representation on Media Council

Religion Reporter

CONCERN has been expressed at the Western Cape Synod of the Ned Gerel Kerk that the NGK was not represented on the Media Council.

The Media Council, established as an independent body for internal control and had widely advertised for public nominations to the council.

While the NGK General Synod produced a nominated representative, the NGK had nothing to offer the council. The NGK Council has not been represented on the council.

LOCAL COMMITTEES

NGK members also served on local committees of the Publications Control Board.

The Rev. L. Moolman, Cape information officer of the NGK, said the doctrinal commission of the church frequently received complaints about books and films, but these complaints were often not specific.

He appealed to those who wished to object to publications to name the specific portion of the document or film to which they objected.

NGK pleads for restoration in labour

Religion Reporter

The NGK, in an attempt to prevent a further deterioration in the working relationship between the NGK and the media, has moved to negotiate a resolution of the current stalemate in the labour market.

The NGK, through its General Synod, has expressed concern over the lack of representation on the Media Council.

The NGK Council has not been represented on the council, which has led to the situation where the NGK has nothing to offer the council.

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NGK pleads for restoration in labour.
Drought: Food crisis worsens

Weekend Argus Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG — The number of people needing emergency food relief in South Africa’s drought-stricken areas has risen by more than 25 percent during the last month to 670,000.

Mrs Ina Perlman, national manager of Operation Hunger, said new appeals for relief were pouring in daily and placing intolerable strains on relief organisations’ ability to cope.

Sustained

“We now need at least R200,000 a month to supply the basic foodstuffs necessary for these starving people,” she said.

This level of relief would have to be sustained until at least April next year even if good rains fell within the coming weeks.

“But the most terrifying feature of the rural scene at this moment is the dramatic increase in adult and teenage pellagra dementia — mental deterioration arising from a lack of proper food,” said Mrs Perlman.

In the past, this condition was virtually unknown as it was mainly among children that the effects of mass malnutrition were noticeable, she added.

Worst hit

The worst hit areas in the Transvaal are Lebowa and KwaNdebele where 180,000 and 83,000 people respectively are being fed on the minimum to keep malnutrition at bay.

Even in South Africa’s wealthiest metropolitan area, the PWV, hunger relief has to be given to 20,000 people.

But in many ways the worst area was Ciskei, where 150,000 people were being fed. Resources had been so ravaged by drought and overcrowding that it would be years before the land could carry people again, Mrs Perlman added.

Dr Mpfahlele, a member of Lebowa’s drought relief committee, said by next week there would be nothing left of the nearly R7 million drought aid given by the South African Government six months ago for job programmes and relief work.

Sympathetic

“We have repeatedly begged for more money because programmes involving thousands of people are now faced with collapse if no further funds are forthcoming,” he said.

The Government was sympathetic but said more money was just not available, he added.

World Vision of South Africa, a Christian action agency, is also involved in drought relief programmes throughout South Africa, and is spending between R100,000 and R150,000 a month on self-help projects for rural communities. It is also feeding thousands of starving people.

The aim of Operation Hunger’s programme is to give families who have no resources about one third of the protein they need each week — as far as possible, this works out at two protein meals a week plus a daily supply of mealie meal, Mrs Perlman said.

But, she added, the demand was such that thus ration was being cut in places to spread it even more thinly over the needy.

Operation Hunger’s address is PO Box 97, Johannesburg 2000.
By GRAHAM BROWN
Weekend Argus Reporter
CAPE TOWN'S coloured commu-
nities show a surprising acceptance
of their apartheid-rulled life that
could easily deceive policy-makers
and others into under-estimating
the discontent simmering just be-
low the surface.

This is the main finding of a sur-
vey of Elsies River residents done
by the University of Cape Town as
part of the Carnegie Inquiry into
Poverty and Development in South-
ern Africa that was launched last
year.

The survey, directed by UCT pro-
fessor of applied mathematics
George Ellis, pioneered a world
first — a way of measuring not only
economic welfare, but also more
subjective social, political and legal
poverty.

Discontent

Most of the Elsies River residents
included in the survey agreed when
approached by interviewers that
"taking all things together, my life
is satisfactory", and that "I feel my
life is quite happy at the moment".

But, probing deeper, the survey
uncovered a chronic discontent with
housing, the cost of living and po-
litical representation.

And it warned of "continual pres-
sure such as high crime rates and
alcoholism that will result in frus-
tration that may well from time to
time burst out in riots and disor-
ders" as occurred in 1976 and 1980.

The biggest concern of residents
was crime. Many laughed outright,
Professor Ellis said, when they
were asked to respond to the state-
ment "if I were robbed, the police
would quickly catch the criminal".

Food prices

The next most serious complaint
was lack of freedom to express po-
litical opinions.

The residents agreed strongly
that "these days it is almost impos-
sible to save any money", "food
prices are so high that our people
cannot feed their children"; and
"finding a place to live is a major
problem in this area".

The survey, which also included
interviews with community leaders,
showed that one of the biggest com-
plaints dealt with the application
of house rental scales by the Division-
al Council.

People were bitter that their
rents doubled from, say, R34.95 to
R70 if their income passed just
above the under-R150 bracket to the
R151-R251 bracket. This often

Professor George Ellis ... measuring poverty so that
it cannot be ignored.

forced them to ask employers not
to give them pay rises

"Work hard"

But they agreed that "people in
this community work hard", that
"in general my family receives
good medical care", and that "the
community in which we live is basi-
cally friendly".

An important target of the Elsies
River study was the refinement of a
method for extending the definition
of poverty.
The study noted "A person's needs for basics such as food, water, shelter, health, education, sanitation, income and population density can be met by a zoo, or even a well-run prison."

But human needs, it added, also include "opportunities for full physical, mental and social development of the human personality".

Uprooted
Professor Ellis explained that social poverty, for example, resulted when a community was uprooted and resettled, with the consequent break-down of its social networks.

Equally, a person suffered from legal poverty if he could be banned under security laws with no recourse to the courts, and from political poverty if he was excluded from the process which set the rules by which he lived.

An analysis of the questions asked in the study showed that the least discontent was shown over day-to-day economic welfare, possibly because people had learned to expect less or to adjust to the conditions of their daily life.

But more detailed questioning, and interviews with community leaders, revealed a host of problems chiefly concerning the consequences of overcrowding resulting from the Group Areas Act.

Drug abuse
These included crime (a prevalence of murder, robbery and rape that made it unsafe for people to venture out at night), alcohol and drug abuse, and teenage illegitimacy.

