

Services and Amenities
for Blacks - OFS

1975 - 1990

Blacks and Whites in park row

Mercury 16/10/75

WELKOM — The Town Clerk, Mr. J. van Zyl, said he hoped there would be no repetition of last Sunday's affair when White and Black children and their parents were allegedly involved in a fight in the town's Reitz Park.

Mr. van Zyl told Sapa that this was the first occurrence of this nature.

The argument apparently broke out between Whites and Blacks over the use of the park's facilities.

"As far as I could gather it was an isolated incident involving about eight grownups and their children," Mr. van Zyl said.

Mr. van Zyl added that the matter would be studied fully at the next meeting of the management committee.

In the meantime, no extra precautions would be taken at Reitz Park, he said. He added that the police would, however, visit the park from time to time. — (Sapa.)

2000 Group in fight for detente'

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By a

Staff Reporter

CAPE TOWN'S Eoan group will become the first Coloured people to perform in Bloemfontein's Town Hall, and before a White audience, when they appear there later this month. And for the first time, too, Coloured people will stay in a 'White' hotel in the Free State.

The cultural group will appear at a fund-raising performance in the Free state capital on July 25, the day a 42-strong contingent from the organisation leaves South Africa to take part in an international performing arts festival in Aberdeen and London.

The Free State appearance, says Eoan's chairman, Mr I. Sydow, 'represents a great breakthrough for the Coloured community.' Yet another advance, he says, is an appearance the following day in the great hall of the University of South Africa, sponsored by the university.

Both performances are part of a series of fund-raising appearances to back the month-long overseas trip, which will cost an estimated R45 000. The group hopes to raise about R15 000 through the concert series.

'DETENTE'

Mr Sydow said: 'The value to South Africa of this proposed visit and participation in the festival, in its fight for detente, better understanding in human relationships, cannot be measured in financial terms only.'

Industry and commerce in Cape Town was helping by giving members of the touring group special leave, guaranteeing their re-employment when the group returns, and by partially subsidising salaries and wages of the overseas group.

VALUABLE

Mr Sydow said the group of young performers would make a valuable and important contribution towards the cultural life of South Africa, irrespective of race, colour or creed.

It would be tragic if the group had to turn down the invitation to participate through a shortage of funds.

(News by K. Jacobs, 121 St George's Street, Cape Town.)

(News by J. Patten, 47 Sauer Street, Johannesburg.)

ARGUS 10/7/75

...but Pretoria drops out

From
John Patten

PRETORIA. — Readers of a Pretoria Nationalist newspaper have come out overwhelmingly against sharing theatres with Blacks, Coloured and Indians.

Of about 3 000 entries in an opinion poll arranged by the newspaper, Hoofstad, the readers rejected sharing theatre facilities with other race groups by the crushing, almost unanimous figure of 98,54 per cent.

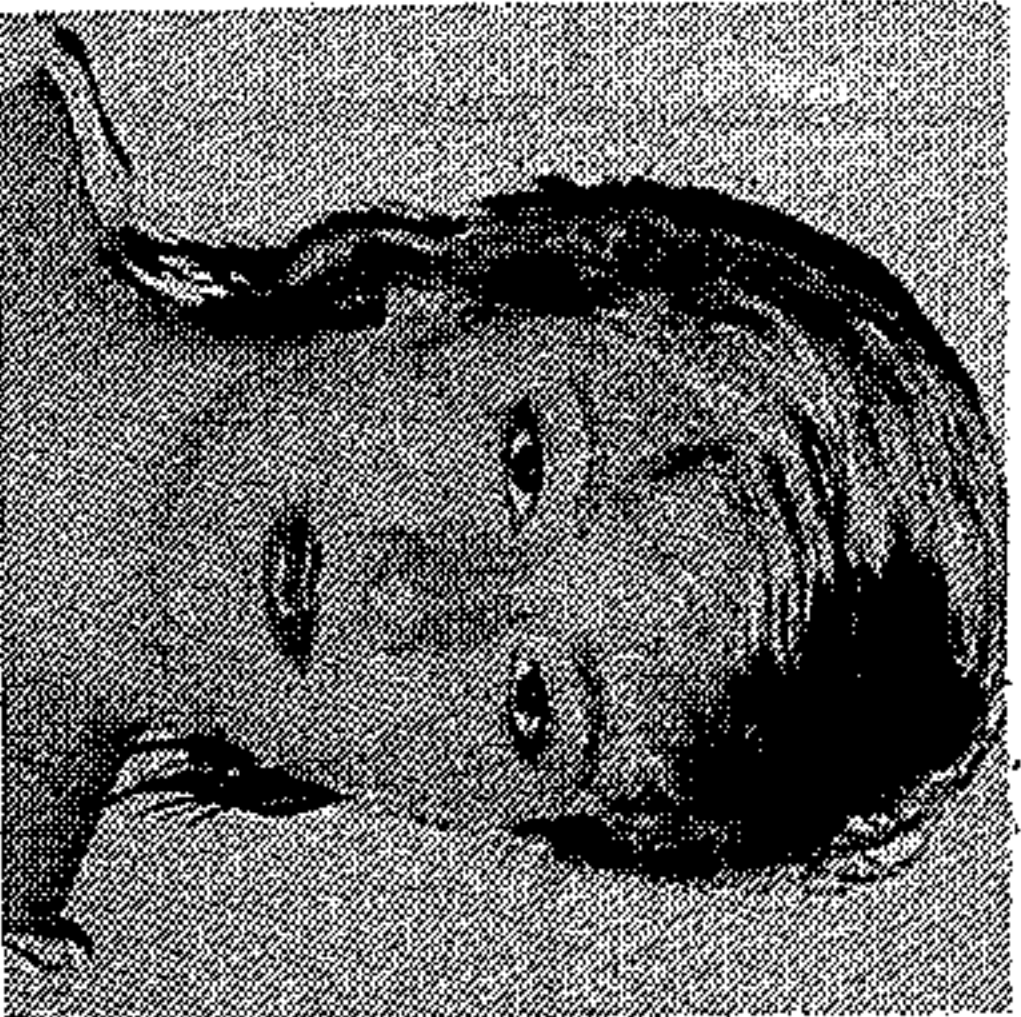
The anti-sharing verdict of the readers comes in the wake of the Government's decision last week that the status quo concerning theatre

facilities will remain — in spite of opening Cape Town's Nico Malan Opera complex to all races applications will still have to be made for special permission to perform before mixed audiences.

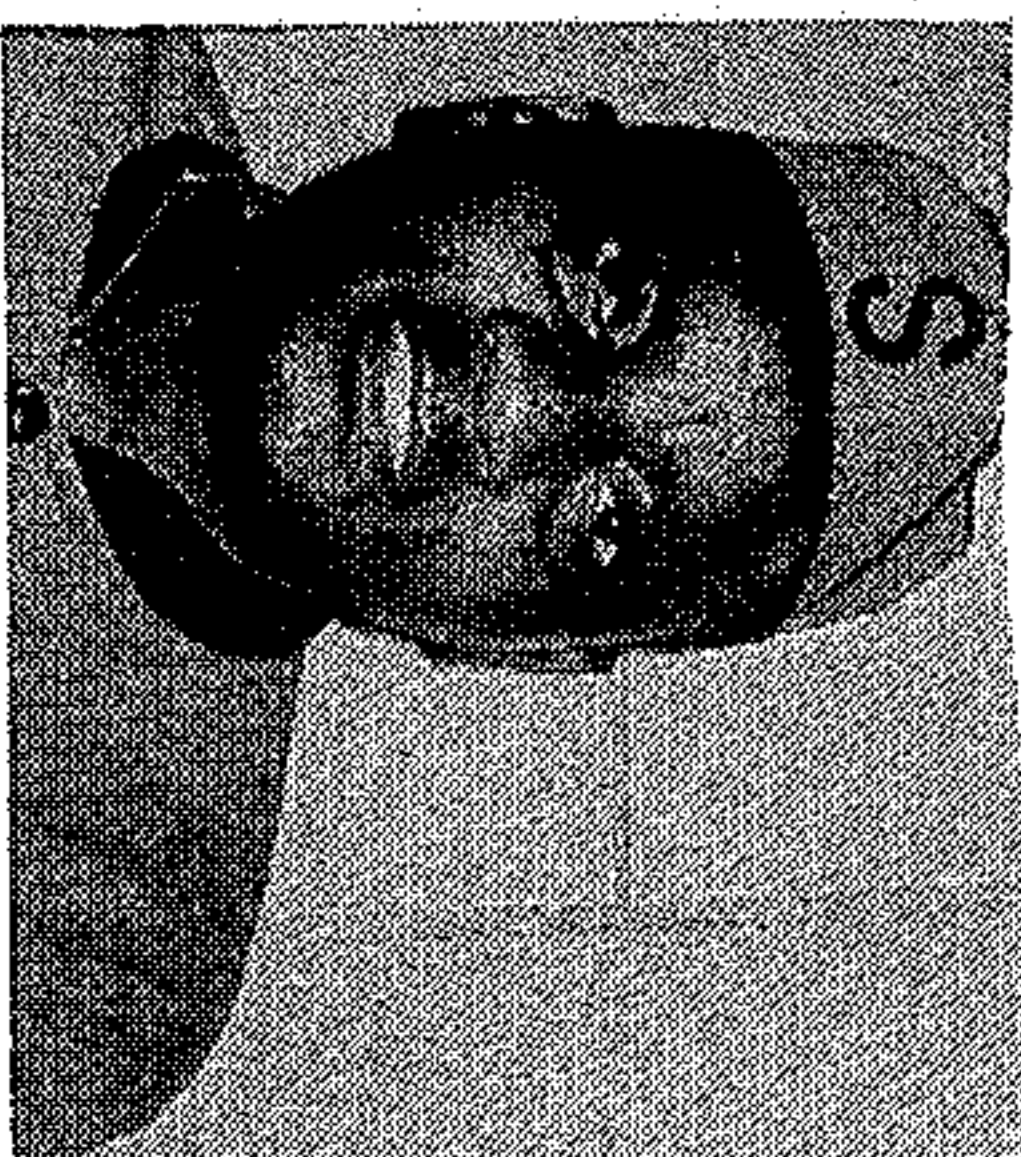
The result of Hoofstad's poll is significant in relation to the heated controversy in recent months over whether Johannesburg's Civic Theatre should be open to all races and whether the proposed Pretoria Opera House should have facilities open to all races.



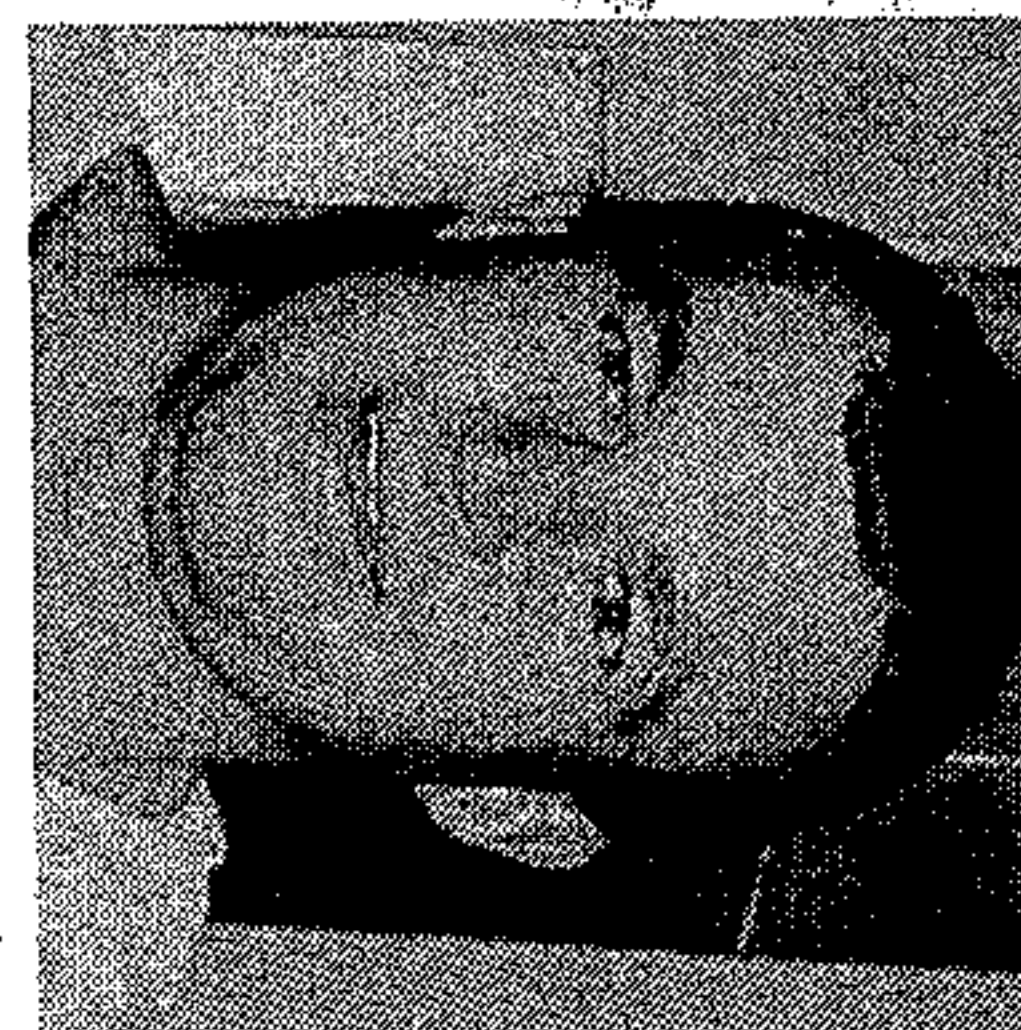
MANCA, cultural director of the Eoan Group, rehearses those who will take part in the 1975 International Festival of Youth Orchestras.



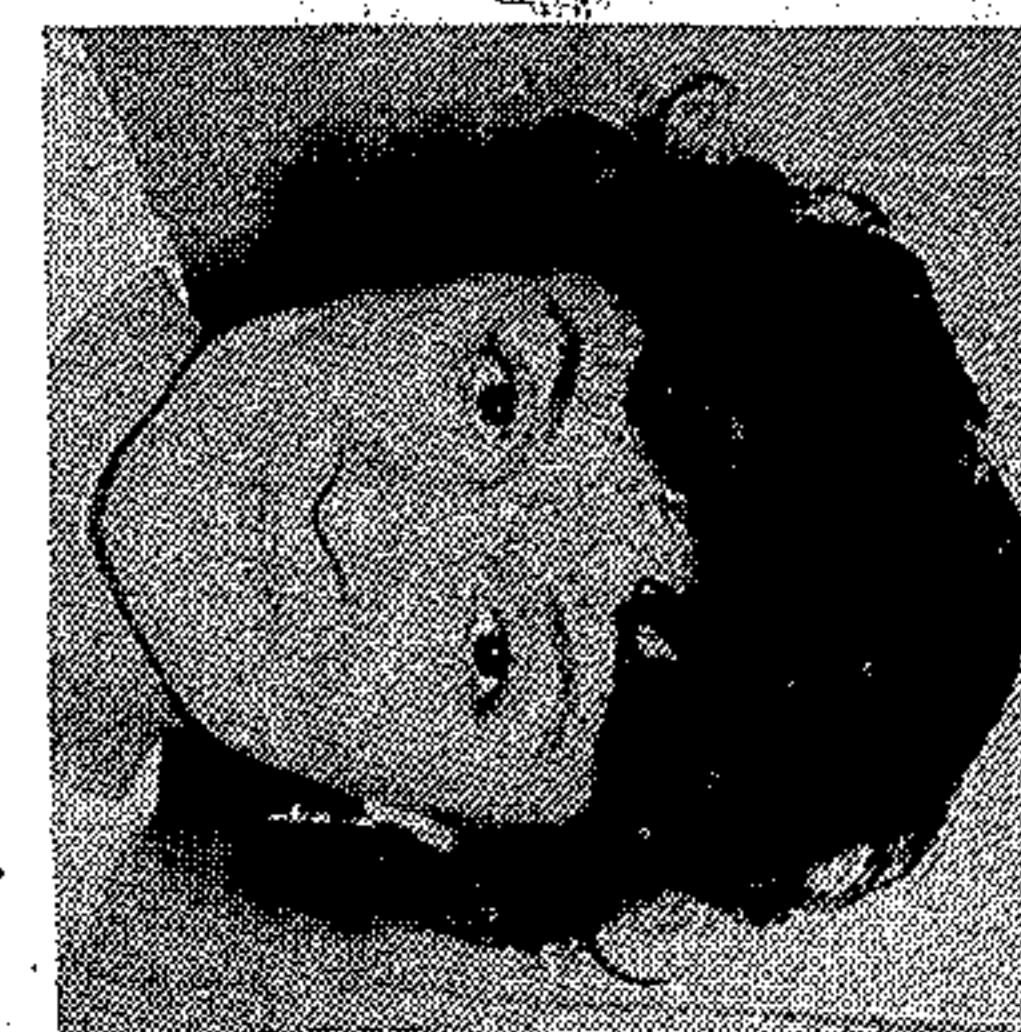
Vicky Genn . . . the cinema should be open to everyone.



Ben Modesi and Charlotte Dixon . . . we work at the restaurant next door to the cinema. We could lose our jobs.



Gloria Fourie . . . it's time facilities were multi-racial.



Threat to cinemas angers Krugersdorp residents

By Gien Elsas,
West Rand Bureau

Krugersdorp residents are angry that their two cinemas may close at the end of the month because the town council refuses to open them to all races.

A final application from Ster-Kinekor to have the cinemas declared "open" is on the management committee agenda for the end of the month, giving the council the final say. The council has twice refused to open the cinemas to all races.

Most people approached yesterday hoped the council would bend. They felt it was up to cinema patrons to decide

whether they wanted to attend a multiracial cinema.

"Our councillors seem to think we are all pro-apartheid," said Mrs Michelle Vorster. "It's time they woke up and took a look at the South African situation where everybody is opting for peaceful change."

"If the councillors object to open cinemas, they can stay at home. It will be a pity if Krugersdorp cinemagoers are the losers because of a handful of narrow-minded councillors."

Mrs Joey Ferreira, from Mindalore, said closing the cinemas would hurt business.

"The council claims to want to attract business and people to Krugersdorp. Closing the

cinemas will force people out of this dorp and into the neighbouring towns for entertainment.

"This will affect business because a family often combines a shopping trip with a cinema outing."

Mrs M Boshoff, of Randfontein, said: "The cinemas would still have the right of admission if they became multiracial. If anyone, no matter what his colour, does not look like a desirable patron, the manager can refuse him entry."

Krugersdorp's cinemas, at the Kruger Rand Centre, were opened three years ago after older complexes had been demolished.

Krugersdorp councillor Mr

Withie Fourie . . . a pity if cinema staff lost their jobs.

Gert Visser abstained the first time the issue came before the council as he wanted more details concerning the opening of the cinema. The second time he was one of two councillors who were in favour of the complex being opened to all races.

"It would be a tragedy if the councillors were to chase businessmen out of Krugersdorp because of petty racialism. We should be building Krugersdorp, not breaking it down. There is no reason why the cinema complex cannot be used by all races," he said.

Mr Bill Greyvenstein, chairman of the management committee, said: "The closure of the complex would affect several other business enterprises

All-race cinemas on agendas

By Toni Younghusband

Several white municipal councils in the Transvaal will discuss the integration of cinema audiences at the end of the month, following warnings by film companies that whites-only cinemas would be closed if they were not opened immediately to all races.

American film distributors have threatened not to renew their contracts to supply films to South Africa. Columbia Pictures has given cinemas until May 1 to integrate audiences.

Final permission to integrate cinemas rests with the Department of Constitutional

In Potchefstroom, two cinemas in the CBD remained segregated.

An application by Ster-Kinekor in October last year to have them integrated was deferred by the council to next month.

"The matter will be discussed at our town council meeting at the end of January . . . but I don't see any problems with desegregation," a council spokesman said.

In Nigel, the town's only cinema, a drive-in in the centre of a proposed white residential township, was open to whites, coloureds and Indians, and to blacks "under certain conditions", a council spokesman said.

Development and Planning.

Spokesman for Vereeniging Town Council said the town's cinemas were open to whites only. An application by Ster-Kinekor to open them to all races last year had been turned down.

A new application would be discussed at a management committee meeting on January 19.

The town's two drive-ins were open to all

in the centre. The council was the one to insist on two cinemas, not one, when the shopping centre was in the development stage. The erection of the cinema complex was one of the conditions for development.

"The toilets and restaurants in the complex are open to all races and there have been no problems. Businesses in Krugersdorp are dependent on multiracial trade and the cinema should be seen as just another enterprise."

Councillor Chris Viljoen said that he felt the council was being threatened. "When you feel threatened don't you get up and fight back? If they want to threaten us with closing the cinema, let them go ahead."

He could not say what these "conditions" were, but said when the first homes in the area were built, the drive-in would have to be moved.

Although two cinema complexes in Roodepoort were open to all races, the town's two drive-ins are for whites only.

A council spokesman said the matter would probably be brought up before the full council at the end of the month. No deadline had been given by the film distributors.

Homes plan for blacks

in QES

Own Correspondent

BLOEMFONTEIN — The private sector's biggest development project in a black township in the Free State is to go ahead at Mangaung outside Bloemfontein.

The project, by the Blamonda Housing Company, entails the provision of services for 1 200 erven (housing sites). The company is negotiating with the Urban Foundation for R8 million for the project.

It is hoped houses on these sites will be built by private developers, employers and owner-builders on a freehold or 99-year lease basis.

The Mangaung Town Council has received approval for a loan of R1,3 million for external services to Kagisanong Extension.

Boshof NGK admits blacks

Mail Correspondent

BLACKS will be allowed to worship in the NG church at Boshof in the Free State — but only after each individual application to do so has been considered on its merits by the church's steering committee.

The September 9 edition of "Die Kerkbode" — the official journal of the NGK — said a 1976 decision to bar blacks from the church had been withdrawn.

The article was headlined "Stiff churchdoors get oil at Boshof" and said the decision was in line with policy adopted by the General Synod of the NG Church.

- (b) Between 1980 and 1983
- (c) Between 1983 and 1984

	Administration Board	Private sector
(d) Sebokeng	2 150 Houses	837 Houses
Evaton	478 Core-houses	44 Houses
Bothaville	945 Core-houses	20 Houses
	200 Shell-houses	
Kroonstad	1 000 Core-houses	0
Zamdela	0	120 Houses
Bethlehem	0	6 Houses

The following sites are available for self-build:—

Evaton	10 000
Residensia	500
Zone 3	30
Zone 7	Nil
Zone 10	1 668
Zone 14	95
Zamdela	300
Refengkgotso	10
Arlington	57
Bethlehem	250
Bothaville	520
Cornelia	30
Edenville	358
Frankfort	Nil
Harrismith	52
Heilbron	1 273
Kestell	Nil
Koppies	156
Kroonstad	2 600
Lindley	259
Memel	30
Oranjeville	276
Parys	1 291
Petrus Steyn	69
Reitz	686
Steynsrus	196
Tweeling	60
Viljoenskroon	Nil
Villiers	309
Vrede	431
Vredefort	502
Warden	78

(3) Yes.

(a)	(b)
Sebokeng	2 150
Evaton	478
Bothaville	1 145

1017. Mr. P. G. SOAL asked the Minister of Co-operation and Development:

Family housing units

- (1) How many family housing units (a) were built in 1982 in each specified township falling under the control of the Orange Vaal Administration Board by (i) the said Administration Board and (ii) private owners and (b) were there in each of the above-mentioned townships as at the latest specified date for which figures are available;

- (2) how many of these units are being built at present by (a) the Orange Vaal Administration Board and (b) private owners?

The MINISTER OF CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a)	(i) Sebokeng	(ii) Arlington
	Bothaville	Bethlehem
	Frankfort	Bothaville
		Clarens
		Frankfort
		Harrismith
		Heilbron
		Kestell
		Koppies
		Kroonstad
		Lindley
		Parys
	899	2
	100	47
	200	532
		1
		22
		22
		16
		14
		4
		111
		15
		1

99-year leasehold scheme

1019. Mr. P. G. SOAL asked the Minister of Co-operation and Development:

- (1) Whether any persons in any townships falling under the control of the Orange Vaal Administration Board have applied for leases in terms of the 99-year leasehold scheme from its inception to 31 December 1982; if so, how many in each specified township;

- (2) whether any of these applications have been granted; if not, why not; if so, how many in each case?

The MINISTER OF CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

- (1) Yes.
- Sebokeng — 243
- Zamdela — 145
- Sharpeville — 21
- Kroonstad — 11
- Viljoenskroon — 3
- Frankfort — 2

- (2) Yes.
- Sebokeng—204 Granted; 39 Cancelled by applicants due to financing problems.

Zamdela—120 Granted; 25 Cancelled by applicants due to financing problems.

Sharpeville—Nil granted; 11 Pending.

Kroonstad—Nil granted; 11 Pending.

Viljoenskroon—Nil granted; 3 Pending.

Frankfort—Nil granted; 2 Pending.

30/6/83 G. 6/1.1790
Public recreational facilities
1021. MR. P. G. SOAL asked the Minister of Co-operation and Development:

- (1) Whether there are any (a) public and (b) recreational facilities in any townships falling under the control of

the Orange Vaal Administration Board; if not, why not; if so, what is the nature of these facilities in respect of each specified township;

(2) whether any additional facilities are

to be provided; if so, (a) when and (b) what facilities in each of the above-mentioned categories?

The MINISTER OF CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT:

(1) (a) *Public facilities*

(b) *Recreational facilities*

Sasolburg	1 Community hall 1 Bioscope	3 Tennis courts (all-weather) 1 Soccer stadium 4 Soccer practice fields
Vrede	1 Community hall 1 Bioscope	1 Soccer field 1 Tennis court (all-weather) 1 Practice wall
Bethlehem	1 Community hall 1 Bioscope	1 Soccer stadium 1 Practice field (soccer) 2 Tennis courts (all-weather)
Heilbron	1 Community hall 1 Bioscope	1 Soccer stadium 1 Practice wall 1 Soccer field 1 Athletic track
Viljoenskroon	1 Community hall	2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 5 Soccer fields
Bophelong	1 Community hall	1 Sports centre 1 Tennis court (all-weather) 2 Practice fields (soccer) 1 Soccer field
Boipatong	1 Community hall	1 Soccer field with pavilion 1 Soccer field 2 Netball courts 1 Tennis court with club house
Sharpeville	1 Community hall 7 Recreation halls	1 Sports complex 3 Netball courts 2 Tennis courts (all-weather)
Sebokeng	3 Community halls	3 Soccer fields 19 Practice fields 8 Tennis courts (all-weather) 1 Golf course
Sasolburg		3 Tennis courts (all-weather) 1 Soccer stadium 4 Soccer practice fields 1 Soccer field
Denysville		

(a) *Public facilities*

(b) *Recreational facilities*

Oranjeville	1 Netball court 1 Soccer field 4 Soccer practice fields
Villiers	1 Soccer field
Memel	1 Soccer field 1 netball court
Hartismith	1 Soccer stadium 2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 4 Practice walls
Warden	1 Sports complex
Frankfort	2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 1 Soccer field
Tweeling	1 Tennis court (all-weather)
Reitz	1 Soccer field 2 Practice fields 1 Tennis court (all-weather) 1 Recreation hall
Kestell	1 Soccer field
Clarens	1 Soccer field
Port Arlington	1 Soccer field
Lindley	1 Soccer field 1 Practice field 1 Tennis court (all-weather)
Petrus Steyn	1 Tennis court (all-weather) 1 Soccer field 1 Netball court
Koppies	1 Tennis court (all-weather) 1 Practice field
Edenville	1 Soccer field
Kroonstad	4 Tennis courts (all-weather) 6 Practice walls 1 Soccer stadium
Vredefort	1 Tennis court (all-weather) 1 Soccer field
Parys	1 Soccer stadium 1 Practice field (Soccer) 2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 1 Golf course (9 holes)

	(a) Public facilities	(b) Recreational facilities
Evaton		1 Soccer field 2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 14 Temporary practice fields
(2) Yes.		
(a) During this and the next financial year.		
(b) Sasolburg	4 Netball courts (all-weather) 1 Athletic track	
Denysville	1 Tennis court (all-weather) 2 Netball courts 1 Soccer field with athletic track	
Villiers	1 Athletic track 1 Tennis court (all-weather) 2 Netball courts	
Cornelia	1 Athletic track 2 Netball courts	
Vrede	2 Netball courts 1 Soccer field with athletic track, changing rooms 1 Practice field (soccer)	
Memel	1 Athletic track 2 Netball courts	
Harrismith	2 Practice fields (soccer) 4 Netball courts	
Warden	1 Tennis court (all-weather) 2 Netball courts 1 Athletic track	
Frankfort	4 Netball courts 1 Trimpark	
Tweeling	2 Netball courts 1 Athletic track	
Reitz	3 Netball courts	
Bethlehem	Floodlights at stadium 2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 4 Netball courts	
Kestell	2 Netball courts	
Lindley	2 Tennis courts (all-weather)	
Petrus Steyn	1 Tennis court (all-weather) 2 Netball courts	

(a) Public facilities	(b) Recreational facilities
Heilbron	2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 4 Netball courts
Koppies	Fence around sports fields
Edenville	2 Tennis courts (all-weather)
Kroonstad	5 Tennis courts (all-weather)
Viljoenskroon	Toilets and ticket offices 1 Volleyball court 4 Netball courts
Vredefort	1 Soccer field 1 Tennis court (all-weather) 2 Netball courts
Parys	4 Netball courts 2 Practice fields (soccer)
Bophelong	4 Netball courts 2 Tennis courts (all-weather) 1 Soccer field
Boipatong	4 Netball courts 1 Tennis court (all-weather) 1 Athletic track
Sebokeng	5 Athletic tracks 10 Netball courts
Evaton	10 Netball courts 2 Soccer fields.



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No homes, schools for Indians in Bloem

By Charles Guild

BLOEMFONTEIN — Indians from Natal and the Reef who have opened businesses in Bloemfontein are forced to sleep in their shops because there is no suitable accommodation for them in the city.

Schooling for their children is also a problem. Only one private white school is allowed to accept pupils of other races, but it cannot cope with the flood of applications.

The housing problem might be resolved before the end of the year, because the chairman of the Minister's Council in the House of Delegates, Mr Amichand Rajbansi, is to visit the city on December 10 to make a decision on suitable land for Indians.

He will meet members of the Bloemfontein City Council, and possibly also the Administrator of the Free State, Mr Louis Botha.

Areas to be considered for housing for Indians include a part of the Highveld smallholdings, about 10 km from the city; land at Douglas Valley, about 6 km out of town; and Dealesgift, to the north.

Many of the businessmen from the Rand who are sleeping in their shops say that if the housing problem is not resolved soon, they will have to pack up and return to the Rand.

At least 20 Indian schoolchildren have not been able yet to get a place in school next year. Talks have been held with the Free State Education Department.

Christian Brothers College, the only white school in Bloemfontein allowed to accept non-white students, is unable to cope with the demand.

Twelve Indian pupils have been accepted for next year in addition to the three who attended the school this year.

The principal of the school, Mr N E P Alter, said many of the applications were received after the closing date and could not be considered.

One businessman says he has four children unable to find places in school.

"We cannot allow this to go on," he said.

284 SPN 14/9/87

By Melody McDougall,
Vereeniging Bureau

An Indian couple has lashed out at the Vereeniging Hospital and accused authorities of being "colour conscious", following the death of their five-year-old brain-damaged son after he was refused admittance to the hospital.

Ebrahim Monga of Roshnee, who was suffering from dehydration and a suspected renal abscess, was certified dead on arrival at a Lenasia clinic about two hours after he was refused admittance to the Vereeniging Hospital last Tuesday night.

DRIVEN AWAY

The child's grief-stricken mother, Mrs Fatima Monga (27), of Sarosjni Street, Roshnee, claims they were driven away from the whites-only hospital "because of authorities there being colour conscious".

But the Vereeniging Hospital superintendent, Dr Jurie van der Vyver, rejected the allegation, saying the child had not been refused admittance because of colour or race, but because of a lack of

Hospital denies parents' claims

accommodation.

According to Mrs Monga, Ebrahim was rushed to the Vereeniging Hospital after their family doctor advised them that the boy needed urgent specialised treatment.

Dr van der Vyver said: "It is our hospital's policy to admit any person, regardless of colour or race, in emergency situations until the patient's condition has stabilised. But on Tuesday night there was not a single bed available in the children's ward, or in any of the other wing wards."

Dr van der Vyver said he was puzzled about why the child's condition was not stabilised before he was transferred to another hospital, or why the patient was not connected to a drip and transported by ambulance to another hospital of the parents' choice.

Vereeniging desegregates its cinemas

BOTH of Vereeniging's cinemas are to be opened to all races, the management committee of the town council has decided.

Columbia Pictures in the US has said it will not supply films to segregated cinemas and drive-ins after the end of this month.

Prior to the decision, taken on Monday night, only one of the town's cinemas, in a free trading area, was open to

all races. Permission for the other to be desegregated had been refused because it was in an all-white area.

"We're absolutely delighted and thrilled at the courageous step taken," Anthony Salusbury, MD of Satbel, said yesterday.

Other cinemas still to be desegregated are in Krugersdorp, Pretoria, Potchefstroom and Roodepoort.

2/1/81
RICHARD BARTLEY

Govt says sanctions inevitable

CAPE TOWN — Government had finally and "clinically" accepted mandatory sanctions were inevitable and had effectively challenged the UN Security Council to pass a resolution now before it calling for such action, a reliable government source said yesterday.

Debate on the resolution was to start early today (SA time).

Proposed sanctions include an end to further investment in or loans to SA; a ban on iron and steel imports; an ban on Krugerrand sales; an end to all military, police or intelligency co-operation; and an end to oil exports to SA.

9/3/88
CHRIS CAIRNCROSS (289)
Britain and the US were likely to veto the resolution.

The government source said SA first threw down the gauntlet last week when Ambassador to the UN Les Manley challenged the world body "to do its damndest".

He said government had decided mandatory sanctions were inevitable. "Sooner or later we are going to reach the worst-case situation. And the sooner we reach that position the better."

Government felt foreign governments, activists and terrorists

within the country were encouraged to believe government would eventually bow to just the threat of sanctions and other punitive action.

"This perception must be terminated as soon as possible. We now wish to get away from all this bluff and put these threats to the test."

The source stressed there would be no consolation if the demands contained in the resolution were watered down.

He said demands for the total eradication of apartheid and for a one man one vote was totally unacceptable to government.

The black man's burden

584
701A

The thought of Boksburg being transformed into a ghost town through a commercial boycott might come as a surprise to those who have ever visited this hub of the East Rand, and the fabled riviera of Boksburg Lake. Perfectly reflecting local white political opinion, its voters elected a Conservative Party council — which has set about implementing CP policy to the extent it can do so at local level.