Social and political discontent ranked generally higher than economic dissatisfaction, with the lack of legal resources topping the list.

But in each area, the Elsies River residents showed that they were distressed.

Professor Ellis, who has lectured at top universities around the world, highlighted the danger of accepting that all was well in the coloured community simply because residents told interviewers that yes, they were happy.

"One must believe that a lot of Government action is possible because they do not know the distress (their policies) are causing.

Proof
"We're trying to set up a system that will provide objective proof of community stress so that people cannot claim that there is no stress.

"It is important to be able to show that a man in Langa, for example, is living in social poverty because his wife is not allowed to live with him."

An awareness of the different dimensions of poverty would highlight the absurdity of officialdom's apparent belief that the answer to poverty in an apartheid society was simply to raise wages or improve housing.

Professor Ellis's involvement in the Carnegie inquiry was inspired by the Club of Rome's book, Limits To Growth, and the increasing application of mathematics to social problems.

Housing
When he returned to UCT from Boston University in 1974, he immediately began grappling with South Africa's "tremendous housing needs".

A founding member of UCT's Urban Problems Research Unit, he co-authored the book, Low Income Housing Policy For South Africa, for the unit.

The Carnegie Inquiry is being conducted by UCT's South African Labour and Development Research Unit (SALDRU) under the direction of Professor Francis Wilson.

The inquiry, funded by a R500 000 philanthropic grant from the Carnegie Corporation of New York, involves around 200 separate probes being conducted throughout Southern Africa.
Health services — access for poor is difficult

Medical Reporter

MANY of the poorer areas of Cape Town have two or fewer general practitioners and no hospitals, and many working class people have "problems of access" in reaching medical help.

This emerges from a working paper produced by the Southern Africa Labour and Development Research Unit (Saldru) at UCT on Access to Health Services in the Greater Cape Town Area.

The highest concentrations of general practitioners are in the wealthier suburbs such as Bellville, Claremont, Rondebosch, Sea Point and Wynberg.

The poorer areas named in the paper are Bishop Lavis, Faireston, Guguletu, Langa, Steenberg and Nyanga.

"Problems of access are created since people have to undertake inconvenient journeys to reach general practitioners, adding transport costs to the costs of consultation."

This was also a problem in the case of specialist referrals, since more than 50 percent of the private specialists worked in the city centre, the rest working mainly in other medical centres in the wealthier white suburbs.

Using 1980 figures the paper states that of the Peninsula's 936 private practitioners, 397 are specialists and 151 of these are surgeons.

This concentration was not related to the major health problems in the area — preventable diseases such as gastro-enteritis, pneumonia and under-nutrition among children, and TB among adults — but to areas of maximum profitability.

All of the 22 private hospitals in the metropolitan area of the Peninsula, with the exception of one convalescent home, were in the white areas.

Only one curative clinic, Emphusweni SACLAC clinic, run by church organisations, provided primary health care facilities to a population of about 30 000 people at Crossroads.

Limited access to the services of general practitioners was a problem particularly for workers since general practitioners, apart from provincial hospital casualty departments, provided the only primary health care services available after working hours.

Provincial hospitals, with the exception of one convalescent home and one orthopaedic hospital, were all located in white group areas.

New day hospitals have been opened in three areas in the past three years, but others have been closed. Bonthuwwel closed after the 1976 unrest, and areas with large populations far from the city, such as Mitchell's Plain, have no day hospitals.

"The day hospitals in Langa and Guguletu (two areas with the highest rates of TB and infant mortality) have needed extending for more than four years."

The paper concludes, "What has been found is that areas with the greatest need are areas in which there is least access to health services."
Officialdom frustrates Red Cross work
for the suffering

DURING the winter just passed, many persons and organizations contributed in various ways to the funds of the SA Red Cross Society (Cape Region), often in the hope that the suffering of squatters in our cold, wet weather would thereby be alleviated. It is possible to report to this wide public only through the media, and I would therefore be grateful for this letter to be published.

Throughout the winter months, squatters were assisted with food and clothing, usually to meet special cases of exceptional need.

However, in response to the major requirement of shelter from the elements, the Red Cross, on April 22 wrote to the Chief Commissioner of Cooperation and Development, requesting confirmation of a report that had reached us that the Nyanga "Dune Camp" (squatters) Committee had been given permission to erect tents. We offered to supply these tents, on receiving confirmation.

On July 5 a reply ultimately came requesting delivery of the tents to the Administration Board. Red Cross delivered 30 tents, an order for a further 60 from the manufacturers.

Tents are not cheap and Red Cross holds limited stocks. However, as the weather was now bitter, a further 18 tents were purchased locally on July 6 and delivered to the board for distribution.

On August 17 the newly manufactured tents arrived and 50 were immediately delivered to the Administration Board. There followed weeks of frustrating delay during which, because of one administrative problem after another, most of these tents were not issued to the squatters or otherwise put to use by the board; nor was permission granted to erect them ourselves for squatters living without shelter. Eventually 33 unused tents were returned to Red Cross.

It will thus be seen that while we were able to ease the shelter problem of some of the squatters, many tents, in spite of being requested, were not used or permitted to be used. The alleviation of suffering was thus less than it could have been.

Irrespective of the legacies of the squatters' presence, it is the fundamental role of the Red Cross movement to relieve suffering. Furthermore, the legal issue was hardly relevant in that many "legals" were in desperate need of shelter.

Red Cross expresses gratitude to all who by their contributions helped us to alleviate suffering among at least some of the squatters in our cold, wet winter.

In the light of the distress of squatters who remained unsheltered, or whose coverings, however, modest, were repeatedly destroyed or removed by the authorities, it is perhaps appropriate to quote from an International Committee of Red Cross, Geneva publication, "The Principles of International Humanitarian Law" (page 36).

"5 Any person who is suffering shall be sheltered and receive the care which his condition requires."

"It was to fulfill this imperative duty that the First Geneva Convention was concluded in 1864. It is its cornerstone and from which..."

"Conceived for the military in time of war, this principle is by inference valid for civilians and in time of peace."

The government of the Republic of South Africa is a signatory to the Geneva Conventions, and one hopes, thus, to their spirit.

May I end by confirming that Red Cross remains willing to provide its tents for those in need.
The affluent need not feel guilty — professor

Staff Reporter — THERE was absolutely no reason to feel guilty about affluence in South Africa, Professor Brian Kantor, of the University of Cape Town, School of Economics told an executive luncheon of the Community Chest this week.