So parks, pools and the CBD are to be emphatically proclaimed for "whites only" — a folly whose penalty will be felt in the High Street shops and a capital starvation which will probably benefit surrounding towns. White people who are only living — not trading — there will also be the poorer: a money drain coupled to the stigma which the mere name of the place will now arouse will probably see a drop in residential property prices.

Other CP towns which follow suit will experience similar effects.

However, the Boksburg council is perfectly correct in pointing out it is only following the law to the letter. The Separate Amenities Act, which gives it the mandate to close out other-than-whites, was passed decades ago by the self-same Nat government which now so vocally abhors the council's action.

Indeed, amid the legal tangles that lie ahead, it might also be considered whether, for example, the SABC was in contravention of the emergency regulations by giving so much air time to those firmly advocating a consumer boycott of white shops. Suddenly the government — in slamming the CP on this issue — appears to be saying segregation is wrong and not in the national interest. Well — what about the Group Areas Act, then?

And even Johannesburg, with its sizeable PFP representation, should put its hand on its heart and say it has done as much about desegregating the buses and swimming pools as, by implication, it ought to have done if it is to beat Boksburg about the ears for its feudal ways.

So while the CP in Boksburg has demonstrated its inability to reckon with the serious consequences of racism — forgetting that Verwoerd once clearly linked being white and separate with being poor — it has been given the luxury to do so by a ruling party that throughout all the tiers of government places the emphasis on local option, with the deck stacked in favour of the whites, who are becoming poorer.

If you really don't want embarrassing racial segregation in Boksburg or Krugersdorp, get rid of the laws that make it possible anywhere — including Pretoria and Durban. ■

BOKSBURG AND APARTHEID

Giving them rope

As Boksburg businessmen weigh the effects on their turnovers (and continued operation) of a highly probable black consumer boycott of the town, government is taking a wait-and-see attitude to the Conservative Party (CP) controlled town council's plans to reimpose old-style apartheid.

This is the first concrete example of CP policy in action, says a highly placed National Party (NP) source, and government is using the opportunity "to let the voters see what happens when they're in power." Pretoria's plan, clearly, is to watch the CP get hoist by its own petard. Signs are that this could well happen (already some stores are displaying "open to all" signs) — and in the process no doubt deliver a salutary lesson to reactionary whites nationally. Could Boksburg mark the beginning of the end for the Conservatives?

Indeed, it was confidently being predicted that the by-election in Boksburg's Ward 7 (which was due to take place on Wednesday), would see the independent/PFP candidate Issy Kramer trounce the CP. NP leader in the council, Chris Smit, went so far as to tell the *FM*: "I will be surprised if the CP candidate retains his deposit."

According to Smit, the CP won its council majority (12 of the 20 wards) in October due purely to the bad publicity attached to two NP councillors' particular circumstances. "The CP slipped in through the back door. That is why they will not accept my challenge to resign, as we will, and fight the

election again. If they do, the Boksburg electorate will discard them with the necessary contempt they deserve for this action (bringing back the past)."

Smit, incidentally, has claimed in council — apropos of the question of white "nomi-

grows.

Therefore, says Malan, who is also an NP councillor and industrial relations officer for Malbak, CP policy will have a "disastrous" effect on small businessmen in Boksburg. He describes the CP decision as "irrational as it

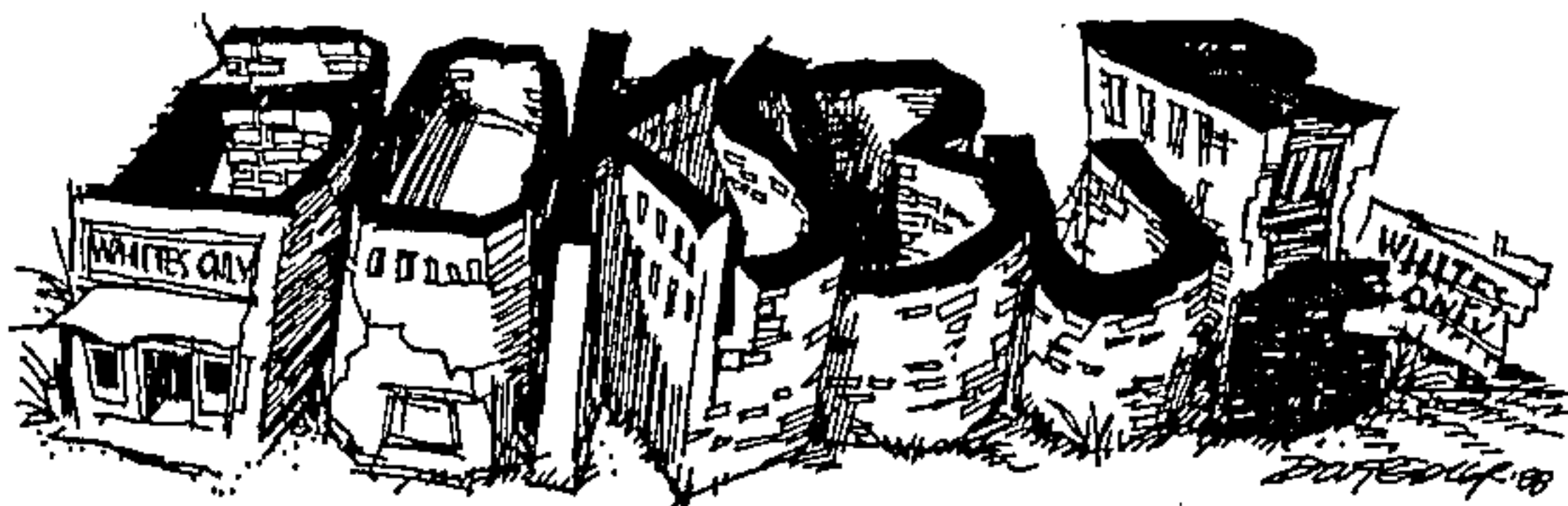
does not consider its effect on business and buying patterns, the effect on international companies, import of strategic components — and it ruins race relations. We are going backwards, to a policy which it has been proven cannot work."

He warns of the possibility of companies decid-

ing to relocate away from Boksburg, the East Rand's biggest industrial town, and the implications this would have for the town's tax and rates base. A branch of a leading bank this week cancelled its booking at the Boksburg lake where it had planned to hold its Christmas lunch party, just as Reiger Park High did for its matric party.

Boksburg Chamber of Commerce and Industries chairman Johann Viljoen says "this town is going to suffer from this (CP policy)" and expresses grave concern at the prospect of a black buyers' boycott, since blacks account for about 50% of the town's purchasing power. Viljoen observes that such a cut in turnover will mean less funding for RSCs, which depend on levies on business. He warns further of the potential the CP step has of causing disinvestment from the town, and scaring off any new investment.

Meanwhile, the local chamber, sakekamer and the Boksburg Industrialists' Association were due to meet this week to discuss the situation and make plans. A meeting with the council was postponed; in any event, it is highly unlikely that the CP will reverse its decision.



nee" stores — that the CP chairman of the management committee, Gideon Fourie, "who started all this nonsense," has his suits made by an Indian tailor, and that the CP mayor Beyers de Klerk, also has an account with an Indian shop in Boksburg. Perhaps this explains the CP's apparent intention *not* to interfere with black traders who have white fronts — even though the Boksburg CBD has not been declared an "open" business area.

The NP MEC for local government in the Transvaal, Olaus van Zyl, points out that in terms of the Separate Amenities Act, the Boksburg council has full jurisdiction over municipal "own" facilities such as the lake and parks (but not over stores, cinemas and hotels). Local authorities, he explains, are independent bodies. Further, the devolution of power is government policy and is being extended. The central authorities cannot, therefore, act against a reactionary town council — or a more liberal one such as Cape Town's.

"I've appealed to all local authorities to think very carefully before taking certain decisions; not to harm race relations and to look to their interests and those of the country," says Van Zyl — in terms of whose party's statutes the CP is, after all, acting.

Boksburg Afrikaanse Sakekamer chairman Denis Malan described CP plans for the town as bad news for Boksburg and its business environment. He points to projections that coloured people's buying power on the East Rand as a whole is set to increase significantly — due partly to population growth. Also, that 40% of Africans, coloureds and Indians already shop in their own group areas, while 26% of purchases are made outside the East Rand. And CBD shopping areas in the region are set to decline from around 57% to 48% in the next decade, as the number of black small businesses

AN OPEN LETTER TO THE WHITE RESIDENTS OF BOKSBURG

On October 26 1988 you, the white voters of Boksburg, sent a very clear message to our town's black (Coloured, African, Indian) citizens.

As blacks we are once again subjected to the power of the white vote — the only vote that counts for anything in our country. We have come to know this vote as a powerful force in our lives — always to our detriment, pain and sorrow.

It is the same vote that 24 years ago arbitrarily uprooted us as residents of Bantani and made us residents of Boksburg, destroying community and family life in its wake. It is the same vote that uprooted the community of Attertonville (how many of you remember that?) and resettled them in what you today prefer to call the "city" of Vosloorus. It is the same vote that continues to bar us from sharing in the wealth and progress of Boksburg and take our rightful place as full citizens.

Now you have used that vote again. You chose to continue trampling on our dignity and to deny us our right to full citizenship of this town.

That you again responded selfishly to the genuine and legitimate aspiration of your fellow black citizens was not a total surprise. For years we have suffered verbal abuse from your leaders in the town council be they Nationalist or Conservative or whatever. Abusive rhetoric such as that we are leeches riding on the backs of white tax payers characterized their dealings with the people of Reigerpark and Vosloorus.

Your new town council hardly wasted time implementing the "swart gevaar" mandate you gave them.

We too have a message which we wish to send to you:

The Conservative Party has stated its view namely that although black shoppers are not barred from shopping in the CBD they would prefer it if black shoppers shopped within their own residential areas. We will heed that call and show them a different kind of power, a power born of a community confident of its own dignity and worth. We will take our trade to those who recognise us as equals.

This is not about swimming in "your" pools, walking on "your" lawns, dancing in "your" halls or playing on "your" sports fields. This is about our pride and dignity as human beings and our God given right to be treated as equals. We refuse to be dehumanized further, because of your misplaced fears, blatant bigotry and extreme selfishness.

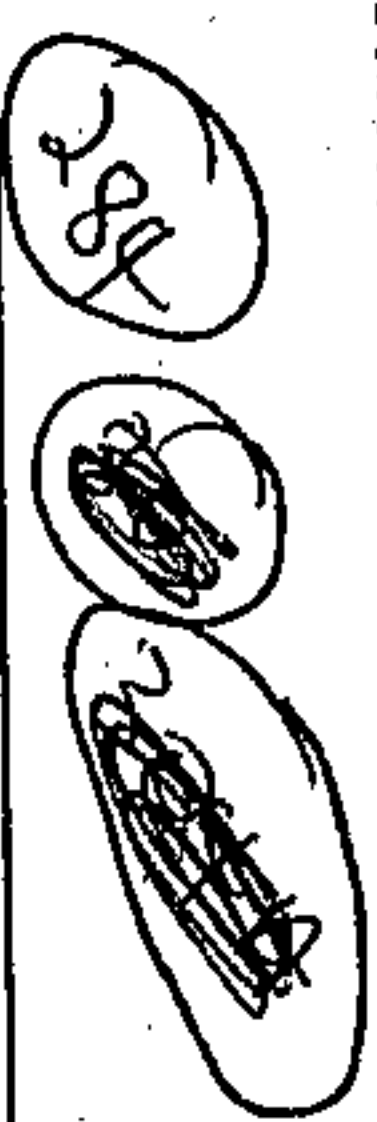
From the residents of Reiger Park

POLITICAL PRISONERS

Generation gap

Many will see the hand — or at least, the increased influence — of Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha behind a number of welcome moves this week that, if nothing else, could begin to crack the political stalemate that has dominated our lives this year. Hopefully the momentum can be sustained.

It was a rare week for SA — which basked in international praise following the commuting of the death sentences of the Sharpeville Six, an agreement on Namibian inde-



THE irony of the Conservative Party's victory in several municipalities during the October elections is it's been a triumph for the National Party.

The Nats have turned the CP's attempts to reintroduce visible public apartheid (VPA) into a public relations exercise which makes them look like bleeding-heart liberals to their friends abroad and those inside South Africa who desperately seek signs of genuine change.

In fact, it is part of the "red-herring factor" on which the Nats thrive. For long, black political analysts have noted how the Nats take a sidetrack on the road to reform.

The small CP victory has given the Nats a wonderful opportunity. The Nats have asked the CP if it is aware of the wider consequences, namely tighter international economic sanctions, and damage to domestic race relations.

That question suggest two things: one that sanctions and damaged race relations are the result of the reintroduction of visible public apartheid, not the Nats' own crude apartheid policies; and two, that the Nats themselves no longer practise apartheid and their policies are accepted by blacks.

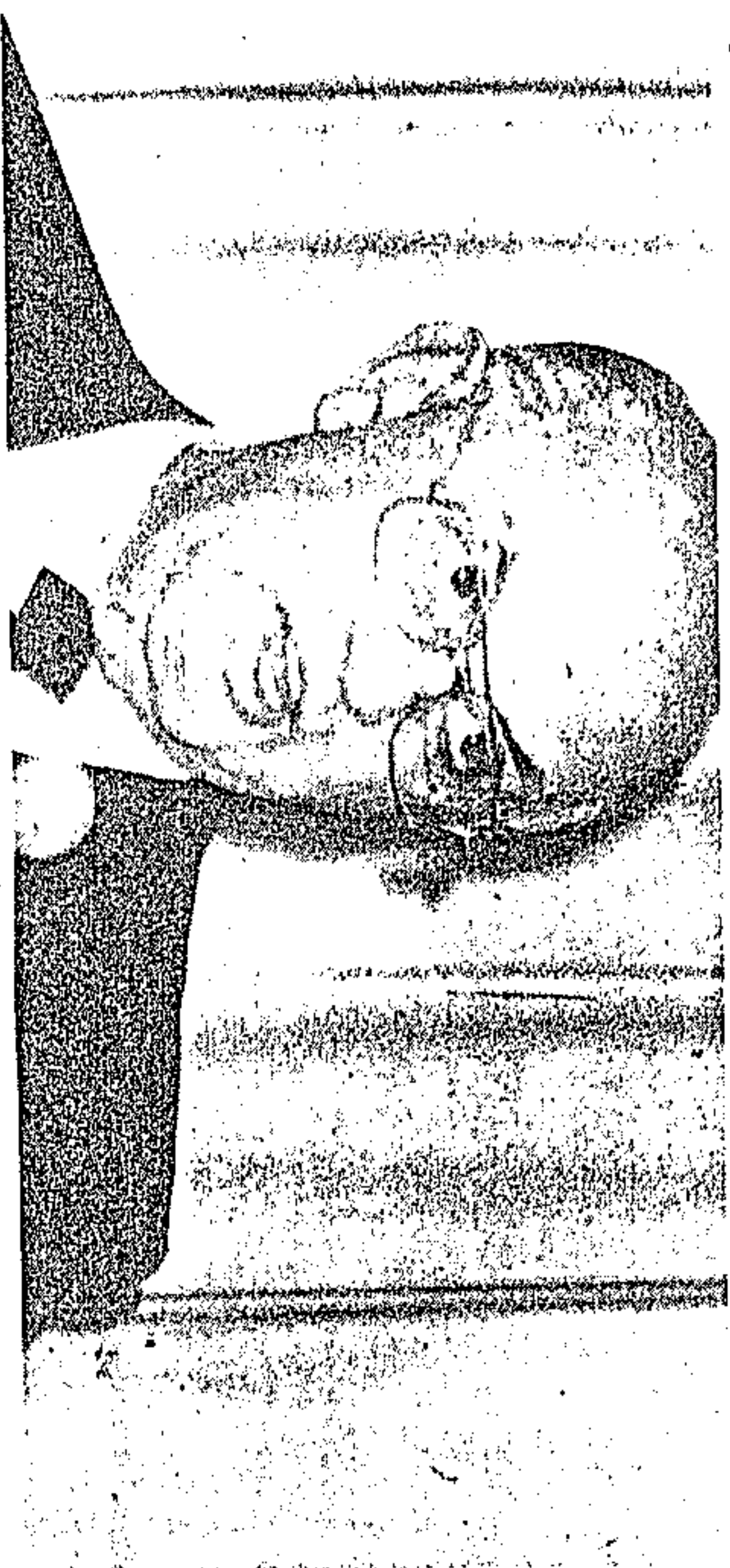
The Nats avoid the question: If we are good enough to work, eat, play and patronise cinemas in white-designated areas, why are we not good enough to live and attend schools there?

From the old Terrorism Act in the 1960s through to the current Internal Security Act and the Emergency Regulations, it has been a criminal offence to advocate economic boycotts and sanctions. Yet this week, SABC news bulletins have been repeating statements by black groups that they will "withhold" their economic support of white businesses in Boksburg.

That smells fishy. It suggests that it is kosher to call for boycotts of "racist" whites, but not of the other. In fact, recent municipal and parliamentary elections show that some 80 percent of whites support either the VPA of the CP or the less visible public apartheid of the Nats. "Withholding economic support" is

CP racism lets Nats off the hook

By AMEEN AKHALWAYA, editor of the Indicator



State president PW Botha

a euphemism for sanctions and boycotts. Should extra-parliamentary groups call on its followers to withhold economic support from all white businesses until the Nats introduce genuine democracy, they would soon face charges of treason.

The red-herring factor is repeatedly seen in issues such as the Menlo Park affair. An African youngster at a predominantly white private school is barred by the Menlo Park school from its athletics track.

A huge outcry follows — orchestrated by the SABC which warns about greater international sports isolation. The government

gives the impression that it believes in nonracism by criticising the Menlo Park move.

White sportspeople who claim they are not interested in politics suddenly dance to the Na/SABC tune, endorsing anti Menlo Park petitions.

The central issue is overlooked: If our children are acceptable enough to run alongside whites on a school athletics track, they are good enough to sit alongside whites in the same classroom.

The Nats in fact are doing exactly what the CP says it will do. Black classrooms are chronically

overcrowded; white schools are closed for lack of pupils. Instead of doing the obvious, the Nats expect us to applaud when they reveal how much more money they are pumping into black education.

Similarly, Baragwanath Hospital is chronically overcrowded.

The Nats announce again that another hospital will be built in Soweto. Amid the applause, little mention is made of under-utilised hospitals for whites which could give some relief to black patients.

In the Lenasia/Emmerdale area, more than 300 000 people have waited more than 30 years for a

public hospital. A 98-bed facility is eventually built.

For more than two years, the provincial authorities responsible for the hospital plead that insufficient funds or staff (or both) are available to open it. Eventually, after widespread public protests, the House of Delegates steps in to announce that it has found enough money to open the hospital next January.

The announcement comes during the run-up to the municipal elections. Residents are expected to believe that the good Nats have made it possible for their good, apartheid-entrenching HoD to properly utilise the tri-cameral system created by the Nats in the first place.

The government creates an artificial housing shortage in our areas by delaying proclamation of land for development.

Eventually, some land is made available. The government announces a subsidy for first-time home-buyers. We are expected to applaud it for its generosity.

Then the government introduces a red-herring: henceforth, the land will be developed by the private sector, thus pricing new houses out of the range of many ordinary workers.

Now the developers, and the employers who cannot provide housing loans, are seen as the culprits, not the policies of the Nats which force the economically worst-off to stay furthest away from their workplaces.

These red herrings are gobbled up, not by those of us who often wonder what the fuss is about when they can't feel the benefits of Nat "reform", but by Pretoria's "friends" abroad, and whites in South Africa who are annoyed by our refusal to be grateful.

For most of us forced to accept Nat rules and regulations, the CP apartheid uproar is a red herring. Never mind VPA, if all residents of Boksburg, Pietersburg, Springs, Brakpan and elsewhere were allowed to vote in the municipal elections irrespective of race, the CP wouldn't be in control.

Nor, for that matter, would the Nats. And that is the crux of Nat-style reform.

The ghost of apartheid past

■ The Conservatives in Boksburg will get their white Christmas — poor and bleak



Boksburg has written itself into history: it will be a name that stands for blunt, Verwoerdian apartheid, a place where the light of reform was plunged into darkness. But as events unfold there, and in other towns that follow its example, the demonstration effect could be profound indeed.

It does not do to get too moralistic or simplistic about the matter. It was, after all, Verwoerd himself — hero of the folk that he was — who said it was better to be poor, white and separate than rich and mixed. But now real people are finding out what that really means. Many, particularly organised business in the town, have already said they don't like it.

Boksburg perhaps never really deserved its off-blue-collar image — the car up on bricks, the kids in a tyre swing, the wife in curlers and the dogs barking at passing blacks. But, though it has some extremely affluent areas, that *Siener in Die Suburbs* scenario stuck; like Brakpan, Nigel and Springs, it was seen as verkramp at the core.

So no one was really surprised that the Conservative Party (CP) won 12 of the town's 20 council wards in the October

municipal elections. But then the party revealed what everyone should have known — that it meant exactly what its leaders spouted on public platforms — and Boksburg has become the party's first urban testing ground for its perceived mandate to roll back any and all manifestations of change or reform. The "whites only" signs are back.

The result over the past fortnight has been a quiet but devastating boycott of the town by black and coloured consumers resident in the area — and they account for half of Boksburg's spending power. "This town is bleeding," warned Boksburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry chairman Johann Viljoen. Next year, market researchers estimate, black Boksburgers' spending will top R320m — though perhaps not, if the boycott is maintained, in Boksburg.

The growing importance of black consumer power is a national phenomenon ignored, as Boksburg demonstrates, to the peril of the Right and those unfortunate enough to live where they have control, white or black. This inevitably raises wider implications.

There is the principle of the boycott itself. Those, including the FM, who are opposed to sanctions against SA need to consider whether the same principle — a "liberal" seizure of the moral high ground through impoverishment — is not at work here. After all, if Boksburg council capitulates, or the town dies on its feet, foreign sanctioners will say this is simply a local demonstration of the efficacy of their tactics.

This is partly true. But there is one important distinction to be borne in mind: that sanctions are imposed on a country as a whole by outsiders, and that this boycott represents a consumer choice targeted at people who have said plainly enough they don't like the colour of the consumers' skin. That makes it a gut issue; the man in Reiger Park is taking his Christmas bonus elsewhere; there is no law that requires him to do otherwise. He is saying: if you don't want me in your park, I won't buy in your shop.

Sanctions are brought about through the imposition of various foreign laws and agree-

ments in a manner that distorts the rules of international trade. It prevents the consumer from exercising choice. Boksburg is a terribly visible symbol of racism, and the diversion of buying power in response is an understandable, human response.

It remains true that if you want to hurt someone, you hit his pocket. And so, because of that new-found visibility of the place, multinationals and companies who profess a

social conscience have already taken their own action. A number of corporate accounts, the FM learns, are now to be relocated to banks outside Boksburg. A major local employer, Colgate-Palmolive, has applied for rezoning to place it outside the council's ambit. Various contracts with Boksburg firms have been cancelled.

This means that the town's rates and tax base is already shrinking — and that, coupled to the direct money drain of the boycott, means Boksburg cannot be sustained as a prosperous entity unless Boks-

burgers and the CP do not really mind sliding back into the economic climate of the Thirties. With bittersweet irony, Reiger Park council leader Buch Jantjies observed of white Boksburgers: "They wanted their town white, they are going to get it white; it should be a white Christmas for them."

But Boksburg is not a monolithic place — white dissension is evident in all kinds of ways. There is a distinct backlash against the council — partly reflected in Issy Kramer's stunning victory over the CP in last week's by-election (See *People*); and in the generally held view, by NP council leader Chris Smith, for example, that a re-fought election would see off mayor Beyers de Klerk and his right-wing cohorts in no uncertain terms. It must after all be hard to take the stigma of your town having become the polecat of the country. Even sports fixtures are being cancelled since the council will not allow mixed team participation in its facilities.

Of course, the CP can legally take these steps because of the Separate Amenities Act — which specifically means that separate does not have to be equal, and that certain facilities, including park benches, can indeed



NP council leader Smith



Trying to woo them back... but the stigma remains



Mayor De Klerk... will he lose the next election?



Black civic leaders inspect Boksburg Lake ... writing on the wall

be reserved for whites. The Act was passed by the Nats in the Fifties, has been under investigation this decade, but stays on the books. So what is preventing Pretoria from simply scrapping it — as it should have done years ago, in line with the reform pronouncements of P W Botha?

So far government has been perfectly content to sit back and let the demonstration effect of CP rule sink in. Maybe it *will* get rid of the Act — but for the moment it can bask in the false perception that blatant racism is somehow a CP invention. This is not to deny that it *has* changed its ways and continues to do so — too little, too late, perhaps; but this week alone it responded to the permanence of black urbanisation by making huge tracts of land available for black settlement adjacent to Soweto (see *Current Affairs*). This, to an extent, ameliorates the intended effect of its squatting law which helped precipitate the constitutional crisis in parliament this year.

Of course, merely responding pragmatically to an ineluctable fact is in itself not particularly praiseworthy — but it is a far cry from the bulldozers and forced removals of the not-so-distant past. Remember that before Khayelitsha there was Crossroads and the notorious winter night raids on squatters; new townships in the PWV should avert such a repeated violation of human rights.

Ironically, while boycotts as such are illegal, this one actually suits Pretoria and no action has been taken against the residents of Reiger Park and Vosloorus. The argument remains that if blacks really wanted sanctions against SA, and the resultant destruction of their jobs — which some church leaders insist they do — the best way to bring this about would be to resign *en masse*. It is spending power and discretionary capital which is being diverted from Boksburg — not labour.

Elsewhere on the CP-run East Rand (Brakpan, Springs, and Nigel), the black communities were waiting to see if the action in Boksburg leads to changes back to (rela-

tive) normality before embarking on boycotts of their own.

Boksburg, and the almost universal condemnation of CP policy it has provoked, has also provided a conundrum for blacks: whether it is preferable to have outright racism, CP-style, or the National Party's rather more embarrassed version, which at least holds out the prospect of more sensitive treatment. On balance, it seems the latter is easier to live with. But once the Boksburg issue is resolved — or if it simply drags on indefinitely into the new year — the focus of attention will definitely turn to the Separate Amenities Act, group areas and the race classification laws.

This is because, even despite the Act, town councils and local authorities do have the option of desegregating facilities within their control. What this usually amounts to is concessions for the local coloured, Indian or African township to use the town hall or swimming pool for some annual gala event. But white swimming pools, in particular, are as a rule reserved for whites only throughout the country. Johannesburg's bus services are

cunningly segregated.

What Boksburg has done is crystallise the offensiveness of *overt* petty apartheid, which is more-or-less a way of life in SA anyway. In September, a long-distance swimming event finishing at Bloubergstrand in Cape Town had to be moved elsewhere because blacks are not allowed on Bloubergstrand. In May, the mayor of Durban, Henry Klotz, was suspended from the NP for refusing to go along with fellow party members on the council who decreed the city's two remaining whites-only beaches should stay white.

Just prior to Klotz's suspension, the Supreme Court declared that Port Elizabeth's beaches (famed for Allan Hendrickse's illegal swim), had never legally been closed to blacks and would therefore have to be opened. But then, up popped the Administrator of the Cape, Gene Louw (NP), with an appeal — pending whose decision the beaches were once again closed.

But it wasn't all regression. In June, Sats officials burnt whites-only signs in Cape Town after racial segregation was formally abolished on trains in the western Cape. A

similar step was taken on suburban commuter trains in the PWV a month later — although the lifting of apartheid on all mainline trains looks like taking a little longer.

In short, since local government is an "own" affair, the rule, however you bend or apply it, is that the facilities under any council's control are often appropriated for the ruling race group. The CP's Koos van der Merwe is quite right in accusing the Nats of practising *skelm* apartheid and in challenging NP Transvaal leader F W de Klerk to throw open facilities in his Vereeniging constituency, or belt up. The Independent Party's Jannie Momberg similarly challenged an altogether unctuous Foreign Minister Pik



MP Blanché ... fears of 'overcrowding'

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Botha, who lambasted the CP over Boksburg, to "put your money where your mouth is" by telling President Botha to scrap the Act.

What excuse is there for not doing so?

Boksburg's MP Sakkie Blanché (NP), argues that separate amenities cannot be done away with — particularly not in Boksburg where the ERPM mine has its operation in the centre of the town, with 28 000 black hostel dwellers. If the facilities were opened to all, "the pool would be theirs, not ours. The Act is therefore necessary in a town like ours," Blanché says. He has called on the mine to build its own pools. "Scrapping the Act would create problems and drive people to the CP for all time," he believes, while conceding "we could probably make changes

to the Act."

In effect, the building of sufficient "own" facilities for each race group is government's answer to the problem — as Chris Heunis has explained in his own inimitable fashion. In the meantime, of course, whites may enjoy "their" facilities because, they say, they paid for them.

According to independent councillor Issy Kramer, however: "The CP argument that blacks don't pay rates and taxes is refuted by the fact that blacks don't own the homes they live in; and their consumer income subsidises the trader and industrialist thus enabling him to pay his dues to the local authority."

Again, the point about the interdependence of the economy is made. And there is a further dimension: the Nationalists, in at-

tempting to reform, have felt it necessary to create structures which make for a maximum of local control. White local authorities, particularly in the Transvaal, are very often verkramp. This exposes a serious flaw in reform — that it should be executed from the top down, not bottom-up.

What Boksburg is doing is offensive — and it is paying a severe penalty for its ways. Government is pleased at the penalty because it believes voters will return to its fold as the High Street shops fail and the multi-nationals relocate and the buyers stay out. But the Separate Amenities Act is ultimately its baby — and this particular baby is going to have to be thrown out with the dirty bathwater of the past.

The Nats cannot have it both ways. ■

QPR - Trip 10/12/88 28/11/88

Natal mob stab man to death

PRETORIA. — The body of a man stabbed to death was found near Taylors Halt in Natal after a mob attacked a home, police said yesterday.

The body was found at Ndindi at daylight — about three hours after the attack.

A man was also injured at Botshabello in Bloemfontein when a group set a house alight.

Police said they baton-charged a large group of placard-wielding demonstrators outside the Karos group's Johannesburg Hotel when they refused to disperse. Four men and a woman were arrested. Workers have been on strike for three months over wages and the dismissal of colleagues who observed the June 16 stayaway. — Sapa

By SYLVIA VOLLENHOVEN

RIGHT-WING people look different, they talk different and they are, well, just different.

This is not prejudice, it is a fact gleaned from a whole day of research in Boksburg.

I sometimes imagine that in hell there are several trains.

One of the worst ones has a giant snort standing on a platform shouting: "Boksburg Brakpan, Benoni, Springs ... Alle stasies".

Journalists like to make the world think they speed to each assignment with confidence and ease.

But if one is told to go to Boksburg and ask the whites there what they think, the confidence evaporates and you hope you have a minor accident that lands you in hospital with a badly bruised (but easily mended) something.

However, instead of the hordes of Neanderthal lynchers and racists who run prying blacks out of town, I found nothing but confused, embarrassed and panicky whites in Boksburg.

They look so different because they are so different.

At the famous Boksburg Lake I found only people who wanted to share their stretch of water with everyone.

For those of you who have been too bored to follow this "Dallas of the Dumps" saga, the story so far is

Amma! AS Boksburg's whites amper join struggle

that the CP won the majority in the Boksburg town council and now they want everything - the parks, lakes, halls, sikamers, waslappies, brockies, prayers etc - to be so spierwit that most of the CP would not qualify for the usage and abuse if this were to happen.

Maybe that's why they look so different.

The "other" Boksburg whites, whatever they might be, say they have always been such nice people, but you know how it is.

One does not get involved in politics when one lives with one's soft-spots firmly ensconced in that "taste test" stuff.

No real butter in Boksburg.

Outside of a minority of serious people, white politics does not

involve thinking or skill. It is only a gut reaction - invariably pre-historic - to discomfort or comfort.

In Boksburg black people have been threatening, for the first time, to remove the Rama.

But if you went to Boksburg last week you would swear that this is a town where the whites are clandestinely part of the struggle and the CP was just a passing, alien aberration.

They had a mass meeting - there was, I swear, an *amper*-fest in the air - where a Nat smoothie spoke of "solidarity".

I could quote some sentiments that sounds mind-boggling for Boksburg but the truth is that the whites were being punched in the pocket, the only attack they

understand.

A successful consumer boycott had been launched and one statistic stands out: In one day, one of the big supermarkets had their usual average takings for December 1 drop from R90 000 to R18 000.

Don't worry to ask where the police, dogs, guns, Casspirs and emergency regulations disappeared to.

This was a boycott in support of, well, the Nats who were sore that they lost this verstrample town to the CP who in turn want to put the shine back on apartheid.

So next time the anti-apartheid activists get together, they should probably make sure they include some whites whose sole qualification is that they are anti-CP.

Oh, I almost forgot about The Lake, the centre of the controversy. It is a flat, dull, greenish, dirty stretch of water with manicured lawns, a lifeless fountain and old coloured light bulbs that do not get turned on at night.

We, down here, can afford to be snooty about their "sacred" scenery.

In any case, why do they desert such shrines to descend on us, round about now.

Who knows what alien forms could be defiling the Lake in the next few weeks while they moan about our beaches, sizzling fat and falling short of waistlines, decent manners and the exchange rate.

OK, I have one admission to make to the Boksburgers (surely there should be another term, this one makes them sound edible). I was really scared ONCE.

An African photographer and I were crossing one of the cute wooden bridges, next to a silent, giant wheel on the water (with more dead, coloured light bulbs).

A man in blue overalls, swinging a heavy chain started coming towards us.

We were mesmerised by the chain. My micro-second mental flashes went through a range of possibilities. Did we jump into the dirty green water... The worst.

Or did we face the chain... no choice for people like us who have actually braved evolution.

The man passed without incident.

The thousands of people who voted for the far-right were nowhere in sight during my study in Boksburg.

One white woman said they were all "down the mines".

Looking at the week's massive loss of profits for the business people, they are more likely down in the dumps.

Biting the hand that drafted it

IF the government was given a taste of its own medicine over the Boksburg "apartheid" affair, latest developments in the town have practically forced it to finish off the bottle.

Police yesterday confirmed they are investigating charges laid by two Boksburg town councillors against

various organisations for alleged contraventions of the Emergency regulations.

With its flair for tactics growing daily, the Conservative Party announced on Wednesday that charges had been laid in the light of "the apparent unwillingness of the government" to apply the provisions of its own Emergency regulations.

Gideon Fourie, CP chairman of the

By CHARLOTTE BAUER

Boksburg Town Council's management committee this week charged *Beeld* newspaper, the SABC and the Save Boksburg Committee with contravening Emergency regulations prohibiting the reporting of or promotion of consumer boycotts.