Professor Kantor said it was perhaps necessary to remember that being white did not guarantee affluence and that white incomes were distributed in about the same way as in advanced industrialized countries.

He said one could go further and argue that the relative affluence of some was necessary for the economic upliftment of others.

The rich were not rich because the poor were poor.

"On the contrary, the poor have very little prospect of improving their income, unless society at large is generally willing to tolerate, or better still encourage, income differences," he said.

Professor Kantor said that while appreciating fully the achievement of high income and economic success in a competitive environment, it should be added that the issue was not only of how much one earns, but how well one lives.

"Giving generously of one's time and resources to those less successful is to me the essence of living well," he said.
Misery of Mbekweni

MBEKWENI, near Paarl, is not a pleasant place, say many of its residents. The Community Council, the only legal and organised forum for the people of the township, is in disarray. The Western Cape Administration Board provides no relief, say some. Now they want Dr Piet Koorhof, Minister of Co-operation and Development, to see the conditions for himself. Staff Reporter STEPHEN NTSANE visited the township

THE feeling of helplessness and despair hangs over Mbekweni as the pall of early-morning smoke

In the overcrowded township near Paarl, unequal, unemployment and excessive drinking among adults and schoolchildren are part of everyday life.

On September 34 this year the Community Council, Mbekweni’s only “legal” voice for its people, held elections for seven councillors. Three have since resigned, bringing the council to a standstill.

Most of Mbekweni’s estimated 30 000 residents are without work. A housing shortage has added to the frustration and created almost a sequestered situation as more people build shanties in their backyards and on any available open space.

Backyard shacks

Some houses rent out up to five shack-like shanties in their backyards.

When Mbekweni residents started building shanties in the open fields, Administration Board officials persuaded by members of the Community Council to provide site-and-service facilities.

But these facilities are so poor that the people say that they feel insulted by them.

The site we visited had such poor toilet and water facilities that it was difficult to imagine how residents used them.

Early this year, Mbekweni residents marched to their rent office in protest against rent increases. Most of them were arrested and are now facing charges of gathering illegally outside the Administration Board offices, 4 km from Mbekweni.

Increased rents

While they were being arrested, an angry mob burst down the Mbekweni Beer Hall.

Another mob stove the house of the Community Council’s chairman and vice-chairman, Mr T. Dlensheni and Mr B. L. Nebali.

Mr Dlensheni, one of the three council members who have quit, told me he had resigned because the Administration Board had increased rents in Mbekweni without considering four resolutions passed by the council in May 1982.

To have the 25 percent rise

In service charges granted.

That salaries of Administration Board officials be paid by the Government and not from moneys generated by township revenues.

That the township’s deficit be covered by sales tax.

And that revenue from the Mbekweni Beer Hall be used to provide additional housing for Mbekweni.

“What caused even more frustration is the fact that the board officials are the ones who decide what should be done in Mbekweni and ignore suggestions from the councillors,” said Mr Dlensheni.

This made work even more difficult for councillors already not popular with the residents.

However, during his time as chairman, the Community Council had had electricity installed as the streets of Mbekweni, site-and-service facilities for shanties had been provided, roads had been tarred and a refuse truck had been supplied by the Administration Board.

Mr Nebali said:

Night meetings

Mr Matthew Scott, another councillor who has resigned, said that in addition to the Council’s resolutions not being considered, he had objected to this year’s councillors not being officially announced, as they had been in 1980.

He was also unhappy about council meetings being held after night 4 km from Mbekweni and behind closed doors.

“When I pointed this out to Dr Gert de Fries, the chief Community Council liaison officer, I was told that I may resign if I wanted to, and so I did,” said Mr Scott.

The third councillor, Mr Dixon Plokkeng, confirmed that he has tendered his resignation but refused to disclose the reason.

Above: The remains of the beer hall which was burnt down by a mob in Mbekweni.

Right: Toilet and water facilities at the township provided by the Administration Board.
Bay of Poverty!

SANDWICHED between the Hout Bay mountains and the picturesque harbour, with its smoke-belching factories, lies the old "coloured" area of Hout Bay. The area is so beautiful it should have been a Shangri-la for the people. Instead it is a haven for hardship.

Isolated in a valley, said to be one of the most beautiful in the world, the 4000 residents feel that their local authority, the Cape Divisional Council, has forgotten about them.

Overcrowding and a housing shortage, of course, one of the major problems in the area.

Because of the Government's decision to build houses only for people earning less than R150 a month, the critical housing shortage will be aggravated and overcrowding will become more acute.

For the people of Hout Bay, the sea is the crucial factor in their hand-to-mouth existence. Most of the men are fishermen, while many of the women work in the fish processing factories.

Life has always been hard here, but now that fishermen are struggling to net their normal quota, life has become harder.

HARDSHIPS

- Mrs Clara Bailey knows about the hardships. She has lived in Hout Bay most of her life and has seen her children grow up in the village. She and her daughters and granddaughters live in a two-bedroom unit they call home. Four adults and nine children share those walls.

- Last Thursday I visited Mrs Bailey. I stood in a corner sandwiched between a settee and a bed, here, the old lady said. "Sometimes three families occupy a house here. Some of them applied for a house more than 10 years ago. They are still waiting.

- "Rents have been increased a number of times. We cannot afford these increases, but if we don't pay our full rental, we are kicked out. The houses we live in are not of a very high standard. Many of the houses have cracks in the walls and the roofs leak," she said.

- "The old "coloured" section lies sandwiched between the mountain and the picturesque harbour."

- "The council has decided that it will only build houses for people who earn less than R150 a month. There are many people who fall within this category, yet the council has not done anything about it."

- "Another problem which we are forced to live with is the lack of amenities. For the whole of Hout Bay there is only one Civic Centre and one sportfield. Rugby and soccer players have to make do with the same field," Mrs Bailey said.

- SHELTER

- Other people in the area complained of the absence of a bus shelter. In bad weather they have to wait out in the open for buses.

- A resident, who asked not to be named, said that living in Hout Bay was, in fact, an unhealthy way of living.

- "In our section of Hout Bay there are more than 1800 council houses, none of..."
month, the critical housing shortage will be aggravated and overcrowding will become more acute.

For the people of Hout Bay, the sea is the crucial factor in their hand-to-mouth existence. Most of the men are fishermen, while many of the women work in the fish processing factories. Life has always been hard here, but now that fishermen are struggling to net their normal quota, life has become harder.

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  Last Thursday I visited Mrs Bailey's on a corner sandwiched between a shacks and a bed. A table occupied the center of the room. This house is home to the Bailey family. “We live like sardines here,” the old lady said.