At the same time, the town's mayor, Beyers de Klerk charged the Natal Building Society with contravening the Intimidation Act. The building society took away De Klerk's NBS agency last week in protest against the council's reimposition of certain apartheid laws in the town.

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UNDERSTANDING SANCTIONS

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Conservative Party (CP) maverick Koos van der Merwe, who last week was instrumental in staving off the threatened defections of three of Boksburg's 12 CP councillors, evidently understands the negative effect that re-imposed apartheid signs would have on the sanctions debate in the US. This much he told Republican Senator John McCain (Arizona) during a meeting in the Carlton Hotel in Johannesburg last month.

McCain tells the *FM* that he met a broad spectrum of South Africans during his nine-day privately sponsored tour. "I told Van der Merwe that any going back

to apartheid and apartheid signs would give impetus to the passage of more sanctions bills in Congress.

"I explained that it would affect my opinion and that of other moderate Republicans as to whether we would lean favourably towards supporting sanctions. Van der Merwe told me he has often visited the US and understands the effect such actions would have on the debate."

McCain points out that the CP's actions in Boksburg are very harmful to the cause of many white and black South Africans. "It will have a very significant impact on the sanctions debate."

BOKSBURG

Pressure mounts

Labour Party leader Allan Hendrickse has dismissed as hypocritical government's criticism of the Conservative Party (CP) for its reactionary policy in Boksburg. "Until the Separate Amenities Act is repealed, I say to the CP, continue to challenge government on it."

He was speaking in Port Elizabeth at a banquet in honour of his 10th anniversary as party leader.

Meanwhile, undaunted CP deputy leader

Ferdie Hartzenberg tells the *FM*: "We will not reconsider our policy. We are convinced that the boycott will not last and that its effects are not as serious as is made out. The situation will be different in the New Year."

Reflecting the turmoil, Boksburg mayor Beyers de Klerk last week laid charges against the NBS (which pulled out of the town), under the Intimidation Act. His colleague, management committee chairman Gideon Fourie, at the same time charged SABC-TV and *Beeld* in terms of the emergency regulations for in effect advocating the boycott, which has cut the town's business by at least 60%.

This week, Colgate-Palmolive chairman Gerry Nocker told employees that the company is committed to staying in SA. Nocker reaffirmed that Colgate has applied for rezoning into Benoni.

While the multinational has no wish to see Boksburg deteriorate, "we, however, cannot justify the payment of rates and taxes to a town council that has such backward views — and views that are totally opposite to ours."

The council's actions will increase pressure on foreign companies to disinvest in SA, he warns.

An opinion survey carried out by the *Boksburg Advertiser* last week found anti-CP sentiment running at 9:1, says editor Hilary Green, adding that the town is in a turmoil.

Boksburg Chamber of Commerce & Industry chairman Johann Viljoen says his chamber has had applications to join from businessmen who previously did not belong to any business association.

"They are beginning to see the need for a collective mouthpiece, especially now that we are going to see Chris Heunis."

Independent councillor and chairman of the Boksburg Alliance Issy Kramer tells the *FM* that CP leader Andries Treurnicht and Hartzenberg failed to turn up for a meeting with the alliance scheduled last Friday.

The same day, says Kramer, opposition councillors called a special meeting in vain, "to discuss a resolution to rescind all the decisions taken by the new council." ■

BOKSBURG

Body blow for developers

The business casualty toll is rising steadily as the Boksburg CP-controlled council's decision to reintroduce petty apartheid continues to ricochet around the business community.

Shopkeepers were the first victims, hit by a sharp drop in turnover. Now down-the-line decisions are being taken to curtail commercial and industrial property development.

On the commercial side, Retail International says it'll at least delay construction of a R100m, 42 000 m² shopping centre.

Perhaps less dramatic, but just as significant in employment terms in an industrial town, is the impact on development in the 85 ha Jet Park industrial area.

While about 30% of the park, ideally located on the fringes of Jan Smuts Airport, has been taken up by factories and warehousing, development could come to a standstill. As one industrial property developer, Albert van Heerden, MD of Merinda Enterprises, explains to the *FM*: "I used to have between eight and 12 serious inquiries a week. They have suddenly dried up."

Van Heerden has plans passed and finance arranged for the development of 11 factories, comprising about 15 000 m² warehousing and 2 500 m² offices. "My portfolio involves investments of R15m. I won't delay the start of the first few units in the new year, but I won't proceed with the whole development until political problems are resolved. I'm sure other developers will do the same."

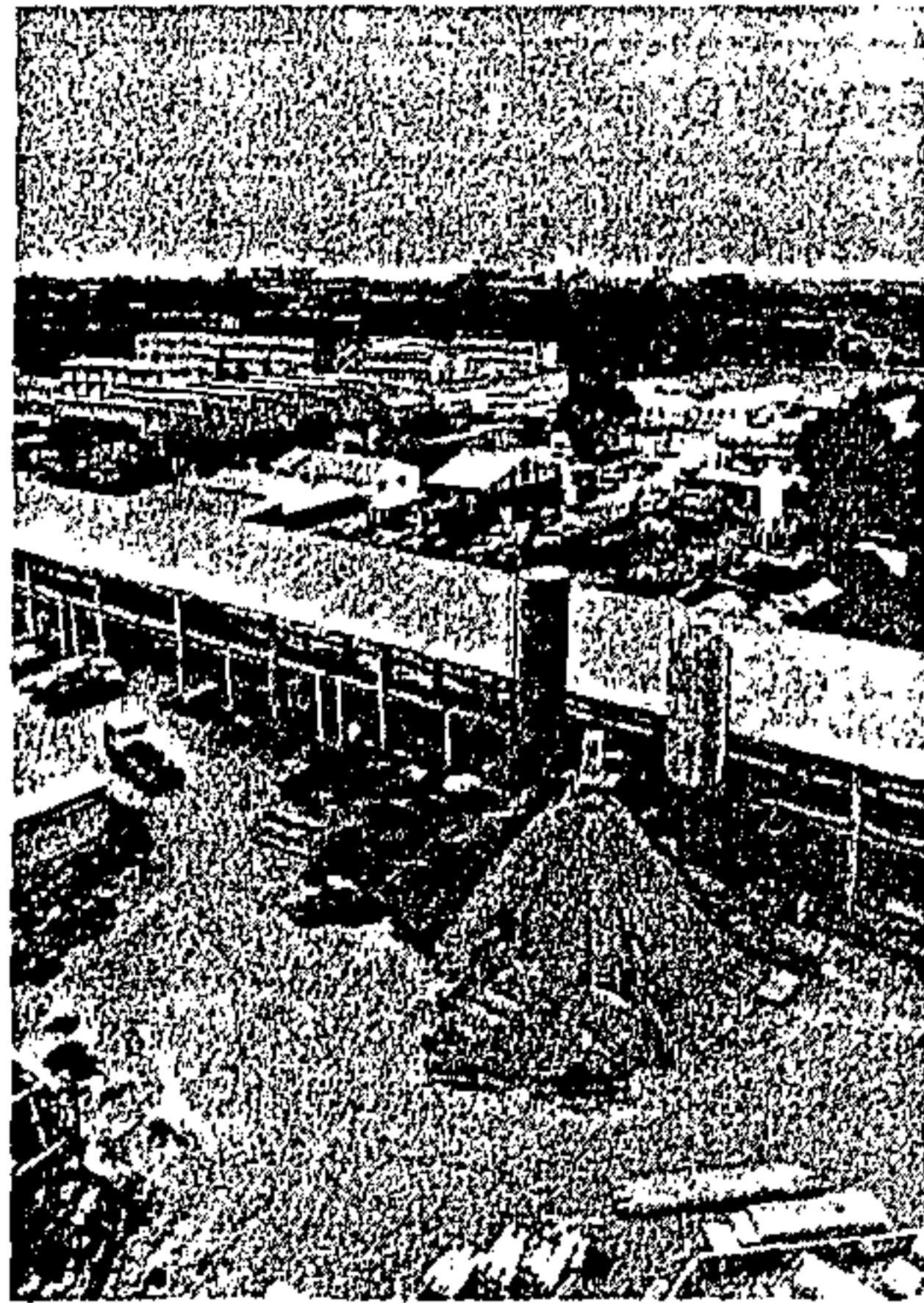
He says the factories should fetch rents of R6/m² and offices R14/m², but this could change if businessmen choose other sites.

"Developers will then have to cut rentals to attract business. That means lost income and thus reduced property values. Institutions aren't interested in whether a property is made of diamonds or gold, they just want to know the yield. That drops when rental income falls and so reduces the value of a property. The point must come when property development ceases to be worthwhile."

"Rental income on my proposed developments should be in the region of R140 000 a month. It is too early to say that all or part of this will be in jeopardy, but it could be if I can't get tenants."

Van Heerden's position is worsened by the fact that he has ploughed capital into an industrialised housing manufacturing venture. Dwellings are aimed primarily at blacks. Van Heerden believes this market, whose potential buyers include the homelands, could be seriously at risk because the units are being made in Boksburg.

"I was just completing 3 000 m² of factory and 850 m² of offices (separate from the speculative developments) earmarked for the Amper Mahala homes."



Jet Park ... development could be curtailed

"We have invested a great deal of money and had a lot of inquiries about this housing system. The intention was to go full steam into production in the new year, starting at 100 houses a month and building up to 300."

"Those projections may have to be curtailed, which could put at risk not only the capital invested, but also jobs for between 150 and 200 blacks. A further 200 would be involved in on-site erection of the dwellings."

Boksburg loses R26m shops

OK BAZAARS has abandoned its involvement in a R26m major shopping centre development planned for the Boksburg CBD, MD Gordon Hood said yesterday.

"During the past month the company has sustained a loss in the Boksburg CBD with turnover down over the same period last year. Under current circumstances this necessitates a re-assessment of envisaged expansionary activity," he said.

The OK was to have been the anchor tenant, but other national chains and smaller stores were involved in the pro-

CHARLOTTE MATHEWS

ject, which was to have begun early in 1989.

The centre developers, RMS Syfrets, confirmed the project could not go ahead without the commitment of the anchor and other tenants.

As soon as the economic situation improved, the developers intended to proceed with the centre, they said.

OK and Syfrets emphasised the decision was a purely business one based on

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Boksburg loses R26m shopping centre

the interests of consumers and shareholders and was open to review at any future stage.

Independent candidate for Boksburg Issy Kramer said this represented an enormous loss of income for the town.

"The new centre would have housed 70 tenants paying electricity, water, sewage and sanitation rates. The town council will lose millions."

CP MP Koos van der Merwe said if OK wished to withdraw from the shopping centre, it was its prerogative to do

so. He foresaw no consequences for Boksburg.

"The whole thing has been ripped out of proportion by the misinformation campaign of the media and TV," he said. "Our promises were made within the Separate Amenities Act and the voters knew what they were voting for. We have a full mandate of 50%."

• See Page 3

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Heunis firm on CP's challenge

CONSTITUTIONAL Development and Planning Minister Chris Heunis yesterday declined to issue a fresh response to the CP-controlled Boksburg Town Council's ongoing challenge that government scrap the Separate Amenities Act.

On Wednesday, Boksburg's CP management committee chairman Gideon Fourie re-issued the CP challenge that the NP immediately repeal the Separate Amenities Act or forego the right to criticise the CP's application of the Act in Boksburg.

Heunis yesterday indicated he would stick to his November 30 statement, in which he said government would not tolerate the "moving backwards" towards practices and customs that were long abol-

ished.

"All communities will be treated on a non-discriminatory basis with the protection of the individual and group rights of all groups.

"Also, new patterns of living regarding the joint use of public facilities in a civilised manner will be fostered."

Heunis said the ill-considered action by certain CP city councils over the past weeks had resulted in an embarrassment for their voters, for their towns and for the whole of SA.

Responding to Heunis's statement, Fourie said the NP wanted the support of both sides of the political spectrum.

DANIEL SIMON

"The government is scared to show its true colours and wants to keep the left and the right happy.

"People know our policy. We do not act for both sides but only for those people who support CP views."

He said NP policy was exactly the same as the CP's in that the NP also practised the Group Areas and Separate Amenities Acts in areas under its control.

"If they repeal those two laws they will lose thousands of conservative Nationalist supporters to the CP. If they do not, then they will lose the support of thousands of left-wingers who voted NP in the recent municipal elections because of promises to scrap discriminatory laws."

23/12/88
Blay

vative Party (CP) council and township residents are digging in their heels, and Minister Chris Heunis remains reluctant to slice the knot of the separate amenities law which binds the whole mess together.

As the *FM* went to press, both the Save Boksburg Committee and the Boksburg Alliance were preparing for feedback meetings at which the impact of the consumer boycott to date would be assessed and a plan of action for the new year formulated. As far as the residents of Reiger Park and Vosloorus are concerned, the message is clear: the action has consolidated and will continue.

There has also been some talk that the Reiger Park management committee intends to suspend its activities as a local council until CP policy changes.

There are indications that consumer muscle-flexing in 1989 may not be limited to Boksburg. Brakpan businessmen, while a little reticent as to the exact extent of boycott action in their area, have formed an alliance with the local chamber of commerce and industry and other interested parties to negotiate both with the CP council and with the coloured community of Geluksdal.

According to alliance chairman George Felrose, losses of 30%-40% were experienced over the year-end period, mostly in the basic goods market. He points out that a 1985 survey on black and coloured buying power in Brakpan indicated R200m/year, a figure which he estimates has now climbed to around R300m. While the boycott is still a shadow of that in Boksburg, the figures indicate an estimated R90m drop in income. "No one in this town can afford that," says Felrose.

Brakpan Chamber of Commerce president Johan van Vuuren says action is making itself felt mainly from the coloured community, while the black residents of Tsakane township are still supporting selectively, giving their custom to Indian businesses in free trade areas.

Apparently blissfully unaware of the situation is Carletonville chamber of commerce and industry head Rodney Lochenberg, who reportedly describes the local black population as "pretty barbarous," and believes it needs the "discipline" imposed on it by the CP. Lochenberg says nerves were set on edge at one stage with talk of the reintroduction of a curfew system for blacks in the town. However, the council, which last week reintroduced "whites-only" signs, has now given its assurances that things will "not be that bad."

In view of the fact that as of next month fines will be imposed on black people "trespassing" in Carletonville's white domains,

RIGHTWING COUNCILS

Business broking

January, traditionally a lean month, looks like bringing little respite to the beleaguered Boksburg business sector. Both the Conser-

that statement, coupled with those of the hapless Lochenberg is unlikely to placate those it affects most.

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BOKSBURG

Ghost town of the East Rand?

Another property body blow has been dealt to Boksburg — still reeling from the CP-controlled council's decision to reintroduce petty apartheid. Major tenant OK Bazaars has announced it is pulling out of a R26m shopping complex planned for the Boksburg CBD.

The chain store's decision threatens to force developers RMS Syfrets to shelve the entire project on which construction is scheduled to begin this month.

This is the second rethink on a major retail development in the town. It follows a growing list of business casualties which some



Hood ... OK was to have opened a superstore

people suggest could turn Boksburg into the "ghost town of the East Rand" — unless government moves to scrap the Separate Amenities Act.

Retail International has already delayed construction of a R100m, 42 000 m² shopping centre (*Property* December 23). Industrial development is suffering too. Merinda Enterprises is planning to retard development of a R15m 15 000 m², speculative, Jet Park warehousing development until the "political problems are resolved."

The OK, as the anchor tenant in the Syfrets development, was to have opened a superstore. Other national chains and several individual traders are also committed to taking space in the proposed centre.

OK Bazaars MD, Gordon Hood, says it is common cause there has been a decline in trading in the Boksburg CBD the past month. "Our existing store is among those affected. Turnover fell by 49% over the same period in 1987."

However, OK is not the only retailer pull-

ing out according to Pat Flanagan, MD of the centre developers, RMS Syfrets. Economic justification for the development now appears doubtful as other tenants withdraw their support.

Flanagan says without the commitment of OK and the other tenants the viability of the project does not allow it to proceed. However, both OK and RMS Syfrets wish to emphasise the decision is purely a business one and the project is open to review at any stage.

Meanwhile, many of Boksburg's CBD traders claim sales are down by as much as 50% on last year's figures. Interestingly, businesses outside the CBD seem to be doing fairly well. In fact Pick 'n Pay's MD Hugh Herman maintains figures are up on last year at the hypermarket.

Boksburg Chamber of Commerce president Johann Viljoen attributes the CBD's slack trade directly to the boycott by coloured and black shoppers, which began at the beginning of last month as a protest against the return of petty apartheid in the town. ■

FOR SALE

A little town full of fears and rumours

STW 14/2/93

By JOCELYN MAKER

WHEN James Shebe walks into the only pub in Kragbron in the Free State, he is warmly greeted by his many white friends. Within seconds, a cold beer is put in front of him. But they still call him "kaffir". Mr Shebe, 34, one of only a handful of black people living in the white enclave, grins broadly. It is, he explains, merely a term of endearment.

But terms of endearment, even such strange ones, are becoming rarer in this small town 19km from Sasolburg, Eskom, which owns the town.

announced last Friday that it was up for sale. Overnight, rumours swept the town. The ANC was going to buy it... the AWB was bidding, too. Brown-shirted AWB men swamped the streets as racial hatred, fear and anger fuelled the rumours. The 1 300 residents of the pretty, tree-lined town stand divided.

Eskom mothballed the town's two power stations early in 1991, and in line with policy, it wants to sell Kragbron, which means source of power. The town has more than 455 houses, a sports club and a school.

Eskom has put the sale of the town out to tender, and although it refused this week to put a price tag on Kragbron, residents claimed they had heard it was expected to fetch up to R18-million.