- Sometimes three families occupy a house here. Some of them apply for a house more than 10 years ago. They are still waiting.

- “Renters have increased a number of times. We cannot afford these increases but if we don’t pay our full rental, we are kicked out. The houses we live in are not of a very high standard. Many of the houses have cracks in the walls and the roofs leak,” she said.

- Mrs Bailes was a member of the Hout Bay Action Committee. She says that other members of the committee were not paid, and they were not given any support.

**SHELTER**

- Other people in the area complained of the absence of a bus shelter. In bad weather they have to wait out in the open.

- A resident, who asked to be named, said that living in Hout Bay was, in fact, an unhealthy way of life.

- “In our section of Hout Bay, there are more than 50 council houses, some of them built with a bathroom and toilet. The residents of the council houses have to share one shower block, comprising of one shower each for men and women. The other blocks are used as a storage area by the council’s maintenance unit.”

- “Another problem is that the council’s storage units for garbage are hard to use. It is a small structure built of brick on three-sides, with a wrought-iron gate on the front. On hot days the pong that comes from the unit is really bad,” he said.

- **DRAINAGE**

- He also complained about the drainage system. A huge pipe leads water from the flats to the road. Very often young children play in the water and often pick up germs.

- All the residents I spoke to agreed that life was hard in Hout Bay. But they had to leave their area.

- “They all wanted to spend the rest of their days in the valley in a little more comfort,” she said.

**No space for matric pupils**

HOUGHT BAY pupils who wish to obtain their senior certificates have to apply to schools outside of the area because the school does not cater for only the pupils studying from Sub Standard A to Standard 8.

- And, although a few pupils presently attending Sentinel School Secondary School have shown an interest in doing matric, the Department of Internal Affairs (Colour Education) may introduce Standards 9 and 10 as a new program in the area.

- According to Mr Noel Eales, the press liaison officer of the Department, extensions to the school are being planned and it was expected that tenders would be invited in February 1988.

- “Once the extensions, which will cost about R1 million, have been completed, it is not true that the school will immediately start classes for Standards 9 and 10. Extending our curriculum to Standard 10 will only be considered at that stage,” he said.

- At present, pupils who wish to study further than Standard 8 have to transfer to schools outside of Hout Bay. But not all parents can afford the high transport fees that go with such a move.

- Normally, Hout Bay pupils cannot get into schools in Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg, one of the areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg.
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And, although a few pupils presently attending Sentinel Senior Secondary School have shown an interest in doing matric, the Department of Internal Affairs (Coloured Education) may introduce Standards 9 and 10 once plans to extend the school have been completed.

According to Mr Noel Eales, the press liaison officer of the Department, extensions to the school are being planned and it was expected that tenders would be invited in February 1985.

"Once the extensions, which will cost about R1 million, have been completed, it does not mean that the school will immediately start classes for Standards 9 and 10. Extending our curriculum to Standard 10 will only be considered at that stage," he said.

At present, pupils who wish to study further than Standard 8 have to transfer to schools outside of Hout Bay — but not many parents can afford the high transport fees that go with such a move.

Normally, Hout Bay pupils cannot get into schools in Wynberg, one of the few areas which is directly linked with Hout Bay through public transport. This means that residents have to travel from Hout Bay to Wynberg and then to a school in another area.

DRAINAGE

He also complained about the drainage system. A huge pipe leads water from the flats to the road. Very often young children play in the water and often pick-up germs.

All the residents I spoke to agreed that life was hard in Hout Bay. But they would not like to leave the area.

They all wanted to spend the rest of their days in the valley in a little more comfort if possible.

But this is not all the villagers have to live with.

According to one of the residents, who asked not to be named, the occupiers of the more than 150 council houses have to share one communal shower block.

"In our section none of the houses is fitted with bathrooms. The residents of this section have to share one shower block, comprising of one shower each for men and women. The other shower block is used as a storage area by the council's maintenance unit.

"Sometimes this leads to us having to wait hours for a turn to use the shower. In fact, sometimes we have to go without a bath, and, instead, make do with a wash in a small basin. Sometimes we wonder whether these conditions don't contravene the council's own heath regulations," he said.
CIA sued as gay is demoted

LOS ANGELES — An aerospace engineer has sued the Central Intelligence Agency, contending the agency revoked his top-security clearance because he was homosexual.

Mr. John Green, 30, who has worked on classified defence projects at TRW Incorporated in Torrance, California, for 10 years, said he had never concealed his homosexuality while holding one of the highest security ratings issued by the US Government.

Mr. Green sought reinstatement of his security privileges and challenged the CIA’s ban on homosexuals holding clearances.

Mr. Green contends he has been denoted to a “paper shuffling” job.

The agency has a policy barring homosexuals from sensitive security clearances because they could be security risks if subjected to blackmail — Sapa-AP

It’s ‘mess night’ at the society shebeen!

HARARE — A total of 176 white Zimbabweans were arrested at a “shebeen” in the plush northern Harare suburb of Highlands at the weekend, a police spokesman said yesterday.

He said the owner of the house where the shebeen was installed paid a fine of R109 and each member of the drinking party paid R109 admission of guilt fines.

Shebeens are usually associated with black communities in Zimbabwe, but in recent years many whites have taken to gathering at “mess” parties at homes where liquor is sold to guests, often members of informal drinking clubs. Police have recently cracked down on shebeens, angering many black who say they are often more convenient places of re-laxation than licensed bars.

The spokesman said police confiscated large quantities of beer, spirits and soft drinks during the Highlands raid — Sapa-Reuter

POOR food, dismal accommodation, loneliness, financial hardship and legal persecution are the devastating facts of life for many of South Africa’s 350 000 elderly whites.

A Human Sciences Research Council study released in Pretoria yesterday disclosed the specific living conditions of 80 elderly whites, aged between 65 and 85. The results, said chief researcher, Mr. Chris van der Merwe, were indicative of broad trends.

The study, he said, was requested by the Pretoria Co-ordinating Committee for the Care of the Aged, which indirectly advises the Department of Health and Welfare on the needs of the aged.

The HSRC report showed that the worst hit financially were single and widowed women and State pensioners.

Furthermore, pensions for civil servants and war veterans were found to be inadequate for economic well-being.

The effectiveness of the State pension programme was often weakened by unnecessarily stringent regulations.

An elderly person’s assets, or those of relatives, were in many cases unduly held against the pensioner. These assets prevented the pensioner from getting subsidised housing and free medical care for which he or she qualified.