MOST of the Eskom employees who lived there from 1955, when Kragbron was established, have moved out, and people from all over the country have settled in the solid face-brick houses, many of which go for as little as R200 a month.

An angry Mr Mike Fourie, who has lived in the well-maintained town for the past three years, was one of the first residents to take a stand when he heard Kragbron was up for sale. "I called in the AWB and, although I am not a member, they are backing me," he said. "Well-informed sources have told us that

Nelson Mandela is interested in buying Kragbron, and that they are going to throw us out and fill the place with blacks.

"There are certain people in the town who treat blacks as if they were long lost brothers. They allow them in the club house, they drink beer from the same glasses and have them visiting in their homes. This has got to stop. We hate blacks living in our town."

Mr Fourie added it was only when the town was put up for sale that he realised the black people living there were a threat to the community, especially the elderly.

"The ANC and the blacks in the town want to take over our small piece of land and throw us into the sea like pigs," he said. "Many of us in this town will not allow it, and we are now standing together to take up the fight."

On Saturday last week, according to residents, the AWB took advantage of the unsettled situation. With flags flying and men in uniform, it moved into the town in full force. They went from house to house, inviting elderly people to join their organisation.

But Mr Neil Cunningham, 29, and his wife, Betty, 24, who are Mr Shebe's neighbours, say that if the AWB tries to take over the town, they are moving out. "They will only cause racial and political prob-



DRINKING PALLS... Danie van Zyl and James Shebe chat to a visitor in Kragbron's only pub

lems. We have lived here for four years, and Kragbron has been a happy town where people of all races get on with each other," said Mr Cunningham. "When James moved in over 18 months ago, many whites were scared, but this changed with time. We are worried about our future."

AT THE local sports club, the heart of social life in Kragbron, many residents expressed fears that the ANC would buy up the town.

They said that accepting Mr Shebe into their community was a certain sign that changes could be made in South Africa. But to live with the ANC — a "bunch of terrorists" — was not what they wanted. Many said the AWB stood no chance, as the majority of the community would not allow it to turn

Kragbron into a whites-only area.

One elderly Eskom employee, who did not want to be identified, said the answer to a multiracial community like Kragbron was simple. "All we want is well-mannered black people like James Shebe. He knows his place and how to behave," he said.

"We do not have any problems with the black families in Kragbron. The problems lie with the whites who fight with each other when they get drunk

over the weekends."

Mr Deon Badenhorst, entertainment manager at the club, said he and a group of other residents were planning to raise money to buy the town.

"It is the only way. We want the people of Kragbron to decide on their own future. We want a multiracial town," he said.

Our community has proved this.

"If the ANC moves in, we move out. If the AWB takes over, they will destroy a happy community."

A member of the local housing committee, Mr Robbie van Wyk, 64, who has lived in Kragbron for the past 37 years, said he did not understand what all the fuss was about.

'They call me Kaffir... but I don't mind, it's a term of endearment'

HE SAID: "We realise that residents are unsettled in Kragbron, and we have organised a meeting with them within the next week."

"We have had a good response from interested parties, but will not be able to make any decisions until at least two weeks after any 19."



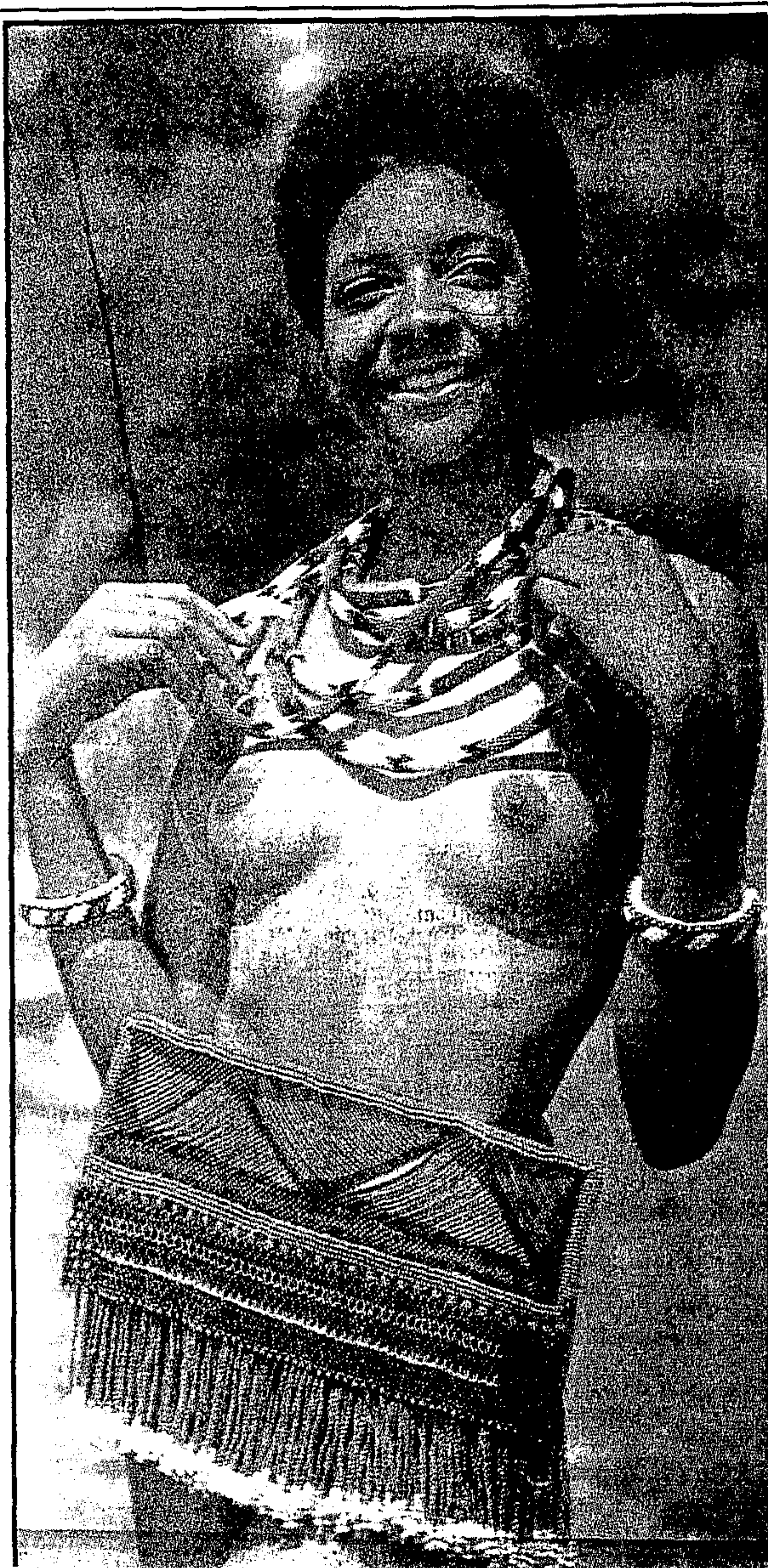
ANGRY FIGHTERS... Mike Fourie and his mother, Rene, who have called in the AWB for help

Pictures: JAMES SOULLIER

If the money's white, that's all right . . .

C/Press 14/3/93

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**'I don't
want
blacks in
my shop'**

By **MONWABISI
NOMADOLO**

JUST at the dawn of a new SA, apartheid die-hards are still at pains to preserve it.

Take for example CP member Helmut Lachmann of Benoni, who confessed to me that "he did not want blacks" in his shop.

The sign on the door of Studio One Furniture on the corner of Woburn and Tom Jones streets in Benoni, is straightforward: "Right of admission reserved."

City Press driver Andries Pimpi and I were inside Lachmann's shop, admiring goods on sale. Lachmann was out on lunch. We had ignored a warning from his black shop-assistant not to enter the shop, "because it was exclusively for white customers only".

There were butterflies in my big tummy when I saw the bulging figure entering. He stopped on his steps, red-faced and irritated. Wagging his finger, pointing at the door, he said: "Get out . . . Step outside." Detecting some hesitation from us, he shouted: "I say get out!"

"But sir I'm interested in buying something and I was just looking around," I replied.

"I don't want to talk to you . . . I don't talk to anybody . . . Get out!"

SHO



SHE'S SO BEADIFUL ... Thelma Mampuru, 17, cut a fine figure in the park as she displayed her wonderful beads for our lensman. She wants to be a photographer one day so that she can take pictures of men displaying their beadwork too! **■ Pic: THULANI SITHOLE**

Cop's two-year slog nets two girlfriend killers

By **MARTIN NTSOELENG**

TWO men were found guilty in the Rand Supreme Court this week of slaughtering their girlfriends.

Joseph Pule Mofokeng, 36, of Ivory Park, and Ted Mack Lottering, 23, of Masevate Street, Eden Park, were found guilty of murdering Storey Elizabeth Hlalele and Ntombikayise Tryphina Selekané on September 1 1989.

Their mutilated bodies were found in Mofokeng's shack. The men fled to QwaQwa.

Sgt Morgan Mahale told the court his search for the men had gone on for almost two years until relatives eventually revealed the men's whereabouts.

Witness Julius Manyosi said he saw the men assault the two women outside the Delmore Hotel near Springs. He said he realised that the women had no chance of surviving.

The women were punched, kicked

and hit with an iron rod.

Elizabeth's sister, Mirriam, said Elizabeth had come to stay with her at her work after she had decided to leave Mofokeng after he had an affair.

She said she and the two women had gone to the Delmore Hotel to drink.

Mofokeng had come into the hotel and demanded that Elizabeth go with him. She had refused, accusing Mofokeng of being unfaithful.

Elizabeth had said that every time she went with Mofokeng she met the other woman and they would fight. A furious Mofokeng had accused Elizabeth of sleeping with one Jabulani.

After the beating outside the hotel, the women were driven away by the men.

Judge Le Grange said Lottering was a liar and gave false evidence in the witness box.

The case is proceeding.

served. City Press driver Andries Pimpi and I were inside Lachmann's shop, admiring goods on sale. Lachmann was out on lunch. We had ignored a warning from his black shop-assistant not to enter the shop, "because it was exclusively for white customers only".

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"But sir I'm interested in buying something and I was just looking around," I replied.

"I don't want to talk to you ... I don't talk to anybody ... Get out!"

Even though the sign on the window says "12 months to pay", Lachmann said it was cash only when I insisted I wanted to buy something.

I asked to look around the shop to choose, but he replied I could only do that from outside.

One of Lachmann's victims, Thabo Ntseane, general manager of an insurance firm, was impressed recently by the goods he saw.

"On entering I found the manager talking to a white woman," Ntseane said. The man chased him out "like a dog".

Asked why he was being kicked out, Ntseane said the man told him he was a racist.

Lachmann did not deny chasing Ntseane out of the shop, adding he was certainly not the only one to be chased away.

Asked if he did proclaim himself a racist, Lachmann replied: "So what? You're also a racist."

Talking in a near-cracking voice, he said he was entitled to do as he pleased. He said he did not hate blacks, but stressed he did not want them in his shop.

Star 28/6/93

Blacks barred from town

Rightwingers were barring black people from entering the northern Free State town of Koppies this morning.

A local official of the African National Congress, Johannes Tladi, said 50 to 100 armed rightwingers had blockaded the entrance to the town.

On the outskirts of the town, a rightwinger on a three-wheel motorcycle carrying a Vierkleur flag headed the men stopping the township residents.

Black people from a nearby

township have been boycotting white businesses in Koppies for more than a week. (284)

A police spokesman in Bloemfontein said she was trying to obtain information.

Tladi said the rightwingers were armed.

The situation was tense but no incidents of violence had been reported. (SAP)

Tladi said the rightwingers mounted the blockade from 5 am today and no blacks were entering the town. — Sapa.

Koppies roadblocks down after talks

By Charmeela Bhagawat
Crime Reporter

Free State police late last night persuaded armed white residents of the small town of Koppies to abandon roadblocks they had manned for 17 hours to keep out residents from neighbouring KwaKwatsi.

The residents blockaded roads into Koppies from about 4.30 am yesterday, in retaliation against an ANC-led boycott of white businesses.

Free State police spokesman Captain Johlene van der Merwe said white residents had told police they would bar black residents from the town until the boycott ended.

However, after protracted negotiations — due to continue today — they agreed to go home.

Van der Merwe said the white residents manning the blockades num-



bered about 300 and were heavily armed, although their weapons were concealed.

The boycott started after the ANC Women's League was denied permission to march into Koppies on June 16.

Van der Merwe said it was granted permission to march only to the border of Koppies and KwaKwatsi.

It is not clear whether roadblocks will be re-established today or when KwaKwatsi residents will be free to enter Koppies.

(284)

Hospitals row: DP and ANC urged to see for themselves

Blkay 6/3/91
SENIOR DP and ANC representatives are to inspect three Free State hospitals on Monday after the provincial administration walked out of talks this week on the hospitals' desegregation.

The Goldfields Hospital Desegregation Campaign Committee has invited DP MP Robin Carlisle, ANC regional head Patrick Lekota and Tefko Gordhan of the

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TANIA LEVY

ANC economics desk to see for themselves the continuing segregation of the Odendaalsrus, Welkom and Virginia hospitals.

Free State hospital services director Dr Jan Kruger said yesterday that despite Health Minister Rina Venter's announcements on desegregation of hospitals last year, they could not be fully integrated overnight.

His delegation had left Monday's meeting because the campaign committee had refused to listen to reason on its demand for total integration of the hospitals.

Saying some black patients used wards as toilets, Kruger added: "It's a matter of different civilisations."

He said integration had to evolve slowly and the process had begun with the admission of black private patients to white wards in the three hospitals.

But even when given this choice, most black private patients preferred to be among their own people.

A member of the campaign committee's delegation, Dr Rhett Kahn, said it was unacceptable that the hospitals had not been desegregated more than five months after the repeal of the Separate Amenities Act came into effect.

The committee consists of the Goldfields branches of the SA Health Workers' Congress, the National Medical and Dental Association, the SA Black Social Workers' Association and civic associations in the area.

Kahn said the committee's demand that hospitals be divided according to medical speciality rather than race was not just a matter of principle but was the quickest way to get rid of racial inequalities in the hospitals' services.

Free State hospital boss could face ethics probe

B/Daw 8/3/91

TANIA LEVY

THE Medical Association of SA (Masa) is to investigate an ethics complaint brought against the superintendent of three Free State Hospitals for practising or allowing racial discrimination.

The Goldfields Hospital Desegregation Campaign Committee lodged the complaint against Dr Gert van Zyl, regional medical superintendent of the Odendaalsrus, Welkom and Virginia hospitals yesterday.

This follows a walkout by Free State provincial officials including Van Zyl from a meeting called by the committee to discuss desegregation of the hospitals.

In its complaint to Masa, the committee said Van Zyl was bound

by professional ethics contained in the 1947 Declaration of Geneva which stated doctors were bound not to allow consideration of race, religion, nationality, party politics or social standing to intervene between their duty and their patients.

Van Zyl could no longer claim that SA law forced him against his conscience to discriminate against patients because the Reservation of Separate Amenities Act had been repealed more than five months ago.

Masa Goldfields branch chairman Dr Jacques Goosen said an ethics committee would investigate the complaint. He said Masa

was totally opposed to discrimination on any grounds.

The association was aware that there were administrative and logistical problems with the implementation of desegregation in Free State hospitals.

Goosen said the ethics committee at branch level had no disciplinary powers but acted as a mediating body.

Masa federal council chairman Dr Bernard Mandell said the matter would be referred to the SA Medical and Dental Council if it was felt that disciplinary action was needed.

Van Zyl said last night he had been singled out by the committee for a problem he did not control.

He said AWB supporters had threatened to kill him.

SA needs national health scheme, says researcher

B/Daw 8/3/91

TANIA LEVY

THE Wits Health Policy Unit has called for a compulsory national health insurance scheme as a way to provide adequate health care in a future SA.

Speaking at an international marketing management meeting this week, unit researcher Dr Max Price said it was naive to believe that opening health facilities to all races would instantly solve financial inequalities and limitations in health care.

He was responding to a statement by National Party parliamentary standing committee on health chairman Johan Vilonei, that after apartheid had been removed blacks and whites would enjoy equal access to health care.

Price said in a new SA there would not suddenly be enough funds for health.

A future government would have to find additional sources of finance for health care and this was where a national health insurance scheme could come in.

All South Africans would have to contribute to the scheme which would pay for basic medical services. Additional care would have to be privately funded.

Government would have to contribute for indigent patients.

Dismantling apartheid in hospital services could take up to 25 years, he said.

Students begin varsity sit-in

TANIA LEVY

ABOUT 60 Wits University students occupied the offices of the vice-chancellor last night as part of a class boycott to demand action regarding accommodation shortages and exclusion of failed students. B/Daw 8/3/91

Registrar Ken Standemacher issued the students with eviction notices and said they would face suspension and disciplinary action if they refused to leave.

However, vice-chancellor Robert Charlton said the students would be allowed to stay overnight if they chose to.

The Students Representative Council supported the boycott which was called by the Black Students' Transitional Committee (BSTC).

forced PEANUTS

By Charles Schulz

Workers off

BLACK workers in Bloemfontein yesterday failed to turn up for work in line with a stayaway call by the Mangaung Civic Association.

The civic called for the stayaway to coincide with the court appearance of four residents charged with trespassing. -Sapa.

Sowetan 16/5/91

Police questioned about September Thokoza killings

JONATHON REES

POLICEMEN were yesterday closely cross-examined by legal representatives of Inkatha and the ANC on their activities in Thokoza township on September 8 when 16 hostel residents were killed by unknown gunmen while on their way to a rally.

The questioning of the policemen formed part of the first day of a probe into violence in the East Rand township by a sub-committee appointed by the standing Commission of Inquiry into Public Violence and Intimidation.

Lt Josias Smith, who commanded the SAP riot unit in Thokoza on September 8, told the committee police had not expected "problems" and had planned a low-key presence. *B/day 20/11/91*
They expected about 8 000 people to attend the Thokoza Hostel Dweller's Association rally.

The committee heard, however, that a letter from the THDA asking for permission for the rally had said 20 000 people would attend.

Smith could not explain how a letter from the Thokoza Town Council — approved by the Germiston security police — which granted permission for the rally was dated two days earlier than the hostel dwellers' association's letter.

The council's letter specified that no weapons were to be carried.

Lt Hendrik Chalmers, from the Dunnotar Unrest Unit, said he understood that the spears, shields and knobkieries were "ornamental traditional weapons", but conceded that they were carried in contravention of the law.

Counterfeiting charges dropped against SA man

LINDEN BIRNS

MIDRAND-based businessman and airline executive Hendrik Frederick Delpert said yesterday the US Justice Department had decided not to pursue charges against him relating to counterfeit banknote smuggling.

In an interview yesterday Delpert claimed he had been released on bail after the FBI realised he was an unwitting courier of counterfeit dollars.

"They let me go on condition that I remain clean for the next five years," he said, adding that the FBI had launched a full-scale probe into the people who allegedly set him up.

A US-based director of a company which Delpert did business with allegedly asked Delpert to carry a sealed envelope containing documents to the US.

Delpert said on arriving in Pittsburgh he passed the envelope to the director, who opened it and gave the contents — what appeared to be dollar notes — to a third person, apparently a government agent.

"The next thing I knew I was ar-

rested along with the company director," Delpert said.

Delpert and the company director were charged with possessing \$57 900 in counterfeit notes.

Delpert said the money had nothing to do with African International Airlines (AIA), of which he is the GM, but was related to a construction development project.

A Business Day report yesterday confused African International Airlines with a Swazi- and SA-registered company called African International Airways.

Delpert also rejected allegations, made by a source close to a leading airfreight company, that "all was not well with African International Airlines". The source indicated that a contract to train African International Airlines technical staff was cancelled. Delpert showed Business Day the contract, which he said was still being honoured.

Court rules against 'whites only' parks

BLOEMFONTEIN — Decisions to exclude races other than white from several Carletonville parks in 1988 and 1989 could not be justified in terms of the Separate Amenities Act of 1953, the Appeal Court in Bloemfontein found yesterday. *B/day 20/11/91*

The Carletonville Town Council's decision to reserve parks in the white residential area and opposite the civic centre was not a proper and "bona fide" execution of the discretion granted it under the Act.

Although the Act was repealed, the

validity of the decisions under the Act had to be tested because it was relevant to the order for costs that had been granted against Gert Petrus Jacobs, who was mayor, and against the town council. *(284)*

Mr Justice Botha, with the concurrence of the Chief Justice Mr Justice Corbett, Mr Justice Smalberger, Mr Justice Milne and Mr Justice Nienaber, dismissed an appeal by Jacobs and the council, with costs. The council had been over-hasty and irresponsible, the judge said. — Sapa.

TELLING YOU WHO... TELLING YOU

New SA the Bloemfontein way

It's been a busy week for the New South Africa. We've had multi-party talks, visiting movie stars, foreign beauty queens... and Bloemfontein's first multiracial fashion show.

THE Free State struggles to enter the New SA as LINDA SHAW reports

It's 9am. The temperature is a little over 30°C. We're sitting on the rolling lawns of Olievenhuis — formerly a state president's home, currently an art museum. And we're waiting.

The Queen of Lesotho is coming, you see. Together with 160 of her closest friends, she's promised to preside over our modest little function. The university students have gathered to present local fashions for locals. There's plenty to entertain while we wait. The fourth, in what will prove to be an endless

procession of brides in fluffy white lace, has just tottered across the lawns. Olievenhuis, it transpires, is a favourite spot for wedding pics.

Meanwhile, the ladies are all here. Farmers' wives, local boutique owners, the Bloemfontein glitterati have all come to show off the latest in Free State fashions.

Lace, sequins, frothy insets, coloured stones — in short anything necessary for the decoration of a cake — are favourites of the day. Isie Louw is show-

ing us her outfit. "I've added lots of white lace and burgundy ribbon to everything so it all matches. And then I've got this. I call it my protection. I've disguised it to look like an umbrella."

SSIE mischievously lifts the handle to reveal a long stick completed by a 22cm steel spike. "A lady can't be too careful these days, you know."

Bloemfontein's only black infantry choir, from 161 Battalion, has come to sing for us. Toyi-toying round the grounds to the strains of gospel rhythms, they distract our attention from ramp constructions on the side.

We can't wait any longer. It's almost 11am and the queen has yet to arrive. "They must be working on African time," announces organiser Koos Louw. "We'll start without them."

And we do. Peering through the swatches of froth and lace, one finds that there are indeed black models. And what's more, there's not a shocked murmur to be heard. No comment at all. In fact, far more shock-worthy is the display of women without tops and just imported leather jackets clutched to their fronts. They turn round to reveal

completely naked backs. Now we've got some murders. Now the folks are taking note. The few men in our party are loosening their ties. The jackets will be coming off next. They don't, of course. They stay firmly in place till the bitter end. Till the choir's gone back to base. Till the black models have gone back to where they came from. And till a girl can get the first aircraft out of here.

Pictures:

SAREL GREYLING



QUICK MARCH... Isie Louw and son Koos with a supporting cast of 161 Battalion soldiers



Mr Jen Ho Hsu to death.

Capt 7 m/s 13/6/90
Bloemfontein opens up *(284)*

BLOEMFONTEIN. — The city council here is to open its public facilities to all races from July 1, the chairman of the city's management committee, Mr Henry Symington, announced yesterday. This follows a government decision to scrap the Separate Amenities Act from October 15.

MILITARY SPENDING CUTS

Don't hold your breath

FIM 26/1/90

Military spending in this country has never been particularly high in relation to the size of the economy, despite the border wars. But we suspect that for too long the quantum went without sufficient scrutiny. The generals simply got most of what they wanted; there was little meaningful debate in parliament; and the press briefings on the military budget hardly encouraged intelligent discussion.

Welcome as they are, it would be folly to expect too much from the latest cuts. Despite the further shrinking of our minute navy and various other economies, the enormous and rising costs of sophisticated weaponry and surveillance systems make significant long-term savings from this particular budget unlikely. Nor would they necessarily be in the best interests of regional stability.

The effect of the cuts will not only hit Armscor but, because of the work it contracts out, will ripple through, among others, the electronics industry. What is essential, however, is that Armscor, in adjusting to these circumstances, should not compete from a privileged position with the private sector.

No reasonable person would want to detract from Armscor's technical and export achievements. But the reality is that arms exports in the foreseeable future will not be sufficient in a highly competitive market to sustain Armscor's viability without substantial domestic demand.

It is also naive to think that spending can simply be switched, with salutary effect, from the military to the

police. Now that Police Minister Adrian Vlok has tacitly admitted that the police force has been an appendage of the National Party, and that it will no longer be so, more thoroughgoing reform is necessary.

The whole attitude of mind of the police will need to be changed. As the Nats found it necessary to purge the force of the imperial-minded in the Fifties to become the political instrument desired then, so now several layers of leadership will probably need to be changed to depoliticise it.

Consideration should also be given to decentralising police authority so that local communities have greater influence in its composition and activities. Only then should an increase in numbers become an issue.

Though military spending cuts were obviously needed — and give a definite conciliatory signal abroad — the hard fact is that significant fiscal restraint is not going to be possible until two other areas of spending are tackled. They are related.

One is the financing of the indigent homelands — a maw of incompetence, turpitude and corruption. The other is education (see *cover story*). Until an inspired leadership has the political will and creativity to tackle the problem, present educational policies will consume a rising tide of resources for minimal returns.

Fiscal discipline in this country requires restraint and creativity in every department of State. The Nats have got to get smaller and smarter. ■

Workers to defy beach apartheid

By CARMEL RICKARD

THOUSANDS of Durban municipal employees have decided they will no longer help implement the segregation of municipal facilities, a decision taken just days after the "mass democratic movement" began a national defiance campaign against apartheid.

The municipal employees, in a defiant mood, have also begun lobbying international opinion to pressurise the city into scrapping all remaining segregation.

The Durban Integrated Municipal Employees' Society (Dimes) which represents almost half of the council's 12 500 employees, resolved at a special general meeting last weekend to condemn the council's decision to maintain racially segregated beaches.

Dimes members also condemned the mayor, Derrick Watterson, for recently using his casting vote against desegregating the remaining whites-only beaches.

Dimes president Nad Murugan has informed the council of the anti-apartheid resolution, telling the town clerk that no members of the union will in future "carry out any instruction which requires them to enforce the heinous by-law".

Senior council officials have reacted with strongly worded statements warning that in terms of their employment conditions, employees face disciplinary action if they do not obey orders.

Murugan, who has not yet received an official reply from the council, said that workers were caught in a

cleft stick — management warned they could be sacked if they did not implement apartheid, but their conditions of service stipulated that if staff were rude to members of the public they could also be sacked.

"We believe that telling people they can't swim on the beach is rude," Murugan said. "So our members are at risk whatever they do."

Among Dimes' members are beach inspectors, lifeguards and pool supervisors all of whom could be in the position of having to warn people to leave segregated facilities.

Murugan said beach and pool cleaners were also "fed up with cleaning facilities which they were barred from using themselves".

Yesterday the union moved again to isolate the city until beach facilities were opened — Murugan wrote to United Nations Education and Social Committee (Unesco) urging that an invitation asking Durban's mayor to attend a Unesco-hosted world conference of mayors in Paris next week be withdrawn.

Dimes noted Watterson's record of voting against the opening of facilities and that he has threatened staff with dismissal if they implement the union resolution.

Dimes urged Unesco to demand the city of Durban scrap all remaining segregation and that Unesco should apply pressure to prevent any victimization of municipal employees.

Wmail
11-17/8/89

Non-racial cultural body formed in Bloem

 Own Correspondent 

BLOEMFONTEIN — A group of black people have initiated the formation of a non-racial cultural organisation for Bloemfontein. It is known as the Bloemfontein Art Development Centre Project. (284)

About 40 people from different organisations are to be invited to attend the formation meeting in the city on June 25.

The project's members include choral groups, dance groups, actors, writers, artists, photographers, musicians and members of the media. (scribble)

Mr Andy Sefohlelo is chairman of the new organisation, and the co-ordinator is Mr Oupa Mokele. Star 20/6/87

The secretary is Mr Gideon Motsekoa and Mr Oriel Seloma is organiser.

Suspect held after mortar attack on radar station

PETER DELMAR

POLICE are holding an alleged ANC guerrilla following a mortar attack on an SADF radar station in the far-Western Transvaal on Wednesday.

SAP Commissioner Gen Hennie de Witt said an injured member of a heavily-armed group of at least 21 guerrillas was arrested in police follow-up operations.

According to De Witt, the group crossed the SA-Botswana border with vehicles near Pitsane on Tuesday night.

They were heavily armed, with at least five mortar tubes and 350 shells, three RPG missile launchers and 30 missiles, two landmines, a number of AK-47 rifles and ammunition, and handgrenades.

The attack on the radar station near Slurry was launched at 3.20am on Wednesday from 2.5km away. At least three mortars were used. The radar station was only slightly damaged in the attack, and there were no casualties.

De Witt said the captive was injured when one of his group's getaway vehicles overturned as they fled.

The guerrillas abandoned him about 20km from the Botswana border.

A large quantity of arms and ammunition, including 350 mortar shells and 30 RPG rockets, was seized at the crash site.

Shortly after the attack, a mine-resistant police vehicle detonated a landmine, but there were no injuries.

De Witt said the guerrillas had come from Zimbabwe via Botswana and were under orders to return to Zimbabwe immediately after their mission.

De Witt said police believed more groups of guerrillas had been ordered to launch attacks in SA.

The government last night issued a thinly veiled threat to neighbouring states and the ANC that it would take retaliatory action to prevent raids similar to the Slurry attack.

Foreign Affairs minister Pk Botha warned: "I want to say to the ANC and to neighbouring states that the season for this is past."

Government would take any steps necessary to secure SA's borders. Information about the attackers had been passed on to Zimbabwe's government, Botha said.

Star 18/4/89

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The Star Tue

The Free State Provincial Administration says that it does not run separate "white" and "black" ambulances and that its ambulances are for all races.

It was reacting yesterday to claims that a black woman, who had been trapped in a car wreck near Winburg, died slowly on April 5 after being ignored by a helicopter crew who had promptly airlifted to hospital the white victims of a collision in which she had been involved.

A Johannesburg newspaper reported at the weekend that a black ambulance arrived only five hours later, by which time nursing sister Mrs Irene Mzizi, of Orlando West, had died.

Her husband Paul, son Pecc and two grandchildren reported-

OFS: We do not run racist ambulances

ly "pleaded in vain with the white helicopter crew not to leave them behind, especially as Mrs Mzizi was 'very badly injured'. Their pleas fell on deaf ears and the family was left unattended until five hours later."

According to the Province, an ambulance from Winburg and the district surgeon arrived at the scene of the smash at 5.15 am, 15 minutes after they received the call. The accident occurred 11 km from Winburg.

"The black woman caught in one of the wrecks had already died. The black man and children were not badly injured. The two whites however were badly hurt and had to receive urgent treatment. The ambulance and doctor therefore took them to the hospital at Winburg.

"A second ambulance was already on its way to the scene of the accident by that time."

After the doctor and the whites had been left at the hospital, their ambulance returned to the accident scene where its attendant freed Mr Mzizi and his deceased wife from the wreck. The injured blacks were taken to Winburg where they were admitted about 90 minutes after the accident. — Sapa.

From MONO BADELA
CARLTONVILLE.

— White businessmen in this tiny mining town are reeling from a consumer boycott that seems set to be a fight to the finish.

The situation recalls Port Elizabeth's 1986 black consumer boycott which ran for six months and crippled the white business sector.

In Port Elizabeth blacks protested against the presence of SADF troops in the townships. In Carltonville the big issue is the resurrection of petty apartheid by the Conservative Party controlled town council.

The boycott of white traders, which began on Monday, is already spelling disaster for many businessmen.

Vigilante

Exemptions, however, have been given to white doctors, shops operated by Indians, post offices, funeral parlours, and Greyhound and other bus services.

Dr Malcolm Tshupe, a member of the committee organising the boycott, said it was only right that white businessmen should feel the pinch.

"They voted for the CP but what they didn't realise was that we could hit back at their petty apartheid."

Tshupe said he had been treating patients who claimed they had been assaulted by white vigilante groups in central Carltonville at night.

While black trade has disappeared from the town centre, turnover from white clientele has remained normal.

Expensive

But whites are still anxious about could lie in store for the town.

Mr Piet Ludwick, a barman at one of the town's leading hotels, put it simply: "If petty apartheid means that I will have to lose my job and that my kids may go hungry, the Conservative Party must kiss my vote goodbye in the forthcoming elections."

He had voted CP in October.

A fight to the finish

Ludwick said one of his regular customers was beaten up by whites as he left the bar on Saturday night.

"When he re-entered his face was full of blood. These things are happening in Carltonville."

Hotel manager Mr Ben Snyman said the council's attempt to reintroduce petty apartheid was "putting the town back 20 years".

"If this boycott drags on we shall have no alternative but to close down. Apartheid is proving too expensive a business," he said.

However, the chairman of the Carltonville Management Committee, Mr Koos Nel, said it was too early to tell whether the boycott would adversely affect Carltonville.

Assaults

"These blacks bought a lot at the weekend," he said.

Ironically, some of the worst-hit stores are those belonging to Indian traders, who rely exclusively on black mineworkers for their trade.

Almost all the Indian clothing and general goods shops in the main business district were deserted this week. Staff could be seen idling in the sun.

Carltonville resident and training mine officer Simon Chuene said the Conservative Party's performance in the October municipal elections had "forced blacks to wake up".

In related incidents, two black women were apparently assaulted by a group of white children and a black men apparently attacked in the street by a group of white men.

Anti-black graffiti such as "White Man Rules" and "Kill All Kaffirs" has appeared on local walls.

Now Cosatu president Elijah Barayi has promised to lead a march of demonstrators to protest against the "Whites Only" park in town.

Racists

Blacks who relax at the park during lunch-time are chased away by traffic cops.

The date of the march is still to be announced by the organising committee.

Apart from buying in black townships, blacks said they were prepared to travel to nearby Randfontein, Westonaria, Fochville and Johannesburg to shop for their needs.

"But we will not buy from racists in Carltonville until apartheid is removed from the town," said thousands of pamphlets distributed here at the weekend.

A cosy Boksborg chat round a table (But wait. Where are the chairs?)

A FUNNY thing happened last Tuesday when the "coloured" representatives of the Reiger Park Management Committee walked into the Boksborg municipal offices to hold round-table talks with their Conservative Party counterparts.

The table was there, and the Boksborg Management Committee members were around it; but the Reiger Park delegation was shown to seats placed away from the table, against a wall.

The indignant Reiger Park councillors were then offered a deal: call off the consumer boycott of Boksborg and we'll build your people a nice grassy "park" in the central business district, with chairs and tables where you can have your lunch. It will be for non-whites only, of course ... and obviously you can't have Boksborg Lake.