Those who were needy, but had modest savings, were penalised by having their pension allowances drastically cut or denied altogether.

The basic State pension payable to whites since October last year is R136 a month. Half those interviewed were dissatisfied with their housing, and worried about being evicted — Sapa

Elderly suffer because State pensions low

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The basic State pension payable to whites since October last year is R136 a month. Half those interviewed were dissatisfied with their housing, and worried about being evicted — Sapa
No fish, no work!

IN Hout Bay a lot depends on the sea... and the fishermen. They have to bring home the fish to bring home the bacon for themselves and for the rest of the community involved in the fish industry.

If the fishermen don't deliver many Hout Bay residents lose their jobs. If there is enough fish coming in, the fish processing factories hum. If the catch is scant, some people work three days a week, some two days, some once a week.

And others just don't get called in at all.

The situation shows no signs of improving. Indeed, it looks like going from bad to worse.

Last week, Bay residents were particularly moody about the employment situation. Those working in the fish processing factories felt they were living in the shadow of retrenchment. The reason was simple.

The fishermen had not been to sea for more than a week.

CASUAL

Two months ago about 70 people at the Harvest Dawn factory were laid off. Many of those who were laid off are still without work. Some of them are employed on a casual basis at the sardine factories. Money is called in to...

- MRS KATIE DE VEE
  ...out of work breadwinner.

work whenever there is work. When there is a lot of work they are called in three times a week and when there is less work they come in once a week.

Some of those who were laid off are breadwinners. They are still unemployed.

- MRS KATIE DE VEE
  worked at Harvest Dawn for nine years. She was retrenched at the end of September and has not been able to find another job. Her husband, Willem, receives a disability grant. The couple have three children aged 13, 11 and 6.

Her retrenchment did not come as a shock. "We were told they were going to put people off a few weeks before the time. They gave us enough warning of the move."

TRAVELLING

"I have been trying to find another job but there is nothing in Hout Bay. It is not worth my while getting a job outside Hout Bay as the travelling costs are too high."

"I have to work so that I can supplement the family income. The grants hardly cover our expenses and my wages always helped us to get all the necessities."

"With the festive season approaching, I just hope that I can find a job so that we have a decent meal on the table on Christmas Day," a worried Mrs de Vee said.

- MISS HAYLEY JACOBS
  ...battling to pay rent.

Miss Hayley Jacobs worked at Harvest Dawn for about two years. Her dismissal has left the family almost destitute. Her father is a fisherman and therefore does not have a regular income. Her mother died a few years ago.

BATTLE

Every month it is a battle for Hayley and her father to keep a roof over their heads of the eight Jacob children.

"After I was retrenched I tried my best to find another job, but there is nothing in Hout Bay. I make a little money from working on a casual basis at one of the factories here. The problem is that it is not a fixed, regular income so all I can do is hope that there is work for me every week," she said.
Soup saves starving resettlement children

EMERGENCY rations of soup and milk are all that stand between starvation and survival for thousands of children in resettlement areas.

In Tsotse, a four-year-old resettlement area about 300km north-west of Johannesburg in the Rojobatswana district of Ramotlabana, the South African Institute of Race Relations' Operation Hunger has run a feeding scheme since June 1961.

The headmaster of Bochutu Primary School, Mr J M Rabai, said children regularly used to collapse from hunger in the morning assembly. They were also listless and found it difficult to concentrate.

However, since Operation Hunger began providing daily supplies of milk and soup, the children "are much better," said Mr Rabai.

Staff at the nearby Ramotlabana Clinic also reported the feeding schemes had done a lot to alleviate suffering in the area.

Until recently, Operation Hunger fed only primary and pre-primary schoolchildren. However, as a result of a desperate appeal by clinic staff, the scheme has been extended to families in the nearby camp — called "600" — and to other villages in the area.

Operation Hunger organizer, Mrs Ina Perlman, says the soup they supply includes all the essential protein, minerals, vitamins, fats and carbohydrates children need to enable them to grow and to protect them from deadly protein deficiency diseases.

One hates to think what would happen if for some reason the feeding schemes were halted. Most of those dependent on them have been deprived of any means of earning for themselves.

Before their removal to Tsotse, they lived at Doornkop, which is about 16km to the east. They were subsistence farmers, growing crops and keeping cattle.

Then the Government declared Doornkop a "white spot". They forced the blacks off their land and dumped them in Tsotse. They were provided only with galvanized iron hats and metal cutlasses.

Since then, the residents have erected their own houses. Although there is the occasional brick house, most are corrugated iron shacks. They squat squarely in the centre of a small plot of bare red earth. Thorn trees and the odd patch of grass are the only signs of fertility.

The patches of land are too small to grow their food — and few residents can find jobs to earn enough for food, so unemployment is extremely high.

Some people commute to jobs in Mafikeng, about 25km away.

Children at Roorgend, a Rojobatswana resettlement camp near the Botswana border, have also received an emergency infusion of fortified soup.

Roorgend residents — members of the Bushwana tribe, a branch of the Bara-long — have the same history of dispossession from self-sufficient smallholdings.

Roorgend is a small camp of low-roofed, mud-walled shacks. Emaciated-looking cattle and donkeys wander between the shacks, packed hopefully at the thorn trees and sparse patches of grass which offer them only hope of nourishment.

The 1500-strong tribe used to live in Machavelistad, near Potchefstroom, where they farmed their own land. They claim the land was given to them in 1869 by Paul Kruger for their services during the Anglo-Boer War.

But their land was requisitioned for whites, and 12 years ago, after a long struggle, they were moved to Roorgend, 196km away.

Each family was given two tents, a bag of milled meal and R18.40.

Not even the basic facilities — roads, schools, clinics and transport — were provided on the barren patch of land allocated to them.

Chief Simon Makodi leads the Roorgend people, who now number 400.

He explains that about 30 people, including his wife and son, still work in Potchefstroom. They return home once a month and their wages help to support the rest of the tribe.

A survey earlier this year revealed that 66% of Roorgend's males were unemployed.

The barren soil and the drought have defeated their attempts to grow their own food. The drought has also killed off most of their 350 cows and 300 sheep.

In an attempt to give their children some education, they have erected a schoolroom and hired a teacher. The school, which goes up to Standard Two, is a mud-walled shack with patched bits of corrugated iron for a roof.

It is a dark cramped room. Pupils sit crammed on rows of benches. A blackboard and blackboard is the only other equipment they have.

Tiny windows, scarcely more than holes in the walls, provide totally inadequate lighting.

The school has 73 pupils. They go to school in slippers because the small room cannot accommodate them all at the same time.

One of the pupils is 12-year-old Richard Moketi. He has had polio, which has left him with a deformed leg. He is a thin, poorly-dressed child who walks with the aid of a stick, which is literally a thin twig plucked off a tree.

Richard lives with his grammy, Mrs Paulina Moketi, who says she doesn't know how old she is, but she was a small child during the Anglo-Boer War. She has no income and says she feeds Richard and 12 other members of the extended family out of her old age pension.

We never have enough food, she says.

The grinding poverty endured by most Roorgend residents is all due to the fact that they were removed from Machavelistad, says Chief Makodi.

CHIEF SIMON MAKO DI... of the tribe at Roorgend.

By LIZ McGregor
PE typhoid: One death, 14 treated

PORT ELIZABETH - One person has died and 14 have received hospital treatment in an outbreak of typhoid in Port Elizabeth's townships.

But the city's Medical Officer of Health, Dr Joe Sher, said the outbreak was well under control and that there was no cause for alarm.

HYGIENE

He said that of the 14 cases eight were from one house in the coloured area of Windvogel, two were from Korsten, two from Gelivandale and one from the Soweto squatter camp.

Dr Sher said typhoid was directly related to personal hygiene.

"Simply washing your hands with soap and water will stop the disease in its tracks," he added.
'We would just die' — if not for the aid

MOLIMO NTHUSE (Lesotho). — The woman strapped her baby to her back and balanced a cardboard box on her head.

The packets of oats, dried milk and vegetable oil from the monthly clinic — labelled as US foreign aid — would last about two weeks, she said.

Then she would help to build roads, part of Lesotho's food-for-work programme, in return for two packets of corn meal and six cans of fish contributed by other countries. That would carry her until she returned to the clinic again.

"Without this we would just die," the woman said through a Sotho interpreter as she prepared for the day-long trek back to her mountain village. "We have nothing. We don't even try now to plant anything. It's no use.'

In parts of southern and western Africa, human suffering is said to be at its worst since the 1973-74 famine below the Sahara Desert, which killed several hundred thousand people.

Statistics in Lesotho suggest how grim the situation is: production of maize, sorghum and other cereals is down from an annual average of 220,000 tons to 55,000 tons — a loss of R40-million. There have been up to 56,000 livestock deaths — a loss of R12-million. Total direct losses in agriculture are about 30 percent of the gross domestic product.

More than half of Lesotho's 1.2-million people are considered in need of emergency food aid because of drought.

The country attributed 100 deaths to the drought in a report six months ago.

Elsewhere in Southern Africa:

- In South Africa, the breadbasket of the southern region (which includes Lesotho), produced about 4-million tons of maize this year, less than half the normal output, forcing the country to import for the first time in years. Malnutrition in black homelands is reported sharply higher.

- In Zimbabwe, the Government says half a million head of cattle will die from lack of grazing and water, a figure similar to that predicted in neighbouring Botswana.

- Mozambique and Angola, both former Portuguese colonies, are contending with guerrilla movements that have compounded the drought problems. Food shipments to the needy are often delayed or unable to get through dangerous areas, increasing the hardships of the rural areas.

- In Zambia, hungry peasants have resorted to eating grass and roots — some of them poisonous. The Times of Zambia reported that seven people died at the weekend after eating poisonous roots.

- Lesotho has not yet hit bottom, but conditions are worsening.

- Chief Masupe Senso, brother of King Moshoeshoe II, said "Now we are still able to share the little we have. But when even that runs out, what will we do then?". — Sapa-AP
In the past 20 years, 3.5 million unwanted people have been dumped in overcrowded resettlement camps in impoverished territories remote from employment prospects and in concentrations that make subsistence agriculture impossible, writes ALLISTER SPARKS.

It is one of the established assumptions in this country that the worst features of apartheid are to be found in the cities, where blacks lack permanency and are subjected to constant pass-law raids.

The "homeland" may be inadequate as a solution to the race problem, but somehow it is felt that they are at least refuges of a sort where blacks have some political rights — the "positive" side of apartheid, if it has one.

It is true that view was revisited. Life in the townships may still be no bed of roses, and there are more pass raids and rendentment out than ever before. But it is in the homelands that apartheid has reached new levels of human devastation that should make every South African wince in shame.

Since the homelands policy was started 20 years ago, an estimated 3.5 million unwanted people have been dumped in these overcrowded, impoverished territories in what are called resettlement camps.

These are sprawling rural camps of mud-and-zinc shacks or wood-slat shacks that hold thousands of people packed close together in areas far from any prospect of employment and in concentration that makes subsistence agriculture impossible.

No escape

They have been called dumping grounds in fact, I would say that the difference between a resettlement camp and a concentration camp is mainly a matter of terminology. There may be no fences or armed guards, but there is no escape either.

The inhabitants of these awful places are prisoners of poverty and hopelessness. The infant death rate (between birth and the age of five) in many is as high as 50 percent. Unemployment is standard, only a few households have a migrant worker away somewhere who may or may not send back remittances.

The prevailing spirit in the camps is one of physical lassitude and mental apathy. They are crowded but they are quiet, deathly quiet. People just sit outside their shacks staring in front of them, doing nothing.

Some of these resettlement camps are enormous. There is one called Onverwacht bordering on a far-flung patch of Boer farms about 70 km east of Bloemfontein. It has 200 000 people, the population of a city. Conditions are indescribable.

After tramping many miles in search of firewood a woman returns across the impoverished land to Oxton in the Ciskei.

I took some foreign visitors there a while ago and they were shattered. They flew back to Johannesburg that evening for a meeting with Dr Koornhof, who explained what wondrous things apartheid was doing for the blacks. The contrast in words and what they had just seen blew their minds.

That is the trouble with this country, the difference between theory and reality between what the whites talk about in the remoteness of their conference halls and suburban homes and what the black experiences in the everyday reality of the pass-law courts and resettlement camps.

I have become sharply aware of this in the two years since I vacated my own political position as a newspaper editor and began going into the outback of our country to see for myself what is happening there.

It has been a salutary experience. I have visited nearly all the homelands, several in depth, and I now know where the real human crime of apartheid is being committed. And the worst of the crime is that it is all happening out of sight that, like the Germans, white South Africans can say they didn't know.