But the only promise Reiger Park gave the Boksborg town fathers that day was a solid gold guarantee that its representatives would never again "set foot" inside the building where they could not sit at the same table as the people they had been invited to come and meet.

The media spotlight that picked out Boksborg when the CP took the Separate Amenities Act to its limit in November has dimmed. The first rush of

The consumer boycott of Boksborg is still going strong, to the considerable astonishment of all concerned, not least the CP, who have had to learn a few lessons in diplomacy.
By CHARLOTTE BAUER

boycott fever has transformed itself into mundane routine. But, three months on, the spare rations ordered by black consumers have taken their toll upon the town which voted the CP into power.

Many businesses are barely ticking over. Others have stopped ticking altogether.

Residents of Reiger Park have got used to taking the buses laid on for them by the Save Boksborg Committee to do their shopping in Germiston or Benoni. They rather enjoy walking into one of their local cafes and asking for "two committee chickens, please" — chickens that have been bought up by the Save Boksborg Committee and cheaply distributed among Reiger Park shopkeepers. They prefer buying their children's school uniforms from a man who has set up shop in one of Reiger Park's old church halls.

The protracted unity of the Boksborg boycott has astonished everyone

— not least of all the Boksborg management committee chairman, Gideon Fourie, who suggested at the start of it that a boycott organised by blacks couldn't last a week.

What happened last Tuesday in the town council chambers was a lesson hard-learned for the administrators of Reiger Park — administrators whose political function has long been a sore point with their extra-parliamentary partners on the Save the Boksborg Committee.

Nevertheless, this alliance of unlikely bedfellows has orchestrated one of the longest-running and hardest-hitting boycotts in recent South

African history.

Of course, this is partly because the police have turned a conveniently blind eye to this one. But the success of the three-month old stayaway, which has been almost total, is in no small measure due to the "truce" called by traditional enemies within the Reiger Park community over the Boksborg issue.

If there are chinks beginning to show in the boycott armour, they seem to come from the offices of neighbouring Vosloorus' City Council chambers.

For a couple of weeks now, boycott watchers have noticed an increase in the number of taxis from Vosloorus ferrying people into town. The Save the Boksborg Committee places the blame for this upon the lack of any real organisation in the township. So far efforts to co-opt onto the committee activists from a town where political activism is minimal, have failed.

More seriously, though, the Vosloorus City Council appears to be considering a deal with the CP. The party has apparently proposed that it grants the people of Vosloorus a substantial slice of extra land, and the National Party has refused to hand over for years.

Butch Jantjes, Reiger Park management committee chairman and a member of the Save Boksborg Committee, commented that Vosloorus would have to "pull itself together because it is compromising the stayaway".

"I'm not going to sell my dignity for an extra piece of ground," he said.

The hard-line attitude of people like Jantjes who have traditionally worked very much within the system, is indicative of the strength of feeling that drives this stayaway.

It has pulled together an entire community, virtually regardless of its political shadings.

The Save Boksborg Committee itself represents something of a microcosm in this regard.

Committee member Henry Jeffries, who places himself squarely in the extra-parliamentary camp, admits it has not been easy and that the common thread which holds the core committee of 12 together is a slim one.

"Of necessity, we organised this whole campaign on the trot and had to become sort of crash-course experts," Jeffries said. "It is a tenuous kind of alliance containing people with huge ideological differences and we are almost constantly in a situation of 'conflict management'."

"We have all had to compromise at some point and agree to disagree on the question of political participation or non-participation in the system."

"But throughout all this we have managed to keep the community behind us — this was the aim of the first phase of the campaign and it has succeeded."

Jantjes would agree: "It's been a



A child tries on school shoes at a stall on a Reiger Park street corner, avoiding the necessity to patronise local merchants.

Picture: CEDRIC NUNN, Afrapix

compromise all the way — it usually is to achieve something in life. We have our hiccups, but we try to talk them through."

Another strand in the Boksborg tapestry of disaster is the Boksborg Alliance, run by a group of concerned local business people and National Party and Independent Party councillors.

This alliance has tried to soothe black anger and woo back shoppers by issuing stickers to non CP-supporting shopowners who display them in their windows.

But the consumers won't buy — neither the goods nor the concept.

The alliance is treated with skepticism by the Save Boksborg Committee, which, according to Jeffries, maintains "they (members of the alliance) have not been listening to our anger at all ..."

"This struggle has nothing to do with buying from a shop with a sticker in its window. Their position has little to do with morals and much to do with the sound of the till which has fallen pretty quiet lately."

Historically, the Reiger Park community has been a particularly passive one. Henry Jeffries is still not sure why people have rallied so strongly around this issue when "far more serious issues" like Group Areas removals and detentions have failed to rouse such coherent passions.

"Whatever," he says, "the point remains they have reacted to this issue and they will never be silent again."

Fears persist that, in Butch Jantjes words, "Vosloorus may crack" — it only takes 100 or so people to reverse a boycott. Clearly a failure now would be a triumphant victory for the Conservative Party.

But many feel that the role-model boycott of Boksborg will leave a deep impression upon everyone who willingly or unwittingly got caught up in it, whatever the outcome.

For one thing, as Jeffries noted, Boksborg whites have at least become aware that Reiger Park — a mere kilometre from their town centre — exists. And as voters, they may even think twice next time about where they put their cross.

**HAVE THE
WEEKLY
MAIL
DELIVERED
TO YOUR
FRONT DOOR**

See PAGE 6

Boycott of CP town may end

Sowetan 30/5/90

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THE consumer boycott in Louis Trichardt has been suspended after the town council and the local chamber of commerce agreed to consider the boycotters' demands, a UDF spokesman said yesterday.

By RUSSEL MOLEFE

Mr Magwedzha Mphaphuli said there was concern that a situation similar to that in Welkom in the Free State could arise. It was felt this should not be allowed to happen.

He said the mayor of the Conservative Party-controlled town, Mr LJ Holtzhausen, and the chamber's chairman, Mr

Brink Schlesinger, met this week and pledged to meet some of the demands.

These include opening public amenities to all races and upgrading the old Tshikota township.

Schlesinger confirmed yesterday that his chamber and the council had met the UDF "to build bridges" and were considering the demands.

He said the town had

suffered financially because of the boycott.

"In future, we believe that before action could be taken against businesses we will first get together and talk," he said.

Mphaphuli, who was detained at the beginning of the boycott in April, said several detainees were released this week and discriminatory signs in the town were being removed.

Boycott

Sowetan 15/5/90

284



goes on

THE consumer boycott in Welkom is continuing and all indications are that it will not be called off soon.

Residents could not reach a consensus at the weekend and another meeting will be held in Thabong township tomorrow night to decide on the issue.

A spokesman who represented the township residents in discussions with Minister of Law and Order Mr Adriaan Vlok last week said yesterday interested parties in the community had held "many meetings" at the weekend to decide on the continuation of the boycott.

He added, however, that a "great deal of misunderstanding" was evident within the different organisations, such as the UDF and Cosatu, who attended the meetings.

One of the major stumbling blocks was the statement by Vlok that the police would "grab hold" of people who intimidated blacks in Welkom. This had caused confusion.

"What is this intimidation?" he asked. "Is it blacks or whites who want to keep the town white at night?"

SAPA

He said although many meetings had been held over the weekend, they were still not closer to a solution and the boycott would continue, possibly into next week.

"Everything depends on what is decided on at Wednesday's meeting."

The Democratic Party has appealed to black members and supporters of the party to wear their DP insignia and rosettes when they do their shopping in the town.

Intimidation

Dr Rhett Kahn, chairman of the party in Virginia in the Free State, said intimidation by boycotters was taking place and appealed to them to leave those wearing the DP insignia alone.

He said definite proof of intimidation existed and quoted an incident in which a DP member was forced to drink a bottle of milk she had bought and then eat the plastic container.

"We also know of a man in Virginia who was forced to swallow the entire

● To Page 2

Welkom boycott goes on

● From Page 1

bottle of tablets he had bought at a chemist. According to our information the man died afterwards from the overdose.

"This sort of behaviour is undemocratic and we cannot approve of it," Kahn said.

Mr Hennie Muller, leader of Blanke Veiligheidbeweging (White Security Movement) in Welkom, said the Afrikaanse Weerstandsbeweging was possibly spreading malicious reports to create tension among Welkom residents.

Tactic

He said the AWB had little support in the town and was using this tactic to draw attention to itself.

Muller denied "very vehemently" rumours that Welkom was sitting on a time bomb of racial violence.

"The town is peaceful. A war is not going to break out here," he said.

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Racial violence set to explode

Soweto
10/5/90

RACIAL hatred has placed the town of Welkom under siege.

After Nelson Mandela and President F W de Klerk's first tentative steps towards negotiating a settlement to South Africa's political stalemate, white diehards are stoking apartheid's fires in this Orange Free State mining town.

Khaki-clad vigilantes, charging that police are unable to contain crime in Welkom, have established night patrols to chase blacks from the town's neat suburbs and leafy avenues.

Armed with shotguns and Magnum pistols, vigilantes head out in groups of 12 in unmarked vans to patrol the uneasy streets of the town, which means "Welcome" in Afrikaans.

Organisers say most night patrols are uneventful, with routine checks on the properties of elderly people and women living alone.

Murders

But trade union and civil rights officials say the vigilantes are more concerned with "black-bashing" and terrorising law-abiding residents than maintaining law and order.

They say at least two blacks have been murdered, allegedly at the hands of the patrols, since they were launched earlier this year.

The white organisers of South Africa's biggest vigilante scheme - they boast a membership of more than 4 000 - deny the murders and are unrepentant about their actions.

They say they have a mission to clean up their home town of 75 000 whites, surrounded by huge compounds housing thousands of black miners who work in the goldfields.

"We don't want kaffirs dancing in the streets. If they want to play with fire we can play with fire as well," said Hennie Muller, one of the masterminds of the "White Security" scheme.

It was established shortly after the Government opened the flood-

gates of black dissent in February by releasing Mandela from jail and legalising protest movements.

But whites living in South Africa's conservative hinterland did not subscribe to the generally favourable reviews of De Klerk's initiative, and their reaction in Welkom has fuelled fears of a white pro-apartheid backlash.

The conservative reaction is spreading, mainly from towns like Welkom - rural communities of Afrikaners where strict racial segregation often still prevails.

Muller said that his telephone never stops ringing from like-minded citizens all over South Africa who want to establish armed neighbourhood watches in their towns.

But he denies his vigilantes are responsible for terrorising or intimidating innocent blacks.

He blames the neo-fascist white supremacist Afrikaner Weerstandsbeweging (AWB), which has an active branch in the town, for the night-time raids.

"It is the AWB who do these things. They have their own patrols and then blame the violence on us," he said.

Things may be coming to a head in Welkom. Battle lines are being drawn for a full-scale racial confrontation.

Strict apartheid

Black community leaders have retaliated against this white pressure by staging a consumer boycott of white businesses. Muller said his members will counter by blockading wholesalers to starve out the black townships.

Muller said the boycott would only spawn violence within the black community, and said most blacks opposed such militancy.

David Naude, one of Muller's fellow vigilantes, said most blacks were conservative at heart and subscribed to the policies of the white rightist Conservative Party,

which advocates strict apartheid.

"They don't want to live with us just as much as we don't want to live with them," he said.

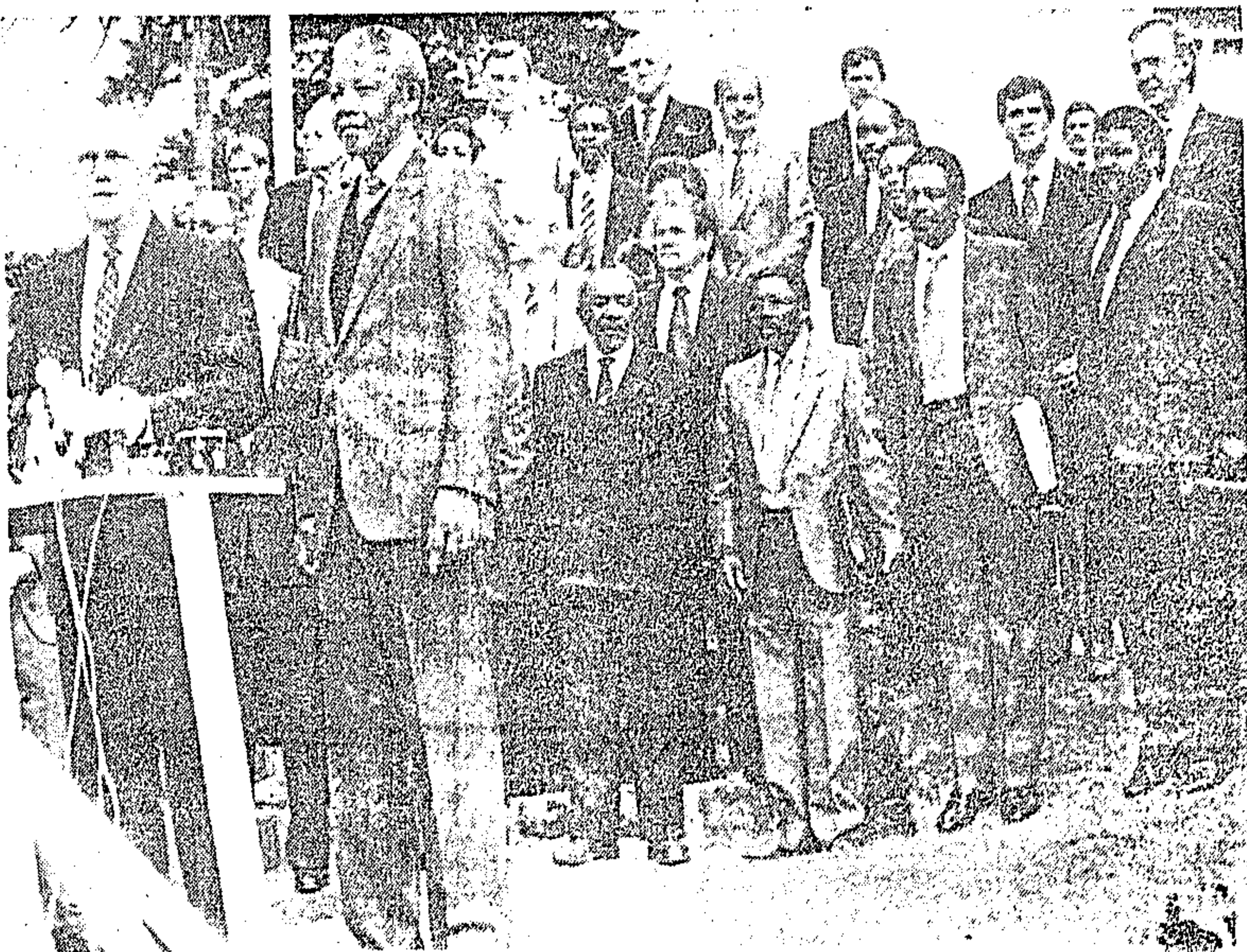
The Welkom offices of the National Union of Mineworkers were bombed earlier this month, and officials believe that right-wingers angered by the union's part in organising the boycott were behind the blast.

Damage was slight and no one was injured, but few believe the violence will stop there.

As the atmosphere grows ever more poisonous, the Welkom police force is stuck in the middle, countering accusations of bias from both white and black.

A spokesman said the force was doing its best to get both sides to sit down and talk.

But unless they succeed soon, Welkom may be blown apart by the kind of racial violence that most South Africans were fervently hoping had become a thing of the past. - Sapa-Reuter.



Boycott bites in platteland

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RACISM in rural towns is being fought with consumer boycotts — a weapon that is proving effective.

Already the municipality of the small Boland town of Robertson has knuckled under a widespread boycott.

The local black community suspended a three-week consumer boycott after most of its demands were met at two meetings with the municipality.

Residents had boycotted white-owned shops from April 9 to get them to pressure the municipality.

Grievances had ranged from the shortage of housing to a call for the local management committee to resign.

The entire management committee has since acceded to the call to resign.

Die-hard racism

PE News reports that the small Eastern Cape town of Kirkwood was deserted this week as a consumer boycott began taking grip.

The boycott is the black community's response to the die-hard racism still surviving in the platteland town and to poor facilities in their areas.

The municipal swimming pool, library and sports field are still reserved for whites while the township's primary school, serving 700 children, has no electricity, a shortage of desks, few windows, no playing fields and only 13 teachers.

White businesses are reported to be making as little as R10 a day and others look set to close soon.

A concerted effort is being made by the Oudtshoorn town council to resolve the deadlock between businesses and the local civic association which led to an indefinite consumer boycott of all white shops.

The boycott follows the banning of a march planned to the municipal offices to air grievances about conditions in the Bongolethu and Bridgton townships.

March prohibited

According to a spokesperson for the Oudtshoorn Civic Association, local businessmen who feared loss of production after workers were asked to stay away from work, asked the magistrate to prohibit the march.

"We had no other option. When they had the meeting banned, we decided not to go to their town and buy at our local shops instead," the spokesperson said.

Residents described the "buy local" campaign as an effective tool. They reported an escalating boycott of shops in the town.

Businessmen in the Oudtshoorn Chamber of Commerce last week demanded that the mayor of the town, Mr S Greef, hold talks with the Oudtshoorn Civic Association in a bid to suspend the boycott.

This week, the town clerk, Mr Mike Schultz, came to the offices of the local community paper *Saamstaan*, and requested a meeting with the civic association.

The civic association responded by saying the boycott would be reviewed at a special meeting but did not indicate whether it would accept the town council's invitation to meet.