Out of sight

The experience has taught me something else, too. I have heard lots of sneering talk over the years about the cocktail party politics of the liberal northern suburbs. But now I know that there is nothing quite so removed from reality as the cocktail circuit of Pretoria, where the elegant talk is about the theoretical possibilities of verigo pragmatism and incremental change but where nobody ever sticks his nose into Onverwacht or Thornhill or Oxton or Zwelendums or Ledig or Rematlabana to get the acrid smell of human reality there.

All they know about Kwantu is that it is the next homeland due for independence, which will take the Government's master plan a step nearer fulfilment. They have never been there to see what life is like for the 250 000 people who have been dumped in the bush, or watched them stagger out of their homes at 3 am to ride the buses 100 km to work in Pretoria, returning home at 10 pm, day after day.

The have never been to Qua Qua to see the serried rows of houses in what is a far-flung rural suburb, where the population has been increased by 927 percent in 10 years and where the density is 463 people to the square kilometre, compared with 38 in the rest of South Africa.

They have never been to Zwelendums in the Ciskei to meet Nowatcha Meho and her four grandchildren, who have been living for two years with no income at all and beg from others in the camp who are almost destitute themselves.

They do not see these things, but they talk of reform.

They do not see what is happening in these dreadful places, but they talk of reform, of taking a step in the right direction, of giving self-determination to all minority groups, of building a constellation of states, a commonwealth, a confederation, a new prosperity society.

Meanwhile, the Government is getting ready this week to uproot another 30 000 people from the Eastern Transvaal community of Kwengan, and another 300 from the Western Transvaal community of Mdoga to send them to resettlement camps in the homelands.

Soon, the 3.5 million will be 4.5 million.
The white group have a more neutral attitude but appear to favor spending over saving in spite of their relatively tight financial situation.

Neither group noticed any particular slowing down in the rate at which prices had risen in the past year.

Most whites, however, thought the rate of price rises would slow down in the coming year while blacks expected it to remain the same.

These attitudes led to a sharp decrease in the confidence of blacks and a very marginal deterioration in the confidence of whites.

The demand for goods of a discretionary type could fall away in the black household sector while there is likely to be little change in the demand from whites.

Improving

Many indicators show that the national economy is improving but some suggest that a setback has occurred in the past two months.

The number of coloured, white and Asian people registered as unemployed fell steadily between March and July.

"But the July figure, which was the latest available at the time of writing, was still slightly more than double the July 1982 figure."

"Unemployment among blacks is still increasing, and at an increasing annual rate.

"The decrease in registered unemployment suggests that manufacturing production might have accelerated in recent months and this is underscored by the index of physical volume of manufacturing production.

The motor trade did very well and appears to be on an up trend in sales.

"Reporters were, however, received of a sharp decline in sales of white goods and furniture towards the end of October.

"This is possibly a result of a downturn in the building cycle and substitution of furniture and the hike by cars and computer video equipment.

"Interest rates are still high in real terms and inflation remains rampant in spite of a concerted effort to bring it down."

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Half blacks live in poverty, says report

Mercury Reporter

Almost half of South Africa’s black population is living in conditions of absolute poverty on the fringe of an affluent white society, according to a recent study by a University of Cape Town economics student, Mr. Stephen Devereux.

His findings are contained in a booklet published by the South African Labour and Development Research Unit, which is co-ordinating the second Carnegie inquiry into poverty and development in Southern Africa.

Statistics showing that black incomes doubled during the 1970s were irrelevant to the millions of people who still could not enjoy a civilised standard of living in South Africa, today, Mr. Devereux reported.

Inflation, he pointed out, had a greater impact on the lower income groups. They had suffered higher cost of living increases, mainly because food prices had soared faster than any other item, particularly during the second half of the decade.

While the black-white wage gap in cash terms narrowed, the effects of inflation on the different groups meant that in real terms the gap in fact had widened, he said.

He found that increased wages had an unexpected detrimental effect on black workers in certain sectors.

To offset rising costs, employers often chose to retrain semi-skilled and unskilled workers in favour of more productive capital-intensive techniques.

Alternatively, in the face of spiralling wages, employers placed women in unskilled jobs at salaries approximately 80 percent of those of males.

The net result is a rise in black wages coupled with a rise in black unemployment, he added.

Optimism about the rising wages and improved standard of living of the black population since the beginning of the 1970s has been dashed in his study.

The positive argument that blacks gained substantially from wage rises and upward mobility applied only to those fortunate enough to be absorbed into modern sector employment.

For the rest, possibly the majority of blacks who remain trapped in low-employment rural areas, facing malnutrition and disease, little has changed, he added.
Mine lay-off ‘disaster’ for Namaqualand

BY ANDRIES DU TOIT
Staff Reporter

The decision by the O'Keep Copper Company to lay off half its workforce next year has been described as an "economic disaster" for Namaqualand.

Namaqualand depends on the mining industry for most of its revenue and the decision is expected to hit the whole community.

The company says the cause is the worldwide depression in the copper market.

Of the 3,000 workforce 1,000 will be laid off by mid-1984 and 500 in the second half of the year. All employees will receive special separation benefits.

"All scared"

Mr B J Jones, branch chairman of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, said people in the company's development branches, such as geology, exploration and diamond-drilling, had been told they would be retrenched, but others in branches such as administration did not know their position.

An employee who did not want to be identified said "We are all scared. Nobody knows what is happening. I don't know whether I will have a job next year."

Mr P A Joseph, area secretary of the Engineering and Industrial Union, which represents coloured-workers, said the lay-offs would cause havoc in the community.

Husbands would have to seek work in other towns and this would spell disaster for family life, schools and churches.

"We knew they would lay people off, but we did not know it would be this bad."

Mr Stephanus Cloete, a Nababeep businessman, said the lay-offs were "very sad."

"Where can the people go? It does not help to look for work somewhere else. Everywhere people are being laid off."

Businessmen in the area agreed that the retrenchments were "an economic disaster." But opinions about their own prospects varied.

Businessmen in Springbok, the largest business centre, said they thought they could survive, but those in smaller communities such as Okeep, Callosberg and Nababeep, as well as car and furniture salesmen, thought they had been dealt a crippling blow.

Some entrepreneurs said they would have to give up.

Mrs Helen Hudson, of Ons Winkel, Nababeep, said times were already hard. She did not think her business would survive the lay-offs. "We will have to close our shop."

Other proprietors were cautiously optimistic. They felt conditions would improve "after a few years" and that they could stick it out until then.

A car salesman in Springbok said the lay-offs were "a disaster to the whole community," but could be survived.

"Sit it out"

The only thing to do was to "take stock and sit it out."

Mr J H Kotze, also a car salesman, said "We will just have to work harder. Then we will survive."

Mr G E Olivier, a general dealer in Nababeep, said he knew hard times were ahead, but he intended to weather the storm.

"I've done well in this town and it would be wrong of me to leave now," he said.

"Things will get better."

-End
Wages: blacks worse off

CAPE TOWN — While real black wages had risen enormously in the past decade, most blacks may be even worse off now, a University of Cape Town study has suggested.

The study, by UCT economics student, Mr. Stephen Devereaux, is part of the second Carnegie Inquiry into poverty and development in Southern Africa, coordinated by the South African Labour and Development Research Unit.

Mr. Devereaux did not dispute that real black wages had increased vastly over the past decade, and that relaxed job reservation and a growing need for skilled labour had led to increased black upward mobility.

However, he found that the positive trends did not alleviate the poverty of most blacks. Rising wages may have been offset by rising unemployment and hardship among those excluded from education and employment opportunities, particularly in the homelands.

— SAPA
Lure of the casino brings poverty

By Peter Malherbe

The effects of gambling are breaking up families and causing financial havoc in a small eastern Cape town, about 5km from Caledon’s casino.

Church ministers in King William’s Town this week told of families being plunged into poverty and a number of marriages running into trouble as townsfolk become compulsive gamblers.

Leading the fight against gambling is the Reverend Peter Penz of the Bethany Emmanuel Church, who views the situation as being so serious that he has delivered a series of six sermons dealing with the evils of gambling.

He says gambling will only bring prostitution and crime to the town.

Although he is supported in his condemnation of gambling by all the clergy in the town, it has had little effect on business at the luxurious Amatola Sun Hotel and Casino at Bush."The business of gambling is flourishing, and extensions are planned that will double its size," said Mr Penz.

Strokes of heartbreak caused by gambling abound in the small community.

A number of families have had to rely on financial aid from churches after their monthly earnings have been whittled away at the casino.

Attracted

One wife is alleged to have told her husband that she wanted to be “free” to gamble for a year. Her husband is totally opposed to gambling.

But in most homes the shoe is on the other foot, it is the men who are attracted to the casino and the wives that are concerned.

Now many are said to be trying to persuade their husbands to move from the town because they can’t resist the lure of the roulette wheels and blackjack tables.

“The situation is serious,” said Mr Penz.

“Gambling has already had a severe effect on people in our town.”

Mayor Ray Radebe said a casino always had its advantages and disadvantages.

He knew it was something which the clergy had strong feelings about, but he personally had not come across any tragic circumstances as a result of gambling.

The general manager of the Amatola Sun, Mr Dave Haynes, denied that any form of prostitution was taking place at the hotel.

“When we first opened the casino there were some suspects, but our security staff dealt with them severely.”
Fighting the enemy within

Mrs Ina Perlman is easily mistaken for just another suburban housewife on a shopping outing.

There is nothing about her outward appearance to suggest she is at the helm of a project that spells relief to hundreds of thousands of impoverished blacks in South Africa's rural areas.

Since March this year, when the country-wide drought showed no signs of abating, Mrs Perlman has travelled thousands of kilometres across the country to supervise and ensure that the food sent out by Operation Hunger — of which she is director — reached those hungry tummies in South Africa's poverty-streken rural wastelands.

The food programme was started in 1980.

Her simple reasoning says a lot about her: "You cannot sit back in Johannesburg and make decisions about places where you have never been.

You must go there and talk to the people."

Get up and talk to the people she does.

She has been to kwaNdebele, Lebowa, Ciskei, Tzaneen in the Northern Transvaal, Ramathlabama on the Botswana border, Brandfort in the Free State, Nquthu in kwaZulu and many parts of the Northern Cape where the situation was "absolutely terrible."

Even though her seemingly endless energy is for the great part discharged over many of the country's rural areas, Mrs Perlman and her staff also give attention to South Africa's wealthiest metropolitan area — the Pretoria-Witwatersrand-Vaal complex — where to date hunger relief has been given to 20,000 people.

Mrs Perlman's problems are enormous. The number of people needing emergency food relief in the country's drought-stricken areas has risen sharply from half a million to 670,000, she must raise at least R200,000 a month to supply basic nutritious food to these people, and some 2,9 million children under the age of 15 are malnourished and must be fed back to recovery.

"But the most terrifying feature of the rural scene at this moment is the dramatic increase in adult and teenage pellagra dementia (mental confusion caused by lack of protein," she says.

"Mrs Perlman, who is also Southern Transvaal regional secretary of the SA Institute of Race Relations, manages to reach the rural areas' hundreds of thousands of people by initiating contact with local organisations which enjoy a lot of credibility and grassroots support within their communities, and then with them distribute food supplies."

Feeding the hungry is not her only concern. She has started many self-help projects including sewing groups, vegetable gardens, pottery and health programmes.

But there is another side to Ina Perlman: when she is not rushing around the country distributing much-needed food supplies, she sits in her small Braamfontein office at the Institute's headquarters listening to problems faced by literally hundreds of Soweto schoolchildren who come to her with their worries.

These are children who are perhaps too poor to afford school fees, perhaps too poor to afford textbooks or seeking help on many other student problems.

Black artists — painters and sculptors — generally struggle to make ends meet and many of them approach Mrs Perlman for assistance.

Several years ago a young Soweto artist, Daniel Matshidiso, took his works to Mrs Perlman and in no time found an overseas market for his work.

She made one of his pastel drawings into a Christmas card, and the young man has not looked back since.

He spends many months every year in America where he runs successful exhibitions at universities and other art centres.

When she started working for the Institute in 1974, Mrs Perlman immediately immersed herself in the task of improving race relations.

The Race Courtesy Council was started under the auspices of the Institute. Its function was to take action on behalf of people who had been insulted by reference to their race, religion, language or their individual selves.

The council consisted of 12 people representing the various racial groups and professions.

Any person, for example, could lodge complaints with the council about printed or publicly uttered words which were threatening or resulting to the dignity of their group or about practices felt to be a serious affront to personal dignity.

Ina Perlman has travelled a long road, and she considers the three years during which she has tackled the hunger problem her most significant in life.

A symbol of hope to thousands, she says: "On the one hand I have learned that there is an incredible number of people who really care and want to help others. On the other I have learned humility from the rural women who have none of the things we take for granted, and to live just to live."

Ina Perlman's energy — one of South Africa's vital resources — is seemingly inexhaustible.

— Staff Reporter.